

Service 8: Street Tree and Streetscape Management

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the provision, maintenance and removal of street trees and development of streetscapes to meet the needs and expectations of the City of Kalamunda (City) and community which is consistent with the City's strategic objectives and operational requirements.

2. Application

This policy does not apply to trees or landscaping on private property or on City reserves or land under the care or management of Federal or State Government instrumentalities.

3. Policy Statement

The City recognises the significance of streetscapes and naturally occurring and planted trees as integral to the identity of the City. Also, having an urban forest is shown to contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.

The City is committed to (wherever possible):

- (a) The conservation and preservation of existing healthy street trees.
- (b) The protection of significant trees and remnant bushland on the roadside.
- (c) The enhancement of streetscapes through street tree planting and landscaping with suitable species.
- (d) The reduction of risk through pruning, canopy reduction, tree removal and verge treatments, as appropriate.
- (e) Vegetation care principles to aid the health and resilience of plants.

In achieving these principles, the City will:

- (a) Take a proactive asset management approach to the management of street trees and streetscapes.
- (b) Recognise and manage budget limitations and ensure decisions reflect the principles of financial sustainability.
- (c) Achieve utility and infrastructure requirements.
- (d) Minimise risk and meet its duty of care legal obligations.
- (e) Deliver broader ecological, social and aesthetic benefits to present and future generations.
- (f) Retain healthy trees wherever possible.
- (g) Undertake assessment of the need to remove street trees where:
- (h) All or part of the tree is dead, suffering termite or other damage or is determined by the City or its arborist to be declining in health. In some cases, dead trees may provide habitat for local fauna and will be assessed accordingly for possible retention.

- (i) It is a cultivated street tree and is considered a hazard to residents, motorists or property.
- (j) The street tree was planted without approval from the City and is determined to be unsuitable in the area.
- (k) As part of the development approval process the tree is considered, by the City, appropriate to remove.
- (l) The tree causes reoccurring damage to public infrastructure that outweighs its public benefit.
- (m) The tree has adverse impact on access.
- (n) The tree presents an unacceptable risk in regard to the City's Bushfire Management Plan and procedures
- (o) A subsequent decision to remove a street tree will require documentation of the assessment above and where deemed appropriate an independent Arborist assessment

The implementation of this policy reinforces the strategic priorities, as set out in the Kalamunda Advancing: Strategic Community Plan to 2023.

Status	Council Requirement		
Related Local Law	Street Lawns and Gardens (1964)		
Related Council Policies and Strategies	Governance 8: Risk Management		
Relevant Delegation	N/A		
Related Internal Procedures	Updated Procedure Pending		
Related Budget Schedule	N/A		
Legislation	<i>Local Government Act 1995 (WA)</i> <i>Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996</i> <i>Bushfire Act1954 (WA)</i>		
Notes and Conditions	N/A		
Authority	Council		
Adopted	27 August 2019	Next Review Date	27 August 2021