FUTURE MELBOURNE (PLANNING) COMMITTEE REPORT

PROPOSED CHANGE OF ROAD NAME OF 'GOVERNMENT HOUSE DRIVE' TO 'DIAMOND JUBILEE DRIVE', MELBOURNE

4 September 2012

Agenda Item 5.3

Presenter: Angela Meinke, Manager Planning and Building

Purpose and background

- 1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Future Melbourne Committee of a proposal to change the road name of Government House Drive to Diamond Jubilee Drive marking 60 years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.
- 2. The State Government considers the renaming of Government House Drive, which is a public road under the City's care and management (Refer Attachment 2 for a locality plan) to be an appropriate legacy and recognition of the contribution Queen Elizabeth II has made to Australia.
- 3. The Department of Premier and Cabinet (the Department) has requested the change of road name to celebrate and commemorate the Diamond Jubilee (refer Attachment 3). The Premier of Victoria has separately written to the Lord Mayor requesting his support of the proposal (refer Attachment 4).

Key issues

- 4. An assessment of this request in accordance with Council's *Naming of Geographic Places Policy* (refer Attachment 5), and the requirements of the *Geographic Place Names Act* and its procedural guidelines, including public consultation, has identified compelling arguments both for and against the proposal, with a position not being clear cut. For this reason, management has not made a definitive recommendation.
- 5. In summary, the key arguments in support of the application are:
 - 5.1. There is a direct association between this road and Her Majesty.
 - 5.2. The renaming would be a lasting legacy to The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
 - 5.3. Government House Drive leads to Government House the location of Victoria's Governor, the representative of the Queen as Head of State and that Her Majesty The Queen has visited Melbourne on numerous occasions.
- 6. In summary, the key arguments opposing the application are:
 - 6.1. The existing road name is a useful, descriptive and appropriate name which relates to its environs and is well recognised and identifiable by the public and tourists.
 - 6.2. Submitters have suggested that it is more appropriate to celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee at a federal level or by other means.
- 7. A more comprehensive assessment and grounds for support or refusal may be found at Attachment 7.
- 8. Both the Council and the Minister for Environment and Climate Change have the ability to determine the name change (see Legal sections in the supporting attachment).

Recommendation from management

9. That the Future Melbourne Committee resolves to determine whether to approve or refuse the change of name from Government House Drive to Diamond Jubilee Drive.

Attachments:

- 1. Supporting Attachment
- 2. Locality plan
- 3. Application
- 4. Letter to Lord Mayor
- 5. Policy
- 6. Submissions
- 7. Assessment and Grounds

SUPPORTING ATTACHMENT

Legal

- 1. The *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* makes provision for the naming of places, which include road and street names and the registration of place names.
- 2. Clause 5(1)(a) of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1989 sets out Council's powers to approve, assign or change the name of a road.
- 3. The Minister for Environment and Climate Change has the power to direct the Registrar of Geographic Names to register a name in VICNAMES (the State's electronic register of place names).

Finance

- 4. The Department has undertaken to meet Council's reasonable costs, but up to \$3,000, associated with:
 - 4.1. the public consultancy (\$1660) regardless of whether the application is successful or not or withdrawn; and
 - 4.2. replacement street naming signage should the application be successful. These are less than \$500.

Conflict of interest

5. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Stakeholder consultation

- 6. Individual letters were sent to the major stakeholders in the area. These were the Office of the Governor Victoria; the City of Port Phillip as the neighbouring municipality; the Trustees of the Shrine of Remembrance which was also the proponent for naming the road as Government House Drive in 1955; the Royal Botanic Gardens Trust and the Arts Centre Trust as the Committee of Management of the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.
- 7. Public notices of the proposal were included in The Age Newspaper and the Melbourne Yarra Leader, both on 16 July, with the period for lodging submissions expiring on 15 August 2012.
- 8. The outcome of the above stakeholder and public consultation was mixed (Refer Attachment 6 for details of the submissions). Two submissions of support were received from major stakeholders, two tacit approvals from major stakeholders; two supportive submissions from the general public; one objection from a significant stakeholder and nine objections from members of the public. Summarising these:
 - 8.1. The Office of the Governor and the Director and Chief Executive of the Royal Botanic Gardens supported the proposed renaming;
 - 8.2. The City of Port Phillip and the Arts Centre Trust gave their tacit approval to the proposal;
 - 8.3. two members of the general public supported the proposal;
 - 8.4. the Shrine Trustees were generally not in favour of the proposal; and
 - 8.5. nine members of the general public opposed the change of name.

