

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2022/1474
Date:	04/07/2023
Proposed Development:	Demolition works, subdivision of two (2) Lots into four (4) Lots with associated driveway and construction of four (4) dwelling houses.
Responsible Officer:	Kye Miles
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot B DP 393276 , 14 Gladys Avenue FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086 Lot A DP 393276 , 12 Gladys Avenue 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 proposal is supported with regard to landscape issues.

Additional Information Comment 04/07/23:

The amended plans are noted.

The previous comments and imposed conditions remain valid.

Original Comment:

An Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) and Landscape Plans are included in the application and will be assessed as part of the Landscape Referral. The AIA assessed 68 trees of which trees 8, 50 and 51 have previously been removed, trees 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13-23, 26, 29, 31, 34-36, 38 and 41 are proposed to be removed although are exempt by species and tree 39 is exempt by height, therefore do not require consent for removal. Although 5 'A' retention value trees are proposed to be removed the Landscape Plan includes 6 replacement trees, and the proposal will retain 22 'A' retention value trees (and a total of 30 trees across the site). Furthermore, trees 24, 30, 40, 52 can be supported for removal due to their low retention value and short useful life expectancy. Supported tree removal is outlined in the conditions of consent.

Tree 5 is of high significance and must be retained. The proposed driveway has been designed to minimise the impact to tree 5, and as seen in the Driveway Cross Sections (drawing TPC-2022-10658-002) the proposed driveway levels around tree 5 match the existing driveway levels. Tree 5 shall be retained and protected and tree sensitive construction methods (excavation avoided) used for the proposed driveway within its tree protection zone. Trees 1, 4, 48 and 54 also require tree sensitive construction methods. All trees shown to be retained shall be protected as per the recommendations in

the AIA and the requirements outlined in the conditions of consent. A Project Arborist shall be engaged to supervise all work within the tree protection zones of trees to be retained and in particular those trees requiring tree sensitive construction methods, subject to the imposed conditions.

The bin storage area will encroach on neighbouring tree 1 and no detrimental impact to tree 1 is acceptable. The permeable paving system is supported and as indicated on the plans it shall be installed on the existing ground level with no excavation unless the Project Arborist advises otherwise.

*The landscape proposal is generally supported and all proposed planting shall be installed in accordance with the conditions of consent. The 2 *Pyrus calleryana* shall be replaced with native species, subject to the imposed conditions.*

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

Project Arborist

A Project Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall be engaged to provide tree protection measures in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, and the recommendations of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

a) 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 under section 8.2 Tree Sensitive Construction Specification (for trees 1, 4, 48, 54 and including tree 5), section 9 Recommendations, and Section 10 AMS and Tree Protection Requirements,
- ii) works under section 11 Hold Points,
- iii) construction of the bin storage area,
- iv) all stormwater infrastructure excavation and installation,
- v) additionally, the Project Arborist shall be in attendance and supervise any landscaping works within the TPZ of all existing trees to be retained.

b) Existing ground levels shall be maintained within the tree protection zone of trees to be retained, unless authorised by the Project Arborist.

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.

The Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Principal Certifier that all 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.

d) Note:

- i) A separate permit or development consent may be required if the branches or roots of a protected tree on the site or on an adjoining site are required to be pruned or removed.

ii) 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

This consent approves the removal of the following tree(s) within the property (as recommended and identified by tree number in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment):

- i) tree 2 - *Eucalyptus resinifera*, tree 12 - *Callistemon viminalis*, tree 24, 25, 30 - *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, tree 37 - *Banksia integrifolia*, tree 40 - *Eucalyptus resinifera*, tree 42 - *Banksia integrifolia*, tree 52 - *Angophora costata*,
- ii) a qualified AQF level 5 Arborist shall identify these trees on site and tag or mark prior to removal.

Reason: To enable authorised building works.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Protection of Landscape Features and Sites of Significance

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 detailed on approved plans.

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 and vegetation within the site, 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) or vi) 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 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 Australian Standard 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites,

ix) 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, and should additional pruning be required an application to Council's Tree Services shall be submitted for approval or otherwise.

The Principal Certifier 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 the Project Arborist 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 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

Landscaping is to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plan (drawing LA02 to LA06 by Apex Studio), and inclusive of the following conditions:

- i) substitute the 2 *Pyrus calleryana* with a suitable native alternative to achieve at least 6 metres height at maturity, selected from Northern Beaches Council's Native Plant Species Guide - Frenchs Forest Ward, or Council's Tree Guide,
- ii) all tree planting shall be a minimum planting size of 75 litres, and shall meet the requirements of Natspec - Specifying Trees,
- iii) all trees shall be planted into a prepared planting hole 1m x 1m x 600mm depth, 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 at least 1 metre from common boundaries, and located either within garden bed or within a prepared bed within lawn,
- iv) mass planting shall be installed at minimum 1 plant per metre square for shrubs of a minimum 200mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and at least 4 plants per metre square for grasses/groundcovers of a minimum 140mm container size at planting or as otherwise scheduled if greater in size, and shall be in a garden bed prepared with a suitable free draining soil mix and minimum 75mm depth of mulch,
- v) all proposed tree planting shall be positioned in locations to minimise significant impacts on neighbours in terms of blocking winter sunlight to living rooms, private open space and where the proposed location of trees may otherwise be positioned to minimise any significant loss of views from neighbouring and nearby dwellings and from public spaces.

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, details from a landscape architect or landscape designer 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 - Project Arborist

Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, a report prepared by the Project Arborist shall be submitted to the Principal Certifier, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained, 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 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 Plan(s) and any conditions of consent.

The approved landscaped area shall in perpetuity remain as planting under the development consent.

Reason: To maintain local environmental amenity.