

M I T C H E L L



S H I R E C O U N C I L

ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENT

DOCUMENT NUMBER

INF-04

DOCUMENT TITLE

ROADSIDE MEMORIALS POLICY

DATE	CHANGE	BY	APPROVED	REVIEW
13/12/99	Initial Issue	AM	13/12/99	
1/12/03	Review	CMG	6/4/04	30 September 2007

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Summary

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

2. Objectives:

- a) A Roadside memorial is any object constructed, erected or placed on the road or within the road reserve to commemorate/indicate a road fatality. Memorials may include items such as wooden crosses, coloured posts, flowers or any type of construction with or without plaques or inscriptions.
- b) Mitchell Shire Council recognises that some members of the community wish to mark the location of a fatal crash on the road network by the establishment of roadside memorials.
- c) Mitchell Shire Council will deal sensitively with requests for the establishment of roadside memorials but will not encourage their placement.
- d) In dealing with requests, the following criteria will be considered:

Location.

- i. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not distract drivers' attention from the driver task or interfere with the role of any traffic control item.
- ii. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not be hazardous to passing traffic or prevent appropriate maintenance of the road reserve. VicRoads Clear Zone Guidelines should be used to assess this.
- iii. Applicants should be made aware of any possible risks in visiting roadside memorials and should be advised on safe practices in this regard eg: stopping clear of traffic. Wherever possible, the location should be chosen to minimise risk.

Construction

- iv. A memorial must be constructed of material or installed in a way that will not cause injury if struck by a vehicle. Where a long lasting memorial is required which incorporates a plaque, it should ideally be placed horizontally as close to the surface level as possible.

Other

- v. Any objection or complaint from nearby residents or from road users regarding any aspects of memorials, including the activity of visitors to the memorial, should be carefully considered and if necessary the memorial should be relocated or removed.
- vi. Applicants should be advised that Council is not able to accept responsibility for the maintenance of memorials, or any loss, damage, removal or relocation of roadside memorials that may occur due to road maintenance or construction activities.

- vii. In general a time limit of twelve months will be allowed for memorials of a temporary nature
- viii. Arrangements for the placement of permanent memorials shall be made with the Asset Manager in accordance with policy guidelines.

Policy Review

This policy should be reviewed by 30 September, 2007.