Relation to Council policy

9. The proposal can be viewed as compliant with Council's *'Naming of Geographic Places (Including Roads)'* Policy in regard to the prime standard that the name should relate to the historical and cultural aspects of the roads and their environs. However the policy also requires that a road name meets public expectations.

Environmental sustainability

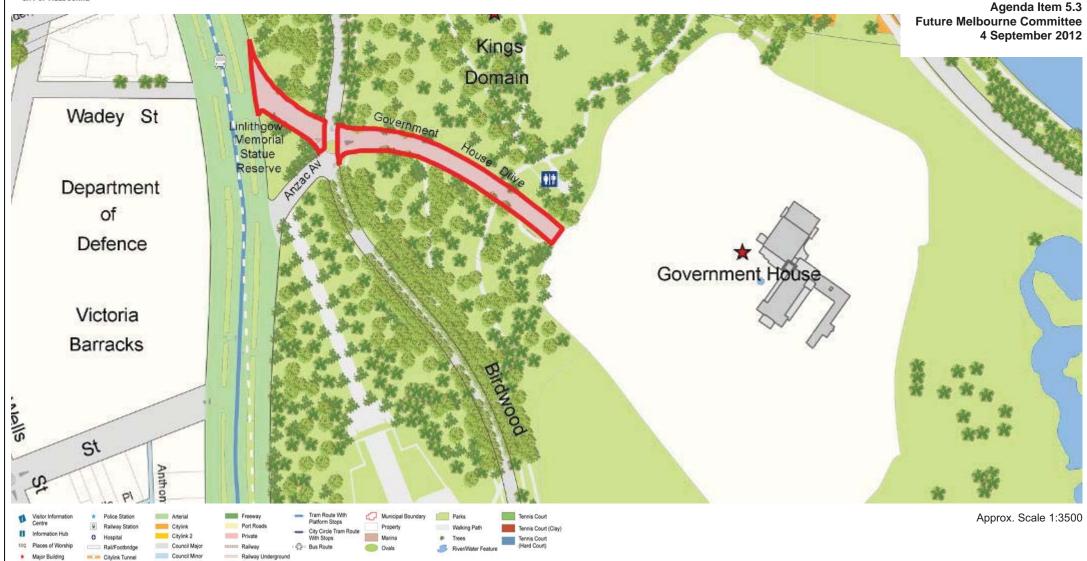
10. The change to a road name raises minimal sustainability issues.

Time Frame

11. The Department sought urgent attention to the matter to facilitate a proposed naming ceremony later this calendar year, should the renaming be approved.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE DRIVE



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Attachment 2

Proposal to the City of Melbourne for the re-naming of Government House Drive

Background

Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and Her Coronation took place on 2 June 1953. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee takes place in 2012, marking 60 years of The Queen's reign.

To celebrate and recognise The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the State Government is proposing a re-naming of Government House Drive to either Diamond Jubilee Drive or Jubilee Drive.

The Case for Re-naming Government House Drive

The State Government is seeking projects to celebrate and commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. The renaming of Government House Drive is considered an appropriate activity to provide a lasting legacy to The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Government House Drive leads to Government House – the location of Victoria's Governor, the representative of the Queen as Head of State in Australia

Her Majesty The Queen has visited Melbourne on numerous occasions between 1954 and 2011. During her most recent visit The Queen travelled along St Kilda Road to Government House Drive to attend a function at Government House. The Queen and her family have visited Government House via Government House Drive on numerous occasions during previous visits to Melbourne. For many Victorians who have lined Government House Drive during Royal visits, and have observed footage and images, there is a direct association with Government House Drive and The Queen.

Consultation

The Premier of Victoria supports the proposal to re-name Government House Drive. A letter will be forwarded to The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle confirming this support.

Government House has advised support for the proposal to re-name Government House Drive to either Diamond Jubilee Drive or Jubilee Drive (a letter of support to be provided).

The Minister for Environment and Climate Change (responsible for Victorian Register if Geographical Names), The Hon Ryan Smith MLA will be advised of the proposal.

Impact

Immediate community impact: There are no businesses on Government House Drive and only one residential/Government property – Government House.

