

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2021/1790
Date:	19/10/2021
Responsible Officer:	Anne-Marie Young
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 41 DP 13760 , 214 Hudson Parade CLAREVILLE NSW 2107 Lot LIC 187249 , 214 Hudson Parade CLAREVILLE NSW 2107

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 demolition of an existing dwelling, and the construction of a new residential dwelling inclusive of a swimming pool and double garage.

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
- D1.14 Landscaped Area - Environmentally Sensitive Lands

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 largely supported by the Architectural Plans provided as it is evident that no trees are shown to be removed. It is noted that no Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been provided with the application.

It is noted that the subject site is largely clear of existing trees and significant vegetation, however the adjoining properties to the east and west have a number of existing trees within close proximity to boundary lines, hence, close to proposed works. All trees and vegetation within adjoining properties is considered prescribed, irrespective of species and height, and must therefore be protected and retained. Any negative impacts to both the short-term and long-term health of these trees is not likely to be supported. Although total encroachments as result of proposed works appear to be high within the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) and Structural Root Zone (SRZ) on plan, the actual impacts of these works are not anticipated to be major due to the presence of existing structures. These existing structures include a number of retained walls along boundary lines, as well as portions of concrete slabs and/or buildings. These structures are likely to restrict and prohibit root growth within the site, resulting in a low chance of significant roots being found. As the proposal seeks to largely retain these structures, no major concern is raised. The retention of these trees and vegetation areas is vital to satisfy control

B4.22, as key objectives include "to protect and enhance the urban forest of the Northern Beaches", as well as "to protect and enhance the scenic value and character that trees and/or bushland vegetation provide".

A Landscape Plan is also provided with the application, with proposed works inclusive of the in-ground planting of trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers. Generally no major concern is raised with the proposed landscape works as it is evident that all new landscaping aims to not only assist in the mitigation of the built form, but also return landscape amenity to the site and increase overall privacy between neighbouring dwellings. Concern however is raised regarding the use of *Pennisetum alopecuroides* as this has been identified as an environmental weed and is a known garden escape, and for this reason is considered an undesirable species. It is recommended that this be substituted for native alternative. The completion of all other landscape works, inclusive of the required species change, is necessary to satisfy controls C1.1 and D1.4, as key objectives of these controls seek to ensure "vegetation is retained and enhanced to visually reduce the built form", "landscaping reflects the scale and form of development", as well as "landscaping enhances habitat and amenity value".

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore supported subject to the protection of existing trees and vegetation, as well as the completion of landscape works as proposed on the Landscape Plan, inclusive of the required species change.

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 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.

The Certifying Authority must ensure that:

- c) 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.

Condition of Trees

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 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.

Any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist are to be implemented.

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

Landscaping is to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan, inclusive of the following conditions:

i) substitute the proposed *Pennisetum alopecuroides* with a locally native alternative. Suggested species include: *Imperata cylindrica*, *Lomandra longfolia*, or *Themeda australis*.

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details shall be submitted to the Certifying Authority, certifying that the landscape works have been completed in accordance with any conditions of consent.

Reason: Environmental amenity.

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.