

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2023/1532
Date:	10/11/2023
Proposed Development:	Demolition works and construction of a dwelling house including swimming pool
Responsible Officer:	Adam Croft
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 2 DP 412086 , 15 Ocean Road PALM BEACH NSW 2108

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

The proposal is supported with regard to landscape issues.

Council's Landscape Referral is assessed against the Pittwater Local Environment Plan clause C4 zone Environmental Living, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls (but not limited to):

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D12 Palm Beach Locality

The site is located in the C4 Environmental Living zone, requiring development to achieve a scale integrated with the landform and landscape, and to minimise impact on the natural environment, including the retention of natural landscape features and existing trees, to satisfy the landscape objectives of the C4 Environmental Living zone.

The palms shown to be removed are exempt by species and as such can be managed or removed at the discretion of the applicant without consent. Existing prescribed trees in the rear setback are located at a much higher RL than the area of excavation; however, a Tree Protection Plan must be submitted prior to issuing a Construction Certificate. A Project Arborist will need to be engaged to supervise the works, including but not limited to demolition, excavation and construction.

The landscape planting proposal is generally supported and all proposed planting shall be installed in accordance with the requirements outlined in the conditions of consent. The architectural sections do not show sufficient soil depth for the on slab landscape works; all on slab landscape planters must meet Council's minimum soil depth requirements.

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 TO BE SATISFIED PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

Tree Protection Plan

a) a Tree Protection Plan shall be submitted to the Certifier for approval prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, demonstrating tree protection measures in accordance with AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, to protect the following trees:

i) all prescribed trees in the rear setback.

b) the Tree Protection Plan shall be prepared by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture, incorporating the following:

i) location of all trees identified for retention, including extent of canopy,

ii) access routes throughout the site for construction activity,

iii) location of tree protection fencing / barriers,

iv) root protection in the form of mulching or boards proposed within the tree protection zone,

v) trunk and branch protection within the tree protection zone,

vi) location of stockpile areas and materials storage,

vii) other general tree protection measures.

Reason: Tree protection.

On Slab Landscape Planters

a) details shall be submitted to the Certifier prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed method of waterproofing and drainage to all planters over slab, over which soil and planting is being provided. Landscape treatment details shall be submitted to the Certifier prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate indicating the proposed soil type, planting, automatic irrigation, and services connections. The following soil depths are required to support landscaping: 300mm for groundcovers, succulents, and grasses.

b) design certification shall be submitted to the Certifier by a qualified Structural Engineer, that the planters are designed structurally to support the 'wet' weight of landscaping (soil, materials and established planting).

Reason: To ensure appropriate soil depth for planting and ensure waterproofing and drainage is installed.

CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED PRIOR TO ANY COMMENCEMENT

Project Arborist

a) a Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be engaged prior to any commencement of works on site to provide tree protection measures in accordance with AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

b) the Project Arborist shall be in attendance and supervise all works in the tree protection zone of

trees to be retained, and in particular:

- i) tree protection measures outlined in the Tree Protection Plan,
 - ii) demolition, excavation and construction works as necessary.
- c) All tree protection measures specified 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.

d) the Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifier that all tree protection measures under AS 4970-2009 have been satisfied, and the 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: 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.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Protection of Rock and Sites of Significance

- a) all natural landscape features, including natural rock outcrops, natural vegetation, soil and watercourses, are to remain undisturbed during demolition, excavation and construction works, except where affected by works and detailed on approved plans.
- b) should any Aboriginal sites be uncovered during the carrying out of works, those works are to cease and Council, the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council are to be contacted.

Reason: Preservation of significant environmental features.

Tree and Vegetation Protection

- a) existing trees and vegetation shall be retained and protected, including:
 - i) all trees within the site not approved for removal, including trees and vegetation nominated for retention on the approved Plans,
 - ii) all trees and vegetation located on adjoining properties,
 - iii) all trees and vegetation within the road reserve.
- b) tree protection shall be undertaken as follows:
 - i) tree protection shall be in accordance with AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment,
 - ii) existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by an Arborist/Project 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/Project 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/Project 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/Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture including advice on root protection measures,
- vii) should either or all of v) or vi) occur during site establishment and construction works, an Arborist/Project 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/Project Arborist to the Principal Certifier,
- 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 AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites,
- ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of AS 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 AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees,
- xi) the tree protection measures specified in this clause must: be in place before work commences on the site, be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

c) the Principal Certifier must ensure that:

- i) If activated, the arboricultural works listed in a) and b) are undertaken and certified by an Arborist/Project Arborist as complaint to AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

Condition of Trees

a) during the construction period the applicant is responsible for ensuring all existing trees required to be retained are maintained in a healthy and vigorous condition. This is to be done by ensuring that all identified tree protection measures are adhered to, or by seeking arboricultural advice from an Arborist/Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture during the works. In this regard all protected trees shall not exhibit:

- i) a general decline in health and vigour,
- ii) damaged, crushed or dying roots due to poor pruning techniques,
- iii) more than 10% loss or dieback of roots, branches and foliage,
- iv) mechanical damage or bruising of bark and timber of roots, trunk and branches,
- v) yellowing of foliage or a thinning of the canopy untypical of its species,
- vi) an increase in the amount of deadwood not associated with normal growth,
- vii) an increase in kino or gum exudation,
- viii) inappropriate increases in epicormic growth that may indicate that the plants are in a stressed condition,
- ix) branch drop, torn branches and stripped bark not associated with natural climatic conditions.

b) any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist/Project Arborist are to be implemented.

c) the owner of the adjoining allotment of land is not liable for the cost of work carried out for the purpose of this clause.

Reason: Protection of trees.

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

Landscape Completion

a) landscape works are to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan(s) (drawings LPDA24-029/3, LPDA24-029/4 by Conzept dated 22/09/23), and inclusive of the following conditions:

- i) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
- ii) planting shall be installed as indicated on the approved Landscape Plan(s) unless otherwise imposed by any conditions,
- iii) all tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size; meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees; planted into a prepared planting hole 1m x 1m x 600mm depth generally, backfilled with a sandy loam mix or approved similar, mulched to 75mm depth minimum and maintained, and watered until established; and shall be located at least 3.0 metres from buildings or more, at least 1.5 metres from common boundaries; and located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,
- iv) mass planting shall be installed at minimum 1 metre intervals (or less) for shrubs of a minimum 200mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and at minimum 4 plants per metre square for groundcovers of a minimum 140mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and shall be in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 75mm depth of mulch,
- v) where swimming pools are part of the development works, selected planting shall comply with the planting and care requirements of AS1926.1 for a non-climbable zone.

b) prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details (from a landscape architect, landscape designer or qualified horticulturalist) shall be submitted to the Principal Certifier, certifying that the landscape works have been completed in accordance with any conditions of consent.

Reason: Environmental amenity.

Condition of Retained Vegetation

a) prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by an Arborist/Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be submitted to the Principal Certifier, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained on the approved Plans or as listed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, including the following information:

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

Reason: Tree and vegetation protection.

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

Landscape Maintenance

a) if any landscape materials/components or planting under this consent fails, they are to be replaced with similar materials/components.

b) 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.

c) 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(s) and any conditions of consent.

d) a maintenance activity schedule for on-going maintenance of planters on slab shall be incorporated to monitor and replenish soil levels as a result of soil shrinkage over time.

e) the approved landscape planted areas, whether containing lawn, gardens or planters shall in perpetuity remain as planting under the development consent, and shall not be replaced with any hard paved surfaces or structures.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.