

AGENDA

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

13 APRIL 2023

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Black, L Burns, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, V Etheridge, J Gough, R Ivey, D Mahon, P Wells and M Wright.

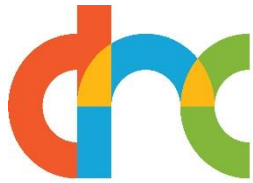
The meeting is scheduled to commence at 5.30pm.

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CCC23/10	LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/742)	
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CCC23/12	REPORT OF THE CULTURAL AND TOURISM FACILITY COMMITTEE - MEETING 12 DECEMBER 2022 (ID23/649)	4
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	The Committee had before it the report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee meeting held 30 March 2023.	
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	The Committee had before it the report dated 30 March 2023 from the Director Organisational Performance regarding Macquarie Conservatorium of Music Facility Options.	
CCC23/19	DUBBO AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) (ID23/513)	36
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CCC23/20	MACQUARIE RIVER - TRACKER RILEY WALKWAY - EROSION REPORT (ID23/580)	48
	The Committee had before it the report dated 23 March 2023 from the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding Macquarie River - Tracker Riley Walkway - erosion report.	
CCC23/21	WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTERPLAN - PUBLIC EXHIBITION (ID23/662)	58
	The Committee had before it the report dated 29 March 2023 from the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding Wellington Street Tree Masterplan - public exhibition.	
CCC23/22	REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC TREE REMOVAL - AMENITY VALUATION POLICY (2023) (ID23/676)	163
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CCC23/23	DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL TREE PRESERVATION ORDER (PUBLIC TREES) AND SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER (ID23/660)	188
	The Committee had before it the report dated 29 March 2023 from the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding Dubbo Regional Council Tree Preservation Order (Public Trees) and Significant Tree Register.	
CCC23/24	DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP ON DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ID23/680)	243
	The Committee had before it the report dated 3 April 2023 from the Manager Community Services regarding Determination of Councillor Membership on Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee.	
CCC23/25	DRTCC PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY REVIEW (ID23/48)	251
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CCC23/26	SUBMIT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN WELLINGTON ABORIGINAL ACTION PANEL AND DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL (ID23/672)	256
	The Committee had before it the report dated 31 March 2023 from the Aboriginal Liaison Officer regarding Submit Partnership Agreement between Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel and Dubbo Regional Council.	
CCC23/27	DESTINATION DUBBO PROJECT UPDATE (ID23/678)	
	The Committee had before it the report dated 3 April 2023 from the Director Organisational Performance regarding Destination Dubbo Project Update.	
	<i>In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that consideration of this item is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public for the following reason: commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council (Section 10A(2)(d)(ii)).</i>	



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee - meeting 12 December 2022

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee meeting held 12 December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee meeting held on 12 December 2022, be noted.



REPORT
CULTURAL AND TOURISM FACILITY
COMMITTEE
12 DECEMBER 2022

Meeting did not form a quorum, as no councillors were able to attend, and therefore meeting not held.

The Director Community, Culture and Places gave an overview of the committee and its purpose.

Next meeting to be considered the first formal meeting for this committee.

PRESENT: The Director Community, Culture and Places, the Manager Regional Experiences, DC Clifford (Community Representative), T Kratzmann (Community Representative), B O'Brien (Community Representative), C Bray (Community Representative), K Palmer (Community Representative) and N Jeffrey (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Manager Strategic Partnerships and Investment, the Manager Regional Events, the Manager Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, the Cultural Development Co-Ordinator, The Wellington Caves Complex Operations Co-Ordinator, the Administration Officer Regional Experiences and the Old Dubbo Gaol Officer.

_____ assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.10pm.

CTFC22/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID22/2606)

The Director Community, Culture and Places delivered a Welcome to Country.

CTFC22/2 APOLIGIES (ID22/2607)

Apologies were received by Councillors D Mahon, P Wells and I Parkes (Community Representative) and A Bloomfield (Community Representative).

CTFC22/3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST (ID22/2608)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CTFC22/4 ELECTION OF CHAIR (ID22/2610)

At this juncture, the _____ (staff position running meeting) called for nominations for Chairperson of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee.

Councillor _____ was nominated by _____.

Councillor _____ accepted their nomination and was elected Chairperson of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee for the Mayoral term.

Councillor _____ assumed the Chair of the meeting

CTFC22/5 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION (ID22/2611)

Councillor _____ provided a welcome and introduction to the Committee.

CTFC22/6 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE (ID22/2615)

The Committee had before it the report dated 9 December 2022 from the Governance Officer regarding Terms of Reference and Code of Meeting Practice.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Terms of Reference (Appendix 1) and Code of Meeting Practice for Community Committees and Working Parties (Appendix 2) be noted.

CTFC22/7 STAFF PRESENTATION OF FACILITIES/SERVICES (ID22/2612)

The Manager Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre addressed the Committee with an overview of the 2023 season and current projects.

The Old Dubbo Gaol Officer addressed the Committee with an overview of the history and operations of the Old Dubbo Gaol site as a tourism facility.

The Caves Co-Ordinator addressed the Committee with an overview of the Wellington Caves and Caravan Park facilities and current challenges.

The Manager Regional Experiences addressed the Committee with an overview of the Western Plains Cultural Centre.

The Cultural Development Co-Ordinator addressed the Committee with an overview of how the cultural development team engages in cultural planning across tourism facilities in the region.

The Manager Regional Experiences addressed the Committee with an update on the Wiradjuri Tourism Centre Project.

CTFC22/8 FUTURE MEETING DATES (ID22/2609)

The Committee gave consideration to Future Meeting Dates.

Scheduled months for the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee Part are as follows:

OUTCOME

1. That the next meeting of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee be held on Wednesday 8 February 2023 at 5.00pm

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That calendar invitations be sent out to all members of the Cultural and Tourism Facility Committee for above date.

Agenda item for next meeting to organise future dates

The meeting closed at 6.18pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Sister City Committee - meeting 27 February 2023

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Sister City Committee meeting held 27 February 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Sister City Committee meeting held on 27 February 2023, be noted.



REPORT SISTER CITY COMMITTEE 27 FEBRUARY 2023

PRESENT: Councillors J Gough and S Chowdhury, the Director Community, Culture and Places, G Knight (Community Representative), B Palmer (Community Representative), P Priest (Community Representative) and J Wilson (Community Representative)

Clr S Chowdhury assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

SCC23/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID23/263)

Director Community Culture and Places delivered an Acknowledgment of Country.

SCC23/2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/264)

There were no requests for leave of absence received for this meeting.

SCC23/3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST (ID23/265)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

SCC23/4 REPORT OF THE SISTER CITY COMMITTEE - MEETING 26 OCTOBER 2022 (ID22/2317)

The Committee had before it the report of the Sister City Committee meeting held 26 October 2022.

OUTCOME

- 1. That the report of the Sister City Committee meeting held on 26 October 2022, be noted.**
- 2. That signage be installed at the entrance of the Shoyoen Gardens depicting the design, construction, ongoing development and the contribution from Minokamo in 2023.**

SCC23/5 UPDATE ON THE SISTER CITIES OFFICER ROLE (ID23/283)

The Director Community Cultural and Places provided an update on the recruitment of the Sister Cities Officer Role.

OUTCOME

1. That a special meeting be called to introduce the new Sister Cities Officer and discuss programing of the next 12 months.
2. That videos be produced to be shared on social media in future.
3. That it be noted that the Committee would like to gain an understanding of the current Sister Cities relationships and details on the relationships going forward.

SCC23/6 GENERAL BUSINESS (ID23/534)

The following items of General Business were discussed:

- Councillor Chowdhury – Upcoming visits of Delegates to our Sister Cities.

OUTCOME

1. That it be noted that visits of Delegates are normally planned around the anniversaries of significant events that relate to the two Cities.
2. That Kylie Sutherland be invited to attend the next meeting.
3. That it be noted the next meeting dates are scheduled as follows:
 - a. Tuesday 18 April 2023 5.30pm
 - b. Tuesday 20 June 2023 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 6.15pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group - meeting 28 February 2023

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group meeting held 28 February 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group meeting held on 28 February 2023, be noted.



REPORT RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP 28 FEBRUARY 2023

PRESENT: Councillor L Burns, the Director Community, Culture and Places, the Aboriginal Liaison Officer, the Manager Community Services, the Building and Development Certifier, the Customer Experience Coordinator, G Ganguly (Community Representative) and A Parker (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Executive Officer Community Culture and Places

Councillor L Burns assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 4.05pm.

RAP23/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID23/127)

Clr L Burns gave Acknowledgement of Country

RAP23/2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST (ID23/129)

There were no conflicts of interest

RAP23/3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/128)

That the apologies from panel members the Clr P Wells, Manager Corporate Governance, the Communities for Children Officer, M Graham (Community Representative), D Stewart (Community Representative) and S Wykes (Community Representative) be accepted.

RAP23/4 REPORT OF THE RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP - MEETING 22 NOVEMBER 2022 (ID23/130)

The Committee had before it the report of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group meeting held 22 November 2022.

OUTCOME

That the report of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group meeting held on 22 November 2022, be noted.

**RAP23/5 AMENDMENTS FROM RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA TO OUR DRAFT REFLECT
RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (ID23/315)**

The Committee was addressed by the Manager Community Services regarding this matter.

OUTCOME

1. **Committee noted the implementation date, being of 1 July 2023.**
2. **Survey monkey be sent out to committee members to confirm the below:**
 - a. **Who identifies as First Nations people**
 - b. **Consent to disclose provided information in Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan**
3. **Manager Community Services and the Aboriginal Liaison Officer have a meeting with Reconciliation Australia to clarify feedback further.**

The meeting closed at 4:59pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Wellington Town Committee - meeting 6 March 2023

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Wellington Town Committee meeting held 6 March 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Wellington Town Committee meeting held on 6 March 2023, be noted.



REPORT WELLINGTON TOWN COMMITTEE 6 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Councillors J Gough and R Ivey, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Chief Executive Officer, R Whiteley (Community Representative), E Holmes (Community Representative), D Ramsland (Community Representative), D Mitchell (Community Representative), T Kelly (Community Representative), R Murray (Community Representative), K Unwin (Community Representative), M Griggs (Community Representative), J Wkyes (Community Representative) and T Dray (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Director Infrastructure, the Manager Recreation and Opens Space, the Manager Growth Planning and the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator.

Councillor R Ivey assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.30pm.

WTC23/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID23/331)

Councillor R Ivey delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

WTC23/2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/332)

Apologies were received from the Manager Community Services, I Parkes (Community Representative) and L Taylor (Community Representative).

The Manager Growth Planning attended via Audio-Visual Link.

WTC23/3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID23/333)

There were no Conflicts of Interest declared.

WTC23/4 REPORT OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COMMITTEE - MEETING 5 DECEMBER 2022 (ID23/334)

The Committee had before it the report of the Wellington Town Committee meeting held 5 December 2022.

OUTCOME

That the report of the Wellington Town Committee meeting held on 5 December 2022, be noted.

WTC23/5 DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN (ID23/335)

The Committee was addressed by the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding this matter.

OUTCOME

That the Manager Recreation and Open Space give consideration to a provision being made in the draft 2023/2024 budget for a tree planting program for Wellington, with the intent that the provision is proportional to any drafted budget allocated for Dubbo.

WTC23/6 DRAFT 2023/2024 DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN, BUDGET AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS (ID23/336)

The Committee was addressed by the Director, Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement regarding this matter.

OUTCOME

- 1. That an additional meeting of the Wellington Town Committee be held on Monday 15 May 2023 regarding the Draft 2023/2024 Delivery Program and Operational Plan, Budget and Associated Documents to allow for the Community Representatives of the Committee to make either individual or joint submissions during the public exhibition period via the formal submission process.**
- 2. That the Committee be notified via email of the release of the agenda for the 27 April 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting, which will include the draft documents.**
- 3. That the Committee continue to email questions to the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator in preparation for the meeting to be held on Monday 15 May 2023.**

**WTC23/7 KEY WELLINGTON TOWARDS 2040 ACTIONS AND KEY INFRASTRUCTURE
UPDATES (ID23/337)**

The Committee was addressed by the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Growth Planning and the Chief Executive Officer regarding this matter.

OUTCOME

That the two quarter presentation updates, be noted.

**WTC23/8 CORRESPONDENCE AND QUESTIONS ON NOTICE RECEIVED AND RESPONSES
(ID23/338)**

The Committee was addressed by the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement regarding this matter.

OUTCOME

1. That the presentation displayed at the meeting (which covered agenda items WTC23/5-8) be distributed via email to the Committee.
2. That the proposed presentations from Energy Co and ASML Aero be brought as a priority to the next Wellington Town Committee meeting scheduled for 5 June 2023.
3. That the Chief Executive Officer give consideration to facilitating presentations at future Wellington Town Committee meetings regarding/from:
 - Housing, Short Term Working Accommodation
 - State agencies (for example NSW Department of Planning and Environment)
4. That community representative D Mitchell make a presentation to the Committee regarding Wellington CBD façade enhancement at the meeting scheduled for 5 June 2023.
5. That it be noted that as identified at previous meetings, matters or items raised by Committee members that are deemed to be operational in nature are required to be logged in Council's CRM system and will be handled in accordance with that particular process.
6. That it be noted that Committee members are encouraged to use Customer Experience Services (via phone 02 6801 4000 or the online DRC&Me portal) to log matters of concern which staff members will action and/or respond to.

The meeting closed at 7.27pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Public Spaces Tree Committee - meeting 28 March 2023

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Public Spaces Tree Committee meeting held 28 March 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Public Spaces Tree Committee meeting held on 28 March 2023, be noted.



REPORT PUBLIC SPACES TREE COMMITTEE 28 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, M Dickerson, J Gough, R Ivey, the Director Community, Culture and Places (K Hague), the Director Infrastructure (C Godfrey), the Director Development and Environment, B Edmondson (Community Representative), W Browne (Community Representative), E Holmes (Community Representative), B Sutherland (Community Representative), NG Grant (Community Representative) and E Webster (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Director Organisational Performance (J Bassingthwaite), the Manager Recreation and Open Spaces, the Governance Team Leader and the Administration Officer Culture Community and Places.

Councillor J Gough assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.04pm.

PSTC23/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID23/573)

The Governance Team Leader delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

PSTC23/2 APOLOGIES (ID23/574)

There were no apologies received.

Clr R Ivey, B Sutherland and E Webster attended via audio visual link.

PSTC23/3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID23/575)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

PSTC23/8 REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SPACES TREE COMMITTEE - MEETING 26 OCTOBER 2022 (ID23/584)

The Committee had before it the report of the Public Spaces Tree Committee meeting held 26 October 2022.

OUTCOME

That the report of the Public Spaces Tree Committee meeting held on 26 October 2022,

Save and except item PSTC22/10 which will be dealt with separately, be noted.

PSTC22/10 FUTURE MEETING DATES (ID22/2198)

The Committee gave consideration to discussion on the previous meeting and the outcome that the meetings be scheduled quarterly and that the current terms of reference be amended to reflect this outcome.

OUTCOME

1. That future meetings of the Public Spaces Tree Committee be held quarterly as required, with the next meeting to be scheduled for Wednesday 3 May 2023 at 4.30pm.
2. That calendar invitations be sent out to all members of the Public Spaces Tree Committee for abovementioned meetings.
3. That items of correspondence to be emailed to ccp.admin@dubbo.nsw.gov.au at least 7 days prior to a meeting.
4. That the terms of reference be updated at Section 8 to reflect the quarterly meetings.

PSTC23/4 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE (ID23/577)

The Committee had before it the report dated 23 March 2023 from the Governance Team Leader regarding Terms of Reference and Code of Meeting Practice.

OUTCOME

That the Terms of Reference (Appendix 1) be noted including that an amendment to Section 8 be amended to reflect Quarterly meetings.

That the Code of Meeting Practice for Community Committees and Working Parties (Appendix 2) be noted.

PSTC23/5 PUBLIC TREE REPORT (ID23/566)

The Committee had before it the report dated 22 March 2023 from the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding Public Tree Report.

OUTCOME

That the Public Tree Report be noted.

PSTC23/6 UPDATE ON THE WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - END OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION PERIOD (ID23/578)

The Committee were provided with an update from the Manager Recreation and Open Spaces.

OUTCOME

That the update provided be noted.

**PSTC23/7 MACQUARIE RIVER MASTER PLAN (NORTH AND SOUTH PRECINCTS)
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (ID23/579)**

The Committee were provided with an update from the Manager Recreation and Open Spaces.

OUTCOME

That the update provided be noted.

PSTC23/9 CORRESPONDENCE (ID23/585)

The Committee had before it the report dated 24 March 2023 from the Governance Team Leader regarding Correspondence.

OUTCOME

That the correspondence provided by community members were discussed and items to be noted.

The meeting closed at 6.49pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee - meeting 30 March 2023

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee meeting held 30 March 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee meeting held on 30 March 2023, be noted.



**REPORT
WIRADJURI TOURISM PROJECT
COMMITTEE
30 MARCH 2023**

PRESENT: Councillors M Wright and P Wells, the Chief Executive Officer, Director Organisational Performance and the Manager Regional Experiences.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Director Community, Culture and Places (K Hague), the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement and the Administration Officer Regional Experiences.

Councillor P Wells assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 4.37pm.

WTPC23/5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY (ID23/590)

Councillor P Wells delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

WTPC23/6 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/592)

Apologies were received by Councillor L Burns and S Wilson (Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party).

WTPC23/7 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID23/591)

Councillor P Wells declared a non-pecuniary, significant interest in WTPC23/9. The reason for such interest is that she is a Traditional Custodian of the Land and there is the potential for family relations to be affected.

**WTPC23/8 REPORT OF THE WIRADJURI TOURISM PROJECT COMMITTEE - MEETING 13
FEBRUARY 2023 (ID23/594)**

The Committee had before it the report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee meeting held 13 February 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Wiradjuri Tourism Project Committee meeting held on 13 February 2023, be noted.

WTPC23/9 UPDATE OF THE WIRADJURI TOURISM PROJECTS (ID23/593)

The Committee was addressed by the Director Organisational Performance regarding the Wiradjuri Tourism Project.

OUTCOMES

- 1. That the address from the Director Organisational Performance, be noted.**
- 2. That a report be submitted to the April Standing Committees by the Director Organisational Performance outlining the recommendations of this Committee in regards to the Wiradjuri Tourism Project.**

Councillor P Wells declared a non-pecuniary, significant interest in WTPC23/9. The reason for such interest is that she is a Traditional Custodian of the Land and there is the potential for family relations to be affected.

The meeting closed at 5:25pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



REPORT: Macquarie Conservatorium of Music Facility Options

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 30 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/671

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing Council resolution Seek direction or decision Adopt funding Provide review or update 	
Issue	The Macquarie Conservatorium of Music (The Con) lease of a NSW Government building expired December 2022. With the facilitation assistance of Council, The Con have been granted a 6 month lease extension. The Con have been investigating other suitable locations for its operations since 2019.	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Con current lease has expired and the Con is required to find another location to operate. The Con is an important service to the Dubbo community and broader region and the service can only continue if a new location is secured. Council have been assisting The Con since 2020 to investigate potential suitability of a number of Council facilities for short-medium term lease opportunity, in line with their needs and expectations. Review of Council facilities that are Short Term options for The Conservatorium. 	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Services
	Funding Source	
	Proposed Cost	\$45,000 - \$70,000 excluding GST (opportunity cost for forgone revenue due to a "Peppercorn" Lease agreement).
	Ongoing Costs	\$45,000 - \$70,000
Policy Implications	Policy Title	N/A
	Impact on Policy	N/A
Consultation	The Macquarie Conservatorium of Music - Director and Board Members	On site location meetings, Face to face meetings, phone calls, and email correspondence.
	Regional NSW	Face to face, and phone calls to provide updates

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.6 The diversity of our heritage, cultural services and facilities are maintained and promoted
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.6.1 Our community participates in and celebrates the high quality of cultural services and facilities available
Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.4 Our community has access to a full range of educational opportunities
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.4.1 Access to a variety of high quality education facilities, opportunities and choice is available

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council determine which one of the following option to proceed with regarding a bass for the Macquarie Conservatorium of Music:
 - Option A – 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court) or
 - Option B – 69 Church Street or
 - Option C – Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre or
 - Option D – Modular Units on Operational land at the Western Plains Cultural Centre or
 - Option E – Do nothing.

Murray Wood
Chief Executive Officer

JB
Director Organisational
Performance

BACKGROUND

The Macquarie Conservatorium of Music

The Macquarie Conservatorium of Music (The Con) is a non-profit community organisation providing music education for Dubbo and the Orana region. The Con is part of a network of 17 regional conservatoriums, providing community-based music education for people living in regional New South Wales. The Con is funded in part by the NSW Department of Education to provide musical education services.

Over one thousand children, youth and adults participate in music education programs each year through Macquarie Conservatorium. Based in Dubbo with a staff of specialist music teachers, The Con is currently housed in a former school, with fourteen well-equipped teaching and rehearsal studios, and a performance hall used for public concerts and events.

The Con was advised by the NSW Education Department in July 2019 that their current lease arrangement would not be renewed past December 2022. The Con have been looking at a number of options, communicating with a variety of stakeholders to explore short (3-5 years) medium (3-10 years) or long (10 years+) options in line with their expectations, requirements financial capacity and investment viability.

Facilities explored by The Con over the last 2 years

Below are the 5 facilities that have been investigated by The Con over the last 2 years which includes Council facilities as well as other facilities not controlled by Council.

- Former TAFE Building George Street – not a council facility
- 143 Darling Street, the former Carpet Court building near the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre,
- The Greens (the former Bowling Club near the Western Plains Cultural Centre) – no longer available currently has a sub licence agreement until the end of the year, with a 1 year option.
- The Community Arts Centre (the two story former High School building that runs along Gipps Street operated as part of the Western Plains Cultural Centre).
- 69 Church Street Cottage current office accommodation for 11 Council staff

Previous Resolutions of Council

<p>28 October 2021</p> <p>CCL21/263 MACQUARIE CONSERVATORIUM (ID21/1905)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>That Council notes the valuable educational, cultural and economic benefits of the Dubbo region having a Conservatorium.</i> 2. <i>That Council note that the central business district or Victoria Park precinct would be an appropriate long term location to maximise the benefits for the Conservatorium, the community and other cultural institutions.</i> 3. <i>That Council notes the role of local governments around the state in housing and supporting Conservatoriums.</i> 4. <i>That the Chief Executive Officer work with the Macquarie Conservatorium to create a long term strategic plan to support the establishment of a permanent facility, including a funding strategy and identified partnership opportunities with NSW Government and Australian Government.</i> 5. <i>That Council also refers the question of Council's role in supporting the Conservatorium to the strategic planning processes that will occur during the next term of Council.</i>
<p>23 March 2023</p> <p>CCL23/80 MACQUARIE CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC UPDATE (ID23/309)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>That this Council actively investigates ways in which it can support the Macquarie Conservatorium to find short to medium accommodation.</i> 2. <i>That Council continue with development of a future focused Cultural Precinct Plan at the Western Plains Cultural Centre, and continue to engage with cultural stakeholders such as the Macquarie Conservatorium of Music in the process.</i> 3. <i>That Council notes the valuable education, cultural and economic benefit of the Dubbo Region having a Conservatorium.</i>

REPORT

A review of the level of support that other Councils provided to the Regional Conservatoriums in NSW is provided below:

Gunnedah Regional Conservatorium

- Accommodated in council-owned and council-retrofitted Town Hall offices - leased from Council at reduced community level rent
- Council is planning to build new premises - Conservatorium is included the Master Plan for Cultural precinct
- Able to hire additional spaces as needed in Cultural precinct at non-commercial rate

Orange Regional Conservatorium

- Accommodated in council-owned and council-retrofitted Church space with performance space studios and offices and additional demountable studios supplied - leased from Council at peppercorn rent

- Council is currently building new premises - Conservatorium is included the Master Plan for Cultural precinct
- Council provides additional event funding

Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music (Muswellbrook)

- Accommodated in council-owned and council-retrofitted (with some state government support) premises - leased from Council at non-commercial rate
- Additional financial support provided by council for professional services to Town Band

Wollongong Conservatorium of Music

- Accommodated in council-owned premises at reduced rent
- Council provides subsidised use of Town Hall for performances

Central Coast Conservatorium (Gosford)

- Partly accommodated in council-owned premises - leased at peppercorn rate
- Additional support provided from council through Community Grants program

Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music

- \$29,000 funding provided by council annually
- Ensemble rehearsal space provided by Council free of charge
- Council is planning to build new premises - Conservatorium is included in plan for new performing arts centre

Riverina Conservatorium of Music (Wagga)

- \$6,000 funding provided by council annually, to noting it has a NSW government building to occupy

Clarence Valley Conservatorium (Grafton)

- Weekly hire of additional council space at reduced rates

Outlined below are the options for The Con that are Council owned facilities that could provide short to medium term accommodation solution. Council and The Con have reviewed all the options available for the benefits, risk and support required from Council.

Options Considered

Option A – 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court)

This facility is an old carpet store, therefore is a very basic warehouse style facility. The investigation into this facility included an assessment to bring the building up to functionality required. The assessment identified significant investment would be required. The building requires new bathroom and kitchen facilities, as well as the warehouse divided into the training and staff rooms including soundproofing.

Council Support Required

The Con would require a Peppercorn Lease but be responsible to all outgoings (Electricity, security, minor maintenance). The current estimated market value for the facility is \$77,000

including GST excluding outgoings. Therefore council will be providing The Con financial assistance of \$77,000 including GST which may be the subject of a grant for financial assistance under s356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

To ensure that the facility is available to The Con within the required timeframe, the option of Council providing a no interest or low interest loan to fund the Construction of \$1M, this will ensure that the construction could commence as soon as possible, and that The Con are not required to source Grant funding before commencement.

Option B - 69 Church Street

This building is currently occupied by 11 Council Staff. The fit out of an office style and has small Bathroom and Kitchen facilities. There is space out the back of building for a reasonable extension. Soundproofing of some of the office walls would be required for the training rooms. This facility has functionality, but is too small for The Cons operation, therefore The Con would be required to operate over 2 location, plus secure a performance space.

Council Support Required

The Con would require a Peppercorn Lease but be responsible to all outgoings (Electricity, security, minor maintenance). The current market value for the facility is \$45,000 including GST excluding outgoings. Therefore council will be providing The Con financial assistance of \$45,000 including GST which may be the subject of a grant for financial assistance under s356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The Con are able to contribute to the fit out cost if longer term available and second site identified. To ensure that the facility is available to The Con within the required timeframe, the option of Council providing a no interest Loan to fund the Construction of \$0.5M, this will ensure that the construction of a large room could commence as soon as possible, and that The Con are not required to source Grant funding before commencement.