Extended community impact: Consultation has not yet occurred with the extended community.

Proposed Timelines

In order to fit with the naming criteria for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the renaming must take place in 2012. The following timelines are proposed:

May 2012 – Proposal to the City of Melbourne June 2012 – City of Melbourne consider proposal and commence consultation July 2012 – Consultation period August 2012 – City of Melbourne to confirm proposal September 2012 –Proposal to Office of Geographic Names; Gazettal November/December 2012 Official renaming (including installation of signage)

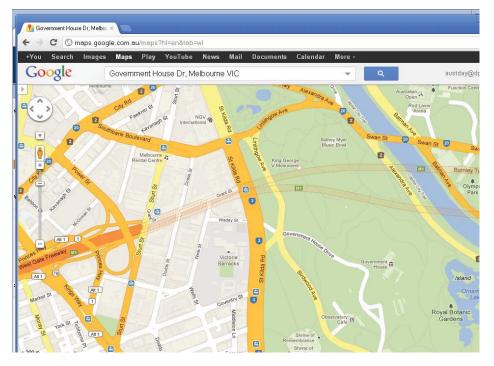
Other Issues

As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Buckingham Palace have approved the use of the titles "Diamond Jubilee" and "Jubilee" without further permission during the 2012 Diamond Jubilee year.

The Commonwealth Government's recognition of the Diamond Jubilee includes the renaming of a street in the Parliamentary Triangle in Canberra to Queen Elizabeth Terrace.

Location

Government House Drive is located between St Kilda Road and Dallas Brooks Drive.



Contacts: Department of Premier and Cabinet Tracey Hull, Communications Officer Phone: 9651 5174 Email: tracey.hull@dpc.vic.gov.au

City of Melbourne

Chris Blackwood Team Leader Land Survey <u>Chris.blackwood@melbourne.vic.gov.au</u> Phone: 9658 8581

The Registrar of Geographic Names John Tullock Level 17, 570 Bourke St Melbourne Vic 3000 Phone: 8636 2525 Email: <u>geo.names@dse.vic.gov.auhttp://services.l</u> and.vic.gov.au/vicnames/index.jsp

Page 7 of 14

Attachment 4 Agenda Item 5.3 Future Melbourne Committee 4 September 2012



Premier of Victoria

RECEIVED Business Information Services
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1 Treasury Place Melbourne Victoria 3002 GPO Box 4912 Melbourne Victoria 3001 Telephone: (03) 9651 5000 Facsimile: (03) 9651 5054 Email: premier@dpc.vic.gov.au DX210753

D12/83650

Councillor Robert Doyle The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Melbourne GPO Box 1603 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Lord Mayor

To recognise The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Victorian Government is proposing a renaming of Government House Drive to Diamond Jubilee Drive.

The re-naming will provide a lasting legacy and recognition of the tremendous contribution Queen Elizabeth II has made to Australia and the Commonwealth of Nations over the past 60 years.

We hope you are able to support this proposal to recognise the Diamond Jubilee.

Regard

Fed Baillieu MLA Premier

cc: The Hon Ryan Smith MLA



Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the Public Records Act 1973 and the Information Privacy Act 2000. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this Department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address.

'NAMING OF GEOGRAPHIC PLACES (INCLUDING ROADS)' POLICY (ACTIVITIES LOCAL LAW 2009)

