

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2021/2268
Date:	07/12/2021
Responsible Officer:	Thomas Prosser
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 4 DP 852730 , 22 Waterview Street MONA VALE NSW 2103

Reasons for referral

This application seeks consent for the following:

- Construction / development works within 5 metres of a tree or
- New residential works with three or more dwellings. (RFB's, townhouses, seniors living, guesthouses, etc). or
- Mixed use developments containing three or more residential dwellings.
- New Dwellings or

Officer comments

This application is for the alterations and additions to an existing residential dwelling. Alterations include the minor demolition of existing site structures in order to facilitate additions which are inclusive of a balcony to the front and rear of the site on the ground floor with new roofing above.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Pittwater Local Environmental Plan and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls:

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D9.11 Landscaped Area - Environmentally Sensitive Land

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that no significant vegetation is to be removed as a result of proposed works. This statement is not entirely supported by the Architectural Plans as it is evident a number of trees are to be removed, and for this reason an Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been provided.

This Arboricultural Impact Assessment has identified a total of thirteen trees, two of which are in adjoining properties, with the remaining eleven trees located within the site boundaries towards the rear of the site. Of the thirteen trees identified, eight trees, including Tree No. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, are proposed to be removed. All of these trees except for Tree No. 12 have been identified as exempt species and may therefore be removed without Councils approval. Tree No. 12 however is identified as significant native canopy tree exhibiting good health with high landscape amenity value. Proposed works are anticipated to encroach into the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) by a total of 17%, with further impacts to the Structural Root Zone (SRZ) as well. The Arboricultural Impact Assessment has noted that proposed deck will require up to 600mm of excavation, and due to the higher volume of roots in this location, Tree No. 12 is likely to become unstable and/or decline in health. For this reason, the removal of Tree No. 12 is supported however it shall be required to be replaced elsewhere within the site.

Of those trees proposed to be retained, Trees No. 1, 2 and 13 are anticipated to have no TPZ and SRZ

encroachments, however Trees No. 3 and 4 are expected to have a TPZ encroachment of 13% and 16% respectively. Tree No. 3 is a large native canopy tree identified as being in good health with high landscape amenity value and a long safe useful life expectancy. Although 13% is deemed a major encroachment according to AS4970-2009, the Arboricultural Impact Assessment has noted the impacts to this tree have been assessed as low, and works are not likely to cause a decline in this trees health providing tree protection measures are adhered to. Tree No. 4 is identified as a palm which are typically tolerant of disturbance. The Arboricultural Impact Assessment has noted Tree No.4 was assessed as being in good condition at time of assessment, and is unlikely to be negatively impacted by root loss. For these reasons, the Arborists recommendations are supported. The retention of these two trees, as well as other trees within the site and adjoining properties, is vital to satisfy control B4.22 as key objectives of this control include "to effectively manage the risks that come with an established urban forest through professional management of trees", "to protect, enhance bushland that provides habitat for locally native plant and animal species, threatened species populations and endangered ecological communities", as well as "to protect and enhance the scenic value and character that trees and/or bushland vegetation provide".

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore supported subject to the protection of existing trees and vegetation, as well as the implementation of the required compensatory tree planting.

The proposal is therefore supported.

Note: Should you have any concerns with the referral comments above, please discuss these with the Responsible Officer.

Recommended Landscape Conditions:

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED PRIOR TO ANY COMMENCEMENT

Project Arborist

A Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be engaged to provide tree protection measures in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites. The Project Arborist is to specify and oversee all tree protection measures such as tree protection fencing, trunk and branch protection, and ground protection.

The Project Arborist is to supervise all demolition, excavation and construction works near all trees to be retained, including construction methods near the existing trees to protect tree roots, trunks, branches and canopy. Where required, manual excavation is to occur ensuring no tree root at or >25mm (Ø) is damaged by works, unless approved by the Project Arborist.

Existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by the Project Arborist.

The Project Arborist shall be in attendance and supervise all works as nominated in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, including:

i) all demolition, excavation and construction works within the TPZ's and SRZ's of trees to be retained.

All tree protection measures specified must:

- a) be in place before work commences on the site, and
- b) be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and
- c) remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

The Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifying Authority that all recommendations listed for the protection of the existing tree(s) have been carried out satisfactorily to ensure no impact to the

health of the tree(s). Photographic documentation of the condition of all trees to be retained shall be recorded, including at commencement, during the works and at completion.

Note:

- i) A separate permit or development consent may be required if the branches or roots of a protected tree on the site or on an adjoining site are required to be pruned or removed.
- ii) Any potential impact to trees as assessed by the Project Arborist will require redesign of any approved component to ensure existing trees upon the subject site and adjoining properties are preserved and shall be the subject of a modification application where applicable.

Reason: Tree protection.

Tree Removal Within the Property

This consent approves the removal of the following tree(s) within the property (as recommended in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment):

- i) *Syncarpia glomulifera*, located in the south east corner of the site, Tree No. 12.