Option C – Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre

The two story former High School building that runs along Gipps Street operated as part of the Western Plains Cultural Centre).

Council Support Required

The facility will be utilised at the community rate

Option D – Modular Units on Operational land at the Western Plains Cultural Centre

Standalone units, installed on operational land at the Western Plains Cultural Centre. Increased risk of accessibility requirements. No timeline available or costings, or if services (water, sewer, power) is accessible to a site on the Western Plains Culture Centre site. Offsite performance space would still need to be rented for events

Council Support Required

Peppercorn lease of the land, assistance with the installation. No costings are available at time of writing.

Option E – Do nothing

The option of not identifying a suitable location therefore not providing any assistance to The Con. This would mean that The Con would cease likely operations, if they could not find a other facility within timeframe, 1000+ students will lose access to music tuition, 17 local jobs lost - an impact to local economy, 6000+ audience members lose access to cultural program, 16 regional schools lose their music tuition. Potential residents may also choose other regional towns when comparing liveability and cultural offerings.

The Cost, Impacts and Benefits for both Council and The Con are outlined for each Facilities is outlined in the table below:

	Option A 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court)	Option B 69 Church Street	Option C Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre	Option D Modular Units located on Council Operational Land at the WPCC
Cost to Council	<p>\$70,000 excluding GST forgone rental income</p> <p>Interest Free Loan forgone interest of \$196,000 Over 10 years</p>	<p>\$45,000 excluding GST forgone rental income</p> <p>Interest Free Loan forgone interest of \$50,100 Over 5 years</p>	<p>Loss of income, due to the reduction of Commercial Hire room space, if Room were to be used for Community Groups.</p> <p>Estimated cost of \$140,000 to subdivide 3 existing rooms into 3 rooms will be funded by The Con</p>	<p>No costings for Modular.</p> <p>Con would request from council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peppercorn lease of land - Provision of sewer and power to the modular building sites. - Casual rental of additional shared space at WPCC reduced/community rate

	Option A 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court)	Option B 69 Church Street	Option C Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre	Option D Modular Units located on Council Operational Land at the WPCC
Impact on council	<p>Reduced revenue due to providing The Con the facility at a Peppercorn Lease for the next 5-10 years</p> <p>Loss of interest income due to interest free loan</p> <p>No strategic development of the site for the next 5-10 years</p>	<p>Reduced revenue due to providing The Con the facility at a Peppercorn Lease for the next 5 years</p> <p>Sale revenue of the facility</p> <p>Loss of interest income due to interest free loan</p>	<p>Impact on the existing users.</p> <p>Reduction in space for growth of the Cultural activities (existing programs and future programs) at the WPCC</p>	<p>Identification of suitable location for the Modulares on Operational Council Land. Possible adjustment to current Licence depending on Location.</p>
Benefits to Council	<p>Increase the link between The Con and the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre due to the location</p> <p>No current long term users of the facility therefore no user groups affected.</p>	<p>Any capital works that are complete on the Building will increase the market value of the asset or opportunity for increase rent income, if The Con were able to secure a more suitable Long Term solution.</p> <p>No impact to external users, staff are aware of the possibility of moving office space into the Civic Administration Building.</p>	<p>The Con will build the Cultural Precinct at the WPCC. The Con are a Key Stakeholder in further development of the WPCC site, in any long term planning.</p>	<p>No impact on any existing users. Option only requires land, and not any existing council facilities.</p>
Impact on The Con	<p>Immediate need to tender builders for space to be ready for end of year move-in deadline, and the facility would be required by The Con for 5-10 years due to the capital investment.</p>	<p>Too small to house operations, 2nd location still required and no option yet identified. Increased operational costs across 2 locations. Increase in administration, difficulties for students, staff and parents moving between 2 campuses. Short term solution drains Con reserves on</p>	<p>Offsite performance space and storage space would need to be rented additionally Increased administration to coordinate shared/reduced size campus.</p>	<p>Standalone units, increased risk, accessibility requirements. No timeline available. Offsite performance space would still need to be rented for events</p>

	Option A 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court)	Option B 69 Church Street	Option C Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre	Option D Modular Units located on Council Operational Land at the WPCC
		fit-out that is not recouped. Offsite performance space would still need to be rented for events, in addition to the 2 locations. Does not allow time to masterplan and execute long-term cultural precinct (10 year window)		
Benefits to The Con	<p>This is the only option available to operate at a single location (the performance space be required at another location until the second stage of the sites development). Carpet Court is the only option that will accommodate a performance space, and the building is considered to have enough space to accommodate current and future growth.</p> <p>The Con will be able to look at Grant opportunities, when a facility is secured. This may be able to assist with the construction required to make the facility functional for The Con. The facility is centrally located, to allow easy access to members.</p> <p>Allows time to masterplan and execute long-term cultural precinct (10 year</p>	<p>The facility is currently available. The facility is centrally located, to allow easy access to members. The Con will be able to look at Grant opportunities, when a facility is secured. This may be able to assist with any extension required to make the facility functional for The Con.</p>	<p>Single campus teaching solution</p> <p>Move-in achievable by end of year.</p> <p>Potential to allow time to masterplan and execute long-term cultural precinct (10 year window)</p>	<p>The Modular units are sellable at the end of use</p>

	Option A 143 Darling Street (Former Carpet Court)	Option B 69 Church Street	Option C Community Art Centre (CAC) at the Western Plains Cultural Centre	Option D Modular Units located on Council Operational Land at the WPCC
	window)			
Term Required	5 year Lease plus 5 year option	1 – 2 years if single location was about to be found 5 years if substantial fit- out to be paid by Con	5 years due to capital investment required	Min. 5 year to benefit from set up costs.

Risks

The risk for all options are outlined below:

- The Con is an important service to the Dubbo community and broader region and the service can only continue if a new location is secured.
- The Con is an independent, non-profit community organisation who currently lease a NSW Government building, not a Council facility, therefore solution design should not be considered a core responsibility of DRC and will continue to involve a number of stakeholders. Council Adopts a new community services in effect.
- Building work required not complete within the required timeframe.
- NSW Education department do not provide a further extension to The Cons lease past June 2023.
- Interruption of community groups currently using facilities, if the CAC is considered the most appropriate location for a Short Term solution.
 - Delays in project commencement if required to undertake detailed stakeholder engagement with the existing users.

Consultation

- The Chair, Deputy Chair and Director of the Macquarie Conservatorium of Music
- NSW Education Department
- Regional NSW
- No formal consultation has been conducted with community and cultural groups although informal consultation was undertake by the Mayor to understand potential existing user impact in regards to the options for the Con to lease part of the CAC.

Resourcing Implications

- Staff time has been invested in working with The Con, to discuss suitable options and preparation of reports to Council.

- Possible funding required, by an interest free loan for capital works required on the preferred option.

Total Financial Implications	Current year (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Current year + 4 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
b. Operating expenses	0	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	0	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000
d. Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0
e. Total net impact (c – d)	0	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000	-70,000
Does the proposal require ongoing funding?			No, and opportunity cost of forgone revenue			
What is the source of this funding?			No funding source identified			

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Planned Communications

- Inform The Macquarie Conservatorium of the Council Resolution.

Timeframe

Key Date	Explanation
13 April 2023	Community and Culture Committee determine the resolution
27 April 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting adopt resolution

Next Steps

- Inform The Macquarie Conservatorium of the Council Resolution.
- Facilitate any requirements for the resolution (ie additional reports, Licence Agreements, No interest Loan set up)
- Inform Regional NSW of the outcome of the Ordinary Council meeting, to assist with the next steps, and assisting with communication with NSW Education



REPORT: Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centres Request for Proposal (RFP)

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 13 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/513

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek direction or decision	
Issue	Council is seeking detailed information regarding the operations of Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres, including financial performance, benchmarking and external contract management options.	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response to a Council resolution requesting information supplied.• Resignation of Key Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre Staff	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Aquatic Leisure Centre
	Funding Source	Rates / Aquatics User Charges
	Proposed Cost	\$1.5M annual operation /capital budget
	Ongoing Costs	\$1.5M annual operation / capital budget
Policy Implications	Policy Title	N/A
	Impact on Policy	N/A
Consultation	Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre Permanent Staff	Face to Face meeting
	Finance and Performance Committee	Provided verbal update in meeting

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.5.3 Our sporting facilities cater for a wide range of events and opportunities

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council calls for Request for Proposal for the Contract Management of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres including Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centres, Wellington Aquatic Centre, and Geurie Pool.
2. That the operational management of the contract is for a five (5) year period, commencing 1 July 2023 and concluding 30 June 2028. There is an option for an additional two (2) times twelve (12) month extensions, as indicated within the specification.
3. That the Dubbo Regional Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres operational setting within each of the facilities, are determined by the following:
 - a. Season Length – set by Dubbo Regional Council with a set minimum and maximum date for each centre.
 - b. Opening Hours – set by Dubbo Regional Council with a set minimum and maximum hours for each centre.
 - c. Kiosk hours – set by contractor
 - d. Slide opening hours – set by contractor
4. That the Aquatic Leisure Centres Fees and charges setting within each of the facilities, are determined by the following:
 - a. Admissions – Dubbo Regional Council set a minimum and maximum fee
 - b. Other Fees - Dubbo Regional Council set a minimum and maximum fee
 - c. Kiosk – Contractor
 - d. Slide – Contractor
5. That the Contract is responsible for all operational maintenance
6. That Council is responsible for all Capital Works and asset maintenance over \$2,000 required at all any of the three facilities.

Murray Wood
Chief Executive Officer

JB
Director Organisational
Performance

BACKGROUND

Dubbo Regional Council operates three aquatic leisure centres across the local government area, the Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre (DALC), the Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre (WALC) and the Geurie Pool. Council determined in 2019 that all facilities be managed in house. Prior to 2019 Council operated under the following different models.

Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre – Prior to 2019

External management entity (from 2007- 2019). Under the contract an annual retainer was paid, plus a cost sharing arrangement (50:50) for all income generated through pool entry. All income generated through the Kiosk and Learn to Swim/Water Aerobic Programs etc., was retained by the contractor. The contractor was responsible for ensuring the necessary supervisory staffing levels were adhered too, and was responsible for all staff costs. The contractor was responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the facility. All other operating expenses including water, electricity and gas was paid by Council, as was asset maintenance and capital works.

Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre and Geurie Pool – Prior to 2019

The WALC and the Geurie Pool previously operated under an internal arrangement under the former Wellington Council. Following the amalgamation in 2016 this arrangement continued until 2019. Under this arrangement Council had been responsible for all costs associated with the operation of the pools and retained all income, apart from the kiosk at WALC for which Council paid \$6,000 per year to an external party to operate. Any learn to swim programs were run through the Wellington Amateur Swim Club.

Previous Resolutions of Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 24 FEBRUARY 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Chief Executive Officer provide to the June 2022 Council meeting a report addressing ongoing management options of Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres. 2. That the report examine a range of factors including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advantages and disadvantages of in-house management and external (contract) management; • Financial analysis of each option (including projected one off and ongoing finance implications); • Analysis of historical (5 years) financial and attendance performance; • Analysis of any available benchmarking.
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 23 JUNE 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council note the information regarding the Operations of Councils Aquatic Leisure Centres. 2. That a Councillor workshop be arranged to discuss the Operations of Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres.

The Report provided to the Ordinary Council meeting in June 2023 regarding the management options for Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres reviewed the previous Management Models available which included Mixed Management, Fully external, and Fully internal.

The report also outlined past Financial Performance 2016/2017 – 2021/2022, operational impact on each of the seasons, and benchmarking (financial, services and staffing). With the resolution *"That a Councillor workshop be arranged to discuss the Operations of Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres."*

The Councillor workshop was held in July 2022, with the outcome that the Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centres remain in house for the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 seasons. With another review post the 2022/2023 season.

REPORT

Dubbo Regional Council has undertaken a review of the aquatic leisure centres management options and is seeking Requests for Proposals (RFP) from suitably qualified and experienced aquatic centre operators. The trigger for the early review of the Management of the Aquatic Leisure Centres is due to the 2022/2023 budget overruns (higher than forecast), as outlined in this report as well as the resignation of 2 senior staff as follows:

- Aquatic Customer Experience Coordinator – position vacant from 25 March 2023 (resignation)
- Manager Aquatic Leisure Centres – position vacant from 5 May 2023 (resignation)

Normal procedure when a position becomes vacant, is that the roles are reviewed. The vacancies have triggered an opportunity to investigate a Request for Proposal (RFP) for management of the aquatic leisure centres. Council acknowledges that the 2022/2023 season (not without some issues) has been a good benchmark to assess any RFP. Timing of the RFP process is important to test the market to understand if there are reasonable contractors available to manage the Aquatic Leisure Centres. If a RFP was not to proceed, the review of the Pool employee structure will continue, to be able to prepare for the 2023/2024 season.

The 2022/2023 has been a benchmark season, with no significant events to date (i.e. not affected by COVID-19 and restrictions, dust storms etc, examples that have affected previous seasons operating cost or revenue). The Dubbo Aquatics Leisure Centre financial forecast for the 2022/2023 season is outlined below and highlights a budget overrun of \$0.5M as per Table 1 below.

Forecast Financial Review per facility for 2022/2023 season.

Facility		Original Budget	YTD Actuals	Forecast	Variance
Dubbo	Revenue	638,608	682,210	709,577	70,969
	Expenditure	-1,498,568	-1,429,299	-1,681,948	-183,380
Dubbo Total		-859,960	-747,089	-972,371	-112,411
Geurie	Revenue	14,605	11,385	11,385	-3,220
	Expenditure	-98,000	-142,229	-171,057	-73,057
Geurie Total		-83,395	-130,844	-159,672	-76,277
Wellington	Revenue	271,459	55,419	155,419	-116,040
	Expenditure	-666,132	-693,143	-823,278	-157,146
Wellington Total		-394,673	-537,724	-667,859	-273,186
All Facilities	Expenditure	-80,000	-84,230	-139,849	-59,849
	Assets	106,213	81,353	81,353	24,860
All Facilities Total		186,213	165,583	221,202	-34,989
Grand Total		-1,524,241	-1,581,240	-2,021,104	-496,863

Table 1. Forecast Financial Review per facility for 2022/2023 season.

The main reasons for the budget overruns are due to a reduction in forecast revenue and an increase in expenditure at the Wellington Facility (\$0.3M). The Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre has an increased Expenditure that is offset by an increase in Revenue mainly due to an increase in use of the Kiosk highlighted in Figure 1.

Dubbo Kiosk Revenue Year comparison

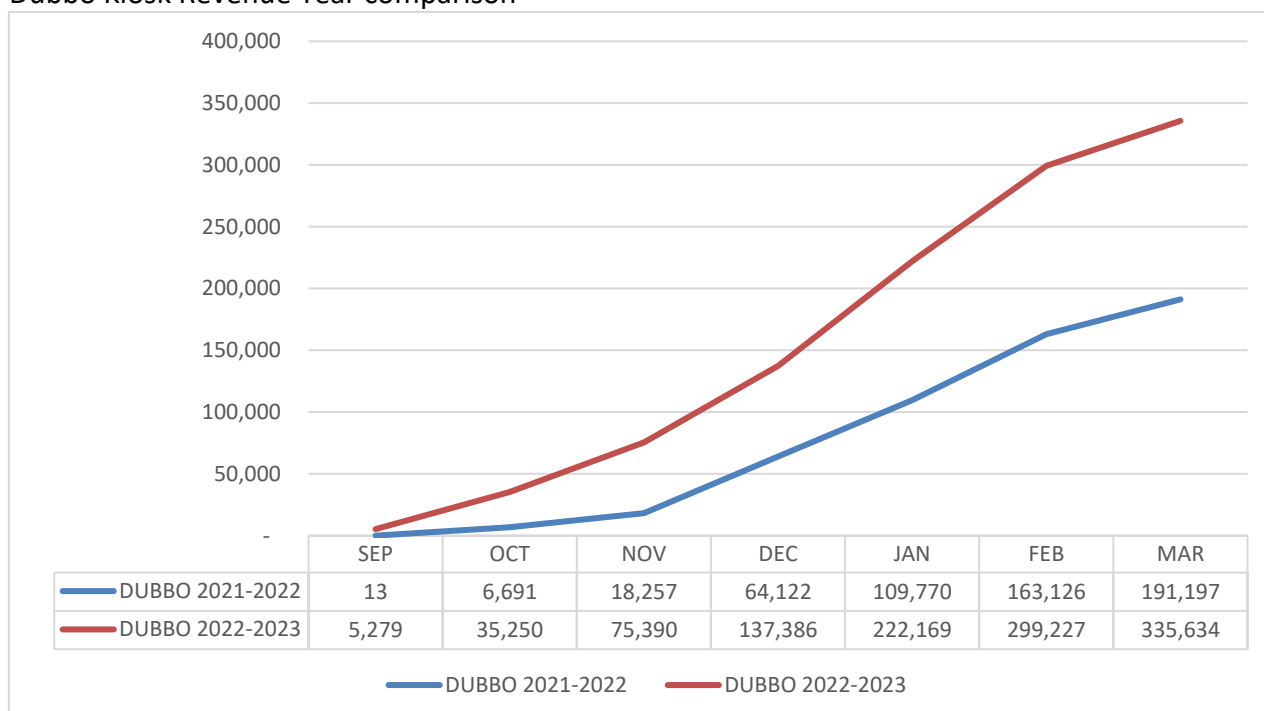


Figure 1. Cumulative Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre kiosk revenue (inclusive of GST taken from the point of sales system) comparison between 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 seasons (note March 2023 is as at 21/03/2023).

Increase in Dubbo Kiosk revenues are due to the increase visitation highlighted in Figure 2. as well as the access to the Kiosk from the new playground in Victoria Park.

Cumulative visitation to the three Aquatic Facilities

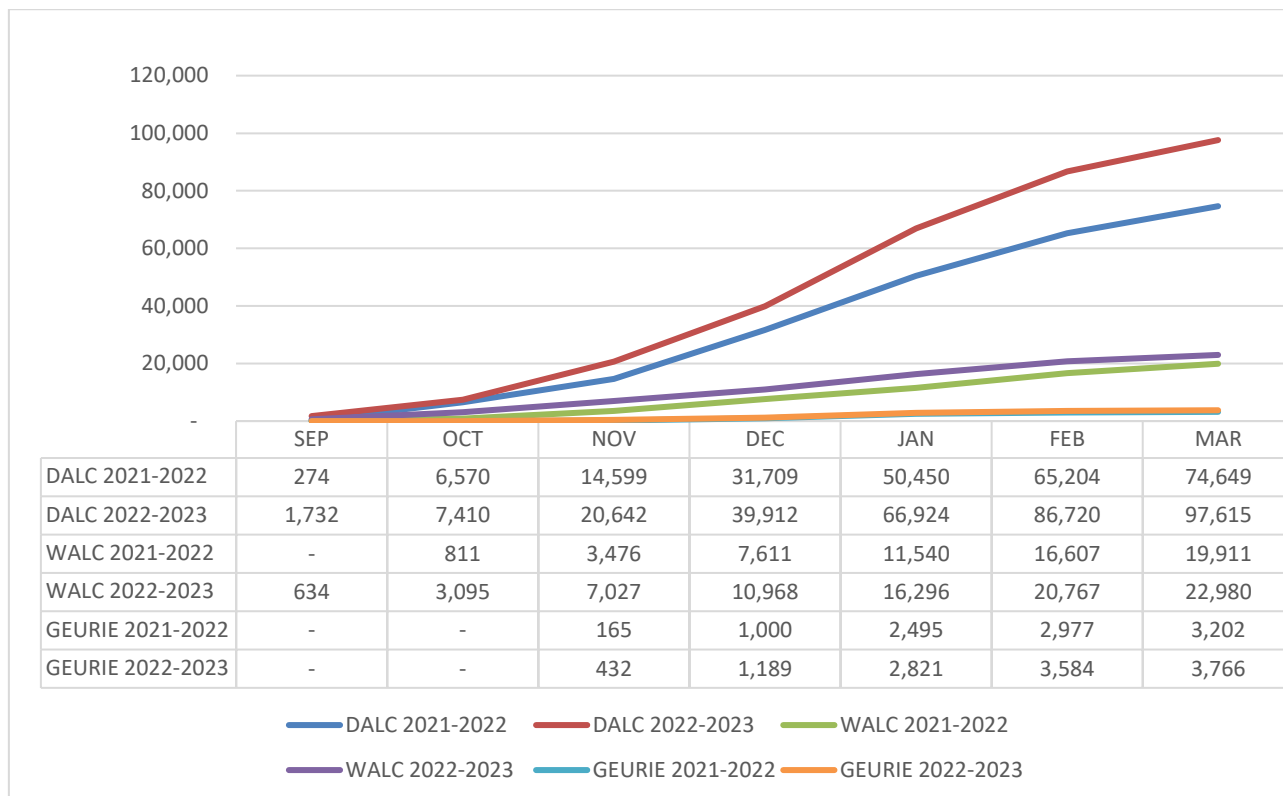


Figure 2. Cumulative visitation to the three Aquatic Facilities

Attendance is up from previous seasons, due to 2021/2022 visitation was down due to the COVID-19 restrictions placed on recreational areas under the public health order.

Table 2 below highlights the demographics of the 2022/2023 Season as at February 2023. Showing casual users, Memberships and Fitness Passport ticket purchased for each of the facilities.

VISITS BY TICKET TYPE	DALC	GP	WALC	TOTALS
Casual > Non Swimmer/Visitor	9,264	161	1,088	10,513
Casual > School Sport	229	17	132	378
Casual > Schools & Carnivals	5,055	-	428	5,483
Casual > Swim Adult	15,535	338	2,798	18,671
Casual > Swim Child	22,868	498	3,380	26,746
Casual > Swim Concession	729	38	573	1,340
Casual > Swim Family	1,798	888	62	2,748
Casual > Swim Under 2s	1,445	28	296	1,769
Casual > Teachers & Officials	759	12	-	771
Casual > Water Safety Program	698	89	602	1,389

Casual > Waterslide	9,455	-	-	9,455
Course > Learn to Swim	214	102	575	891
Courses > Guardian	92	12	148	252
Member > Fitness Passport	7,069	220	877	8,166
Member > Swim Adult	9,451	32	8,380	17,863
Member > Swim Child	266	45	90	401
Member > Swim Concession	169	111	71	351
Member > Swim Family	797	1,166	842	2,805
Pass > Swim Adult	277	8	33	318
Pass > Swim Child	651	2	183	836
Pass > Swim Concession	19	1	9	29
	86,840	3,768	20,567	111,175

Table 2. Demographics of the 2022/2023 Season as at February 2023

The Draft 2023/2024 Budget has been prepared based on the original 2022/2023 budget therefore it is forecasting \$1.5M required from Rates and General Revenue for the ongoing operation of the Dubbo Regional Council's Aquatic Leisure Centres (operating and capital expenditure). Therefore if a suitable contractor is identified, any price will be compared against Council's ability to maintain effective pool management within the allocated budget.

Request for Proposal Information

Dubbo Regional Council is seeking Contract Management from suitably qualified aquatic facility management organisations or individuals for the full operational management of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres (Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre, Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre and Geurie Pool).

Aspects of the management operation of the Centres shall include all pool and facility maintenance (cleaning of amenities, ground maintenance, supply of chemicals, independent testing of water), life guard services, provision of aquatic based programs and kiosk / café services. The contractor is required to conform to all current relevant Federal, State and Local Government conditions, Acts and Regulations in relation to the Contract and any business to be carried out within the Centre. Practice Note 15 (Lifesaving Australia)

Dubbo Regional Council operates three aquatic leisure centres across the local government area, the Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre (DALC), the Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre (WALC) and the Geurie Pool, all facilities are on Crown Land which Dubbo Regional Council is the Crown Land Manager. An outline of each the three facilities is provided below:

Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre (Talbragar Street, Dubbo)

DALC has a 50 metre Olympic-sized pool, leisure pool, water slides and a large splash park for kids. Facilities also include a Pool Deck Cafe and BBQs facilities.

Key features include:

- Heated Olympic size swimming pool
- Heated Children's leisure pool
- Splash Park
- Water slides

- Pool Deck Cafe
- Disability lift for 50m pool
- Multi-purpose room
- Shower and change room amenities
- Covered grandstand
- Barbeque facilities
- Audio system

Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre (Warne Street, Wellington)

WALC offers a range of facilities including a 50m pool, heated leisure pool and splash pad for the kids. Facilities also include a Pool Deck Cafe and BBQs facilities.

Key features include:

- Heated 50m swimming pool
- Heated Leisure pool
- Splash Pad
- Café
- Club and meeting rooms
- Shower and change room amenities
- Barbeque facilities
- Audio system

Geurie Pool (21 Wellington Street, Geurie)

Key features include:

- 25m lap pool (non-heated)
- Children's splash pool (non-heated)
- Shower and change room amenities
- Barbeque facilities

The Request for Proposal (RFP) from suitably qualified and experienced aquatic centre operators based on one of the following two operating models:

1. A Mixed Management Model across all three pools. This would involve paying an external contractor a monthly retainer, plus a revenue share of 50:50 of any income generated. Under this model DRC retains the responsibility for setting the annual fees and charges, and the ongoing asset maintenance and capex obligations. The contractor will be responsible for ongoing running expenses (gas, electricity, water consumption, etc), for staffing and day to day operations.
2. A Fully External Model offer the operator the opportunity to have full operational management of all three pool complexes, and retain all income earned. Under this model the operator is able to set the annual fees and charges (Subject to maximum and minimum range which will be set by DRC), is responsible the ongoing asset maintenance program, all running expenses inclusive of gas, electricity, water consumption, and for staffing and day to day operations. Larger asset maintenance and capex items will be the responsibility of Council.

The Proposal shall be for the complete day to day management operations of the Aquatic Centres for a five (5) year period, with an option for an additional two (2) times twelve (12) month extensions, as indicated within the specification.

Aspects of the management operation of the aquatic centres shall include but not be limited to:

- Pool and facility maintenance, including water filtration and quality control
- Life guard services
- Provision of aquatic based programs for the public and other approved organisations
- Kiosk / Café services
- Grounds maintenance

Proposal prices are to be submitted as a fixed lump sum price. The Responder shall have been deemed to have allowed for any cost adjustments over the five year contract period, including CPI increases and Rise and Fall adjustments. In addition, the Responder is to provide anticipated income figures to be generated for each year of the Operator's Licence. In addition the Responder is to submit a price break down of the anticipated full costs to operate the Centres.

