

Landscape Referral Response

Application Number:	DA2021/2150
Date:	24/11/2021
Responsible Officer:	Gareth David
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 4 DP 33000 , 9 Aubreen Street COLLAROY PLATEAU NSW 2097

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 to an existing residential dwelling. Alterations include the demolition of existing site structures in order to facilitate internal layout re-configurations, with additions inclusive of a new swimming pool in the rear as well as a new first floor supporting a number of bedrooms and bathrooms.

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

The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the application notes that two palms trees are to be removed as a result of proposed works. This statement is largely supported by the Architectural and Landscape Plans as only two trees are shown to be removed. It is noted that no Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been provided with the application.

Upon further review of the site, the two palms proposed to be removed are identified as exempt species, and may therefore be removed without Councils approval. As a result, no major concern is raised regarding tree removal within the site. Slight concern is raised regarding the proposed boundary low retaining walls as these have the potential to negatively impact existing trees and vegetation within the adjoining property to the south. All trees and vegetation in adjoining properties is protected, irrespective of species and height, and must therefore be protected and retained. Any negative impacts towards the short-term and long-term health of these trees shall not be supported. Although palm trees have a fibrous root system and are generally more tolerant to disturbance, care must be taken during proposed works to ensure no significant roots are impacted or removed, as any impacts to the structural integrity of this tree could pose a risk to both property and life. For this reason, it is recommended that a tree root investigation take place prior to Construction Certificate to ensure no significant roots are impacted by the proposed retaining wall. The retention of this tree, as well as other existing trees and vegetation within the site is vital to satisfy control E1 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 trees and/or bushland vegetation provide".

A Landscape Plan has also been provided with the application with proposed works including the in-ground planting of trees, shrubs, accents, grasses and groundcovers. Generally, no major concern is raised with the proposed landscape works as it is evident they seek to not only mitigate and soften the bulk and scale of the built form, but also enhance the landscape amenity and privacy of the site. The completion of these landscape works is necessary 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 supported subject to the protection of existing trees and vegetation, as well as the completion of landscape works as proposed on the Landscape Plans 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 SATISFIED PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

Tree Root Investigation and Tree Root Map

Prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, a tree root mapping investigation shall be undertaken on the outside edge of proposed boundary retaining walls, and a Tree Root Map shall be documented that will be the basis for determining construction methodology near existing trees in the adjoining property to the south.

An Arborist with minimum AQF Level 5 in arboriculture shall supervise the works to verify tree root locations. A non-destructive root investigation shall be conducted complying with clause 3.3.4 of AS 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.

The root investigation shall map existing roots of significance that must not be impacted by construction works. The tree root investigation shall be conducted to confirm the following data to be used for the location/alignment of any new proposed works:

- i) confirmation of the location of any tree roots at or >25mm (Ø) diameter to areas that require excavation for proposed works. Alternative alignment of proposed works shall be provided as necessary to avoid major roots, and
- ii) mapping of the suitable location/alignment of proposed works.

The Tree Root Map shall be issued to a qualified Structural Engineer as a basis for structural design, and for determining the final location/alignment and construction methodology of proposed works within the tree protection zone (TPZ).

Prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, the Arborist shall provide certification to the Certifying Authority that the tree root investigation and clear distance recommendations have been adequately addressed in the Construction Certificate plans.

Reason: To ensure protection of vegetation proposed for retention or adjacent to the site.

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 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.