

## Landscape Referral Response

<b>Application Number:</b>	DA2023/1757
<b>Date:</b>	05/11/2024
<b>Proposed Development:</b>	Demolition works and major alterations and additions to Forest Way shopping centre including road infrastructure works and a pedestrian overpass on Forest Way
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Adam Croft
<b>Land to be developed (Address):</b>	Lot 20 DP 1209801 , Forest Way FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

### 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 proposed alterations and additions to the Forest Way Shopping Centre includes removal of existing trees as identified in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) report. Landscape Plans are submitted and indicate proposed hard and soft landscape works to external areas. Any proposed landscape works beyond the site boundaries shall be subject to review as part of civil works under the Roads Act provisions of section 138 for works in the road reserve.

The AIA report and the Landscape Plans identifies the retention of existing trees T9, T10, T11, T12, T14, T15, T16 and T18 (all Sydney Blue Gum species) along the Russell Avenue streetscape which maintains the high value streetscape amenity along Russell Avenue. The AIA report recommends removal of two existing trees identified as T13 and T17 as these are impacted by the proposed development footprint as Landscape Referral raise no objections.

The Landscape Plans provide proposals for hard and soft landscape treatment and following review it is determined that the landscape outcomes as proposed provide an enhancement to the existing landscape character of the property, and no concerns are raised.

The submitted AIA report and Landscape Plans as amended have addressed previous concerns raised by Landscape Referral.

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

#### Tree Removal Within the Property

This consent approves the removal of existing prescribed trees on the subject site as identified in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, approved Plans, or as listed below:

- a) tree 13 and tree 17,
- 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.

### CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

#### Project Arborist

A Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be engaged to provide tree protection measures in accordance with AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

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

- a) sections 6, 7, 8,
- b) appendix A - Tree Protection Plan

All tree protection measures specified 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. The Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifier that all tree protection measures under AS4970-2009 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 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 AS4970-2009 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 AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites,  
ix) the activities listed in section 4.2 of AS4970-2009 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 AS4373-2007 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 Principal Certifier must ensure that:

c) The arboricultural works listed in a) and b) are undertaken as complaint to AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites, and any recommendations of an approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment and/or Project Arborist as applicable.

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/Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture during the works. In this regard all protected trees shall not exhibit:

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

Any mitigating measures and recommendations required by the Arborist/Project 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**

Landscape works are to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plans, and inclusive of the following conditions:

- a) landscape works are to be contained within the legal property boundaries,
- b) all tree planting shall be a minimum pre-ordered planting size of 75 litres or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and other planting shall conform to the listed spacing in the plant schedule,
- c) any landscape works within the road reserve shall be the subject of a section 138 application under the Roads Act.

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: Landscape amenity.

### **Condition of Retained Vegetation**

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:

- 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 and vegetation 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 Plans and any conditions of consent.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.