POLICY FRAMEWORK	The City of Melbourne is committed to a safe City and movement around the city. Council aims to make the City of Melbourne more attractive to visitors and ratepayers by facilitating property identification. The naming of places (including roads) supports emergency service provision, property identification, promotion and tourism and business growth and marketing.			
	The repeal of Council's Naming of Roads and Numbering of Premises Local Law 1992 and the proclaimed <i>Geographic Place Names Act 1998</i> , cause the establishment of a Council policy to consistently manage the naming and renaming of places, including roads. There is also a need to maintain the integrity of Council's Property Base System.			
Relevant Local Law or other Legislative Provisions	Activities Local Law 2009 – Part 11 Naming of Roads and Numbering of Premises.			
	A "place" for the purposes of this policy has the same definition as that in the <i>Geographic Place Names Act</i> . The definition includes a street and road, a locality, a garden or reserve and a topographic feature.			
	A "road" for the purposes of this policy has the same meaning as that in the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .			
Service Description	Council names and renames places. Place names are required for property addressing, property identification, mapping and management purposes, and emergency and statutory service provision.			
	Place naming and renaming proposals of state-wide significance are considered by Advisory Committees established under the <i>Geographic Place Names Act</i> . Those committees make recommendations to the Registrar of Geographic Names. The Registrar has advised that road names will rarely hold state-wide significance under the Act.			
Frequency of Service	The service is in operation every day of the year.			
Operational Arrangements/How Service Operates	Places are named or renamed following extensive research into the historical and cultural aspects of the places and their environs. The applications of suitably linked and based "naming themes" are considered for roads, together with all other pertinent matters.			
	Places are named or renamed under delegated powers. This supports property identification especially by the emergency service providers and facilitates appropriate development and subdivision. Its also meets public expectations. Any proposals considered by a delegate to have a special significance for the City must be the subject of a report with recommendations to Council.			
	Road naming and renaming proposals are processed by the Team Leader Land Survey. A road name forms part of a property address and this management recognises the significance of a road name in property addressing, as well as ensuring the integrity of Council's Property Base. The management also ensures compliance with relevant criteria of the Geographic Place Names legislation.			

Page 9 of 14

	Consultative actions are carried out for the naming and renaming of all places, primarily in consideration of the significance and potential affects of a proposal. The views of potentially affected property owners and occupiers must be sought and considered. Public submissions and service authority comments may be sought if considered necessary. Indigenous based names must be recommended by Council's Senior Indigenous Policy Officer following proper consultation with Community Groups.
	The requirements of the <i>Geographic Place Names Act</i> and its procedural guidelines are met. These include:
	 criteria for assessment of cultural, heritage, tourism or other significant issues; principles for the written form and character of names;
	 consultative mechanisms and submission requirements; recognition and use of Aboriginal/Koori names; policy approaches to commemorative naming; compliance with contemporary standards;
	 non-duplication or confusion of place names; discouragement of names of living persons, registered commercial businesses or non-profit organisations; and recognition of present day local usage or preference.
	Team Leader Land Survey is notified at concept stage, of all place naming and renaming proposals. He/she is also notified on completion of the naming process. This supports compliance with the procedural requirements of the <i>Geographic Place Names Act</i> and maintains the integrity of Council's Property Base System.
	Team Leader Land Survey gives notice to every authority supplying water, electricity or providing drainage, sewerage, postal or telecommunication services in the locality, and to Land Victoria and the State Revenue Office or their successors, following the allocation or changing of the name of a place.
	Team Leader Land Survey maintains a register of road names in such a form as to show the date of every entry and alteration and show old and new details.
City of Melbourne Officer & Full Contact Details	Mr Chris Blackwood, Team Leader Land Survey, Planning ands Building Branch Telephone 9658 8581 E-mail chris.blackwood@melbourne.vic.gov.au
Conditions	The naming and renaming of places must comply with this policy and the requirements of the <i>Geographic Place Names Act</i> and the Guidelines for Geographic Names.
Fees	There are no prescribed fees for the service, An applicant may be responsible for meeting Council's advertising costs for a proposed place renaming, if Council does not initially support the proposal.
Enforcement Provision	The Activities Local Law 2009 Part 14 (Enforcement) prescribes the enforcement action which can be taken in relation to a breach of the Activities Local Law. It enables Council to cause a road name that has been unlawfully or incorrectly painted, affixed or set up, to be removed. The Activities Local Law Schedule prescribes the penalties fixed for infringements.
Associated Documentation	Council Plan 2010 Council's Numbering of Premises Policy.
	Local Government Act.
	Section 8 and Schedule 1 (functions and powers of Council).

	• Clause 5 of Schedule 10 (naming of roads and numbering of premises). Geographic Place Names Act and the Guidelines for Geographic Names.		
Programs and Initiatives	The automated transfer of place names and property number data to the State Government has been put into place. This transfer of information is essential to ensure a consistent identification of places and properties is available to all State Government Departments, statutory authorities and private users that will adopt the State Government computer mapbase.		

