

ROADSIDE MEMORIALS POLICY

COMMUNITY POLICY



1 Scope

This policy applies to roadside memorials on roads controlled by Rockhampton Regional Council.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines for the installation, placement and removal of roadside memorials.

3 Related Documents

3.1 Primary

Nil

3.2 Secondary

Local Government Act 2009

Local Law No. 1 - Administration

Subordinate Local Law No. 1.1 Alteration or Improvement to Local Government Areas and Roads

4 Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

Council	Rockhampton Regional Council
Road	As defined in the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> : (a) An area of land that is dedicated to public use as a road; or (b) An area of land that: (i) Is developed for, or has as 1 of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; and (ii) Is open to, or used by, the public; or (c) A footpath or bicycle path; or (d) A bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct.
Roadside Memorial	Any object placed within the road reserve to commemorate or indicate a road fatality. Memorials may include wooden crosses, coloured posts and flowers. Monuments (permanent commemorations) are not permitted within a road reserve.

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE USE ONLY

Adopted/Approved:	Approved, 10 November 2015	Department:	Regional Services
Version:	2	Section:	Civil Operations
Reviewed Date:	13 February 2020	Page No:	Page 1 of 3

5 Policy Statement

Council recognises that some members of the community may wish to commemorate/indicate a road fatality by installing a roadside memorial. Council will deal sensitively with issues associated with roadside memorials, but does not encourage the placement of roadside memorials within a road reserve.

Council requires that the applicant writes into Council stating where the roadside memorial is to be installed. Council is able to provide assistance to family and friends by giving advice on where to install a roadside memorial at a safe location adjacent to a road.

This policy has been developed to ensure roadside memorials are placed in a safe location for family and friends, can be easily maintained, not cause issues for adjacent property owners and will cause minimum distraction or hazard to other road users.

A roadside memorial will be removed if one of the requirements detailed below is not adhered to:

5.1 Location

A roadside memorial should be located in a position where it will not:

- (a) Distract driver attention from the driving task, or interfere with the role of any traffic control item; and/or
- (b) Be hazardous to passing traffic and/or pedestrians, or prevent appropriate maintenance of the road reserve.

Applicants should be made aware of any possible risks in visiting roadside memorials and should be advised on safe practices in this regard, for example stopping clear of traffic. Wherever possible, the location of the roadside memorial should be chosen to minimise risk.

5.2 Construction

A roadside memorial must be constructed of material and installed in a way that will not cause injury if struck by a vehicle.

5.3 Installation of Roadside Memorials

A Council officer may provide guidance or assist in the installation of approved roadside memorials, ensuring its placement is in accordance with Council requirements (as per 5.1 and 5.2 above). Maintenance

Council will not accept responsibility for the maintenance of any roadside memorial, or the loss, damage, removal or relocation of roadside memorials that may occur due to road maintenance, construction activities or vandalism.

5.4 Relocation and Removal

Every attempt will be made by Council officers to contact and consult the persons who applied for erection of a roadside memorial prior to the removal or relocation. A roadside memorial may be relocated or removed due to one of the following:

- (a) There may be times when road works are required at the location of a roadside memorial. When this is required, Council will safely and carefully relocate the roadside memorial for the duration of the works and then replace it if practicable.
- (b) If the roadside memorial obstructs the completed road works, it may be moved to a new location.
- (c) In instances when a roadside memorial becomes a road safety hazard, relocation or removal will occur in a safe manner.
- (d) Any objection or complaint from nearby residents or road users regarding any aspects of roadside memorials, including the activity of visitors to the memorial, will be carefully considered and if necessary, the roadside memorial will be relocated or removed.

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE USE ONLY			
Adopted/Approved:	Approved, 10 November 2015	Department:	Regional Services
Version:	2	Section:	Civil Operations
Reviewed Date:	13 February 2020	Page No:	Page 2 of 3

6 Review Timelines

This policy is reviewed when any of the following occur:

- (a) The related information is amended or replaced; or
- (b) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by the Council.

7 Document Management

Sponsor	Chief Executive Officer
Business Owner	General Manager Regional Services
Policy Owner	Manager Civil Operations
Policy Quality Control	Legal and Governance



LEGAL & GOVERNANCE USE ONLY			
Adopted/Approved:	Approved, 10 November 2015	Department:	Regional Services
Version:	2	Section:	Civil Operations
Reviewed Date:	13 February 2020	Page No:	Page 3 of 3