

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2025/0448
Date:	29/05/2025
Proposed Development:	Construction of a dwelling house
Responsible Officer:	Anaiis Sarkissian
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 2 DP 260241 , 100 Hilltop Road AVALON BEACH 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

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
- D1 Avalon Beach Locality

It is noted the property is a vacant lot that has never been developed and as such tree removals can be expected to allow construction of a dwelling, which is permissible in this zoning. It is also noted the site is mapped bushfire prone land and will need to comply with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) identified 30 trees. Should the application be approved, trees 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, and 29 will require removal to facilitate the works and the bushfire asset protection zones. Trees 5, 6, 15, 17, 18, and 20 are exempt by species, height or are dead, and as such may be managed or removed at the discretion of the applicant without consent. The removal of the remaining trees can be supported. The AIA has assessed the bushfire requirements and the impact of the stormwater level spreader. A Project Arborist shall be engaged to supervise works around the existing trees to be retained, and in particular works around tree 4.

The landscape proposal will maintain the lower garden area as bushland regeneration which is supported. The proposed planting in the road reserve is not supported and planting in the front setback between the top of the crib wall and front boundary shall be wholly contained within the property boundaries. The road reserve shall be lawn only.

Should the stormwater design change, reassessment may be required if further impact to trees is proposed.

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

Footing Design Near Trees to be Retained

- a) Footing structural layout plans for the main entry hardstand works shall be developed in co-ordination with an Arborist with AQF minimum Level 5 qualifications in arboriculture, and a qualified Structural Engineer, following a non-destructive tree root investigation (if deemed necessary by the Arborist), complying with clause 3.3.4 of AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, near existing tree(s) 3 and 4, to locate critical tree roots and recommend footing design and locations for the construction works.
- b) The Arborist shall review, comment, recommend design revision as required and approve the footing layout, to ensure the locations of footings will be manageable in terms of tree protection measures.
- c) The Arborist shall submit certification to the Certifier that the locations of the footings are accepted.
- d) The agreed footing structural layout plans shall be submitted to the Certifier for approval prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate.

Reason: Tree protection.

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 as nominated in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, and in particular:
 - i) tree protection measures and works under sections 8.2 Detailed Impact Appraisal for Trees to be Retained Onsite, 8.4 Tree Protection and Removals Plan, 9 Recommendations, and 10 Tree Protection Requirements,
 - ii) any tree canopy pruning requirements.
- 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.

Tree Removal Within the Property

a) This consent approves the removal of existing prescribed trees on the subject site as listed below:

i) tree 7 - *Corymbia gummifera*, tree 8 - *Eucalyptus eugenioides*, tree 9 - *Glochidion ferdinandi*, trees 11 & 12 - *Allocasuarina torulosa*, trees 13, 14 & 19 - *Glochidion ferdinandi*, trees 21 & 23 - *Allocasuarina torulosa*, tree 24 - *Pittosporum undulatum*, and trees 27, 28 & 29 - *Allocasuarina torulosa*.

b) A qualified AQF level 5 Arborist shall identify these trees on site and tag or mark prior to removal.

Reason: To enable authorised development works.

Tree Removal Within the Road Reserve

a) This consent approves the removal of existing trees within the road reserve as listed below:

i) tree 1 - *Melaleuca bracteata*, and tree 2 - *Agonis flexuosa*.

b) A qualified AQF level 5 Arborist shall identify these trees on site and tag or mark prior to removal.

c) Removal of the approved tree/s by the applicant in the road reserve shall only be undertaken by a Council approved tree contractor. Details of currently approved tree contractors can be obtained from Northern Beaches Council's Trees Services business unit prior to removal.

Reason: Public liability.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Protection of Landscape Features 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.

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), 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 AS2303 – Tree Stock for Landscape Use; 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 and other trees 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 in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 75mm depth of mulch, v) where the property is certified Bush Fire Prone Land, any new planting may be managed in accordance with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

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) 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.