POLICY AUTHORISED BY	JOHN NOONAN	DATED
	GROUP MANAGER, SUSTAINABLE	
	REGULATORY SERVICES	29 NOVEMBER 2004

Page 11 of 14

PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE DRIVE TO DIAMOND JUBILEE DRIVE, MELBOURNE

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS RECEIVED TO THE CONSULTANCY

	NAME	DETAILS	SUMMARY OF GROUNDS	FMC INVITE
1	Dennis Baguley	DM7349726	The Shire Trustees are generally not in favour of the	Letter sent
	Chief Executive		proposal. Concerned with the impact the renaming will	17/8/12
	Shrine of		have on tourists to the area when trying to find	
	Remembrance		Government House and in turn the Shrine. Costs will be	DM7366478
			incurred in changing a considerable quantity of documents	
			and marketing collateral. The name is somewhat	
			meaningless unless directly linked to The Queen. The	
			proposal is of no benefit to the community	
2	Mr Philip Derham	DM7339416	The Jubilee is a short lived event already having extensive	Letterl sent
	(Member of		publicity and recognition. The proposal lacks the clarity of	17/8/12
	public)		purpose and practicality of the existing name. The name	
			is not-explanatory and the recogition is of longevity not of	DM7366372
			some particular achivement. Politically driven. Better	
			alternatives exist.	
3	Mr Dale Wise	DM7299042	Disgusted about the absolute waste of time and money	Email sent
	(Member of		the government is spending on 'TRYING' to change the	17/8/12
	public)		name. The road leads to Government House and is	
			appropriately named.	DM7367424
4	Mr David Stott	DM7299046	Why in Melbourne do we keep changing the names of	Email sent
	(Member of		things? The road leads to Government House and should	17/8/12
	public)		be left that way. There are enough things named after The	
			Queen.	DM7367456
5	Mr Steven Adlard	DM7299047	Strongly objects to the proposal as there are enough	Email sent
	(Member of		references to the British royal family in Victoria and	17/8/12
	public)		Australia.	
				DM7367447
6	Mr Robert G	DM7299062	More appropriate to celebrate the Jubilee at a federal	Email sent
	Page		level. Our historic Government House would lose some of	17/8/12
	(Member of		its traditional heritage as the residence of the Head of	D. 17007 (50
	public)		Government during our colonial days. The new name	DM7367450
7	M. O	D147000040	would be very inappropriate if we became a republic.	1 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11
7	Mr Geoff	DM7300812	Admires the Queens work, but suggests an alternative	Letter sent
	Cockram		means of recognition. Name of road should be left.	17/8/12
	(Member of			DM7267121
	public)'			DM7367121
8	Mr Geoffrey	DM7300810	A well motivated proposal but the existing more	Email sent
	Goode	2111 000010	distinctively Australian and distinctively vice regal name	17/8/12
	(Member of		should be retained and instead have another less	
	public)		significantly named thoroughfare renamed. Keep the	DM7367441
			existing appropriate road name. Other roads better for	
			renaming. The existing name of 'Government House Drive' closely corresponds to the predominantly vice-regal, rather than royal, function of the thoroughfare. Would be	

Page 12 of 14

			worthwhile to identify another road suitable for renaming.	
9	Mr Greg Quinn	DM7339407	An unfortunate idea. The existing name is useful and	Email sent
	(Member of		descriptive. The new name does not now mean much and	17/8/12
	public)		will mean even less over time. A better name would be	
			Queen Elizabeth Drive.	DM7367435
10	Ms. Pamela	DM7360871	Please keep existing name as it tells us where the road is.	Email sent
	Sublet		Silly suggestion and waste of taxpayers money.	17/8/12
	(Member of			
	public)			DM7367452
11	Mr John Van	DM7369209	My first reason that I object to this proposed change of	Email sent
	Grieken		name is personal. The second reason is a matter of	20/8/12
	(Member of		historic principle.	DM7369186
	public)			
12	Ms Julianne Bell	DM7369214	Not appropriate way to honour Queen's Jubilee. Existing	Email sent
	(Member of		name indicates purpose of road.	20/8/12
	public)			DM7369191

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS OF SUPPORT RECEIVED TO THE CONSULTANCY