Dubbo Aquatic Centres Fees and charges setting within each of the facilities, are outlined below:

- a) Admissions – Dubbo regional Council set a minimum and maximum fee (as per the Current Fees and Charges)
- b) Other Fees – Dubbo regional Council set a minimum and maximum fee (as per the Current Fees and Charges)
- c) Kiosk – Contractor
- d) Slide - Contractor

Dubbo Aquatic Centres operational setting within each of the facilities, are outlined below:

- a) Opening hours – set by Contractor (Council minimum standard being 6 – 7pm)
- b) Season Length – set by Contractor (Council set a minimum and maximum length)
- c) Kiosk hours – set by contractor
- d) Slide opening hours – set by contractor

At the conclusion of the contract, the Contractor shall relinquish any further management responsibilities of the Centre and hand over all buildings, equipment, and any other items owned by the Principal, in a working and satisfactory condition, less any reasonable wear and tear that could have been expected in the proper management of the Centre.

The Contractor shall be required, at the completion of the contract period, to remove from the Centre all equipment and other items owned by the Contractor at his / her cost. The Contractor shall make good all damage occasioned to the Centre by such removal.

The RFP for this contract will be evaluated and awarded on Council's assessment of the RFP best meeting Council's overall project objectives. The RFP evaluation will be based on the following criteria, and weightings as follows:

No.	Criterion	Weighting
Non-Price Criteria		
1	Relevant experience with similar facilities	25%
2	Bidders Resources, Key Personnel, Skills and experience	25%
3	Demonstrated Understanding of Community Obligations	25%
Price		25%
Total		100%

Consultation

- Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre Permanent Staff – face to face/Teams meeting to update staff on recruitment and possible RFP process, HR Business Partner was present to answer any concerns, and to ensure that they will be kept up to date with any Council resolutions.
- Finance and Performance Committee – finance performance updated

Resourcing Implications

- Draft 2023/2024 budget for the Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centres for the future funding of the Aquatics operations (Staff, minor maintenance, Electricity, Kiosk stock and planned capital program)

Total Financial Implications	Current year (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Current year + 4 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	876,381	1,052,821	1,099,635	1,139,053	1,184,615	1,184,615
b. Operating expenses	2,816,132	2,339,733	2,410,260	2,513,022	2,585,527	2,585,527
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	-1,939,751	-1,286,912	-1,310,625	-1,373,969	-1,400,912	-1,400,912
d. Capital Expenditure	81,353	238,984	182,217	67,400	50,300	50,300
e. Total net impact (c – d)	-2,021,104	-1,525,896	-1,492,842	-1,441,369	-1,451,212	-1,451,212
Does the proposal require ongoing funding?			Yes, the draft 2023/2024 draft budget			
What is the source of this funding?			Rates / Aquatics User Charges			

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Option A – The same Contractor for all Three Facilities

- That all three facilities are management by the same contractor
 - Pro, single point of contact for pool related issues.
 - Pro, scale and capacity, the contractor has a large staff base to share between the facilities
 - Con, unable to find a suitable contractor that has the capacity to operate the 3 facilities or the RFP has a higher cost to Council then the internal management estimate.
 - Cons, all three pools are seasonal pools, therefore there may not be a contractor that has the ability to manage seasonal pools.

Option B – Various Contractor for each of the Facilities

- That the contract identifies in the RFP which facility or Facilities the proposal is for.
 - Pro, able to find multiple Contract Managers that can operate each of the facilities
 - Pro, smaller operator may apply for one of the facilities
 - Con, increase administration and contract management
 - Con, different standards of operating experience

Option C – Council continues to manage the Pools in-house, and proceed with the Review and Recruitment of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres Manager.

- That the contract identifies in the RFP which facility or Facilities the proposal is for.
 - Pro, increased timeframe to recruit, on-board and train staff
 - Pros, that all three pools are operated under Council's agreed level of service
 - Cons, cost to council to manage pools expected to be \$2.0M annually.
 - Cons, unable to recruit a suitably skilled Dubbo Aquatic Centres Manager.

Preferred Option

- That a Contract Manager is identified for all three Pools.
 - Pros, that all three pools are operated under one contract.
 - Pros, enables more effective administration, managing one contractor compared with multiple contracts.
 - Cons, may not be able to secure a Contractor that has the ability to manage all 3 facilities or the RFP has a higher cost to Council then the internal management estimate.
 - Cons, all three pools are seasonal pools, therefore there may not be a contractor that has the ability to manage seasonal pools.

Planned Communications

- Dubbo Aquatic Staff are regularly updated on progress on the RFP process, via face to face or Teams meetings.
- Update provided to the Aquatics Working Party, next Aquatics Working Party meeting is scheduled for 15 May 2023.

Timeframe

Key Date	Explanation
13 April 2023	Community and Culture Committee meeting endorse Request for Proposal for the Management of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres
27 April 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting endorse minutes of the Community and Culture Committee
1 May 2023	Request for Proposal for the Management of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres advertised for 3 weeks
15 May 2023	Update provided to the Aquatics Working Party
22 May 2023	Request for Proposal Closed
29 May 2023	Request for Proposal for the Management of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres Review for 2 weeks
15 June 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting resolves the appointment of a Contract management company or remain with Internal Management
July 2023	Contract management company are commence or if remaining as an internal management recruitment of new Aquatic Centre Manager and staff.
17 July 2023	Update provided to the Aquatics Working Party
Start of September 2023	The 2023/2024 Season commences.

Next Steps

- Regular meetings scheduled with the Staff of the Dubbo Aquatic Centres



REPORT: Macquarie River - Tracker Riley Walkway - erosion report

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 23 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/580

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement Strategic Project Update	
Issue	Provide update on the assessment of damage to the eastern bank of the Macquarie River downstream of the Tamworth Street pedestrian bridge, and the potential response to rectification works.	
Reasoning	To seek endorsement of the report submitted by Soil Conservation Services in identifying the extent of the erosion and the recommendations relating to the rehabilitation works and the realignment of the Tracker Riley Walkway, adjacent to the Lady Cutler South Ovals.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places – Recreation and Open Space
	Funding Source	NSW Government - Severe Weather and Flooding Grant
	Proposed Cost	\$150,000
	Ongoing Costs	<\$500/pa
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Pedestrian Access Management Plan (PAMP)
	Impact on Policy	No impact, but aligned.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.5.1 Passive and active open space is located to maximise access and use by the community

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities

Delivery Program Strategy:	5.5.2 Unique recreation and open space facilities are available
Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of recreational opportunities
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.5.3 Our sporting facilities cater for a wide range of events and opportunities

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorses the Soil Conservation Services report detailing the erosion at the Lady Cutler South site, and the recommendations of moving the Tracker Riley walkway away (east) from the bank retreat scarp and establish a vegetated buffer of between 20 – 30 metres to assist in bank stabilisation.
2. That Council note that the maximum distance that the path can be moved to the east without impacting the sporting fields is 20 metres (allowing for the width of path being 2.5 metres).
3. That the new section of the Tracker Riley Walkway (approximately 300 metres) be installed as a concrete path and constructed in accordance with the Council standard drawing.

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

IM
Manager Recreation and
Open Space

REPORT

During 2022 a series of flood events in the Macquarie River resulted in severe erosion on its eastern bank, downstream of the Tamworth Street pedestrian bridge.

To undertake the assessment of the erosion and provide options and recommendations Soil Conservation Services were engaged on the basis that they had previously carried out a river health inspection of the urban stretches of both the Bell and Macquarie rivers in 2019. An initial report by Soil Conservation Services has now been received for the Lady Cutler South site and forms the basis of this report.

To assist in the repair and recovery of Council controlled assets Dubbo Regional Council received \$1,000,000 from the State Government's Severe Weather and Flood grant (for non-essential infrastructure). An internal application was submitted by Recreation and Open Space requesting financial consideration to undertake an assessment of the damage to this and three other sites and to identify potential reconstruction works that would be less prone to future flood. To undertake these assessments \$17,100 was allocated. A further \$150,000 was allocated to the project to reconstruct a section of the Tracker Riley Walkway. Approximately 300 metres of pathway will be reconstructed using the Council concrete path standard drawing. Soil Conservation Services has recommended that this pathway be moved between 20 and 30 metres from the top of bank and to revegetate this area with endemic riverine species to assist in stabilisation. Due to the presence of overhead conductors these plantings will need to be sized appropriately (i.e. shrubs and trees) to avoid future recurrent maintenance requirements.

A further constraint is the proximity of the cricket boundary field. This cricket field is already at a reduced size (50 metre boundary as opposed to 65 metres) and it is preferable that it is not reduced further. This field is used by 3rd grade on a weekly basis. Any further reduction boundary would result in the ground being relegated to junior field only, and requiring a new senior field to be constructed. As a result of these constraints the maximum distance that can be achieved without impacting the sporting grounds (cricket and football (soccer)) is 20 metres. This allows for a 2.5 metre path to be constructed.

Figure 1 shows the approximate alignment of the new path. It should be noted that the proposed alignment does not require any trees to be removed.

The Soil Conservation Services report also identifies that, in their view, the rate of bank erosion has decreased significantly as a result of a bench being formed through slumping. This bench is gradually becoming vegetated that will further help stabilise the area. It may be possible to further assist in the vegetation of the bench through seeding of appropriate shrubs and trees.



Figure 1. Proposed alignment of the path, with a minimum distance of 20 metres achieved from the bank scarp (dotted line).

Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with the realignment of the path, and the vegetation of the resultant buffer that is created, through the Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts). During the community workshops that helped inform the development of the draft master plan the issue of realigning this section of the Tracker Riley Walkway was raised and was subsequently included in the revised document that was placed on public exhibition 22 December 2022 to 17 February 2023. The Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) was adopted at the March Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Resourcing Implications

In the first instance the project will be offered to Infrastructure (Infrastructure Delivery) to construct the concrete pathway. In the event that Infrastructure Delivery are unable to complete the works in a reasonable timeframe, then this project will be tendered through the marketplace.

Total Financial Implications	Current year (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Current year + 4 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	150,000	0	0	0	0	0
b. Operating expenses	0	<500	<500	<500	<500	<500
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	150,000	0	0	0	0	0
d. Capital Expenditure	-150,000	0	0	0	0	0
e. Total net impact (c – d)	0	<500	<500	<500	<500	<500
Does the proposal require ongoing funding?		Yes				
What is the source of this funding?		NSW Government - Severe Weather and Flooding Grant (\$150,000) Minor maintenance funds from Operational budget				

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Options Considered

The first option considered was a realignment of the path a minimum distance of 20 metres to the east, avoiding conflict with the sporting ovals, and construct it using decomposed granite. As part of the recommendation from Soil Conservation Services it identifies the need to under revegetation works to help stabilisation the newly created bench and the buffer.

This option although less expensive was discarded as a concrete path is more resilient to wet weather and flooding events – requiring less maintenance and repairs that are generally not covered under State Government flood funding.

The second option is to increase the distance to 30 metres to the east using a concrete path. This would encroach into the cricket boundary field and require the size of the cricket field to be changed to a junior field only and requiring Council to construct a new senior field in order to maintain current levels of use by weekly cricket users.

The third option is to realign the path a minimum distance of 20 metres from the top of the bank and construct it using the standard drawing for Council paths. As part of the recommendation from Soil Conservation Services it identifies the need to under revegetation works to help stabilisation the newly created bench and the buffer.

Option 3 is preferred option as a concrete path is more resilient to wet weather and flooding events and require less ongoing maintenance over the lifecycle of the materials (50+ years). The recommended revegetation of the bench and buffer would be undertaken under all options.

Planned Communications

A public notice would be placed in the local newspaper advising the public of the upcoming works. Signs would be placed in the area two weeks prior to any works commencing. It is anticipated that the realignment of the path will take approximately three weeks. During this time a temporary path will be delineated.

Due to the closer proximity of the path to sporting activities appropriate advisory signage would be placed in the immediate vicinity to notify path users of the potential of balls coming across the path.

Timeframe (proposed and subject to change)

Key Date	Explanation
30 March 2023	Approval of Part 5.
21 April 2023	Preparation and finalisation of tender documentation (if Infrastructure Delivery are unavailable)
9 May 2023	Tendering period closed
30 May 2023	Finalisation of works

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Site Summary - Site 3 - Lady Cutler Park - P-19103-01 - Dubbo Regional Council - Soil Conservation Services



Soil Conservation Service



CM9 Ref
03/03/2023

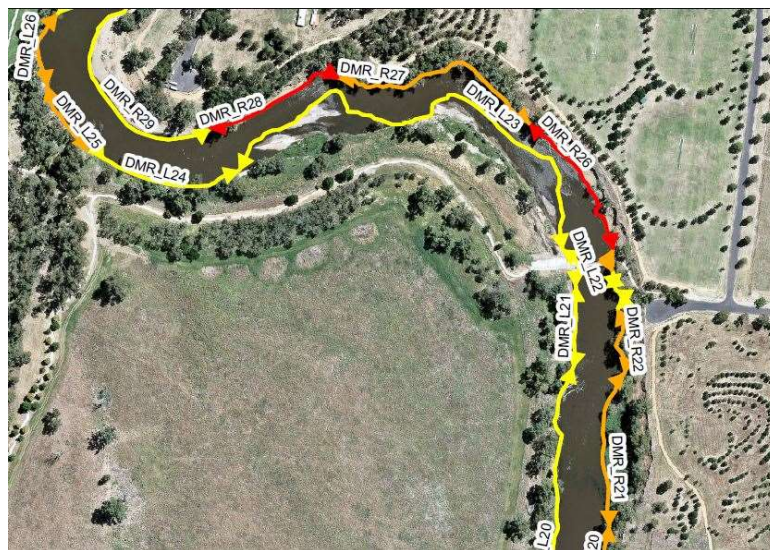
Dubbo Regional Council – Flood Response 2022 Priority Site Summary – Site 3 – Lady Cutler Park – Dubbo NSW

The site visit at Lady Cutler Park, Dubbo NSW involved a visual inspection of the right bank of the Macquarie River downstream of the pedestrian footbridge on 29/11/2022.

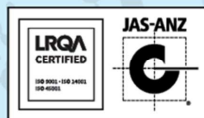
River Context

The inspection extent is located on the outside bend of the Macquarie River approximately 600m downstream of the pedestrian bridge at Lady Cutler Oval. The River Health Report (SCS 2018) identified the reach as having severe to moderate stability with the expectation that the next major flow event would result in further substantial bank retreat. SCS 2018, suggested severe bank erosion downstream of the low-level pedestrian bridge has likely been impacted by bridge hydraulics.

The reach is surrounded by parklands on both banks and is located upstream of the Dubbo township. The Macquarie River abuts the valley margin downstream of the inspection reach on the left bank.



The Soil Conservation Service acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land where we live and work and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. Through our work on what was and always will be Aboriginal land, we commit to our shared responsibility to heal and protect Country for all future generations.



Connect with us

www.scs.nsw.gov.au
scs.enquiries@scs.nsw.gov.au
www.linkedin.com/company/soil-conservation-service

Site Observations

Comparison Bank Retreat at DMR-26:

Nearmap Image Comparison	Estimated Top of Bank Retreat	Approximate length of estimated retreat
27 December 2015 – 31 October 2016	5 – 13m	170m
31 October – 14 July 2022	1.5m	55m
14 July 2022 – 2 January 2023	1.5m	62m

Note: measurements estimated using Nearmap imagery and visual interpretation and considered to be approximate only.

A summary of key site observations is provided below:

- As the water passes under the bridge an eddy is formed on the right bank which has likely caused further erosion immediately downstream of this bridge.
- Comparison of Nearmap imagery since the River Health Report inspection in May 2018 shows vegetation has established throughout the reach.
- Majority of bank retreat occurred between December 2015-October 2016.
- Post this change, a mid-bank bench has remained and has become vegetated through time offering a buffer to future erosion at lower flow regimes.
- Bank retreat has occurred at DMR_R26 (approximately 3m) during the July and October 2022 flood events.
- Imagery is not available for the November 2022 flood event, however site observations suggest limited change has occurred post October flood with the vertical banks now slumped to a more stable angle (Photo 1)
- Vertical bare banks are still present in Section DMR_R28, however from Nearmap imagery it appears erosion of these bank sections occurred primarily between 18 October and 30 December 2021.
- Some erosion and slumping is evident post December 2021 however it is difficult to determine if further retreat has occurred.

Current and Likely Future Issues

Following further discussion with DRC and after preliminary desktop review, SCS have identified the following current and future issues for the inspection reach:

- Public safety risk due to proximity of path to bank retreat (DMR-26)
- Without major works this area is likely to keep experiencing bank retreat/slumping, however, Nearmap comparison suggests the rate of retreat has decreased. This may be due to the presence of the vegetated mid-bank bench at DMR_R26

Proposed Options

Following further discussion with DRC and after preliminary desktop review, SCS propose the following options to address priority issues:

1. The options provided for this reach in the River Health Report 2018 are still applicable to mitigate further bank retreat but would be costly and time consuming.

Bank Section	Recommendations
DMR_R26	Recommended significant bank stabilisation and rehabilitation works involving bank reshaping and toe protection via 8 to 10 deflector structures. Public assets at risk including power and footpath.
DMR_R27	Moderate Priority - Moderate instability with rubble toe protection. Monitor and incorporate upstream/downstream bank works into this section.
DMR_R28	Recommend fencing as a minimum and significant bank stabilisation and rehabilitation works involving bank reshaping and toe protection via up to 8 deflector structures.

2. Realign the pedestrian access path and establish a vegetated buffer 20-30m distance from the bank retreat scarp to improve public safety. Plant out erosion scarp to increase hydraulic roughness and increase the resilience of the riverbank.

Recommendations

To address the identified issues at Lady Cutler Park, DRC should consider and implement the following:

- Hydraulic impacts and alignment of bridges and their impact on river hydrology needs to be thoroughly considered in the planning and design stages.
- Realign the pedestrian access path and establish a vegetated buffer 20-30m distance from the bank retreat scarp to improve public safety. Where possible, plant out erosion scarps to increase hydraulic roughness and increase the resilience of the riverbank.
- Continue to monitor bank retreat post flood events.

Flood Response 2022 - Site Summary – Lady Cutler Park, Dubbo NSW

DMR_R 26 – During site inspection, water levels were still elevated.





REPORT: Wellington Street Tree Masterplan - public exhibition

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/662

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement	
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adoption of the Wellington Street Tree Masterplan following public exhibition	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wellington has previously not had a strategic tree management document focussed in improving the health and canopy coverage of the town.The Wellington Street Tree Masterplan was placed on public exhibition seeking feedback. As appropriate this feedback has been incorporated into the revised document.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places – Recreation and Open Space
	Funding Source	General fund and grant opportunities
	Proposed Cost	To be determined
	Ongoing Costs	To be determined and dependent on the number and location of trees planted.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	No Policy
	Impact on Policy	No impact.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	6 Environmental Sustainability
CSP Objective:	6.1 We achieve net zero emissions
Delivery Program Strategy:	6.1.4 Existing and new development is sustainable, has sufficient greenspace and efficiently uses resources
Theme:	6 Environmental Sustainability
CSP Objective:	6.2 We recognise, plan for and respond to the impacts of climate change
Delivery Program Strategy:	6.2.1 The impacts of climate change are identified and addressed through collaboration with our community and government

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan report be noted.
2. That the following amendments be noted:
 - a. Clarification of the Priority Planting Plan through the inclusion of the “Proposed Replacement species” column
 - b. Inclusion of *Corymbia leichhardtii* (Rusty Jacket) into the planting list.
 - c. The elevation of Percy Street (Wellington Primary School Precinct) to a Priority 1 planting site.
3. That the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan be adopted with the amendments.
4. That the responses for each of the major themes identified be noted.
5. That Council consider funding opportunities for a street tree to planting budget for Wellington that includes but is not limited to general rate fund budget allocating proceeds from future planning agreements and other external resources.

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

IM
Manager Recreation and
Open Space

BACKGROUND

In 2016 Dubbo City Council adopted the Dubbo Street Tree Master Plan that provided a strategic direction in further enhancing the public urban forest of Dubbo's urban area. As a result of the master plan Dubbo has been able to leverage funds from State and Federal governments, as well as securing additional internal funds, to assist in increasing the number of trees planted within the urban area.

The Wellington Street Master Plan was prepared with the assistance of Urban Forest Consulting who was involved in the drafting of the Dubbo Street Tree Master Plan 2016.

REPORT

The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan was placed on public exhibition between 2 March 2023 and 30 March 2023. Fourteen submissions were received and these have been addressed in this report. Within the submissions there were some positive comments and suggestions, with many being incorporated into the final draft master plan.

To address the concerns raised the comments have been broken into broad themes, with the number of the submission/s identified. The submissions have been attached and have been numbered in the top right hand corner of the page for convenience and cross referencing. The numbers in the section below relate to the submission number.

Amendments to the master plan.

Submission 8

There was some confusion surrounding the Priority Planting Plan lists. These lists ranked a number of streets from 1 – 10 to identify the order that it is proposed to undertake planting as funds allow. The list also identified the Dominant Species in each of these streets. It is not intended to replant these streets with the dominant species, in most cases. As identified in the Trees by Street table in the document other species have been chosen on a street by street basis. To help clarify this intent an additional column has been added to the Priority Planting Plan table identifying the planting options.

Submission: 9

Inclusion of *Corymbia leichhardtii* (Rusty Jacket) into the planting list. The suitability of this tree was reviewed and has been incorporated into the plan at 4 possible locations. As many of the streets have multiple species identified as possible species, and as part of the process of identifying the preferred species, the community assists in the determination of the species to be planted.

Wellington School Percy Street Precinct

Submission: 11

A request identified the need for additional trees within the vicinity of Wellington Primary School. This area was identified as a Priority 6 – 10 site. It was requested if this could be elevated to a Priority 1. As a result of the request, and the large number of children in the area Percy Street (south) has been moved to a Priority 1 planting location.

Themes

Concern was raised that the canopy target of 30% by 2050 was a low bench mark and the target should be increased and the date brought forward.

Submissions: 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14

The canopy covers of Montefiores' and Wellington currently sit at 17% and 12% respectively. The target of 30% canopy cover by 2050 (combined coverage for Wellington and Montefiores') was chosen as an aspirational target as funding still needs to be secured as Wellington previously didn't have identified funds for this purpose. This has carried across to the present day. In the event that funds are provided, either internally or externally, and for an extended period of time – the target of 30% could be exceeded earlier.

In addition, tree planting forms only one part of the broader equation. Between now and 2050 there will tree deaths and removals as trees reach the end of the useful life, or for other reasons. As identified in the master plan 85% of street trees are at a mature age class. As these are removed and replaced there will a reduction in canopy cover at a site specific level and more broadly across the urban area. Newly planted trees will take time to start to develop their canopy and start to make a positive contribution to the shading of the town. Therefore the target chosen has tried to take these factors into consideration.

As part of the broader concern is that currently there is no tree planting budget for Wellington. Community members are encouraged to make submissions with regards to the inclusion of a Wellington tree planting budget as part of the public exhibition of the 2023/2024 budget. While it is noted that a road sealing job has been deferred in Gisborne Street these funds will not be reallocated to tree planting but to other road work programs.

Where street trees are removed for civil infrastructure projects the standard practice is to try and link these upgrades with the tree replacement program. This has been an extremely efficient and effective way to improve the level of service that Council provides both with infrastructure (drainage, water, sewer, etc.) and renewing trees that are often towards the end of their useful life expectancy.

Concerns about leaves, fruit pods and damage that trees may cause

Submission: 5 and 6

Trees and infrastructure come into conflict for a number of reasons. Sometimes an inappropriate species for a specific site is chosen and sometimes the infrastructure is installed after the tree has been planted. While it is often difficult and expensive to resolve the immediate problem the solution, moving forward, is to make better choices of what tree is planted and to try and accommodate their future growth.

Council recognises that trees drop leaves, nuts, flowers and bark and in many cases residents assist in cleaning up these organic materials. However trees also provide residents with a number of benefits including increased land values, cleaner air, shade and cooling to name a few. Council appreciates the support of the community in helping to maintain our streetscapes in an attractive and clean manner.

Concern was raised about the removal of healthy old trees, and healthy trees in general.

Submissions: 1, 10, 12 and 13

The removal of all trees by Dubbo Regional Council is a carefully considered action where all aspects of the issue are researched including the health of the tree, safety of the public, infrastructure requirements, ability to change designs to retain trees and legislative requirements.

Public urban trees make a significant contribution to the amenity of our urban environment and provide a range benefits, including shading and cooling of our urban surroundings and biodiversity enhancement, and therefore have a value to the general public. To recognise this value Dubbo Regional Council adopted a Public Tree Amenity Valuation framework that is used to identify the value of trees within the landscape. This was adopted in September 2019 and is applied to all Council owned trees. Since the adoption of this policy well over 60 trees have been retained within our streetscapes that could have been otherwise removed. A Wellington example of the value of this Policy is the retention of the Kurrajongs on the Mitchell Highway just past Montefiores Street. These trees were to be removed to make way for a new water main to help drought proof Wellington. However following valuation and identification of the importance of these trees, a decision was made to under bore them.

Unfortunately there will be incidences where public trees will need to be removed for the infrastructure projects that benefit the wider community. Even in these incidences tree removal is generally the last option with staff investigating other options first. Where trees are removed Council is normally required to replant at least the same number of trees that were removed.

Specifically in relation to Showground Road, as it was raised by three submissions, the newly formed Western Plains Regional Council obtained funds to go towards the creation of a path out to Brennan's Way. This necessitated the removal of a number of trees. It was intended to replant these trees with an appropriately sized native tree. However due to site specific constraints (overhead and underground services) and future plans to widen Bushranger's Rd it is not feasible to plant in the remaining space. The trees will be planted in the adjacent Pioneer Park as part of a rehabilitation / restoration project.

Natives versus deciduous trees

Submissions: 12 and 13

Submissions were received encouraging Council to plant only native trees and discontinue the practice of planting exotic deciduous trees. The argument put forward for natives over exotics being hardier and resilient does have some merit in a natural environment. However in an urban environment, and utilising appropriate planting methods, this advantage is significantly lessened.

From a historical view Wellington's street trees, and Cameron Park, has a strong European theme that strongly influences the town's character. The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan recognises the importance of retaining this character and the species chosen reflects this. The use of deciduous trees also allows solar access through the cooler months to houses on east west running streets and provide the seasonal changes that many residents enjoy and mark the seasons with.

