

TITLE 10: LOCAL LAWS
DIVISION 2: SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT (TINIAN, ETC.)

§ 20310. Changes in Street and Private Road Names.

(a) *Public street names:* Where necessary or desirable, any resident within the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan may make application to change a public street name. The application along with a fee to be established by resolution, shall be submitted to the Street Naming Committee. The municipality shall not change street name signs without compensation from the applicant if the Committee and the Mayor approves the name change. The Committee may also deem it necessary to change a name for reasons of duplication, similar pronunciation, and spelling or for other reasons relating to public safety or convenience.

(b) *Private road names:* Only owners of the property over which the private road easement passes may make application to change a private road name. All landowners will be identified through official CNMI land registry documents and will be notified in writing at the expense of the applicant of all times and meetings regarding the change in names.

(c) *Procedure for changing names:*

(1) In the case of name changes due to duplication, similar pronunciation or spelling, the Street Naming Committee shall determine if the street name is to be changed and follow the procedure outlined in subsection (c) of this Section. A private landowner may apply to change a name on a private road. The fee for the name change shall accompany the application;

(2) The Committee shall take into consideration the number of existing addresses on the street in question, the length of time each street has used the name in question, the date of the original dedication of said street(s), each street's compliance with this Article and any other factor pertinent to resolving the similar pronunciation or spelling. In applications for a name change made by the Committee, no fee shall be charged. No street or private road name(s) may be changed until the proposed names have been checked against the Official Street and Private Road Name Map and List;

(3) There shall be a public hearing on all proposed change of public street names and private road name changes. The Street Naming Committee shall forward a recommendation to the Mayor within thirty days of hearing. The Mayor may hold a public hearing on the application for name change. A hearing shall be held after notice according to CNMI statutory requirements. Any aggrieved party may appeal an adverse final decision to the Superior Court of the CNMI;

(4) The Street Naming Committee and the Mayor, in considering a request for a change, shall take into consideration the intent and purpose of this Article, the possible effect of the proposed or existing name on public safety, and whether the proposed or existing name is vulgar, offensive or otherwise not in conformance with community standards.

(5) All changes shall be made in such a manner as to create the least possible inconvenience to residents and property owners in the area. No change

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shall become effective for at least twenty-eight days after official action by the Mayor. All affected residents and property owners shall be mailed notification of the Mayor's final decision;

(6) All street name sign materials and installation shall be in conformance with Municipal policy and M.U.T.C.D. All public street name signs shall be a green background with a white legend;

(7) Should this Article conflict with any prior Chapter or promulgation of rule, this Article shall control.

Source: Tinian LL 15-11, § 2 (2910), modified.

Commission Comment: The Commission deleted figures that were a mere repetition of words in subsection (c)(3) and (5) above, and changed the references to "Chapter" in the above section to "Article" pursuant to its authority by 1 CMC § 3806.