

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2021/1243
Date:	28/07/2021
Responsible Officer:	Julie Edwards
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 3 DP 1245406 , 57 Mona Vale Road MONA VALE NSW 2103

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 construction of a new swimming pool and associated landscape works.

Councils Landscape Referral section has considered the application against the Pittwater Local Environmental Plan, and the following Pittwater 21 DCP controls:

- B4.22 Preservation of Trees and Bushland Vegetation
- C1.1 Landscaping
- D9.11 Landscaped Area - Environmentally Sensitive Land

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that several existing trees are required to be removed in order to facilitate proposed works. For this reason, an Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been provided with the application.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment has identified a total of nineteen trees, located both within the site as well as in adjoining properties. Of these nineteen trees, eight trees have been proposed for removal. These trees have been identified as Trees No. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 ,17 and 18. All eight of these trees are located towards the north-east corner of the site, and vary in both height and species. It is noted that majority of these trees have been identified as having low landscape significance. These trees are largely located within the footprint of proposed works and will be required to be removed as a result. It should be noted that Trees No. 17 and 18 are located outside of the site boundaries within a Council owned reserve, however these have been shown as retained on the Landscape Plans provided. Considering these are located clear of proposed works, and are not located within the site, these two trees are required to be retained as per the Landscape Plan. The removal of the remaining six trees identified in the Arboricultural impact Assessment is supported as the Landscape Plan provided has clearly proposed a number of native trees as compensation. These proposed landscape works, in conjunction with a series of shrubs, grasses and groundcovers, achieve the require minimum tree planting, whilst also enhancing the privacy of the site and softening of the built form. The completion of landscape works as proposed on the Landscape Plan is vital to satisfy controls C1.1 and D9.11, as key objectives of these controls seek to ensure "landscaping enhances habitat and amenity

value", "landscape reflects the scale and form of development" as well as that landscaping helps soften and complement the built form.

It is noted that there are minor encroachments into the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) of trees to be retained, however it is clear these can be retained with minimal impacts to be expected. The retention of the remaining trees located both within the site and the adjoining properties is necessary to satisfy control B4.22, as key objectives of this control include "to protect and enhance the urban forest of the Northern Beaches", "to effectively manage the risks that come with an established urban forest through professional management of trees", as well as "to protect and enhance the scenic value and character that these trees and/or bushland vegetation provide".

The landscape component of the proposal is therefore supported subject to the protection of existing trees and vegetation, and completion of landscape works as proposed on the Landscape Plan.

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. The Project Arborist is to specify and oversee all tree protection measures such as tree protection fencing, trunk and branch protection, and ground protection.

The Project Arborist is to supervise all demolition, excavation and construction works near all trees to be retained, including construction methods near the existing trees to protect tree roots, trunks, branches and canopy. Where required, manual excavation is to occur ensuring no tree root at or >25mm (Ø) is damaged by works, unless approved by the Project Arborist.

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

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

- i) all demolition, excavation and construction works within the TPZ's and SRZ's of trees to be retained.

All tree protection measures specified must:

- a) be in place before work commences on the site, and
- b) be maintained in good condition during the construction period, and
- c) remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

The Project Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifying Authority 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.

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 in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment):

- i) *Ceratonia siliqua*, located in the north-east corner of the site adjacent to the proposed swimming pool, Tree No. 11,
- ii) *Ceratonia siliqua*, located in the north-east corner of the site adjacent to the proposed swimming pool, Tree No. 12,
- iii) *Ceratonia siliqua*, located in the north-east corner of the site within the footprint of the proposed swimming pool, Tree No. 13,
- iv) *Leptospermum sp.*, located in the north-east corner of the site, adjacent to the northern boundary, Tree No. 16.

Note:

- i) Exempt Species as listed in the Development Control Plan or the Arboricultural Impact Assessment do not require Council consent for removal.
- ii) Any request to remove a tree approved for retention under the development application is subject to a Section 4.55 modification application, or an assessment by an Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture that determines that the tree presents an imminent risk to life or property.

Reason: To enable authorised building works.

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.
- c) Tree protection shall specifically be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, as listed in the following sections:
- i) Section 4 - Arboricultural Method Statement,
 - ii) Appendix 8 - Tree Management Plan.

The Certifying Authority must ensure that:

- d) The arboricultural works listed in c) are undertaken and certified by an Arborist as compliant to the recommendations of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment.
- e) 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.

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.

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.

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 Certifying Authority, assessing the health and impact on all existing trees required to be retained, 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 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 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.