
From: morrisoz morrisoz
Sent: 29/04/2022 9:28:33 AM
To: Council Northernbeaches Mailbox
Subject: Stephanie Gelder. Submission: DA2022/0502, 5 Hubert Street Freshwater.
Attachments: Submission - Morris.docx;

To Stephanie Gelder,

Please find attached a Submission from 7 Hubert Street.
If you could please acknowledge receipt that would be helpful.

Regards
Patrick and Narelle Morris

Submission - Morris

Documents referenced in this Submission

This Submission primarily references the below document and Development Application.

DA:	DA2022/0502
Property:	5 Hubert Street, Freshwater
Document:	'Plans – Master Set' dated 30 March 2022
Page/s:	1
Document:	'Arborist Report' dated 30 March 2022
Page/s:	4-5

Details of Reference Documents

This Submission is focussed on two elements of the aforementioned documents: (1) Location of replacement tree, and (2) Type of replacement tree.

Location of replacement tree in front of house

The to-scale plans submitted by the Applicant (**page 1 of 'Plans – Master Set'**) detail a proposal to remove a tree located on the road reserve and plant a replacement tree. The plans show that the base of the replacement tree (to be planted) will be approximately 2 metres from the boundary of 5 and 7 Hubert Street. This means the replacement tree will be placed approximately 2.5 metres from the driveway of 7 Hubert St but approximately 6.5 metres from the Applicant's proposed Northern edge of the new driveway (5 Hubert St).

Type of replacement tree

The Arborist report submitted by the Applicant (**pages 4-5 of 'Arborist Report'**) details the intention to plant a replacement tree of an alternative species. Several 'smaller growing' species are suggested as appropriate for the replacement tree on the grounds that a reduction in powerline maintenance may be achieved.

Proposed refinements to DA

With respect to the Notice of Proposed Development, we propose the following refinements:

1. That the replacement tree be planted at least 4 metres, or equidistant, between the Northern end of the proposed new driveway, at number 5 Hubert Street and the Southern end of number 7 Hubert Streets driveway.
2. That the replacement tree be substantially similar (in terms of future height, shape, and composition) as the existing tree proposed for removal.

Reasoning

We see potential safety issues with the proposed replacement trees recommended by the Arborist. The species suggested as appropriate replacement trees are of a small size and bushy trees/shrubs in composition. Accordingly, the features of such species present an issue with exiting from the driveway of 7 Hubert St.

Difficulty in entering road from driveway

Having a road reserve space free from visual obstruction is crucial to safely exiting the driveway of 7 Hubert St. In our opinion, a new bushy tree so close to 7 Hubert St driveway (that is, a tree with base 2.5 metres away from driveway) would significantly hinder or potentially block our view of oncoming traffic when exiting our driveway. This risk may adversely impact the safety of the driver, passengers, and other users of Hubert Street.

Below are some key factors highlighting why the proposed replacement tree creates a risk:

- a. Our upward-rising driveway (11 degrees or 1 to 5.1 gradient) leaves the driver with little ability to look for traffic before entering Hubert Street.
- b. The presence of a medium sized fence and medium-sized Golden Cane Palm trees located on 5 Hubert Street and next to the driveway of 7 Hubert Street prevents viewing the road any earlier than the last metre of the driveway.
- c. Currently, non-residents are using Hubert Street as a rat run (along Robert and Hubert Street) to avoid traffic lights at the junction of Harbord Road and Wyadra Avenue. Some of these cars are driving at speeds that are dangerous and make exiting driveways more dangerous. We have quite a few young children in our street. When cars are parked at both sides of Hubert and Robert Street, only one car can pass at a time.

Tree environment

One of the main reasons the trees are butchered on a regular basis is the fact that the lowest overhead cable is an obsolete Optus HFC Cable running directly above the trees. The 240-volt cables are another 2 to 2.5 meters above the Optus cable. The Optus cable is no longer in use and could be removed as the NBN has been rolled out to Hubert Street dwellings.

At one point, 22 meters north of our northern boundary, the Optus cable is approximately 2.8 meters above ground. As per the Service and Installation Rules of New South Wales Aerial Street Cabling, the minimum height of an aerial cable, on public property, should be no lower than 3 meters to the ground. Accordingly, the Optus cable at 2.8 meters above ground is a contravention of the rules.

If this obsolete Optus cable is removed, the trees within the road reserve on the eastern side of Hubert Street (that is, where 5 Hubert Street is located) would be able to grow an extra 2 – 2.5 meters in height. This would enhance the look of the trees in Hubert Street and result in an enhanced streetscape.

Conclusion

We don't have any issue with the removal of the tree outside number 5 Hubert Street as such, but we would like you to consider the above issues relating to the new tree location, type of replacement tree and possible improvements to the streetscape of Hubert Street.