Council also recognises the importance of developing a resilient tree landscape within the urban areas. In streetscapes, some parks and ovals a combination of natives and exotics can be utilised to create a strong and resilient public urban forest. In other areas, such as the riverine corridor it is appropriate to use only endemic species.

It is also recognised that the Bell River through Wellington is extremely weedy and needs a significant amount of rehabilitation and restoration work. However, this is outside this plan. In saying that work is being organised in Pioneer Park to stabilise the river bank and undertake restorative work. This will involve planting of riverine species that will support native birds and other wildlife.

It is suggested that only native trees should be planted to maintain the integrity of the Australian landscape to keep it "natural." The approach that is being taken in the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan is that both exotics and natives can exist within an urban environment, which in itself is not a natural environment. With proper species selection and the use of sterile cultivars where possible we can reduce the likelihood of repeating the mistakes of the past.

Planting requests.

Submissions: 2, 3, 4 and 7

A number of planting requests or removals were received through the submissions. These will be dealt with through Council's CRM system.

One tree planting request related to Arthur Street that is identified as a Priority 2 planting objective.

Priority to entrances to Wellington over other areas

Submissions: 12, 13 and 14

It was raised that the main entrances, and the CBD, should be given priority over other areas, including residential. The main entry points and the route through town via the Mitchell Highway as Priority 1, 2 and 4 (Mitchell Highway/Lee Street/Nanima Crescent, Maughan Street and Arthur Street/Curtis Street). It is considered that there is much higher value to the town and residents.

Consultation

Public Spaces Tree Committee (PSTC)

The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan was briefly discussed at the inaugural meeting of the PSTC on 26 October 2022. At this meeting a brief overview of the master plan was discussed, and the PSTC advised that it a report would go to Council seeking endorsement for it to go on public exhibition.

The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan was again discussed, more fully, at the PSTC meeting 29 March 2023. There was significant discussion around both the 30% target and the 2050 date to achieve it. It was felt by some members of the Committee that the target canopy cover should be higher and the date brought forward. This was discussed at length and it was identified that the main limiting factor is the current lack of funding available. It was also identified that the members of PSTC, and the community, could make submissions to Council for increased funding as part of the public exhibition of the 2023/2024 Dubbo Regional Council budget.

Wellington Town Committee

The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan was discussed at the Wellington Town Committee on 6 March 2023.

Again there significant discussion around both the 30% target and the 2050 date to achieve it. It was felt by some members of the Committee that the target canopy cover should be higher and the date brought forward. This was discussed at length and it was identified that the main limiting factor is the current lack of funding available.

It was also identified by staff present that the former Wellington Council did not possess a street tree planting budget and was not addressed in the preparation of budgets following the amalgamation. Committee members were encouraged to make submissions with regards to the inclusion of a Wellington tree planting budget as part of the public exhibition of the 2023/2024 budget.

As no budget is currently identified specifically in Wellington it cannot be included in the document. Additionally, over time Council priorities may change and the budget may need to be varied.

The draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan was placed on public exhibition between 2 March 2023 and 30 March 2023. The master plan was publicised through a public notice, social media posts and hard copies placed at the Wellington Administration Building and Library. Fourteen submissions were received and these have been addressed in this report.

Resourcing Implications

Following the adoption of the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan there will be a requirement of staff to seek and apply for the funds to implement the plan. It is expected that the implementation of the master plan will be ongoing over the life of the master plan.

Street tree planting costs vary significantly depending on their position within the streetscape and the planting methodology used. Planting in a grass verge or footpath is generally around \$600/tree whereby the Stockholm Method, which is required for road shoulders, can be as much as \$5,500/tree. As many of the trees in Wellington are located within the shoulder of the road it makes a tree planting program much more expensive.

A number of submissions have requested a tree planting budget for Wellington to be established comparable to Dubbo. In the draft forward budget, as it currently stands, Street Tree Planting Priority Sites have the following amounts allocated:

2023/2024	\$91,982
2024/2025	\$25,000
2025/2026	\$25,000
2026/2027	\$25,000

It is therefore imperative, even for Dubbo, to collaborate with Infrastructure when they are doing kerb and guttering replacement, water or sewer main replacement to value add to these amounts.

Planned Communications

If adopted the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan will be placed on the Dubbo Regional Council website to make it available to the community.

Next Steps

If adopted Council can commence with identifying and applying for funding to assist in the implementation of the Wellington Street Tree Master Plan.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [Down Arrow](#) Dubbo Regional Council Wellington Street Tree Masterplan 2023 V2
- 2 [Down Arrow](#) Wellington Street Tree Master Plan Submissions Summary



WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN

FEBRUARY 2023



Acknowledgement of Country

Dubbo Regional Council acknowledge the Wiradjuri
People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land.
Council pay respect to all Elders past, present and
emerging of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect
to other First Nations peoples who are present.

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Purpose

This Street Tree Master Plan identifies a range of prioritised streets in Wellington for street tree planting and recommends species to be planted in each. The Master Plan will guide Council's investment in street trees as and when funding allows for works to be completed. The Master Plan aims to meet a range of outcomes including:

- Improving the look and amenity of the gateway roads in and out of Wellington
- Increasing shade cover over areas in need e.g., in socially vulnerable areas
- Strengthening the overall health, vitality and biological resilience of the main thoroughfare that runs north to south of the township
- Improving the amenity of the main township streets in the commercial area
- Improving the vegetation corridors that run north south and east west from the rivers, through town and out to the surrounding rural land.



WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN

Strategic Context

This Master Plan forms a companion document to the Dubbo Street Tree Master Plan 2016. All tree planting in Wellington and Montefiores will follow the species and planting guidance included in the following sections of the Dubbo Street Tree Master Plan:

Book 2 – Street trees for the City of Dubbo

Book 3 – Toolkit booklet

A further review of these documents will be undertaken to ensure they're relevant to all urban areas of the Local Government Area.

Wellington Context

Wellington is framed by an impressive natural environment where the junction of the Macquarie and Bell rivers meet at the foot of Mount Arthur.

Due to its slightly higher elevation than Dubbo and the proximity of Mt Arthur to the west which protects the town from the hot westerly winds in summer, the township has a good base cover of existing vegetation that can be built upon.

The township is characterised by wide streets with distinct avenues of mostly deciduous trees, low density buildings and an array of parkland. Some of the parkland is distinctly exotic in nature, such as Cameron Park, while other areas are dominated with native plantings, such as Apex Park.

Average annual rainfall is around 615mm, compared to Dubbo's which is around 555mm.

The cooler winter and summers along with the slightly higher rainfall mean that Wellington can support a

greater variety of trees, especially exotic deciduous trees that form such an important part of the townships existing character.

Wellington has its fair share of social issues, driven by pockets of social disadvantage spread throughout the northwest and southwest of the township. The potential to improve the amenity and shade cover of the town for the benefit of the socially vulnerable is significant.

Research that suggests tree cover is greater in urban areas of affluence, rings true in Wellington.

Areas within the township where social disadvantage is high correspondingly have less tree cover, despite the need for respite from the summer heat being higher.

Recent civic beautification and infrastructure projects such as the Nanima Crescent upgrade and the new Aquatic Centre have greatly improved the amenity and character of the central township.



Benefits of Street Trees

Environmental Benefits

- **Provide shade and cool our townships.** An increase in tree canopy and greening can reduce air and surface temperatures by 3 to 20oC (Gil *et al.*, 2007)
- **Reduce storm water flows, pollution, and nutrient loads.** Tree canopies and root systems reduce storm water flows and nutrient runoff into our waterways. Streets with higher vegetation cover are three to six times more effective in managing storm water than conventional methods (Norton *et al.*, 2013)
- **Provide habitat and enhance levels of biodiversity.** Urban and rural roadside trees support a wide range of species, even endangered animals, and other species of high conservation value (Kendal *et al.*, 2016)

Economic Benefits

- **Reducing energy costs.** Energy saving benefits come through shading and sheltering buildings from the sun in summer and allowing sunlight in winter (Simpson, 1996)
- **Increasing property values.** Trees in streets enhance neighbourhood aesthetics and increase property values. Properties in tree-lined streets are valued approximately 30% higher than those in streets without trees (Plant, 2017)
- **Increased retail activity.** Shoppers spend longer and more money in retail areas where the area is landscaped, and trees provide shade and amenity (Wolf, 2005)
- **Return on investment.** Cities across the world have demonstrated that trees create a positive return on investment. In the City of New York, it has been calculated that for every dollar spent on a tree, \$5.60 worth of benefits were returned. (US Forest Service, 2020)

Social Benefits

- **Encouraging outdoor activity.** Well-vegetated parks, gardens and streets encourage the use of open spaces, with health benefits such as reduced obesity and increased physical activity levels and promotes more sustainable forms of transportation (van Dillen, 2012)
- **Reducing sun exposure.** The prevalence of skin cancer and other illnesses due to sun exposure have shown that protection from sunlight's UV rays is vital. Tree shade can reduce overall exposure to UV radiation by up to 75 per cent. (Mullaney *et al.*, 2015)
- **Improving mental wellbeing.** Access to, and views of, green spaces and trees have positive effects on people's wellbeing (Karden, 2016)

Cultural Benefits

- **Creation of local identity.** A township's landscape helps define its character. Trees and vegetation can physically define a place. Trees provide landscape amenity and integrate nature into the urban environment.
- **Marketing plans.** Green spaces play a role in defining the culture and image of a town. A town is more competitive with an expanded influence when the built and natural urban environment is attractive and welcoming.
- **Reinforcing First Nations status.** Culturally significant trees are a vital and tangible link to the continuous connection to place for First Nations people. Culturally significant trees are clear evidence of Indigenous community's existence on this land for thousands of years, prior to colonial settlement. Culturally significant trees are important sentinels to interpret and connect to the landscape and a cultural marker to pass valuable cultural knowledge to subsequent generations.

Key Considerations

Community

Energy saving benefits come through shading and sheltering buildings from the sun in summer and allowing sunlight in winter (Simpson, 1996)

Wellington is home to a community where around half the community are either 0-14 years old or are over 65 years old. There are low levels of immigrants, with the majority of residents being born in Australia and coming from Australian heritage. The unemployment rate is higher than the NSW average and the majority of people work in Community and Personal Services industry. The biggest employers are aged care and correctional services as well as food services (takeaway and supermarkets). Median household income is approximately half the NSW average. Wellington is also home to a large indigenous population.

The areas of social disadvantage are concentrated in the south and northwest of the township and correspondingly have low tree cover.

It is projected that Wellington's population will grow from 8,976 people to almost 9,976 by 2040 and that the population will continue ageing, meaning that aged care services will continue to be important for the township (Community Strategic Plan 2040).

It is also predicted that Wellington has the potential to become a more popular tourist destination due to its natural environment offerings including the Wellington Caves, Lake Burrendong and Mt Arthur.

It is therefore important that any street tree planting ensures that shade is targeted in areas of social disadvantage, around aged care facilities and ageing populations but also along main thoroughfares and within the centre of town to improve overall amenity.

Species Selection

Selecting species for planting in Wellington will take into account both their required form and function to ensure the right tree is planted in the right location. Council will discontinue planting ash tree species and

will actively seek to renew and replace these trees with more appropriate species for each location. Shade and aesthetics will also be key functions required from upcoming street trees and species will be chosen accordingly.

This Master Plan will also identify which species will be replanted in each of the priority locations. Species selection will consider the following:

- The continuation of existing avenues where appropriate or the creation of new ones
- Species are selected for their ability to thrive under climate predicted scenarios
- Maintaining the exotic, deciduous theme of the township where appropriate
- Enhancing pockets of biodiverse areas with the selection of native and endemic species

Climate Change

AdaptNSW, research funded by the NSW government, provides an overview of predicted climatic changes to 2050 and to 2070 in the Central West and Orana Region of NSW (Image 1).

The results show that heatwaves, bushfires, and average temperatures will all increase in the near and far future. The number of cold nights and average rainfall in Spring and Summer will decrease. These will all impact the ability of urban trees to thrive and survive and may even exclude some species from being viable in the region.

However, street trees are critically important for helping our urban areas adapt to climate change.

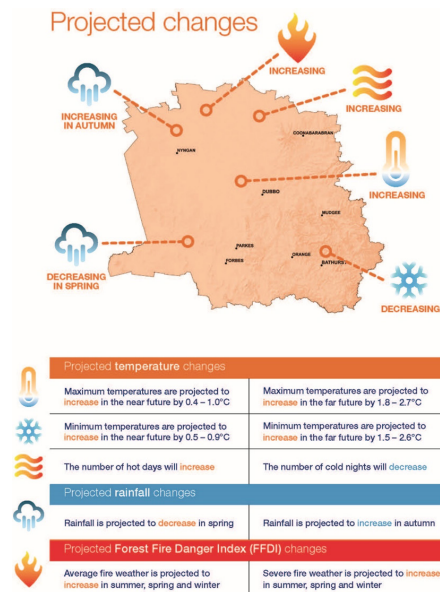


Image 1: Projected changes to temperature, rainfall, and Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI). Image source NSW Government 2015.

Trees in Wellington

Tree Canopy Cover

Wellington and Montefiores are covered by 12% and 17% tree canopy cover respectively.

Wellington has 36% impervious surface cover such as concrete, asphalt, paving and buildings. 41% grass

cover, 1% shrub cover and 12% tree cover mean that Wellington has over 50% green cover (Image 2).

Montefiores on the other hand, which is less developed has a much higher green cover at 76% with tree canopy cover at 17% and grass cover at 57%. It also has less hard surface cover (Image 3).

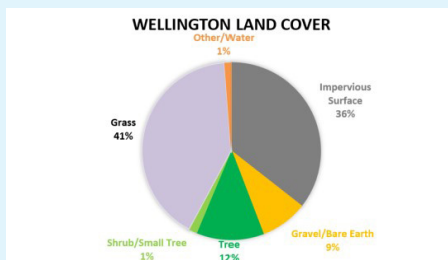


Image 2: Land cover by type for the township of Wellington.

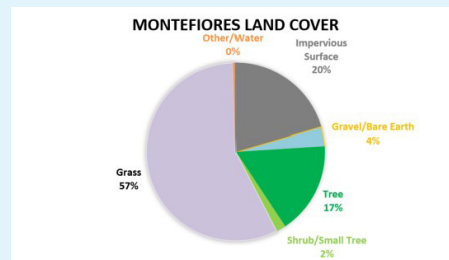


Image 3: Land cover by type for the township of Montefiores.

Vacant Sites

A desktop study using aerial imagery has shown that there are potentially almost 1,100 vacant street tree sites across Wellington. These have been validated by an on-ground survey of each site, however there may be instances when underground services of future land use change may result in some of these vacant sites becoming obsolete.

This shows significant potential to increase the street tree population in Wellington, especially in the lower socio-economic areas of the north-east and south-east areas.



Image 4: Distribution of vacant street tree sites across Wellington

Street Trees

Top 20 Tree Species

18.6% of all street trees in Wellington are Claret Ash, *Fraxinus raywood*. This is a very high representation of one species within the population and far exceeds the industry guidelines of no one species representing more than 5-10% of a population. Further to this, other *Fraxinus* species also dominate the street tree population. Cumulatively, the genus *Fraxinus*, or all Ash trees, represent 28% or greater than one quarter of Wellington's entire street tree population. Table 1 displays this data.

This indicates a significant lack of diversity within the tree population, refer to Table 1.

The top ten species alone make up 54% or more than half of the population, further indicating that only a few species dominate the urban landscape through stochastic events such as disease, insect infestation, or storms.

This lack of species diversity in Wellington increases the tree assets vulnerability and potential risk of landscape failure.

Image 5 shows the distribution of these *Fraxinus* species. It also shows how whole streets have been planted with one species, such as Claret Ash and are therefore vulnerable to landscape failure.

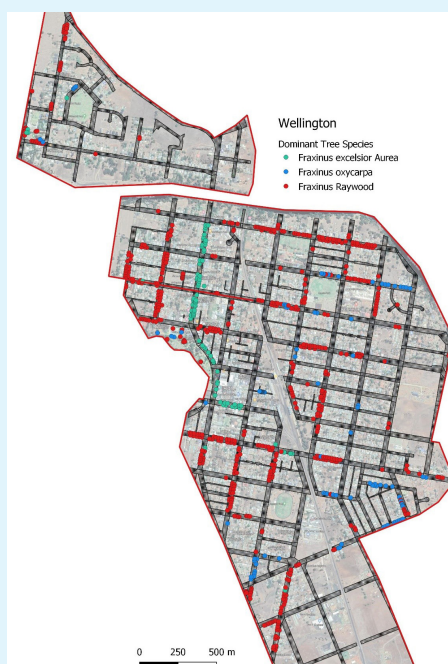


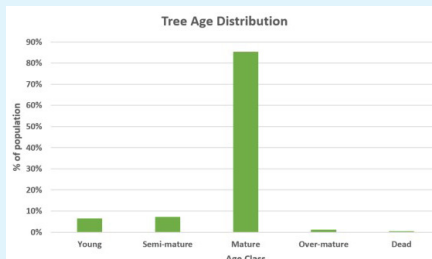
Image 5: Distribution of commonly planted *Fraxinus* (ash) trees

Table 1: The most commonly occurring species in Wellington's streets.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Number	% of Population
<i>Fraxinus raywood</i>	Claret Ash	575	18.6%
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv.	Weeping bottlebrush	258	7.4%
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	156	5.1%
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	124	4.0%
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i>	Narrow leaved Ash	120	3.9%
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> cv	Ornamental Pear	119	3.8%
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Nettle Tree	111	3.6%
<i>Fraxinus excelsior Aurea</i>	Golden Ash	82	2.7%
<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Chinese Tallow	76	2.5%
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Redgum	75	2.4%
<i>Callistemon salignus</i>	Willow bottlebrush	73	2.4%
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident Maple	55	1.8%
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	55	1.8%
<i>Platanus X acerifolia</i>	London Plane Tree	53	1.7%
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	51	1.7%
<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	Yellow Box	48	1.6%
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crepe Myrtle	42	1.4%
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	39	1.3%
<i>Corymbia torelliana</i>	Cadaghi	38	1.2%
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Prickly Paperbark	38	1.2%

Tree Age

Almost 85% of Wellington's trees are mature aged. This indicates a lack of age diversity within the tree population and reflects only the small number of trees planted over the last decade. An active street tree planting program to fill in vacant sites will improve the overall age diversity.



Graph 1: Distribution of age classes amongst Wellington's Street trees

Tree Health

Over 96% of street and park trees are in good to fair health which indicates a tree population in relatively good health. The 20 dead and 32 very poor and poor specimens will be targeted for tree removal and/or replacement.

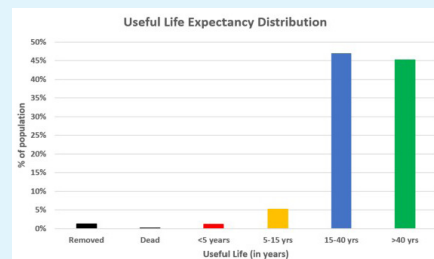


Graph 2: Distribution of tree health amongst Wellington's Street trees

Useful Life Expectancy

Wellington's trees have a good spread of useful life expectancies. 7.8% of trees are likely to reach end of life within a 15-year period. As these trees reach end of life and need to be removed, they will actively be replaced with a species appropriate for the location.

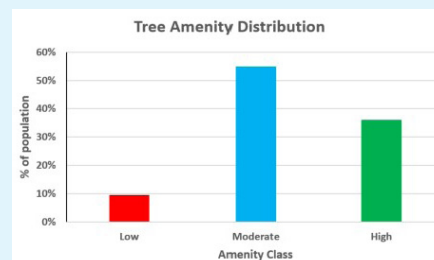
The most common species reaching end of life within 15 years is the Claret Ash, Fraxinus raywood. Site inspections of streets in Wellington show that many of the Claret Ash in some streets are not performing well and are likely to reach end of life within the next decade. This will mean some specimens will need to be removed and replaced with other species.



Graph 3: Distribution of useful life expectancy amongst Wellington's Street trees

Amenity

90.7% of Wellington's trees are of moderate or high amenity. Ideally, more trees would be in the high category which can be improved by investment in cyclic maintenance and pruning program for all street trees.



Graph 4: Distribution of tree amenity class amongst Wellington's Street trees

Street Tree Prioritisation

A priority-based planting plan has been established for Wellington which identifies the streets that are a priority for street tree planting and investment.

The criteria for determining streets as a planting priority include:

Table 2: The most commonly occurring species in Wellington's streets.

Criteria	Qualification for inclusion as priority
Road Hierarchy	Street is a major Arterial Street is a connector Road
ULE	Street contains 5 or more trees with ULE less than 15 years Street contains 1-5 trees with ULE less than 15 years
Vacant Sites	Street contains more than 10 vacant sites Street contains 5-10 vacant sites
Retail/Shopping strip	Street contains shopping strip
School, Community facility	Street contains school or community facility
Park/open pace	Street contains park or open space
Gateway Road	Street is a gateway entry into town
Socio Economic disadvantage	Street contains social housing
EM Priority	Street has been identified by Elected Members as a priority
Equity of priority	Scores were then redistributed to ensure equity of tree planting delivery across the township

Tree Canopy Targets

Council will aim to increase tree canopy cover over both Wellington and Montefiores from 12% and 17% respectively to 30% by 2050. We will achieve this through maintaining our existing tree population and filling the vacant sites through delivery of our Street Tree Master Plan.



Wellington Street Tree Master Plan

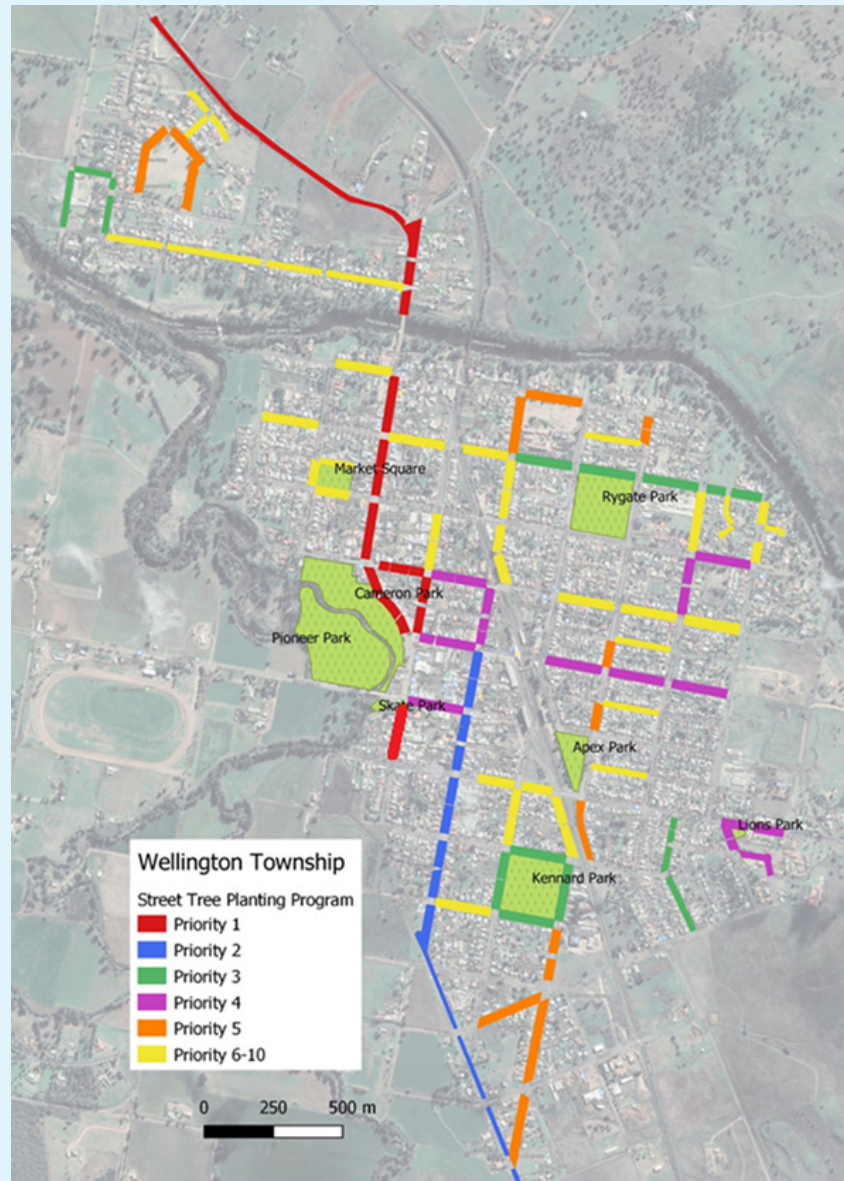


Image 6: Priority streets for street tree planting in Wellington

Road Name	Vacant Sites	Current Dominant Species	Proposed Replacement Species
PRIORITY 1			
WARNE ST	18	Fraxinus raywood	Acer freemanii "armstrong" - side planting
PERCY ST	18	Pyrus calleryana	Fraxinus griffithii or Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious" or Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
LEE ST	9	Mixed	Fraxinus griffithii or Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious" or Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
NANIMA CR	19	Fraxinus excelsior	Acer freemanii "armstrong"
MITCHELL HWY (NTH)	38	Mixed	Acer freemanii "armstrong"
Total Plantings: 136			
PRIORITY 2			
ARTHUR ST	46	Fraxinus raywood	Fraxinus griffithii
CURTIS ST	33	Mixed	Melia azederach "Elite" or Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"
Total Plantings: 79			
PRIORITY 3			
PARKES ST	28	Callistemon/Brachychiton	Backhousia citrifolia or Atalaya hemiglaucula or Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
WHITELEY ST	46	Fraxinus raywoodii	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" or Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"
GIPPS ST	11	Callistemon sp.	Tricadia sebifera (east) and Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Biloxi" (west)
LAY ST	9	Fraxinus raywood	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Urbanite" or Melaleuca quinquenervia
TAYLOR ST	6	N/A	Callistemon viminalis
SIMPSON ST	12	Fraxinus excelsior	Melia azederach "Elite" or Pistacia chinensis or Corymbia leichhardtii
ZOUCH ST	4	Acer buergerianum	Pistacia chinensis or Acer campestre Var "Elsrijk or Evelyn" or Corymbia leichhardtii
HAWKINS ST	6	Grevillea robusta	Grevillea robusta or Lophostemon confertus or Corymbia leichhardtii
THORNTON ST	15	Mixed	Eucalyptus sideroxylon or Corymbia leichhardtii
Total Plantings: 137			
PRIORITY 4			
PIERCE ST	8	Mixed	Melia azederach "Elite"
SWIFT ST	42	Acer, Grevillea, Callistemon	Acer freemanii "armstrong" - west Melaleuca linarifolia or Callistemon "Harkness" - east
WARNE ST	19	Phoenix canariensis	Acer freemanii "armstrong"
MAUGHAN ST	8	Fraxinus excel	Acer freemanii "armstrong"
ARTHUR ST	12	Fraxinus, Pyrus	Fraxinus griffithii
GISBORNE ST	6	Fraxinus raywood	Jacaranda mimosifolia or Melia azederach "Elite"
WILLIAM ST	4	Brachychiton	Pittosporum augustifolia or Acacia salicina or Kunzea ericifolia
MAXWELL ST	11	Mixed	Melaleuca stypheliodes or Agonis flexuosa
BANGALLA CR	6	N/A	Acacia vestita or Acacia salicina or Jacaranda mimosifolia
Total Plantings: 116			
Total Priority 1 to 4 Plantings: 468			

