Street names for new developments must be reviewed and approved by the Planning Department prior to map recordation. The applicant may select from one of the following procedures for obtaining name approval:

1. The applicant may submit names of their own choosing. Name categories or themes complimentary to Riverside’s social and cultural values are encouraged. These choices however, are subject to Planning Department approval and must comply with the requirements listed under the “naming criteria” listed below.

2. The applicant may request staff to choose names in accordance with the approval process. The Department’s selection will likely reflect the existing pattern of street names in the neighborhood, such as Scottish localities and culture in the “Highlands” area. The applicant will be able to comment on and suggest changes to the Department’s selection prior to final approval.

To formally request street names, please submit a copy of the Tract or Parcel Map indicating placement of the desired street names upon eligible streets. You may use a preferential order for Planning Department consideration in the event your first choice name cannot be used. Submit a copy of the map and chosen names to:

Attention: Herman Mukasa, AICP
Community Development Department
Planning Division
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522
STREET NAME APPROVAL PROCESS

NAMING CRITERIA

For your information, the Planning Department uses the following general criteria in concurrence with the Riverside Fire Department and the U.S. Post Office:

A. Do not submit first and last names of living persons such as “David Letterman”.

B. Avoid submitting a name such as “Murray Street” that sounds like the existing “Mary Street” name. Consult a current citywide map index such as Thomas Guide to check the spelling of names. Try to avoid submitting any name that could cause confusion among agencies that must respond to emergency situations.

C. We cannot approve a name that is the same or similar to one already in use in the following places:
   
   - The City of Riverside.
   - The Riverside postal service area, which includes: Rubidoux, Pedley, Glen Avon, Highgrove, Woodcrest, Glen Valley, Lake Hills, March Air Reserve Base and certain other nearby unincorporated areas.
   - Portions of Corona, Norco, Perris or Moreno Valley which lie within five miles of Riverside’s City limits.

D. Please do not submit obscene, frivolous, egotistic or otherwise inappropriate names.

E. Try to assign short names of five letters or less for short streets or cul-de-sacs of 300 feet or length.

F. Names that are too difficult to pronounce or spell probably will not be approved.

G. In most cases, the Planning Department will assign an appropriate suffix or prefix such as Drive, Way, Place, Avenue, Boulevard, Camino, Via, Calle, etc.