Note:

- i) Exempt Species as listed in the Development Control Plan or the Arboricultural Impact Assessment do not require Council consent for removal.
- ii) Any request to remove a tree approved for retention under the development application is subject to a Section 4.55 modification application, or an assessment by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture that determines that the tree presents an imminent risk to life or property.

Reason: To enable authorised building works.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Tree and Vegetation Protection

a) Existing trees and vegetation shall be retained and protected, including:

- i) all trees and vegetation within the site not approved for removal, excluding exempt trees and vegetation under the relevant planning instruments of legislation,
- ii) all trees and vegetation located on adjoining properties,
- iii) all road reserve trees and vegetation.

b) Tree protection shall be undertaken as follows:

- i) tree protection shall be in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, including the provision of temporary fencing to protect existing trees within 5 metres of development,
- ii) existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture,
- iii) removal of existing tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter is not permitted without consultation with an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture,
- iv) no excavated material, building material storage, site facilities, nor landscape materials are to be placed within the canopy dripline of trees and other vegetation required to be retained,
- v) structures are to bridge tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter unless directed by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture on site,
- vi) excavation for stormwater lines and all other utility services is not permitted within the tree protection zone, without consultation with an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture including advice on root protection measures,
- vii) should either or all of v), vi) and vii) occur during site establishment and construction works, an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall provide recommendations for tree protection measures. Details including photographic evidence of works undertaken shall be submitted by the

Arborist to the Certifying Authority,

- viii) any temporary access to, or location of scaffolding within the tree protection zone of a protected tree or any other tree to be retained during the construction works is to be undertaken using the protection measures specified in sections 4.5.3 and 4.5.6 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites,
- ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites shall not occur within the tree protection zone of any tree on the lot or any tree on an adjoining site,
- x) tree pruning from within the site to enable approved works shall not exceed 10% of any tree canopy, and shall be in accordance with Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees,
- xi) the tree protection measures specified in this clause must: i) be in place before work commences on the site, and ii) be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and iii) remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

c) Tree protection shall specifically be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, as listed in the following sections:

- i) Section 9 - Recommendations,
- ii) Section 11 - Arboricultural Work Method Statement (AMS) and Tree Protection Requirements,
- iii) Section 12 - Hold Points,
- iv) Appendix 1 - Proposed Site Plan and Tree Protection Plan.

The Certifying Authority must ensure that:

- d) The arboricultural works listed in c) are undertaken and certified by an Arborist as compliant to the recommendations of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment.
- e) The activities listed in section 4.2 of Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, do not occur within the tree protection zone of any tree, and any temporary access to, or location of scaffolding within the tree protection zone of a protected tree, or any other tree to be retained on the site during the construction, is undertaken using the protection measures specified in sections 4.5.3 and 4.5.6 of that standard.

Note: All street trees within the road verge and trees within private property are protected under Northern Beaches Council development control plans, except where Council's written consent for removal has been obtained. The felling, lopping, topping, ringbarking, or removal of any tree(s) is prohibited.

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE COMPLIED WITH PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

Required Tree Planting

Trees shall be planted in accordance with the following:

- i) at minimum, 1x locally native canopy tree is to be planted within the site to compensate the removal of Tree No. 12, minimum 75L pot size. Suggested species include: *Angophora costata*, *Banksia integrifolia*, or *Syncarpia glomulifera*.

Tree planting shall be located within a 9m² deep soil area wholly within the site and be located a minimum of 3 metres from existing and proposed buildings, and other trees.

Tree planting shall be located to minimise significant impacts on neighbours in terms of blocking winter sunlight, or where the proposed tree location may impact upon significant views.

Native tree planting species shall be selected from Council's list:

www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/native-plants/native-plant-species-guide.

Details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To maintain environmental amenity.

Condition of Retained Vegetation - Project Arborist

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by the project arborist shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained, including the following information:

- a) compliance to any Arborist recommendations for tree protection generally and during excavation works,
- b) extent of damage sustained by vegetation as a result of the construction works,
- c) any subsequent remedial works required to ensure the long term retention of the vegetation.

Reason: Tree protection.

ON-GOING CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH AT ALL TIMES

Landscape Maintenance

If any landscape materials/components or planting under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar materials/components. Trees, shrubs and groundcovers required to be planted under this consent are to be mulched, watered and fertilised as required at the time of planting.

If any tree, shrub or groundcover required to be planted under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar species to maintain the landscape theme and be generally in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan and any conditions of consent.

All weeds are to be removed and controlled in accordance with the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.

Undesirable Trees

Leighton Green Cypress *Cupressocyparis leylandii* or any of its cultivars, or any other Undesirable Trees identified by Council, must not be planted on the site for the life of the development.

In the event of any inconsistency between this condition and the development application documents, this condition will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

Reason: To reduce the potential for adverse amenity effects such as overshadowing, loss of views and loss of plant diversity.