Road Name	Vacant Sites	Current Dominant Species	Proposed Replacement Species
PRIORITY 5			
CHARLES ST	22	Pittosporum sp.	Pittosporum augustifolia or Tristaniopsis laurina "Luscious"
EUCALYPTUS DR	27	Eucalyptus scoparia	Pittosporum augustifolia and Eucalyptus scoparia (oval) or Corymbia leichhardtii (oval)
THORNTON ST	38	Mixed	Tricadia sebifera or Pyrus calleryana and Eucalyptus sideroxylon adjacent to Apex Park
MITCHELL HWY	28	N/A	Acer freemanii "armstrong"
ARTHUR ST	12	Eucalyptus tricarpa	Eucalyptus tricarpa (west) and Eucalyptus leucoxydon "Magnet"
GOBOLION ST	8	Grevillea robusta, Fraxinus	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" or Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red" or Grevillea robusta
RAILWAY AVE	3	Callistemon sp.	Callistemon viminalis or Pistacia chinensis or Tristaniopsis laurina "Luscious"
Total Plantings: 138			
PRIORITY 6-10			
ARTHUR ST	19	Mixed	Callistemon "Harkness"
CASUARINA CL	4	Mixed	Tristaniopsis laurina "Luscious" or Pyrus calleryana "Chanticleer" or Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
CLIVE ST	8	Hibiscus sp.	Celtis occidentalis (north) and Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" (south)
CROSS ST	12	Pistacia chinensis	Melia azederach "Elite" or Callistemon viminalis or Pistacia chinensis
GISBORNE ST	11	N/A	Liquidambar styraciflua - side and Pyrus calleryana (centre)
GOBOLION ST	11	N/A	Pyrus calleryana or Acacia salicina
HAWKINS ST	5	Grevillea robusta	Grevillea robusta or Lophostemon confertus or Corymbia leichhardtii
JEAN ST	11	Callistemon sp.	Callistemon "Harkness" or Pistacia chinensis
MARSH ST	4	Tricadia sebifera	Callistemon "Harkness" or Pistacia chinensis
MAXWELL ST	9	Fraxinus raywoodii	Melaleuca styphelioides or Agonis flexuosa
MELALEUCA DR	12	N/A	Melaleuca styphelioides
MONTEFIORES ST	24	Callistemon sp.	Callistemon "Harkness"
PARINGA PL	4	N/A	Callistemon "Harkness" or Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Bitoxi"
PIERCE ST	7	Corymbia maculata	Melia azederach "Elite"
QUIRK ST	5	Fraxinus raywoodii	Eucalyptus tricarpa (west) and Eucalyptus leucoxydon "Magnet"
RAYMOND ST	12	Mixed	Melaleuca styphelioides or Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"
REID ST	9	Mixed	Callistemon "Harkness" or Agonis flexuosa
SHORT ST	6	Fraxinus raywoodii	Callistemon "Harkness" - Thornton to Pierce St
SIMPSON ST	2	Tricadia sebifera	Pistacia chinensis
SOLDIERS LANE	1	Prunus cerasifera	Tricadia sebifera
WALKER CR	7	Fraxinus raywood	Callistemon "Harkness" or Melaleuca styphelioides
WARNE ST	13	Platanus x acerifolia	Acer freemanii "armstrong" and Phoenix canariensis
WHITELEY ST	13	Platanus x acerifolia	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" or Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"
Total Plantings: 200			
Total Priority 5 to 10 Plantings: 338			

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Appendix 1 | Wellington - Trees by Street (Nov 2022)

Precinct	Street	Species 1	Species 2	Series 3	Replacement Series 1	Replacement Series 2	Replacement Series 3
CBD	Bank St	Fraxinus griffithii (9)	Callistemon viminalis (5)	Lagerstroemia indica (1)	Fraxinus griffithii	Callistemon "Harkness"	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Block"
CBD	Maughan St	Fraxinus excelsior Aurea			Acer freemanii "armstrong"		
CBD	Swift St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (12)	Acer saccharum (7)	Brachychiton populneus (3)	Acer freemanii "armstrong"		
CBD	Soldiers lane				Tricadia sebifera		
CBD	Swift St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (11)	Acer saccharum (7)	Brachychiton populneus (3)	Melaleuca linarifolia	Callistemon "Harkness"	
CBD / North Wellington	Warne St	Fraxinus Raywood (21)	Pyrus calleryana cv (14)	Phoenix canariensis (6)	Acer freemanii "armstrong"	Phoenix canariensis	
Highway	Lee St	Fraxinus excelsior Aurea (19)			Acer freemanii "armstrong"		
Highway	Nanima Cr.	Fraxinus excelsior Aurea	Acer freemanii "armstrong"		Acer freemanii "armstrong"		
Monteflores	Tollernache Street				Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"		
Monteflores	Casuarina Ct	Eucalyptus sp (1)	Tricadia sebifera (1)		Tristanopsis laurina	Pyrus calleryana "Chan-tidee"	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Luscarora"
Monteflores	Eucalyptus Dr	Pittosporum angustifolium (4)	Gleditsia triacanthos (3)	Prunus calleryana (2)	Pittosporum angustifolia	Eucalyptus scoparia (oval)	Corymbia leichhardtii
Monteflores	Federal St				Callistemon "Harkness"	Acacia vestita	
Monteflores	Gipps St	Triadica sebifera (23)	Fraxinus Raywood (16)	Callistemon viminalis cv (10)	Liquidambar styraciflua (entrance - no power lines)	Tricadia sebifera (east)	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Block" (west)
Monteflores	Goolma Rd				Corymbia citriodora	Brachychiton populneum	
Monteflores	Grevillea Pl	Pyrus calleryana cv (1)			Pittosporum angustifolia	Acacia salicina	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Luscarora"
Monteflores	Herbert St	Viburnum tinus (1)			River Red Gum (south)	Acer freemanii "armstrong"	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"
Monteflores	King St				Pittosporum angustifolia	Acacia salicina	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Luscarora"
Monteflores	Lay St	Fraxinus Raywood (16)	Fraxinus excelsior Aurea (3)	Gleditsia triacanthos (2)	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Urbane"	Melealeuca quinquenervia	
Monteflores	Macquarie St	Callistemon viminalis (2)			Callistemon "Harkness"		
Monteflores	Melaleuca Dr	Melaleuca stypheloides (2)	Eucalyptus sp (1)		Melaleuca stypheloides		
Monteflores	Monteflores St	Callistemon viminalis cv (58)	Eucalyptus scoparia (8)	Eucalyptus spp (41)	Callistemon "Harkness"		
Monteflores	Nicoll St	Pittosporum angustifolium (10)	Ulmus glabra lutescens (2)		Pittosporum angustifolia	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Luscarora"	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"
Monteflores	Queen St	Acer negundo (5)	Hibiscus sp. (4)	Callistemon viminalis cv (4)	Acacia salicina	Fraxinus griffithii	Eucalyptus leucocylon "Magnet"
Monteflores	Sutton St	Eucalyptus camaldulensis (1)	Grevillea robusta (1)	Acacia baileyana (1)	Pittosporum angustifolia	Acacia salicina	
Monteflores	Tristiana St	Tristanopsis laurina (6)	Fraxinus Raywood (1)		Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"	Pyrus calleryana "Chan-tidee"	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Luscarora"
North Wellington	Arthur St	Eucalyptus tricarpa			Eucalyptus tricarpa (west)	Eucalyptus leucocylon "Magnet"	

Precinct	Street	Species 1	Species 2	Species 3	Replacement Series 1	Replacement Series 2	Replacement Series 3
North Wellington	Gisborne Lane				Tricadia sebifera		
North Wellington	Ford St	Fraxinus Raywood (19)	Prunus cerasifera nigra (2)		Acer campestre "Elsijk"	Meleuca styphelioides	Callistemon "Harkness"
North Wellington	Falls Rd	Fraxinus Raywood (2)			Eucalyptus melliodora	Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"	
North Wellington	Jean St	Callistemon viminalis (9)	Triadica sebifera (5)	Pistacia chinensis (2)	Callistemon "Harkness"	Pistacia chinensis	
North Wellington	Little Arthur St	Liquidambar styraciflua (1)	Fraxinus excelsior (1)	Salix matsudana (1)	Callistemon salignus	Agonis flexuosa	
North Wellington	Paringa Place				Callistemon "Harkness"	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Blox"	
North Wellington	Quirk St	Corymbia maculata (3)			Eucalyptus tricarpa (west)	Eucalyptus leucocylon "Magnet"	
North Wellington	Raymond St	Fraxinus Raywood (19)	Brachychiton populneus (7)	Triadica sebifera (2)	Meleuca styphelioides	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"	
North Wellington	Reid St	Callistemon viminalis cv (2)	Fraxinus griffithii (3)	Triadica sebifera (1)	Callistemon "Harkness"		
North Wellington	Riverview Avenue				Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"	Tristaniopsis laurina "Luscious"	
North Wellington	Short St	Celtis australis (14)	Callistemon salignus (3)	Fraxinus griffithii (1)	Thornton to Pierce - Callistemon "Harkness"	Pierce to Marsh - Celtis occidentalis (north)	Pierce to Marsh - Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"
North Wellington	Walker Cr	Prunus cerasifera nigra (12)	Triadica sebifera (3)	Callistemon viminalis cv (1)	Callistemon "Harkness"		
North Wellington	Gisborne St (east)	Fraxinus Raywood (31)	Jacaranda minosifolia (23)	Brachychiton populneus (15)	Jacaranda minosifolia	Melia azedarach "Elite"	
North Wellington	Gobolion St	Fraxinus Raywood (63)	Melia azedarach (7)	Brachychiton populneus (4)	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"	Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"	Grevellea robusta
North Wellington	Gobolion St				Pyrus calleryana	Acacia salicina	
North Wellington	Whiteley St	Platanus x hybrida			Platanus x hybrida		
North Wellington	Marsh St	Triadica sebifera (23)	Callistemon viminalis (23)	Celtis australis (10)	Tricadia sebifera	Melaleuca linarifolia	Callistemon "Harkness"
North Wellington	McLeod St	Celtis occidentalis (1)	Celtis occidentalis (1)	Meleuca linarifolia (1)	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Corymbia torelliana	
North Wellington	Gisborne St (west)				Pyrus calleryana (centre)	Liquidambar styraciflua	
North Wellington (east)	Whiteley St	Platanus X acerifolia (30)	Fraxinus Raywood (23)	Eucalyptus tricarpa (8)	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"	Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"	
North Wellington / CBD / South Wellington	Percy St	Brachychiton populneus (1)			Fraxinus griffithii	Tristaniopsis laurina "Luscious"	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
North Wellington / South Wellington	Pierce St	Celtis australis (20)	Fraxinus oxycarpa		Melaleuca styphelioides	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"	
North Wellington / South Wellington	Thornton St	Fraxinus Raywood (26)	Pyrus calleryana cv (13)	Brachychiton populneus (4)	Tricadia sebifera	Pyrus calleryana	Eucalyptus sideroxylon adjacent to Apex Park
North Wellington / South Wellington	Pierce St	Celtis australis (20)	Acer buergerianum (13)	Fraxinus Raywood (10)	Melia azedarach "Elite"		
South Wellington	Maughan St	Ulmus parvifolia (19)	Celtis australis (16)	Fraxinus excelsior Aurea (11)	Celtis occidentalis (north)	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" (south)	
South Wellington	Arthur St	Fraxinus Raywood (41)	Fraxinus sp. (9)	Callistemon sp. (7)	Fraxinus griffithii		

Precinct	Street	Species 1	Species 2	Series 3	Replacement Series 1	Replacement Series 2	Replacement Series 3
South Wellington	Kenard St	Tridactylis sebifera (2)	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (1)	Fraxinus Raywood (1)	Eucalyptus tetracarpa		
South Wellington	Simpson St	Fraxinus Raywood (26)	Grevillea robusta (24)	Acer buergerianum (8)	Pistacia chinensis	Melaleuca styphelioides	
South Wellington	University Rd	Pyrus calleryana cv (1)			Pyrus calleryana		
South Wellington	Warrae Pl				Fraxinus griffithii	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"	Melaleuca linarifolia
South Wellington	Maxwell St	Fraxinus Raywood (48)	Melaleuca styphelioides (13)	Brachychiton populneus (6)	Melaleuca styphelioides	Agonis flexuosa	
South Wellington	Arthur St				Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial"	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"	
South Wellington	Bangalla Cr	Acacia baileyana (1)	Melaleuca armillaris (1)		Acacia vesita	Acacia salicina	Jacaranda mimosifolia
South Wellington	Barton Street				Callistemon viminalis		
South Wellington	Belle St	Brachychiton populneus (16)	Eucalyptus melliodora (5)	Grevillea robusta (2)	Pittosporum augustifolia	Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"	
South Wellington	Charles St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (9)	Fraxinus Raywood (8)	Pittosporum sp. (5)	Pittosporum augustifolia	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"	
South Wellington	Clive St	Celtis australis (15)	Acer buergerianum (4)	Callistemon salignus (3)	Celtis occidentalis (north)	Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" (south)	
South Wellington	Cousin Drive	Fraxinus Raywood (10)	Ulmus parvifolia (1)	Callistemon viminalis cv (1)	Backhousia citrifolia	Atalaya hemiglauc	Callistemon viminalis
South Wellington	Cross St	Pistacia chinensis (1)	Callistemon Kings Park Special (1)	Eucalyptus nicholii (1)	Melia azederach "Elite"	Callistemon viminalis	Pistacia chinensis
South Wellington	Curtis St	Populus nigra italica (16)	Eucalyptus melliodora (15)	Fraxinus Raywood (13)	Melia azederach "Elite"	Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius "Jerilderie Red"	
South Wellington	Dibbs St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (8)	Lagerstroemia indica (1)		Fraxinus pennsylvanica "Aerial" (south)	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"	
South Wellington	Elizabeth St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (2)	Melia azederach (1)	Eucalyptus mannifera (1)	Angophora melanoxylon	Agonis flexuosa	Melia azederach "Elite"
South Wellington	Glasson St	Callistemon viminalis cv (2)	Callistemon salignus (1)	Ligustrum sp. (1)	Callistemon viminalis	Melaleuca linarifolia	
South Wellington	Hawkins St	Grevillea robusta (13)	Fraxinus Raywood (7)	Brachychiton populneus (2)	Grevillea robusta	Lophostemon confertus	Corymbia leichhardtii
South Wellington	Palmer St	Fraxinus oxycarpa (4)	Corymbia torelliana (1)	Eucalyptus albens (1)	Grevillea robusta	Jacaranda mimosifolia	Corymbia torelliana
South Wellington	Parkes St	Callistemon salignus (4)	Brachychiton populneus (2)	Melaleuca styphelioides (2)	Backhousia citrifolia	Atalaya hemiglauc	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Tuscarora"
South Wellington	Railway Ave	Callistemon viminalis cv (8)	Callistemon Kings Park Special (2)	Pistacia chinensis (1)	Callistemon viminalis	Pistacia chinensis	Tristanopsis laurina "Luscious"
South Wellington	Samuel St	Callistemon citrinus (2)	Callistemon viminalis cv (2)	Melia azederach (2)	Melaleuca linarifolia	Callistemon "Harkness"	
South Wellington	Simpson Lane	Pistacia chinensis (3)	Nerium oleander (1)	Lagerstroemia indica (1)	no street trees proposed		
South Wellington	Simpson St	Fraxinus Raywood (26)	Grevillea robusta (24)	Acer buergerianum (8)	Melia azederach "Elite"	Pistacia chinensis	Corymbia leichhardtii
South Wellington	Warrae Pl	Cupressocyparis leylandii (2)			Pittosporum augustifolia	Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei "Blox"	Search Results
South Wellington	William St	Fraxinus Raywood (8)	Fraxinus oxycarpa (7)	Fraxinus griffithii (3)	Pittosporum augustifolia	Acacia salicina	Kunzea ericifolia
South Wellington	Zouch St	Fraxinus sp. (22)	Pistacia chinensis (6)	Fraxinus oxycarpa (6)	Pistacia chinensis	Acer campestre Var "Elsrijk or Evelyn"	Corymbia leichhardtii

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TREE PLANTING PLAN

LOCATION: CAMERON PARK, WELLINGTON

COMPLETED FOR: DUBBO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: 10TH APRIL 2019

+613 9755-6799

+613 9755-6788

ADMIN@ENSPEC.COM

HEAD OFFICE & LABORATORY

UNIT 2 - 13 VIEWTECH PLACE
ROWVILLE. 3178

STATE OPERATIONAL OFFICES

QUEENSLAND
39 VERNON TERRACE,
TENERIFFE.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
UNIT 1, 6-8 MARKER AVENUE,
MARLESTON.

VICTORIA
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Attachments –

- *ENSPEC - Cameron Park Tree Data 20190410.xlsx*

Reference documents –

- *Heritage Impact Statement Cameron Park, Wellington Masterplan (Urbis 25/9/2018)*
- *D2016 011655 Somewhere Landscape Architects - Cameron Park - Tree Listing - Plan - Analysis Draft - January 2008.pdf*

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENSPEC was requested by Dubbo City Council to develop a tree planting plan for Cameron Park, Wellington. The plan is to provide an overview of the existing tree population and provide clear guidance for future planting that will develop coherent themes for tree canopy and the major aesthetic structure of the park for the next 100 years.

Trees are not specifically noted for heritage values, but the historical layout, general aesthetics, vistas and visual links to the river have local heritage value. Future tree planting should take these values into account.

Generally, the existing tree population is in good condition and has a long-life expectancy. As a result, the larger trees will continue to form the basis of the structural themes for many years. 254 trees are currently recorded across Cameron Park, Bell Park and the Wellington swimming pool site. This data does not incorporate vegetation on the bank of the Bell River. These trees are providing the following environmental and structural benefits -

Benefit	Value
Total Current Carbon Storage	129 tonnes
Annual Carbon Sequestered	5.4 tonnes
Annual Oxygen (O₂) Production	14.4 tonnes
Annual Pollution Removal	76kg
Canopy cover	1.5Ha
Amenity Value	\$1.76m

The current tree population represents a reasonably broad diversity of tree size and type with a good balance between evergreen and deciduous species that should be maintained. There are existing structural elements within the current tree population that can be enhanced to develop stronger themes and a more coherent structure.

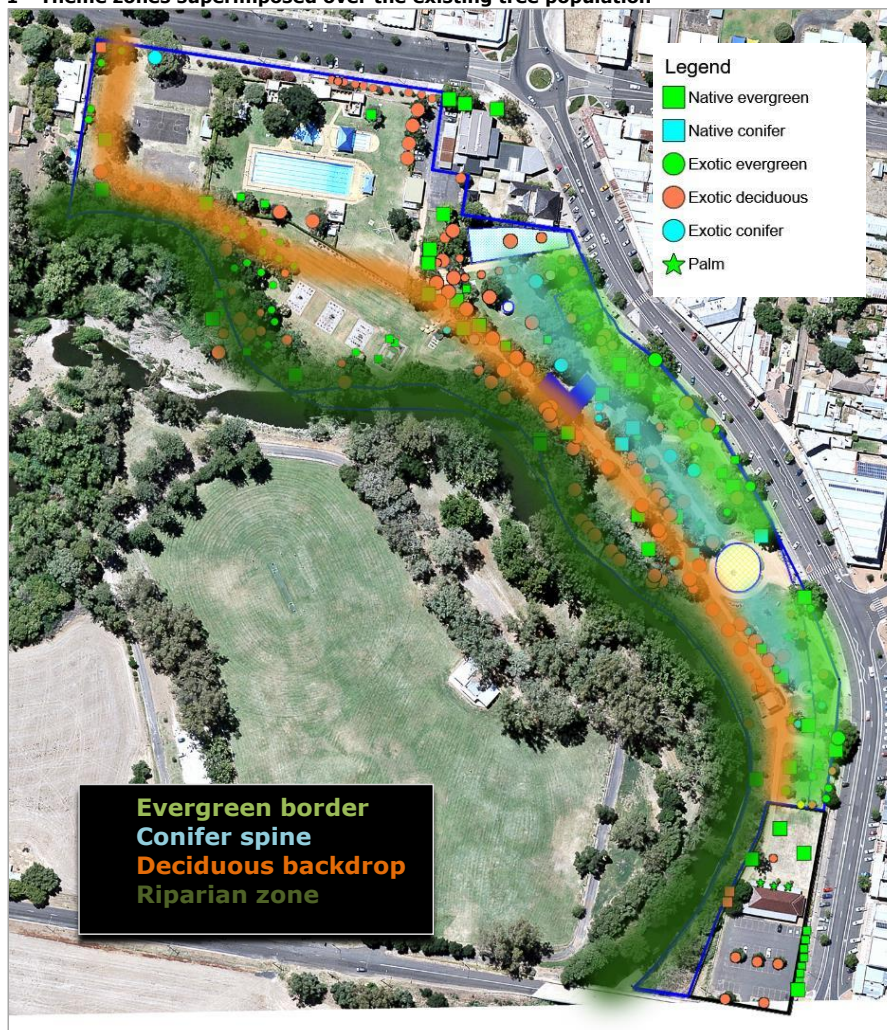
For an open landscape park, the proportion of small species is high, and these small trees interrupt the potential long vistas through the park, particularly along the north-south axis. Small species in the border beds on the east also break up views from the main street into the park and to the river and Pioneer Park beyond. In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited.

As a result of the generally good condition of the existing population, the current larger trees will continue to form the basis of the structural themes for many years. Implementing new planting to enhance and develop the key themes should therefore focus on replacing large trees lost through natural attrition, combined with targeted removal of small trees and shrubs and either leaving more openness in the landscape or strategic replacement with larger species in line with the planting theme.

Four broad themed zones have been identified within the existing planting that can be reinforced to deliver the major landscape goals (Figure 1). These are –

Evergreen border	The eastern lawn and border along the Mitchell Hwy. Well-spaced large evergreen trees providing a patchwork of sunny and shaded areas with clean views into and through the park.
Conifer spine	A strong structural element of large conifers running north-south between the two main paths that provides a visual link from the north to the south.
Deciduous backdrop	A row or avenue of large deciduous trees that provide a backdrop to the park from the main street and link Cameron Park through the back of the swimming pool to Bell Park.
Riparian zone	A restored indigenous ecological community providing improved environment, habitat and aesthetics along the banks of the river.

Figure 1 - Theme zones superimposed over the existing tree population



2. BRIEF

ENSPEC was requested by Dubbo City Council to develop a tree planting plan for Cameron Park, Wellington. The plan is to provide an overview of the existing tree population and provide clear guidance for future planting that will develop coherent themes for tree canopy and major aesthetic structure of the park for the next 100 years.

3. DATE OF INSPECTION

The June 2017 Wellington township tree survey undertaken by ENSPEC was used as a basis for the analysis in this report, with selective verification of the data undertaken on 27th February 2019.

4. REPORT AUTHOR

Name of Arborist Qualifications

Craig Hinton

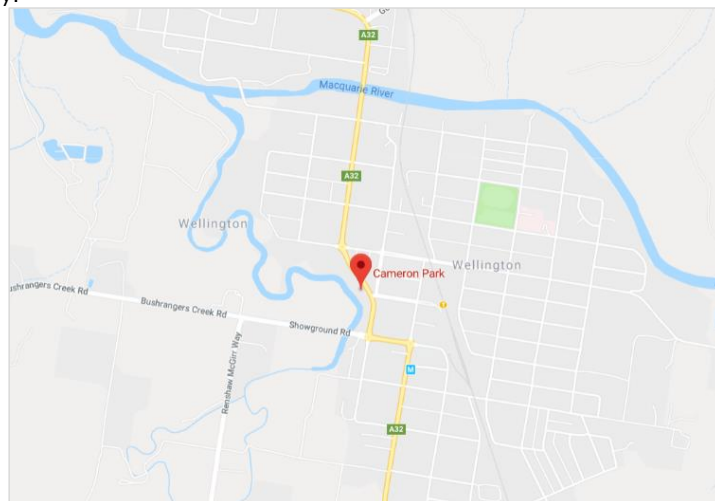
B. App. Sci. (Hort. [Env. Hort.])
Dip. Arb.
Dip. App. Sci. (Hort.)
Cert V Ecology (currently studying)
Cert IV Assessment and Workplace Training
+61 428 193 626
craig.hinton@enspec.com

Contact phone number

E-mail Address

5. SITE LOCATION

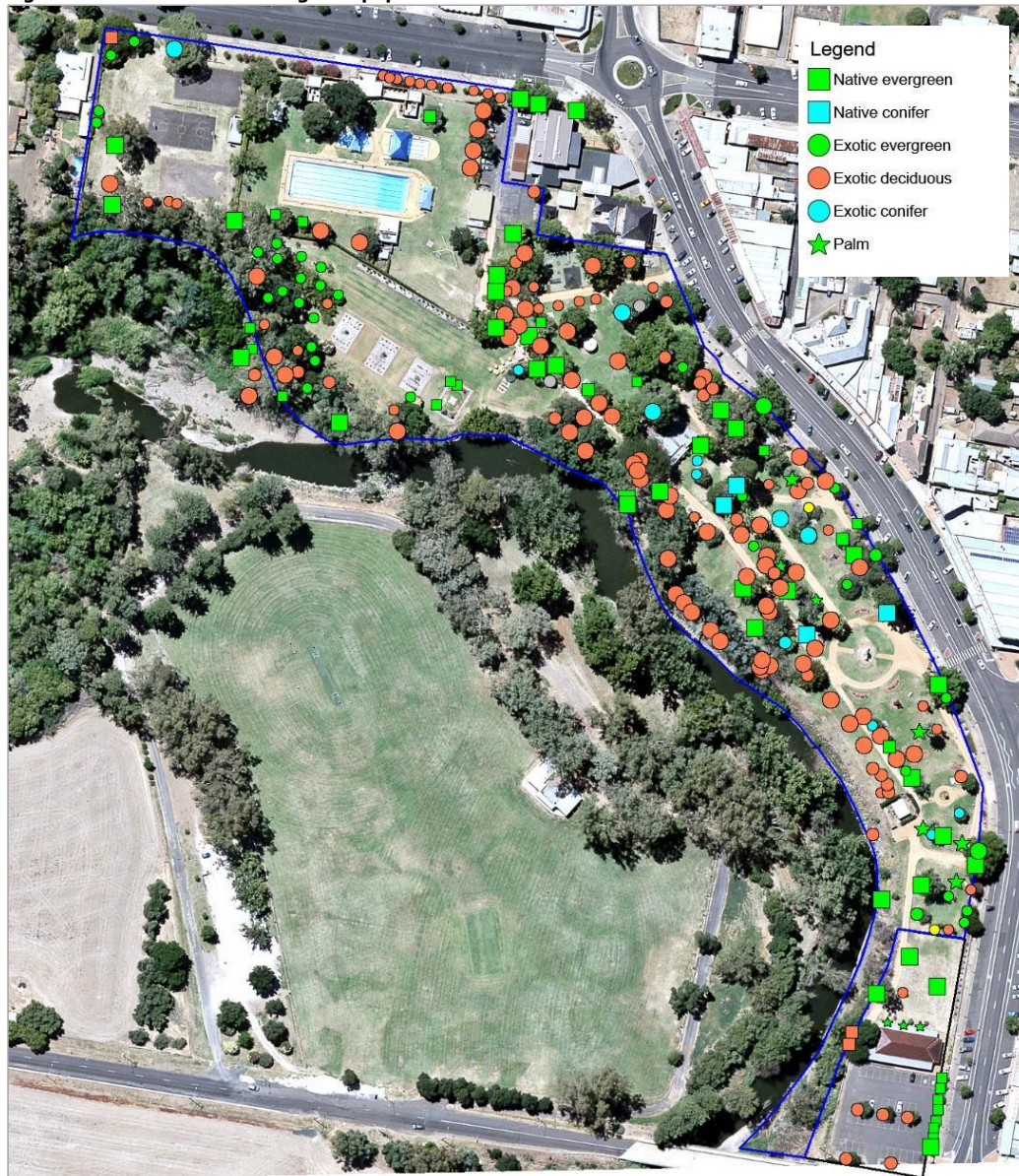
Cameron Park is the main feature park in Wellington, lying on the east side of the Bell River adjacent to the Mitchell Hwy.