	NAME	DETAILS	SUMMARY OF GROUNDS	FMC
1	Dr Philip Moors Director and Chief Executive Royal Botanic	DM7352118	The Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne supports the renaming proposal and the reasons for its proposal.	Letter sent 17/8/12 DM736672
2	Gardens Damien O'Shea for Official Secretary Office of the Governor	DM7307671	The Office of the Governor supports the renaming as proposed by the Department which kindly consulted with the Office during the development of the proposal.	Letter sent 17/8/12 DM7367150
3	Mr George Bouras (Member of public)	DM7298297	A marvellous idea and a fitting legacy to The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Street signage could respond to the significance By incorporating The Queens Crown as part of its design.	Email sent 17/8/12 DM7367433
4	Mr David Ford (Member of public)	DM7299065	Has no problems with the proposal.	Email sent 17/8/12 DM7367448
5	City of Port Phillip	No response (Tacit Approval)	In accordance with the state's current Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010, the consultancy included advice that a non-response would be treated as a tacit approval to the proposal.	NA
6	Arts Centre Trust	No response (Tacit Approval)	In accordance with the state's current Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010, the consultancy included advice that a non-response would be treated as a tacit approval to the proposal.	NA

PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE DRIVE TO DIAMOND JUBILEE DRIVE, MELBOURNE

Assessment and Grounds for Approval or Refusal

Assessment

- 1. The City of Melbourne is the responsible naming authority and names places under Council's 'Naming of Geographic Places (Including Roads) Policy (Refer Attachment 5). The policy states that road names should:
 - 1.1. relate to the historical and cultural aspects of a road and its environs.
 - 1.2. enable identification by the emergency service providers;
 - 1.3. meet public expectations; and,
 - 1.4. have regard to the requirements of the *Geographic Place Names Act* and its procedural guidelines which include consideration of (as relevant):
 - 1.4.1. criteria for assessment of cultural, heritage, tourism or other significant issues;
 - 1.4.2. consultative mechanisms and submission requirements (Refer Attachment 6);
 - 1.4.3. policy approaches to commemorative naming;
 - 1.4.4. recognition of present day local usage or preference.
- 2. Consideration of this renaming request has been completed by officers having regard to all of the above. The arguments for and against the proposal are even-handed.
- 3. In support of the application when assessed against Council Policy it is noted in particular that Her Majesty the Queen has visited Melbourne on numerous occasions between 1954 and 2011, with The Queen being seen by a large number of Victorians who have lined this road during Royal visits whilst attending many functions at Government House. Accordingly, there is a direct association between that road and Her Majesty.
- 4. In support of the renaming application, common grounds of support expressed in the submissions were that this would be a fitting and lasting legacy to The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, that Government House Drive leads to Government House the location of Victoria's Governor, the representative of the Queen as Head of State and that Her Majesty The Queen has visited Melbourne on numerous occasions and had travelled along this road to attend functions at Government House, with many Victorians lining Government House Drive during Royal visits and a consequential direct association with Government House Drive and The Queen.
- 5. In opposition to the application it was expressed by the submitters that the existing road name is useful, descriptive and very appropriate, with the new name being considered somewhat meaningless and that unless it was directly linked to the Queen, it would become less meaningful over time It was also considered by submitters that it would be more appropriate to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee at a federal level or by other means, and that there were other roads that were more suitable for renaming.
- 6. In opposition to the application when assessed against Council Policy it is noted in particular that the existing road name is a useful, descriptive and appropriate name which relates to its environs and is well recognised and identifiable by the public.
- 7. The Registrar of Geographic Names is prepared to change the road name in VICNAMES (the State's electronic register of place names) on receiving a request from Council.
- 8. The Department has committed to meeting all reasonable costs incurred by Council.

9. The Minister for Environment and Climate Change has the power to direct the Registrar of Geographic Names to register a name in VICNAMES (the State's electronic register of place names).

Grounds for Decision Making

The following grounds for approval or refusal of the renaming request are as follows:

9.1. Grounds for approval

- 9.1.1. the new name is a very appropriate recognition of the legacy and significant contribution of Queen Elizabeth II to Victoria;
- 9.1.2. it honours the very special achievement of 60 years of The Queen's reign;
- 9.1.3. it has been proposed at the highest level of State Government and supported by the Office of the Governor Victoria, a most important stakeholder on the matter.

9.2. Grounds for refusal

- 9.2.1. the existing name of the road which leads to Government House is useful, descriptive and appropriate and remains so;
- 9.2.2. the proposal does not meet public expectations and does not result in an overall public benefit;
- 9.2.3. the proposed name without specific reference to The Queen is somewhat meaningless and not-explanatory; and
- 9.2.4. the proposed recogition is more of longevity rather than a particular achivement and can be achieved by purposes other than renaming of the road.