

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2021/1129
Date:	22/12/2021
Responsible Officer:	David Auster
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 55 DP 235355 , 94 Killarney Drive KILLARNEY HEIGHTS NSW 2087

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 of an existing residential dwelling. Alterations include the demolition of internal structures to accommodate re-configurations allowing for a more open internal layout. Further alterations include the demolition of the existing swimming pool in order to allow for additions including a double garage as well as new swimming pool.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Warringah Local Environmental Plan, and the following Warringah DCP 2011 controls:

- D1 Landscaped Open Space and Bushland Setting
- E1 Preservation of Trees or Bushland Vegetation

Original Comments - 22/07/2021

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that the proposed works are not to impact any significant vegetation within the site. This statement is largely supported by the Architectural Plans provided as no significant tree is proposed for removal. It is noted that upon review of the Site Survey, the most prominent portion of existing vegetation is located well clear of proposed works along the eastern boundary at the rear of the site, hence no significant impacts are expected.

It is noted that there is a large portion of existing shrubs and grasses at the front of the site that are required to be removed in order to facilitate the proposed additions to the site. Landscape Referral raises no objections with the removal of this vegetation, however, concern is raised with the lack of replacement planting. As the proposal seeks to significantly alter the facade of the property, there is opportunity for the proposed built form to dominate the site and negatively impact the streetscape character of the area. It is noted the Architectural Plans provided do indicate that some planting is likely proposed, however no details are provided. The concern raised is not with the proposed works, instead it is solely the lack of vegetation and associated planting details provided. Considering the importance of this vegetation, and its need to effectively screen and mitigate the increase in height and scale of the built form, it is recommended that a Landscape Plan be provided with the application as per Councils Development Application Lodgement Requirements. This Landscape Plan is to provide a detailed

planting plan demonstrating how privacy is to be enhanced, as well as how the built form will be softened through the use of a variety of planting types, including trees, medium and low shrubs, grasses, as well as groundcovers. It is also recommended that spill over planting be incorporated to further soften the increased use of retaining walls. This planting is necessary in order to satisfy control D1, as key objectives of this control include "to enable planting to maintain and enhance the streetscape", "to provide for landscaped open space with dimensions that are sufficient to enable the establishment of low lying shrubs, medium high shrubs and canopy trees of a size and density to mitigate the height, bulk and scale of the building", as well as "to enhance privacy between buildings".

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore not currently supported due to the limited information provided regarding the proposed landscape works. It is therefore recommended that a Landscape Plan be provided with the application in accordance with Councils Development Application Lodgement Requirements. This Landscape Plan is to demonstrate how landscaping is to be incorporated into the design, effectively mitigating and softening the increase in overall built form, whilst enhancing the streetscape character of the area.

Upon receipt of the required documentation, further assessment can be made.

Updated comments - 22/12/2021

Following concerns regarding the lack of proposed landscape works, a Landscape Plan has since been provided with the application.

The Landscape Referral section raises no objections to the proposed landscape works as it is evident these seek to not only mitigate and soften the increase in bulk and scale of the dwelling, but also increase the overall landscape amenity of the site. These works appear to satisfy the relevant objectives of control D1.

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 provided.

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 Amended Landscape Plan.

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details (from a landscape architect or landscape designer) 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.