6. OVERVIEW MAP

An overview of the existing tree population is presented in Figure 2. The legend provided guidance as to the tree type while the relative size of the symbol provides guidance as to the expected mature size of the species – small, medium or large. Note: this is not necessarily the current size of the individual specimen as there are young trees that have not achieved mature size.

Figure 2 - Overview of existing tree population



7. BACKGROUND

A comprehensive discussion of the site history and context is provided in the *Heritage Impact Statement Cameron Park, Wellington Masterplan* (Urbis 25/9/2018), so this will not be covered here.

The Heritage Impact Statement provides the following Statement of Significance –

Cameron Park, located at Nanima Crescent, Wellington, has a heritage significance at local level for being a public recreational park laid out in the Federation period. Cameron Park is a representative example of a local passive and active recreational parkland with historic, historic association, aesthetic and social significance. Cameron Park has strong overlays of the Inter-War period, associated with the phase of development that reveals the impact of the World War I and World War II on the township of Wellington. Significant elements within Cameron Park include the Gilbert Doble sculptural bronze Winged Victory memorial monument, memorial gates, fences and formal garden layout, have high aesthetic significance.

The wider park has aesthetic significance for its landmark qualities within the town of Wellington including a strong visual connection between Cameron Park cenotaph, the township of Nanima Crescent and the railway station and views to the picturesque Bell River.

Sporting and community facilities within the parklands, dating to the mid-20th century have moderate heritage significance, however, add to the historic development and layering of the parklands.

Cameron Park has social significance for its longstanding history as a place of commemorative and social events. Victoria Park cenotaph and associated war memorial features, is representative of a suite of Inter-War monuments and sculptures in public parks in the local area.

The trees are not specifically noted as contributing to heritage values, but the historical layout, general aesthetics, vistas and visual links to the river are noted. Future tree planting should take these values into account.

8. EXISTING TREE POPULATION

The June 2017 Wellington township tree survey was used as a basis for analysis, with selective verification of the data undertaken in February 2019. 254 trees are currently recorded across Cameron Park, Bell Park and the Wellington swimming pool site. A significant proportion of trees on the swimming pool site have recently been removed as part of the construction of the new pool. This data does not incorporate vegetation on the bank of the Bell River.

8.a. Species present

A summary of the species currently present is presented in the following table.

Species	Common name	No. of trees	% of total
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident Maple	1	0.4%
<i>Acer variety</i>	Maple Tree	7	2.8%
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder	3	1.2%
<i>Acer negundo Variegatum</i>	Variegated Box Elder	1	0.4%
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese Maple	2	0.8%
<i>Acer sp.</i>	Maple Tree	1	0.4%
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa	1	0.4%
<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>	Bunya Bunya Pine	4	1.6%
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Irish Strawberry Tree	4	1.6%
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	1	0.4%
<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i>	Illawarra Flame Tree	1	0.4%
<i>Brachychiton discolor</i>	Lacebark	1	0.4%
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	9	3.5%
<i>Brachychiton rupestris</i>	Bottle Tree	1	0.4%

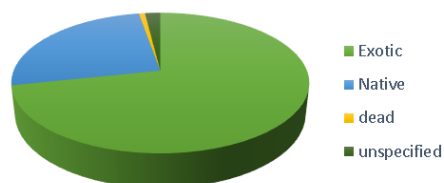
Species	Common name	No. of trees	% of total
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> variety	Crimson Bottlebrush	5	2.0%
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping Bottlebrush	1	0.4%
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> variety	Weeping Bottlebrush variety	7	2.8%
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River She-oak	2	0.8%
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Deodar Cedar	3	1.2%
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Nettle Tree	1	0.4%
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas Tree	1	0.4%
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Mediterranean Fan Palm	3	1.2%
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel	2	0.8%
<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	Lemon Scented Gum	1	0.4%
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum	2	0.8%
<i>Corymbia torelliana</i>	Cadagi	2	0.8%
<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.	Cotoneaster species	1	0.4%
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum	5	2.0%
<i>Eucalyptus mannifera</i>	Brittle Gum	1	0.4%
<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	Yellow Box	1	0.4%
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna Ash	1	0.4%
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i>	Desert Ash	4	1.6%
<i>Fraxinus Raywood</i>	Claret Ash	6	2.4%
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Maidenhair Tree	2	0.8%
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust	10	3.9%
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	8	3.1%
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native Frangipani	1	0.4%
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	2	0.8%
<i>Juniperus</i> sp.	Juniperus species	5	2.0%
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crepe Myrtle	14	5.5%
<i>Ligustrum</i> sp.	privet	5	2.0%
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Liquidambar or Sweetgum	5	2.0%
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree	24	9.4%
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	1	0.4%
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia	13	5.1%
<i>Magnolia</i> sp.	Magnolia	3	1.2%
<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	River Teatree	6	2.4%
<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>	Snow-in-Summer	1	0.4%
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Prickly-leaved Paperbark	2	0.8%
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	3	1.2%
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	Dawn Redwood	1	0.4%
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	2	0.8%
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Common Olive	1	0.4%
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian Ironwood	1	0.4%
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary Island Date Palm	3	1.2%
<i>Photinia robusta</i>	Red-Leaf Photinia	1	0.4%
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Turkish Pine	1	0.4%
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine	1	0.4%
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	7	2.8%
<i>Platanus X acerifolia</i>	London Plane	3	1.2%
<i>Populus canescens</i>	Grey Poplar	1	0.4%
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern Cottonwood	2	0.8%

Species	Common name	No. of trees	% of total
<i>Populus X canadensis</i>	Canadian Poplar	4	1.6%
<i>Prunus sp.</i>	Cherry species	1	0.4%
<i>Prunus X blireana</i>	Double-rose Cherry Plum	2	0.8%
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> variety	Callery Pear variety	6	2.4%
<i>Pyrus sp.</i>	pear variety	1	0.4%
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	1	0.4%
<i>Salix matsudana</i>	Chinese Willow	1	0.4%
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Western Redcedar	1	0.4%
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved Linden	1	0.4%
<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	Windmill Palm	2	0.8%
<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Tallowtree	3	1.2%
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	1	0.4%
<i>Ulmus procera</i>	English Elm	4	1.6%
<i>Ulmus x hollandica</i>	Dutch Elm	2	0.8%
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Mexican or Washington Palm	2	0.8%
dead tree	dead tree	2	0.8%
shrub or creeper	shrub or creeper	1	0.4%
unidentified	unidentified	4	1.6%
Grand Total		254	100.0%

8.b. Summary of species origin, size and type

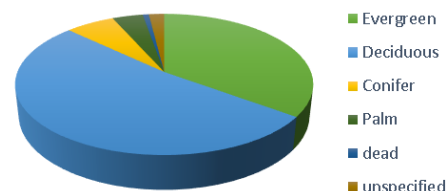
A summary of the origins of the current trees is provided in the following table.

Origin	No. of trees	% of total
Exotic	182	71.7%
Native	65	25.6%
dead	2	0.8%
unspecified	5	2.0%
Grand Total	254	100.0%



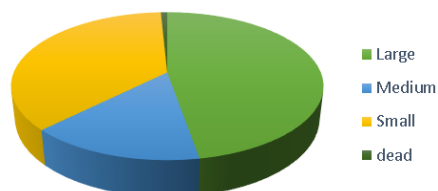
A summary of the tree type of the current trees is provided in the following table.

Type	No. of trees	% of total
Evergreen	89	35.0%
Deciduous	132	52.0%
Conifer	16	6.3%
Palm	10	3.9%
dead	2	0.8%
unspecified	5	2.0%
Grand Total	254	100.0%



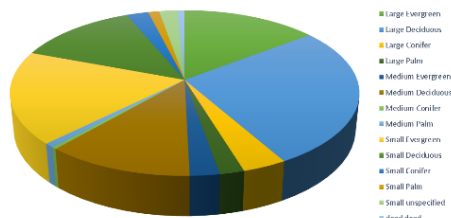
A summary of the expected mature tree size of the current trees is provided in the following table. This does not reflect the current size of existing new and young trees that are of a species that will ultimately grow to a larger size.

Size	No. of trees	% of total
Large	120	47.2%
Medium	39	15.4%
Small	93	36.6%
dead	2	0.8%
Grand Total	254	100.0%



A combined summary of tree size and type of the current trees is provided in the following table.

Size	Type	No. of trees	% of total
Large	Evergreen	37	14.6%
	Deciduous	69	27.2%
	Conifer	9	3.5%
	Palm	5	2.0%
Medium	Evergreen	6	2.4%
	Deciduous	30	11.8%
	Conifer	1	0.4%
	Palm	2	0.8%
Small	Evergreen	46	18.1%
	Deciduous	33	13.0%
	Conifer	6	2.4%
	Palm	3	1.2%
	unspecified	5	2.0%
dead	dead	2	0.8%
Grand Total		254	100.0%



9. OBSERVATIONS OF TREE CONDITION

9.a. Summary tree population information

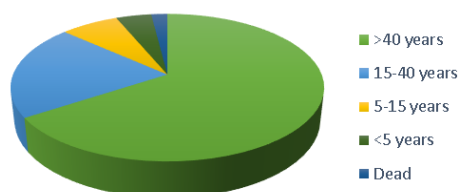
A summary of the general tree data for the surveyed population is provided in the following section.

9.a.1 Life expectancy

An estimate of the life expectancy for each tree was made based on the tree's current health, condition and growing environment. Any significant change in these factors in the future will affect the life expectancy of the tree.

A summary of the life expectancy of the trees on the site is provided in the following table.

Life Expectancy	No. of trees	% of total
>40 years	167	65.7%
15-40 years	53	20.9%
5-15 years	18	7.1%
<5 years	11	4.3%
Dead	5	2.0%
Grand Total	254	100.0%



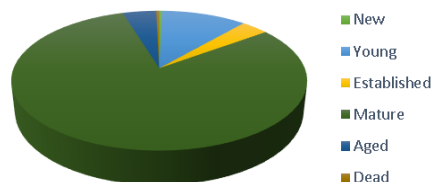
9.a.2 Life stage

The life stage of each tree was assessed and is expressed as described in the following descriptions.

Life stage	Description
New	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting hardware present and under maintenance (watered) Self-seeded sapling
Established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting hardware absent/unmaintained Not being watered Susceptible to casual vandalism
Young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established Rapid vertical growth phase Too big to be damaged by casual vandalism
Mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vertical growth slowed Canopy spreading or stable
Aged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Older specimen Self-retrenchment may have started Likely to have habitat hollows Large dead or broken branches may be present in upper canopy
Veteran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very old specimen for the species in the local area Usually has started to shed limbs with age, develop hollows High value habitat Generally, requires target management in well used areas Not suitable for short-lived species e.g. most <i>Acacia</i> spp., <i>Hakea</i> spp.
Senescent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old tree in terminal decline Majority of canopy is dead wood A stag with very limited canopy

A summary of the life stage of the trees on the site is provided in the following table.

Life stage	No. of trees	% of total
New	1	0.4%
Young	28	11.0%
Established	9	3.5%
Mature	204	80.3%
Aged	11	4.3%
Dead	1	0.4%
Grand Total	254	100.0%

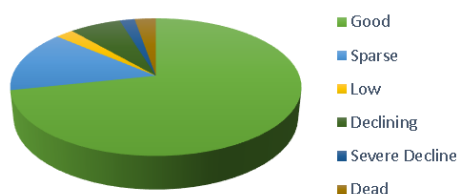


9.a.3 Health / Canopy condition

The health of the tree was assessed based on visual factors including foliage colour, canopy density, shoot extension growth, the presence of deadwood and dieback.

A summary of the health of the trees on the site is provided in the following table.

Health	No. of trees	% of total
Good	182	71.7%
Sparse	37	14.6%
Low	6	2.4%
Declining	17	6.7%
Severe Decline	5	2.0%
Dead	7	2.8%
Grand Total	254	100.0%

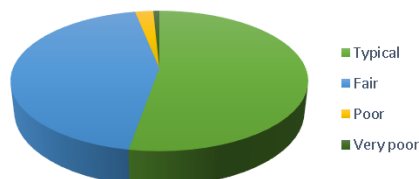


9.a.4 Structure

An overall assessment of the mechanical structure of the tree was made based on observable factors including tree form, branch attachment and taper, wood decay and cavities, previous pruning and any damage the tree has suffered.

A summary of the structure of the trees on the site is provided in the following table.

Structure	No. of trees	% of total
Typical	134	52.8%
Fair	112	44.1%
Poor	6	2.4%
Very poor	2	0.8%
Grand Total	254	100.0%



10. BENEFITS OF THE TREES

Trees in urban areas contribute significantly to human health and environmental quality by providing various ecosystem services (i.e. the conditions and processes through which ecosystems sustain and enhance human life). To better understand the ecosystem services and values provided by trees, the U.S. Forest Service and worked with Arboriculture Australia to customise it for use in Australia. The results from i-Tree models developed i-Tree Eco are used to advance the understanding of tree and forest resources; improve urban forest policies, planning and management; provide data to support the potential inclusion of trees within environmental regulations; and determine how trees affect the environment and consequently enhance human health and environmental quality in urban and rural areas. Further details about the methodology, calculations and values can be sourced at: <http://www.itreetools.org>.

These trees are providing the following environmental and structural benefits -

Benefit	Value
Total Current Carbon Storage	129 tonnes
Annual Carbon Sequestered	5.4 tonnes
Annual Oxygen (O₂) Production	14.4 tonnes
Annual Pollution Removal	76kg
Canopy cover	1.5Ha
Amenity Value *	\$1.76m

* The amenity value provided is a statistically derived value based large samples in the United States (Nowak et al, 2002). The value provided is conservative. Individual calculations for the trees using methods common in Australia typically provide higher values.

11. DISCUSSION

11.a. Current planting

The current tree population represents a reasonably broad diversity of tree size and type as shown in the data in 8.b. As seen in Figure 3, there are some structural elements to the population distribution that can be enhanced to develop stronger themes and a more coherent structure to the tree population. This is discussed further in 11.b. A clear vista from the train station along Swift St to the Cenotaph has been maintained as shown by the broken line on Figure 3.

Photo 1 - Shrubs interrupting vistas

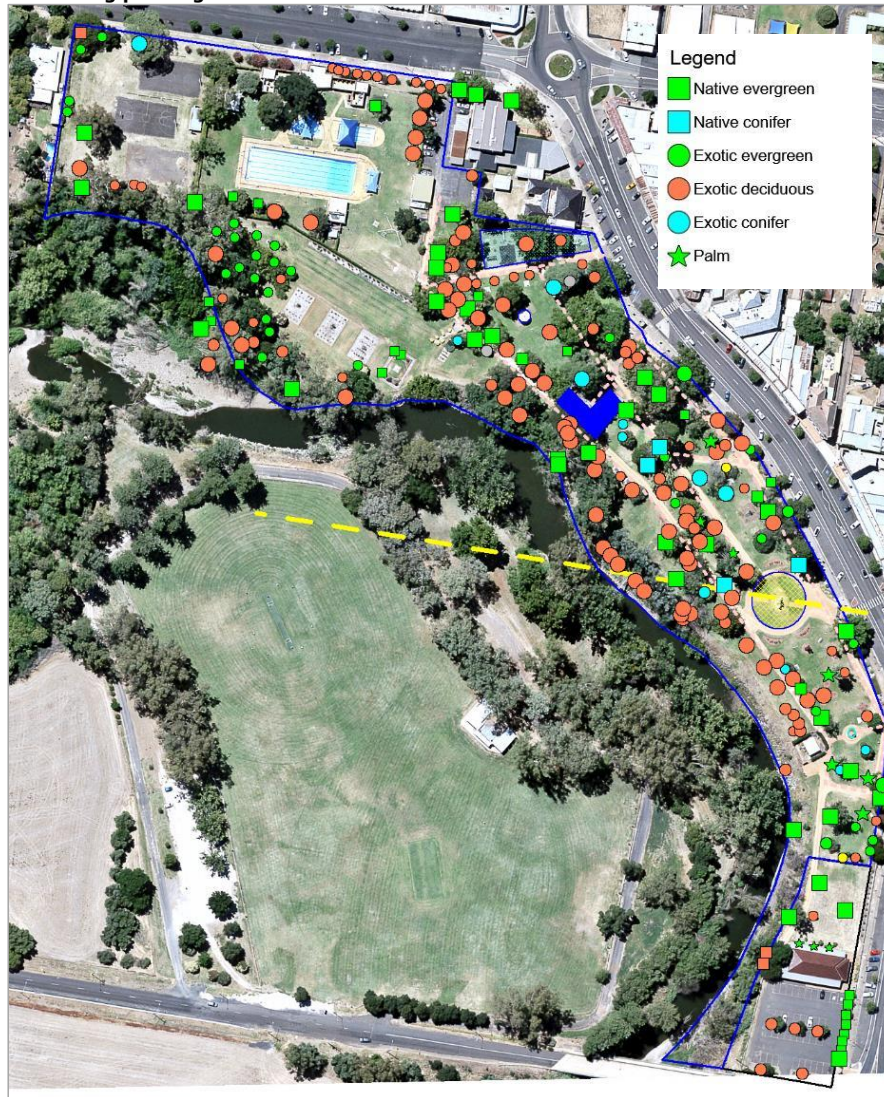


For an open landscape park, the proportion of small species at 36.6% is high, especially as many are planted in lawn areas. These small trees interrupt the potential long vistas through the park, particularly along the north-south axis. Small species in the border beds on the east also break up views from the main street into

the park and to the river and Pioneer Park beyond. In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited.

Generally, the existing tree population is in good condition and has a long-life expectancy. As a result, the larger trees will continue to form the basis of the structural themes for many years.

Figure 3 - Existing planting



11.b. Future planting scheme

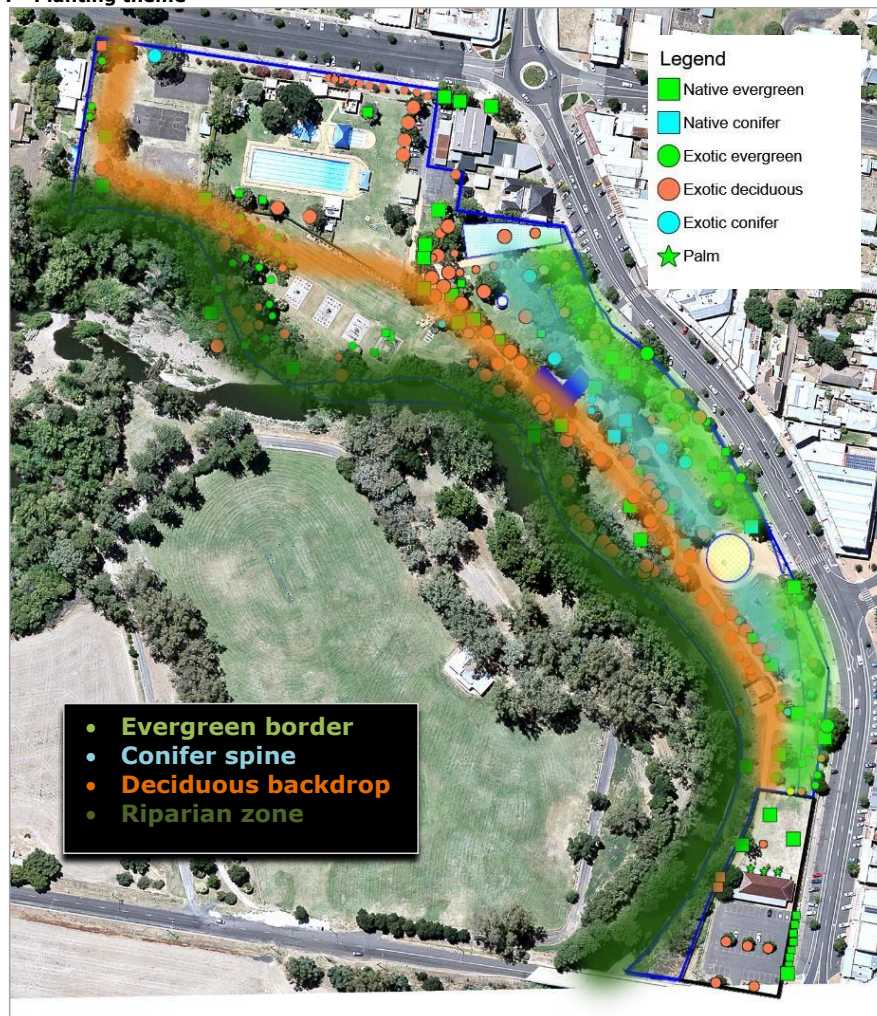
Generally, the current basic structure of the tree population is a solid basis for future planting. Figure 4 provides a broad theme for future planting that is described further below.

Overall, future planting needs to maintain and improve the vistas within and into the park. These are quite obscured at present by the presence of shrubs and low-growing species within the lawns and edge garden beds.

As a result of the generally good condition of the existing population, the current larger trees will continue to form the basis of the structural themes for many years. Implementing new planting to enhance and develop the key themes should therefore focus on replacing large trees lost through natural attrition, combined with targeted removal of small trees and shrubs and either leaving more openness in the landscape or strategic replacement with larger species in line with the planting theme.

Tree species suggested in the following sections are not exhaustive lists and can be taken as a guide to the types of trees for each of the theme zones.

Figure 4 - Planting theme



11.b.1 Evergreen border

The Evergreen Border is currently composed of a mix of tree types and sizes in both lawn feature planting, edge garden beds, and in recently added lawn garden beds in the southern section of the park.

Planting through this area should be focussed on achieving a strong canopy structure without impeding views into the park from the east and maintaining vistas once within the park. Broad spacing of large evergreen species is therefore recommended. A connecting theme of large palms such as *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm) adding to the few already in place would further enhance this. While there are several *Washingtonia robusta* (Mexican Fan Palm) already present, these provide very limited landscape value are therefore not recommended.

Spacing of large trees through this area should provide a patchwork of sun and shade to encourage usage and be inviting both in warmer and cooler seasons. Dense blocks of trees should be avoided so as not to discourage use of the park in winter.

The use of native species, especially eucalypts, is not generally in keeping with the existing nor the historical theme. Therefore, more sympathetic species are recommended.

Suggested species for the Evergreen border include –

Species	Common name	Origin
<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i> *	Illawarra Flame Tree	Native
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	Local indigenous
<i>Corymbia calophylla</i>	Marri	Native
<i>Flindersia australis</i>	Crow's Ash	Native
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky Oak	Native
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Queensland Brush Box	Native
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak	Exotic
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	Exotic
<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Live Oak	Exotic

* Summer deciduous/partial deciduous

11.b.2 Conifer spine

An existing spine of conifers including *Cedrus* spp. and *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Bunya Pine) exists from the Cenotaph through to the playground. These form a strong foundation for this central spine that can be enhanced through selected planting of appropriate large coniferous species at broad spacing of not less than 30 metres between specimens along the north-south axis. In particular, it is recommended to extend the spine south of the Cenotaph to increase the visual link between the north and south of the park. It is; however, important not to break the vista from Swift St to the Cenotaph and beyond to the river.

Suggested species for the Conifer spine include -

Species	Common name	Origin
<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Monkey Puzzle	Exotic
<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>	Bunya Bunya Pine	Native
<i>Cedrus atlantica f. glauca</i>	Blue Atlas Cedar	Exotic
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Deodar Cedar	Exotic
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i> *	Dawn Redwood	Exotic
<i>Pinus canariensis</i>	Canary Island Pine	Exotic
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine	Exotic
<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	Exotic
<i>Wollemia nobilis</i>	Wollemi Pine	Native

* deciduous

11.b.3 Deciduous backdrop

There is an existing but discontinuous backdrop to the park along its western side of large deciduous trees. Building on this and extending it as a link through the south of the swimming pool and into Bell Park will provide a dramatic backdrop to the evergreen trees to the east as well as provide a connecting link that contrasts with the riparian zone along the river. Some of this has already occurred with the recent planting of *Liriodendron tulipifera* along the path on the western side of the park.

To provide a solid backdrop, relatively large trees with dense canopy that provide good autumn colour are recommended. Fine-leaf species are not recommended for this section.

Suggested species include -

Species	Common name	Origin
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Purpurea'	Copper Beech	Exotic
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 'Aurea'	Golden Ash	Exotic
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Maidenhair Tree	Exotic
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Liquidambar	Exotic
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree	Exotic
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	Exotic
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	Exotic
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved Lime	Exotic
<i>Ulmus X hollandica</i>	Dutch Elm	Exotic

11.b.4 Riparian zone

The river edge is currently an area with some remnant native trees but is significantly degraded by exotic self-seeded trees and ground level weeds. Restoration of the natural riparian vegetation would both enhance the river environment itself and improve local ecological values, as well as improve the aesthetics from within Cameron Park and Pioneer Park.

A plan to achieve natural restoration of the river bank is beyond the scope of this report.

Photo 2 - Degraded riparian zone



11.c. Pruning

Maximising the longevity and aesthetics of large trees requires specialist management. There is evidence within Cameron Park that trees have been pruned excessively or unnecessarily. In particular, canopy lifting is excessive on some species such as *Araucaria bidwillii*. Excessive pruning can reduce tree vitality and adversely affect canopy balance and branch structure.

Specialist arboricultural skills and advice need to be employed in managing the trees in Cameron Park. Pruning by under-trained or non-specialist personnel must not occur.

All pruning work must be carried out by appropriately qualified arborists working to AS4373-2007 *Pruning of amenity trees*.

12. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ENSPEC Pty Ltd and their employees are specialists who use their knowledge, training and education (qualifications), infield learning experiences, personal experiences research, diagnostic tools, scientific equipment to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty, health and preservation of trees, to reduce the risk of living near trees.

Trees are living organisms that can be affected by pests, diseases and natural events outside of ENSPEC control. ENSPEC and their employees cannot detect every condition that affects a trees health, condition and structural integrity. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground where humans cannot naturally see. Unless otherwise stated, ENSPEC's employee's observations have been visually made from ground level.

In the event that ENSPEC recommends retesting or inspection of trees at stated intervals, or ENSPEC recommends the installation engineering solutions, ENSPEC must inspect the engineering solution at intervals of not greater than 12 months, unless otherwise specified in writing. It is the client's responsibility to make arrangements with ENSPEC to conduct re-inspections.

Intervention treatments of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of ENSPEC's service, such as property boundaries and ownership, disputes between neighbours, sight lines, landlord-tenant matters and other related incidents. ENSPEC cannot take such issues into account unless complete and accurate information is given prior or at the time of the site inspection. Likewise, ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot accept responsibility for the authorisation or non-authorisation of any recommended treatment or remedial measures undertaken.

ENSPEC Pty Ltd cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time after our initial inspection and recommendations.

If this written report is to be used in a court of law, or any other legal situation, or by other parties ENSPEC must be advised in writing prior to the written report being presented in any form to any other party. All written reports must be read in their entirety. At no time shall part of the written assessment be referred to unless taken in full context with the whole written report.

Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the assessment and written report.

Notwithstanding anything in the report, express or implied, the client is not entitled to recover from ENSPEC Pty Ltd, its employees, agents and/or subcontractors any damages for business interruption or loss of actual or anticipated revenue, income or profits or any consequential, special, contingent or penal damage, whatsoever, and the client releases ENSPEC Pty Ltd from any such liability. Without limitation of the foregoing, a party shall at all times be limited (to the extent permitted by law) damages in the amount paid by the Client to ENSPEC Pty Ltd for ENSPEC Pty Ltd services. The limitation applies whether the claim is based on warranty, contract, statute, tort (including negligence) or otherwise.



Cnr Church and Darling streets, Dubbo
Cnr Nanima Crescent and Warne Street, Wellington
Ph: (02) 6801 4000
dubbo.nsw.gov.au



ED23/42265

1

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 3 March 2023 5:53 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Residential address:	[REDACTED]
Contact number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written submission:	To the Council: Please remember to leave the healthy old trees. Do not chop those out just to provide a line of 'like' trees. For example, the old Kurrajong trees in Gobolion St between the main road and the rail line were already big when I was a child ... I am now 70 and they are still growing strongly. They may be a very good addition to use to fill existing gaps in this street. Also remember, that when you cut out trees and replant you are going to get much less green coverage. So my message to Dubbo Council would be to think very carefully and wherever possible, leave the older, mature trees alone. Trees that have survived 70+ years and are still healthy should be noted as worthy of consideration for the existing gaps.
File Upload:	

ED23/45090**2**

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 8 March 2023 9:36 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	████████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	████████
Email:	████████████████
Written submission:	I propose lots of shade trees around the skatepark. One or some deciduous ones in the centre of the turning circle. The oleander hedge was mostly removed. This has meant that I and the kids have less privacy and hear more noise from the traffic. I suggest the Replanting of a native hedge. Shade trees throughout the cemetery and a hedge along the roadside of the cemetery. Schools to be encouraged to plant as many as possible. Less lawn in the park and more prostrate native ground covers. The beauty near the old lockup will not last forever and so new ones need to be started. Thank you.
File Upload:	

ED23/49604

3

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 15 March 2023 10:57 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	██████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████████
Email:	████████████████████
Written submission:	<p>I would love to see trees in our street to provide shade but we have 1 dead tree in our street and it's been dead for a few years know I have called council numerous times asking for it to be moved and replaced.</p> <p>So I guess it will take another few years for anything to be done.</p>
File Upload:	

4

Dubbo Regional Council

9th February 2021

Dear Sir,

Illegal Parking.

We live at the above residential address. Current parking signs allow angle parking rear to kerb.

Regretfully, large trucks often pull up and park parallel in this zone often blocking our driveway access to the street. The noise from cattle and sheep trucks late at night, and the smell of the sheep is awful.

We request the parking arrangements be enforced, and in addition the planting of spaced trees to stop the trucks.

Trees are planted just down the road from us and a continuation would be consistent and improve the street scape.

Kind Regards.

ED23/49610

5

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 16 March 2023 9:02 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████████
Email:	██████████████████
Written submission:	I worry about types of trees that will be planted .
File Upload:	

ED23/53247

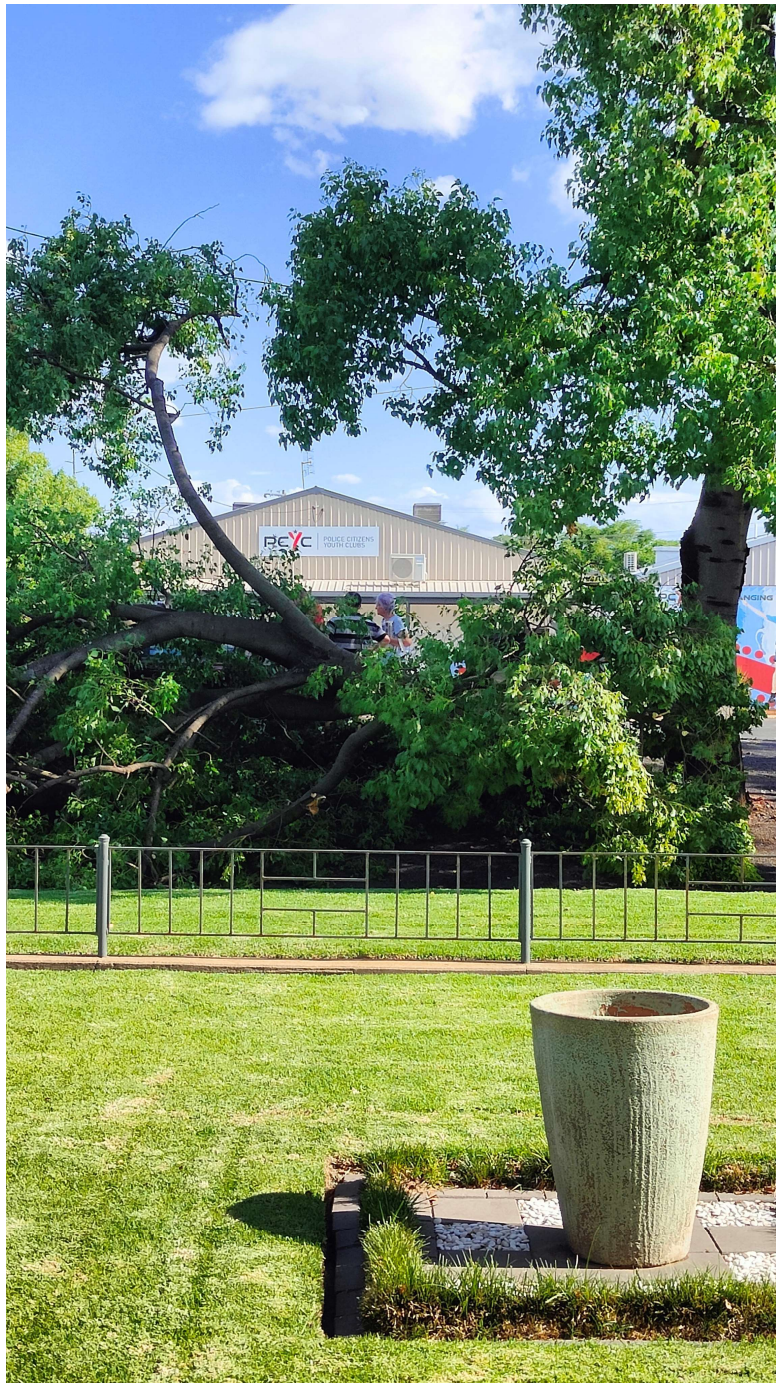
6

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Tuesday, 21 March 2023 3:18 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_21Mar2023151738_inbound1794217461668045538.jpg

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	██████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████
Email:	████████████████████
Written submission:	<p>Whilst I agree that the trees are lovely and improve the landscape., I think that we have to be mindful that it is usually the residents who have to clean up all the rubbish and debris that the trees leave behind.</p> <p>I have recently had to have the tree in front of my residence removed after I fell not once but twice and caused damage to a gentleman's car that was parked underneath it.</p> <p>The tree has been a total nightmare for me constantly cleaning up seed pods, branches, leaves that the tree constantly dropped.</p> <p>It has damaged the gutter with the roots that have lifted the gutter causing the water to run backwards and down my driveway.</p> <p>This was reported to the council on a number of occasions as it has caused damage to my driveway.</p> <p>I was advised by the council worker who attended to look at the damage to the gutter and the driveway that DRC would not be doing anything to fix it and that the damage to my driveway was my problem.</p> <p>██████</p>
File Upload:	0_142931_21Mar2023151738_inbound1794217461668045538.jpg



ED23/53248

7

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Tuesday, 21 March 2023 2:36 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

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The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	██████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████████
Email:	████████████████████
Written submission:	There are 3 dead trees in front of my house and 110. Plus down behind the high school. The trunks are full of fungus. Removal would be appreciated.
File Upload:	

ED23/53649

8

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 22 March 2023 10:19 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

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The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Residential address:	[REDACTED]
Contact number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written submission:	I am perplexed by the tree selection in the Master Plan. Page 9 of the document states that 18.6% of all trees in Wellington are Fraxinus raywood and that this far exceeds industry guidelines of no one species representing more than 5-10%. Further that if other Fraxinus species are included they account for 28% and there is a "significant lack of diversity within the tree population". Yet of the 89 identified species in Priority Area 1 Planting 71 or 80% are Fraxinus. And in Priority Area 2 all 46 of the identified species are Fraxinus (58% of total planting including unidentified species). And again in Priority area 3 the majority of the planting (55%) is Fraxinus. This seems to be completely at odds with the statements on p9 about needing to increase the diversity of planting away from Fraxinus. I would like to see the rationale of continuing with planting Fraxinus in such large numbers when they are already over planted and if a robust rationale can't be provided then the tree selection be reconsidered.
File Upload:	

ED23/57427

9

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Tuesday, 28 March 2023 5:28 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_28Mar2023172657_inbound2950427624771964137.jpg

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The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████
Email:	████████████████████
Written submission:	Overall I think the Wellington Street tree draft plan is impressive. One tree species that could be included is <i>Corymia leichhardtii</i> (Rusty Jacket) a hardy native endemic to central Queensland. A medium sized tree with the most beautiful rusty coloured tessellated bark and drought resistant. There are some lovely specimens at Burrendong Botanic Garden.
File Upload:	0_142931_28Mar2023172657_inbound2950427624771964137.jpg



ED23/58332

10

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 7:59 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875

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The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Residential address:	[REDACTED]
Contact number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written submission:	<p>It is good to see there is a canopy target of 30% for Wellington. This is the recognised minimum best practice. However the good news ends there. We are informed the date set to achieve this target of by 2050 is an aspirational target. Is this another word for pie in the sky. A date set to achieve a target 27 years into the future with no policies to achieve it, no means of reviewing or monitoring progress or lack thereof and no budget either. DRC has to do better than this.</p> <p>NSW government has a tree canopy target for greater Sydney of 40% tree canopy by 2036. City of Melbourne has target of 40% tree canopy by 2040.</p> <p>There should be a policy of preserving healthy mature shade trees and not destroying them to "improve" infrastructure. The first question to ask is how can we preserve our valuable green infrastructure and on many occasions this can be done. It is a shocking habit to believe it is always necessary to destroy mature trees to start an upgrade. How else can this be achieved?</p>
File Upload:	

ED23/58329

11

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 11:15 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_29Mar2023231437_Wellington Street Tree Planting Master Plan.docx

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The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	██████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	██
Contact number:	██████████
Email:	████████████████████
Written submission:	Please see attached document. Regards, ██████████
File Upload:	0_142931_29Mar2023231437_Wellington Street Tree Planting Master Plan.docx

Draft Wellington Street Tree Master Plan (ID23/335)

Response from:



Main points:

- 2050 too distant: need achievable milestones towards meaningful goal of 2035? **Swift progress on Street Tree establishment** is needed to more rapidly assist climate change mitigation, town liveability, amenity and attractiveness to residents and visitors **in short - medium term**. Also, there is imperative to immediately establish an effective, equitable Wellington Tree Master Plan budget, and annual Street Tree Progress Overview presented to Wellington Town Committee, with 3-5 yr tree-planting detailed review and report of developing canopy, etc...
- Current focus on species/diversity/aesthetics/native/non-native. Can this be balanced with more practical considerations of **trees selected for extreme climate adaptability/resilience** going forward, in addition to consideration of **fast-growing tree selections** with (less tall and) **widest possible canopy**, to ensure **long-lasting** plantings provide maximal shading coverage of roads and footpaths??
- Percy St below Wellington Public School should be a 1st priority planting area, providing much-needed shade for children and teachers waiting for buses, staff, visitors entering, exiting school grounds, teachers car parking. Tree planting locations should work around bus access and egress, also important. Once this area is shaded by tree plantings, it potentially provides even more weekend car/bus parking for attendees walking to Showground events, which leads me to my next point...
- Bell River Bridge to Wellington Showground must be re-populated with tree plantings to restore former shady walk for Mt Arthur walkers, Park Run participants, showground event attendees, racing event attendees, Vintage Fair and other event attendees. If people are to be encouraged to walk and not drive from Wellington cbd to showground and extreme uv sun exposure is to be avoided while doing so, then high priority must be given to tree plantings and/or permanent shade structure erection on that important walkway from Wellington CBD, Cameron Park/Pioneer Oval precinct, Apsley Library car park, and Percy Street car-parking areas mentioned above, to/from the Wellington Showground....One of the great advantages of this area is its close proximity to Wellington cbd, and relatively flat terrain suitable for locals, their visitors, tourists bussing in from other centres, and others to enjoy a 'short walk in the country' from the cbd/Maughan Street/Bell River to the Showground. As referenced in 'Benefits' section of the Wellington Street Tree Draft Masterplan, 'access to, and views of, green spaces and trees have positive effects on people's well-being (Karden, 2016): Walkers set out over the Bell River Bridge, or through Cameron Park bridge and Pioneer Oval, surrounded by riparian zone, lucerne fields, views towards wooded Mt Arthur and surrounding hills...**the only missing ingredient** preventing many people's enjoyment of the positive mental well-being effects of this 'customer experience'

year-round, **is the roadside tree plantings**, needed to provide shady cool spaces to comfortably move through and fully enjoy this beautiful landscape.

- Gisborne Street road-resurfacing project has been halted. Can the funds allocated for this project instead be re-allocated to 2023 implementation and commencement of Wellington Street Tree Master Plan (WSTMP)? What other road projects have been deferred, freeing up available funding to instead invest in 2023 WSTMP?? Trees are an important part of road infrastructure, in that they mitigate the 'heat sink effect' of the bitumen, by shading the road surface thereby reducing heat absorption generating radiant atmospheric heating, affecting residents, road and footpath users...it makes sense to balance road upgrades hand-in-hand with tree plantings, to counteract the negative environmental effects of roads in town environments.
- If a separate WSTMP Budget cannot be accommodated as above, an alternative approach could include **tree plantings as an integral element prescribed in all town road projects**, therefore guaranteeing a budget allocation for tree plantings within the Road Project budget, rather than needing to create a separate budget for the WSTMP? Why not have the Master Plan as a guiding professional document, which is consulted as the default blueprint for each Wellington town road project, providing planting information for inclusion in each **Road Project's initial budgeting and implementation costings**? Surely this amounts to an efficiency measure as well, by combining road work and tree plantings into a single Council Works Project, reducing overall time to implement, as well as overall cost??

In Summary:

- Shorten WSTMP **time frame to 2035**, with annual progress review/reports towards goal.
- Tree species selection emphasizing extreme climate resilience, fast-growing, durable, lower and wider canopy, for maximum heat mitigation. Fire-retardant foliage a bonus.
- Recommend-
 1. Wellington Primary School Percy Street precinct **and**
 2. Maughan Street to Showground precinct = **1st Priority Street Tree planting projects.**
- **Generate a Wellington Street Tree Planting Budget** from budget allocations for now-deferred/cancelled road/other projects?**Alternatively, integrate tree planting costings** (prescribed by WSTMP blueprint) **into all Wellington town road project planning/budgets going forward**, thereby increasing efficiencies in administration, project implementation, etc., thus reducing overall costs of road and tree planting projects, by combining the two into single integrated projects.

ED23/58328

12

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 30 March 2023 1:47 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_30Mar2023014702_Wellington Street Tree Masterplan feedback.pdf

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Residential address:	[REDACTED]
Contact number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written submission:	[REDACTED]
File Upload:	0_142931_30Mar2023014702_Wellington Street Tree Masterplan feedback.pdf

[REDACTED]

30/03/2023

Dear Dubbo Regional Council,

Wellington Draft 'Street Tree Masterplan' Feedback



Thankyou for the important opportunity to provide feedback on the 'Draft Wellington Street Tree Masterplan.

The 'Wellington Community Progress and Action Group' (WPAG) are working together to highlight and address the priorities and interests of local residents, businesses, voluntary and community groups to make our community a better place to work in, live in and visit.

We are a group of passionate local volunteers with many years knowledge and residence in Wellington. Our oldest member has lived in Wellington for 82 years and another of our Committee was a senior staffmember at Burrendong Arboretum so we have a lot of local knowledge and passion about canopy and trees and Wellington. Most of us were born and bred in Wellington and have lived here all of our lives.

It will be great if the Wellington Street Tree state can catch up after a decade of minimal trees planted and if the 1,100 vacant street tree sites across Wellington are filled, increasing the important street tree population in Wellington and enhancing Wellingtons impressive natural environment and natural environment offerings appeal. There have certainly been a lot of changes and unnecessary tree removals which have been extremely detrimental to Wellingtons street tree canopy. Hopefully these trees will be replaced as a priority to restore and rehabilitate these areas as well as other areas further restored with important **native 'natural'** environment tree plantings to further develop and enhance Wellingtons beautiful **"natural environment offerings"** and **"impressive natural environment"** appeal- as mentioned in this document.

The importance and significance of Wellingtons 'natural' environment should be prioritised in this plan and all trees used should be natural Australian species to maintain this important and special 'natural environment' quality of Wellington.

Our feedback is as below:

"When funding allows for works to be completed":

Disagree. There must be an allocated and adequate set budget for this Masterplan and for Public Spaces and Street Trees in Wellington which must be written into the Final Masterplan to ensure this plan/works will be/are completed and within a set timeframe. Dubbo has a tree budget so should Wellington as all residents pay rates and all plans and budgets **should be fair and equal**.

It is NOT appropriate to only have a tree budget for Dubbo and not for Wellington.

What is the annual budget for Street Trees in Wellington?

Please write it into this document.

The statement saying “*When funding allows*” provides no deadline or guarantee for this plan to be implemented. A budget should and **MUST** be set.

The previous allocated budget of \$682,000 annual Tree budget for the LGA was appropriate but with inflation and rising costs this should now be increased to allow for the current economic climate. We look forward to receiving the extremely important annual Street Tree Budget for Wellington. This should have already been written into the ‘Draft’ plan for appropriate community feedback.

There should also be an appropriate timeframe for this Masterplan which also seems to be missing ie and term goals for 2 years, 5 years, 10 years, 20 years etc.

A ‘Budget’ and a ‘Timeframe’ are essential for this Document and plan to ensure it is carried out.

“Improving the look and amenity of the gateway roads in and out of Wellington”

Agree. However this should include **ALL** gateway roads into and out of Wellington. This **MUST** include **Dubbo, Mudgee, Parkes, Orange, Sydney, Dunedoo roads and gateways** (this draft plan does not include all of these- why?). The excluded gateway roads also need to be included in this plan. As most traffic and tourism enters from the Orange/Sydney end of Mitchell Highway and this gateway road creates “first impressions’ and as Wellington important as the second oldest town this side of the Blue Mountains then a native tree-lined avenue of native species leading from Wellington towards the world-renown Wellington Caves should be a priority as this is one of the areas most visited and significant tourist attractions.

Showground Road and Renshaw-McGirr Way are also important ‘Gateways’ to Wellington Showground and the major events held here, as well as a ‘Gateway’ Road to Parkes and Bushrangers Creek Road is an important ‘Gateway’ Road to Wellington Showground and also to the popular Mount Arthur Nature Reserve.

It would be appropriate for beautiful avenues of native trees to be planted as the important ‘Gateway’ leading from Wellington CBD to Wellington Caves and also to Mount Arthur Reserve which are both significant tourist attractions. This would ‘further enhance and develop the “Impressive natural environment” and Wellingtons “Natural environment offerings” described in this document.

An example would include the avenue of Trees leading from Dubbo to the airport- a similar avenue with local native species such as hardy, long-living and local Kurrajongs would be ideal -or Jacarandas or

Ficifolia or Eucalypt or Mugga Iron Bark or Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp megalocarpa.

The trees used should continue the theme of Wellingtons important 'Impressive natural environment' and 'natural environment offerings'. Kurrajong trees or other hardy native species should be used. These trees are traditional, local, hardy and require minimal watering or frost protection. They are a hardy local species which is a great size shade tree and live to be very long age so would not require replacing in our lifetime. They are a common tree in this area and are preserved by famers in their fields due to their hardness and dual purpose as stock fodder in drought times.

'Improving the vegetation corridors that run north south and east west from the rivers, through town and out to the surrounding rural land'.

A very important "vegetation corridor" in Wellington is the link from the Bell River out to Mount Arthur Reserve, along Bushrangers Creek Road and Showground Road. This vegetation corridor should be a priority as it links 2 of Wellingtons important natural resources and attractions. This nature strip should connect the river to the Reserve with planting of a corridor of native trees/shrubs/bushes and a nature strip to provide a wildlife corridor and natural link between these 2 important nature environments. The native trees that were removed along both sides of this road by DRC urgently need replacing for provision of shade, habitat, coolness, erosion reduction, enhanced levels of biodiversity, reduced sun exposure on Wellingtons only Recreation Walking/Cycling Track, improved mental wellbeing for residents using the walking track (currently too hot to use in summer as all the trees were removed), and street and road beautification and improving the look and amenity of one of Wellingtons most important 'Gateway Roads' as it leads from the CBD to the Wellington Showground which is where some of Wellington biggest attractions occur including the: Wellington Vintage Fair and Swap Meet, Wellington Boot Race Meet, Horse Races, Wellington Annual Show, Mount Arthur Challenge and many other events attracting many tourists and visitors along this road, which is currently barren, shadeless and treeless. This road also leads out to Mount Arthur Reserve which is a popular tourist attraction and a popular nature and recreation area for local residents so this 'vegetation corridor' should be a priority to restore it to its previous state prior to removal of all of the trees.

“Wellington is framed by an impressive natural environment where the junction of the Macquarie and Bell rivers meet at the foot of Mount Arthur”

Agree. This ‘natural environment’ appeal should be enhanced and maintained as much as possible in this masterplan with focus on using native and local trees, shrubs, plants and ground-covers as much as possible and as a priority as well as biodiversity for the importance of habitat for local birds, insects, bees and fauna.

This Masterplan does not prioritise native Australian species when it should. This Masterplan should aim to enhance and add to this ‘natural environment’- not to detract from it with exotic species which are introduced species and not natural or part of the ‘natural environment’. Introduced exotic species are not part of the ‘natural environment’ and can be detrimental to the environment.

“The township is characterised by wide streets”

The ‘wide streets’ in Wellington should be kept and maintained to remain as ‘wide streets’ especially the main street.

The streets should not be narrowed, the footpaths should not be widened and traffic islands and finger islands should NOT be put in place to interfere with the traditional wide streets. This characteristic feature of Wellington (wide streets) MUST be maintained. No middle islands should be put into the middle of the streets.

Trees can still be planted along the streets WITHOUT interfering with the wide streets.

“Wellington can support a greater variety of trees, especially exotic deciduous trees”

‘Exotic deciduous’ trees do not fit in, or enhance Wellingtons beautiful ***“natural environment offerings”*** and ***“impressive natural environment”*** appeal- as mentioned in this document.

In the current climate the priority should be the use of native and local tree species to increase and enhance the ‘natural environment’. A wide and greater diversity of different **native** species ie: shrubs and bushes, smaller statue species, hedges, climbers, ground-covers are just as important as large trees for habitat, erosion control, thickets and habitat. The greater the variety of local species used, the greater the benefit for habitat and diversity for a greater variety of native birds, insects, fauna. This will enhance the levels of biodiversity. Native species are also more culturally significant for First Nations.

Disagree with the ***“especially exotic deciduous trees”*** there is no place for exotic introduced species in this current climate when environmental and natural environment issues should be a priority including preserving,

rehabilitating, planting and increasing native and natural trees and habitat.

The aim should be to eventually remove and eradicate all exotic and introduced species and replace them native Australian species. The ratio of Native Australian species compared to Exotic species should be **mostly natives** (nearly all as much as possible). A wide variety and biodiversity of native trees and shrubs and bushes is important.

“especially exotic deciduous trees”

Disagree. This should read **‘especially local and native Australian trees’**.

Deciduous trees cause lots of issues with blocked gutters and drain pipes and leaf matter and many Australia species are not deciduous. Australian trees are predominantly evergreen so this tree choice (exotic deciduous) WOULD NOT enhance or increase the ‘natural environment’ which is what a priority should be. Due to increasing environmental issues and climate change Native species should be used all the time and as much as possible- the focus should be to increase native species and diversity of same- NOT to use exotic and introduced species.

Deciduous trees are also not very common in the Australian natural environment. Evergreens will provide more important canopy cover and shade and many more benefits for habitat and coolness and important shade all year round. With the high incidence of skin cancers in Australia then a focus on trees which provide natural shade year-round should be a priority.

With climate change and rising temperatures evergreen trees provide more canopy and shade which is becoming more and more important and should be an important priority- so should native evergreens (NOT deciduous exotics).

No native tree should be replaced with an exotic ever.

Exotic trees also encourage non-native birds which become an issue- such as Starlings and Sparrows. Native species should be prioritised to encourage and provide habitat for local birds and wildlife.

‘There are low levels of immigrants, with the majority of residents being born in Australia and coming from Australian heritage’

The Australian heritage and ‘natural environment’ SHOULD and MUST be maintained with priority of using native and Australian trees and shrubs and plants.

We live in Australia- we wish for a **‘natural’** native Australian landscape with native and local species- NOT introduced exotics from another country!

Exotics and introduced species have created havoc and caused many issues in the Australian environment so it is best to remove them as

much as possible and encourage local and native species for rehabilitation and environmental appropriateness and important habitat for local birds, fauna and insects and bee pollination. The natural habitat is being cleared at an alarming rate and as a result some important species are becoming endangered and threatened species due to habitat loss and loss of hollows.

To try and counter-act this loss ALL replacement and tree plantings should prioritise local and native Australian species only.

An Australian natural landscape is also more appropriate and preferred and significant to First Nations as well as important food sources. First Nations should also be a priority to maintain the 'natural Australian environment' as much as possible for respect to the First Nations, with use of native Australian species.

"Wellington has the potential to become a popular tourist destination due to its natural environment offerings..."

Agree. Eco-tourism is fast becoming increasing popular and important. It is all **nature-based** forms of tourism in which the main motivation is the observation and **appreciation of nature** in **natural areas**. The Principles of Ecotourism are: "harmony with the environment, minimising use of fossil fuels, **conserving local plants** and wildlife and blending with the **natural** and cultural **environment**." Eco-tourism is **nature-based**, environmentally educated and sustainably managed.

Wellington has great potential for eco-tourism due to its abundance of '**natural**' attractions and location- which include the Catombal Ranges, Mount Arthur Nature Reserve (a free attraction), the junction of the Bell and Macquarie Rivers, Wellington Caves and Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum (a free attraction). Wellingtons beautiful "**natural environment offerings**" and "**impressive natural environment**" appeal, as mentioned in this document, could potentially become a major draw-card for Eco-tourism- for this reason it is highly important that this 'natural environment' is nurtured, maintained, enhanced and developed to remain as 'natural' as possible so the Street Tree Masterplan should aim to enhance this important feature of Wellington as much as possible. The priority should be on planting 'natural' and native trees and local species as much as possible.

These natural attractions attract many bush-walkers, trail-runners, bird-watchers, nature enthusiasts, kayakers and cyclists on the Central West Cycle Trail.

Wellington is also at the heart of regional sustainable power infrastructure development, and renewable energy, with several major projects located at Wellington including Bodangora Wind Farm, Mudgee Road and Suntop Solar Farm Projects as well as Electric Vehicle

Charging Stations. Wellington's local and regional identity could be more strongly aligned with this and Wellingtons identity could be further enhanced as a 'clean, green' town.

For this reason, it should be even more important to focus on increasing and enhancing the natural environment with diversity of local and native Australian species for the importance of maintaining and growing the 'natural' areas. Native Australian and local native species should be planted and prioritised to enhance and grow Wellingtons 'natural environment' offerings. Can you imagine the beauty of beautiful avenues and nature corridors of native plants and trees and flora attracting birdlife, native bees and insects and providing important habitat for local fauna such as possums, birds and reptiles, like a botanical garden.

"Council will discontinue planting ash tree species"

If the ash tree species are exotics then this would be appropriate. However, if native, like the Australian Mountain Ash (swamp gum) are 'native' ash then they have proved that they are hardy and long lasting trees in this area then they should not be removed or discontinued. The '*replaced with a more appropriate species*' mentioned in this document should be Native Australian species, preferably local species.

"Maintaining the exotic, deciduous theme..."

Disagree. Priority should be to enhance and further develop the '**natural environment**' theme as much as possible with Native species prioritised over exotics in ALL circumstances. This will also further enhance Wellingtons appeal for eco-tourism and theme of its natural and beautiful surroundings in a natural valley at the foot of the Catombel Ranges and Mount Arthur Nature Reserve, at the junction of the important Bell and Macquarie Rivers. Exotics should NOT be planted as they are introduced species and not appropriate for local fauna and other flora. Exotic deciduous tree matter and leaves are ending up in the natural watercourses and contributing to mass fish and aquatic life kills by removing the oxygen from the water.

Wellingtons beautiful "**natural environment offerings**" and "**impressive natural environment**" appeal- as mentioned in this document, should remain a priority and 'exotic and deciduous trees' are NOT natural. This should read; "*Maintaining Wellingtons natural environment native theme*".

"Enhancing pockets of biodiverse areas with the selection of native and endemic species"

The areas of native species should not just be in 'pockets' but should aim to increase the cover of native Australian species over the entire

Wellington area and eradicate all exotics and introduced species as much as possible and focus on gradually phasing them out and replacing them with native Australian flora.

Planting native species to further enhance Wellingtons beautiful ***“natural environment offerings”*** and ***“impressive natural environment”*** appeal should be the priority here.

“predicted climatic changes in the Central West/Orana Region..shows that heatwaves, bushfires and average temperatures will increase in the near and far future....rainfall in Spring and Summer will decrease....these will impact the ability of urban trees to thrive and survive and may exclude some species from being viable in the region”

This concerning reality shows the reason that increasing the canopy, increasing tree cover and using native Australian species should be a priority.

There are many benefits to planting Australian native species- they are more suitable to the climate and tolerate drought and frost conditions as well as provide important habitat for bees, birds, insects and native wildlife. Native plants provide shelter and food for wildlife and support pollinators. Native species attract a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife by promoting diverse habitats and food sources. Native plants promote biodiversity and stewardship of our natural heritage and they help the environment. Native plants provide food and shelter and many attract birds, butterflies and lizards. Native plants provide a wildlife corridor helping to connect animal and plant populations. By planting Australian native trees and plants can have a huge impact on the amount of native wildlife attracted to that area and studies have shown that suburbs with more native street trees have significant more bird species compared to other areas. Eastern spinebills, eastern yellow robins and superb Fairy Wrens are most likely to frequent areas composed of at least 50% Australian native plants.

Planting Australian native plants tends to be cheaper than planting other non-native varieties and selecting local varieties adapted specifically to those conditions can help reduce water needs and these plants and trees will be more hardy and frost and drought tolerant. One other benefit to planting Australian natives is that they are generally easy grow and require minimal maintenance .

In addition to the abovementioned benefits of Native Australian species there are also many benefits of trees which include social, communal, environmental, and economic benefits.

This Masterplan neglects to mention the previous and important tradition in Wellingtons street-trees of using local Kurrajong trees (also in Geurie

and Dubbo). While these trees have proven themselves as a suitable and hardy and longevity local tree species, they also served an important **dual-purpose** of providing fodder for farmers stock in drought conditions. These included the avenues of Kurrajong trees along Showground road, Swift Street and many other streets and roads in Wellington, Geurie and Dubbo.

Kurrajong trees are extremely hardy, drought and frost tolerant, grow to an impressive size providing great canopy and can be pruned extensively in droughts to provide emergency fodder for stock.

Not only are these trees shapely and shady, but it is an excellent fodder tree which can be readily lopped for stockfeed during droughts. It is also a significant tree to First Nations with a variety of uses. It is an attractive species and they are described as 'the perfect shade tree'. Their deep roots help them survive droughts, and also means they are less likely to create problems for buildings and other structures. They also have the capacity to drop their leaves in dry winters. It is a very hardy tree with a cool green canopy and these trees can be seen around Wellington, Geurie and Dubbo- they have proven to be a suitable low-maintenance tree for this area with the advantage of a dual-purpose for fodder use. The tradition of using Kurrajong trees for roads and streets and parks should be maintained and prioritised as these trees are a tradition for Wellington, which should be maintained and continued. Any Kurrajong trees which are removed should be replaced with the same species and as there is likely to be more frequent and longer droughts then more Kurrajong trees should be planted to increase their cover and use for emergency fodder in dry times. They serve a dual-purpose which not many other trees do. Avenues of these trees would be suitable along Gateways and roads and would be extremely low maintenance and long living.

These predicted climatic changes also mean that a budget and a (short-term) time-frame for this Masterplan should also be set into this document as a priority.

"Wellington is covered by 12% tree cover"

This statistic is alarming in this current climate and with the predicted climatic changes mentioned in this document. In a hot, dry climate such as this increasing the tree canopy should be an urgent priority to help reduce climate change effects.

There should be tree plantings in Wellington to increase the canopy as an urgent priority. **The goal should be to increase the tree cover to at least 40%- 50% by 2030.**

The DRC practice of chopping down and bulldozing established trees for unimportant reasons (and planting tiny saplings) should cease immediately and the practice of preserving, maintaining,

saving, planting and increasing tree cover and native species should become effective immediately. There should be **NO** further unnecessary removal of any trees and any dead older trees should be trimmed and left in place for hollows. **NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED** and no native trees should be replaced with non-native trees.

“Wellington has 36% impervious surface cover”

This will contribute to heat and increased temperatures.

This needs to be reduced, increased tree canopy and foliage and ground cover is required.

This urban street tree canopy cover will help deliver a sustainable future for our town to create cooler and shadier neighbourhoods.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

“Wellington has 1% shrub cover”

Only 1% shrub cover is alarmingly inadequate. Smaller Shrubs are essential for adequate habitat for small birds such as finches, fairywrens, wagtails, swallows, bee-eaters, king-fishers, honey-eaters, quails as well as for insects and smaller fauna, lizards, reptiles.

This needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control and riverbank stabilisation.

“1,100 vacant street tree sites across Wellington”.

This statistic is alarming in this current climate and with the predicted climatic changes mentioned in this document.

NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED

A Street Tree Budget for Wellington **MUST** be allocated with the aim to plant and fill all of these sites and increase and develop the existing canopy as soon as possible.

A budget and a timeframe should be set and reviewed regularly or annually to ensure the target is met. The goal should be to increase the canopy of fill these vacant sites with trees in as shorter timeframe as possible.

“18.6% of all street trees in Wellington are Claret Ash”

Diversity and native species should be a priority. Biodiversity is extremely important and **this Masterplan should be looking at diversifying all street trees as much as possible, the more diversity, the better for the environment.** Standardising all the same trees is not

appropriate and should not occur. An expert from Burrendong Arboretum has suggested that a suitable tree for here would be '*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*'. Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Mrytle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

Mugga Iron Bark is a suitable large tree. Fuzzy box is a local endangered species, and Callistemons are great for smaller trees. Ficifolia (red flowering gum) is another ornamental eucalypt that does well in this area.

Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many Casuarinas for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas- Hakeas, Banksias and Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos which are found in the Wellington area.

Tall trees, smaller statue trees, shrubs and bushes, grasses and ground-covers are also all essential for habitat diversity and birds.

"Almost 85% of Wellingtons trees are mature aged"...."only the small number of trees planted over the last decade".

This alarming statistic is alarming in this current change as there is potential that the majority of these street trees could reach their end-of-life close to the same time which could have a disastrous effect if these trees all reached the end of their life-span within the same time. It takes many many years for trees to become mature-aged. Some trees which are up to 100 years old it will take another 100 years for these trees to grow to this size again.

This means that lack of tree-planting in the last decade needs to made up to 'catch 'up' and make up for this lack of tree planting and lack of action on increasing the tree canopy.

A tree budget and an action plan with established timeframes and end-dates needs to be done as a matter of urgency before an environmental disaster occurs in the future of Wellington from lack of action of Council not planting trees for a decade!

Trees should be replanted on a constant and on-going plan to avoid this occurring again in the future. NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED.

Trees need to be preserved, prioritised, saved, maintained, planted and native species should be used.

The DRC practice of chopping down established trees for unimportant reasons (and planting tiny saplings) should cease immediately and the practice of preserving, maintaining, saving, planting and increasing tree cover and native species should become effective immediately. There should be NO further unnecessary removal of any trees and any dead older trees should be trimmed and left in place for hollows. Trees should be planted on regular basis in the appropriate season on a constant plan. NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED. There should be an active tree planting program to continue to increase the canopy, fill in vacant sites, increase the diversity and grow the ratio of native Australian species and the natural environment.

“Over 96% of street and park trees are in good to fair health”

No healthy trees should be removed.

There should be a Tree Preservation Order for on both public and private land to protect any existing trees and canopy.

“As these trees reach end of life and need to be removed, they will actively be replaced with a species appropriate for the location”

This should say they will be actively be replaced with NATIVE Australian species, appropriate.

Any native tree should be replaced with another native tree.

In the case of the traditional Kurrajong trees, these should be replaced with the SAME species.

Any native trees removed, should only be replaced with native species!!

Trees that have been used traditionally such as Kurraongs and Eucalypts should be maintained and replanted as the same species, especially if it is proven to be suitable and long lived.

“Street Tree Prioritisation:”

Priority 1:

-This should include **all Residential areas** as a priority (not only if they contain social housing)

-This should include **public green Recreation walking/Cycle ways and walking trails and tracks** as a priority

-This should include **River Riparian Zones** as a priority

-This should include **popular thoroughfares for walking as a priority** (for example the walking track from Wellington CBD to Wellington Showground and Mount Arthur is highly frequented and utilised by walkers to/from major events on a regular basis so a shady tree-lined canopy should be a priority for the users of the Track).

-This should include **Community Priority** (not just Elected Members)

-This should include **ALL residential areas** (not just 'streets containing social housing') ALL residents pay rates so the tree-planting priority in all residential areas should be FAIR and EQUAL. It is not fair and equal to only prioritise streets containing social housing.

-This should include Street Tree beautification of **Wellingtons Gateways and highways leading into and out of Wellington as these roads create important first impressions to visitors and tourists and people passing through**. By having beautiful tree-lined avenues and nature corridors on the out-skirts of Wellington will enhance first impressions and Wellingtons natural environment and beauty.

The trees listed in this plan lack diversity and biodiversity. There should be a wide variety of different tree species listed, prioritising Native and local species.

Pyrus calleryana= this species is not native- it is a species of China and Vietnam. It is an invasive species, the wood is weak so after a storm they may be split and broken, they are susceptible to aphids, scale insects and caterpillars, fire blight, root rot, and leaf spot, they have a short life span, and require watering- they have traits of an invasive weed and have become a plague tree. For these reasons this tree is UNSUITABLE for Wellington and SHOULD NOT be used.

Agree with: Callistemons, Grevilleas, Eucalyptus, Ironbark, Grevillea, Bottlebrush. Would suggest: '*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*'.

Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Mrytle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

Mugga Iron Bark is a suitable large tree. **Fuzzy box** is a **local endangered species**, and **Callistemons** are great for smaller trees. **Ficifolia (red flowering gum) is another ornamental eucalypt that does well in this area.**

Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black

cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many Casuarinas for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas- Hakeas, Banksias and Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos which are found in the Wellington area.

Kurrajongs are a traditional Wellington street tree and this theme should be maintained. These trees are proven as hardy, low maintenance and long living and also serve a dual purpose as fodder in droughts This tradition should be maintained especially with the predicted climatic changes of increased droughts and dry.

“Tree Canopy Targets: from 12% to 30% by 2050”

This target/goal is alarmingly inadequate and NOT good enough Even the city of Sydney has a target of 30% by 2030. Melbourne city has a target of 40% by 2040. If major cities can achieve this then a small rural country town should exceed this goal by far!

For a rural country town this should be much higher.

This target needs review and needs to be AT LEAST 30% by 2030 or sooner!!

The ratio of 12% tree canopy versus 36% impervious surface cover such as concrete, pavings, asphalt is concerning and needs to be addressed as a priority.

Only 1% shrub cover is alarmingly inadequate. Smaller Shrubs are essential for adequate habitat for small birds such as finches, fairywrens, wagtails, swallows, bee-eaters, king-fishers, honey-eaters, quails as well as for insects and smaller fauna, lizards, reptiles.

This urban street tree canopy cover will help deliver a sustainable future for our town to create cooler and shadier neighbourhoods.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

A short-term timeframe and a budget should be set with annual reviews for this Masterplan.

“Wellington has 50% green cover”

This is concerning and inadequate and the target should be the increase this green cover.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

Wellington Street Tree Master Plan

-The species to be replaced should be Native species as a priority for habitat and to increase and enhance the natural environment of

Wellington. Callistmons, Grevilleas, Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, and traditional Kurrajongs should be used.

Areas for priority should include:

-Percy Street (next to Wellington Public School- between Maughan and Maxwell Street) This street is bare and barren and urgently needs NATIVE trees and shade especially as it is near a school and Australia has a large rate of skin cancers.

-Showground Road and Bushrangers Creek Road- This important gateway road should be a Priority 1 as the trees removed in 2019 still have NOT been replaced as the community were promised they would be. An "avenue of 48 native trees" was supposed to be replanted along this road on both side of the road in 2021 but needs to be done as a priority. This important corridor provides an important link between the Bell River and Mount Arthur Reserve so a canopy of native Australian species should form this important naturestrip and corridor.

Wellingtons only Walking/Cycling Track is also along this road and needs important shade for track users as currently there is none.

-Renshaw-McGirr Way out past Wellington Showground- this important gateway road into Wellington lacks trees and shade and needs an avenue of native trees on both side of the road for beautification and shade as currently it is bare with NO trees.

-Market Square- This area is close to the CBD, visible from the Mitchell Highway and urgently needs trees as a priority for this important public green space. The trees have been removed and this area is currently bare and shadeless which makes it not very useful for community green space. This area used to have beautiful shade trees around its perimeter. These should be replaced as a priority.

-Bell Park- this important riverside park (originally set aside by the Wellington Progress Group in the 1800's) should be planted as a botanical garden with botanical plants and native species- it is currently very bare.

-The trees to be planted along the Mitchell Highway should state "Mixed Australian Native Species". There are no constraints along the highway to limit or prevent large native tree species to be used and this is an important Gateway into Wellington- beautiful avenues of mixed native species would be ideal and beautify this area as well as enhance Wellingtons important 'natural environment'.

Mitchell Highway leading towards Sydney has 'N/A'- this is an important gateway road into Wellington and should be beautified for first impressions with native tree avenues and shade to form a beautiful tree-lined entranceway into Wellington.

Gobolian Street- has N/A next to it. This street is riverside and beside the important Macquarie River Riparian Zone. As it is close to the river

environment trees here are especially important for the river birdlife as well as habitat and wildlife corridor.

Wellington Pool- the trees urgently need planting here as they were removed and shade in the Wellington Pool is urgently required. Natives should only be used as leaves won't drop into the pools and this is an important riverside area and habitat.

Montefiores native mound sound/barrier (beside Mitchell Highway) needs to be replanted as a priority with the Natives that it was covered in before all over, 1 row is inadequate, the entire mound used to be covered in Native plants, shrubs and groundcovers. These should be replaced for a sound and visual native corridor between the highway and the houses in Montefiores.

Cameron Park Riparian Rehabilitation Zone – the established trees in the riverbank which were removed for the Pedestrian Bridge need replacing ASAP as a priority for riverbank stabilisation and erosion control. Native species should be used.

-The important Parks in Wellington (Market Square, Rygate Park, Cameron Park, Pioneer Park, Apex Park, Kennard Park, Lions Park, Skate Park) SHOULD be included in the Priority 1 area as these are important community open green spaces and tree plantings and shade here should be a priority for shade at sporting events and for recreations purposes.

Diversity and native species should be a priority. An expert from Burrendong Arboretum has suggested that a suitable tree for here would be '*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*'. Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Mrytle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

Mugga Iron Bark is a suitable large tree. **Fuzzy box** is a **local endangered species**, and **Callistemons** are great for smaller trees. **Ficifolia (red flowering gum) is another ornamental eucalypt that does well in this area.**

Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many **Casuarinas** for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas-Hakeas, Banksias and

Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos.

Tall trees, smaller statue trees, shrubs and bushes, grasses and ground-covers are also all essential for habitat diversity and birds.

There does not seem to be many native trees in this plan. This needs to be more balanced with priority of Native species, more biodiversity and more Native trees and plants to further enhance Wellington 'natural environment' appeal.

Tree Planting Plan: Cameron Park:

"In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited".

DISAGREE. Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to 'limit' these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**-this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control.

"Targeted removal of small trees and shrubs and either leaving more openness in the landscape"

DISAGREE. There should be NO removal of any healthy trees or shrubs. It is better to encourage a botanical-type riverside garden. Shrubs, foliage, undercover and smaller trees and shrubs are essential in a riverside environment. It is NOT appropriate to remove these. There should be more natives than exotics in this plan. No healthy trees or shrubs should be removed.

“A significant proportion of trees on the swimming pool site have recently been removed as part of the construction of the new pool”

The trees urgently need replanting here as they were removed and shade in the Wellington Pool is urgently required. The shade within the pool area is inadequate! Natives should only be used as leaves won't drop into the pools and this is an important riverside area.

“The proportion of small species is high. These small trees interrupt the potential long vistas through the park. In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited”

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to 'limit' these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**-this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control.

“focus on targeted removal of small trees and shrubs”

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to ‘limit’ these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**-this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control. **NO HEALTHY TREES OR SHRUBS SHOULD BE REMOVED. THE AIM IS TO INCREASE THE CANOPY, THIS WOULD DECREASE IT**

“The use of native species, especially eucalypts, is not keeping with the historical theme, Therefore, more sympathetic species are recommended.”

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River and includes the important previously established Riparian Rehabilitation Zone established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Native species are essential for a healthy river environment and native flora and fauna is essential to be maintained in this important area. It

would not be appropriate to remove native species from this riverside environment- they are essential for river health and essential for native birds, reptiles and insects.

“Riparian Zone: Restoration of the natural riparian vegetation would both enhance the river environment itself and improve local ecological values”

AGREE: A plan to achieve natural restoration of the river bank is essential and should be a priority for the important health of the river and local flora and fauna, insects and reptiles and bird-life. Only Native species should be planted here. This important riverbank Riparian Rehabilitation area needs to be maintained and developed further.

“Pruning: All pruning work must be carried out by appropriately qualified arborists. Pruning by under-trained or non-specialist personnel must not occur.”

AGREE

Thankyou for the opportunity to provide feedback and we look forward to seeing this Masterplan implemented.

Kind Regards,

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ED23/58325

13

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, 30 March 2023 2:09 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_30Mar2023020737_Wellington Draft Street Tree Masterplan Feedback.pdf

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Residential address:	[REDACTED]
Contact number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written submission:	
File Upload:	0_142931_30Mar2023020737_Wellington Draft Street Tree Masterplan Feedback.pdf

Wellington Draft Street Tree Masterplan Feedback

Dear Dubbo Regional Council,

Thankyou for the important opportunity to provide feedback on the 'Draft Wellington Street Tree Masterplan'. It will be great if the Wellington Street Tree state can catch up after a decade of minimal trees planted and if the 1,100 vacant street tree sites across Wellington are filled, increasing the important street tree population in Wellington and enhancing Wellingtons impressive natural environment and natural environment offerings appeal. As a longterm resident who was born and bred in Wellington I have a lot of passion and knowledge on Wellington and its trees for the last **49** years. There have certainly been a lot of changes and tree removals which have been extremely detrimental to Wellington street tree canopy. Hopefully these trees will be replaced as a priority to restore and rehabilitate these areas as well as other areas further restored with important **native 'natural'** environment tree plantings to further develop and enhance Wellingtons beautiful **"natural environment offerings"** and **"impressive natural environment"** appeal- as mentioned in this document.

All Street Tree plans should aim to further enhance and develop Wellingtons special **"natural environment offerings"** and **"impressive natural environment"** appeal.

The importance and significance of Wellingtons 'natural' environment should be prioritised in this plan and all trees used should be natural Australian species to maintain this important and special 'natural environment' quality of Wellington.

My feedback is as below:

"When funding allows for works to be completed":

Disagree. There must be an allocated and adequate set budget for this Masterplan and for Public Spaces and Street Trees in Wellington which must be written into the Final Masterplan to ensure this plan/works will be/are completed and within a set timeframe. Dubbo has a tree budget so should Wellington as all residents pay rates and all plans and budgets **should be fair and equal.**

It is NOT appropriate to only have a tree budget for Dubbo and not for Wellington.

What is the annual budget for Street Trees in Wellington?

Please write it into this document.

The statement saying *"When funding allows"* provides no deadline or guarantee for this plan to be implemented. A budget should and **MUST** be set.

The previous allocated budget of \$682,000 annual Tree budget for the LGA was appropriate but with inflation and rising costs this should now be increased to allow for the current economic climate. We look forward to receiving the extremely important annual Street Tree Budget for Wellington. This should have already been written into the 'Draft' plan for appropriate community feedback.

There should also be an appropriate timeframe for this Masterplan which also seems to be missing ie and term goals for 2 years, 5 years, 10 years, 20 years etc.

A 'Budget' and a 'Timeframe' are essential for this Document and plan to ensure it is carried out.

"Improving the look and amenity of the gateway roads in and out of Wellington"

Agree. However this should include **ALL** gateway roads into and out of Wellington. This **MUST** include **Dubbo, Mudgee, Parkes, Orange, Sydney, Dunedoo roads and gateways** (this draft plan does not include all of these- why?). The excluded gateway roads also need to be included in this plan. As most traffic and tourism enters from the Orange/Sydney end of Mitchell Highway and this gateway road creates "first impressions" and as Wellington important as the second oldest town this side of the Blue Mountains then a native tree-lined avenue of native species leading from Wellington towards the world-renown Wellington Caves should be a priority as this is one of the areas most visited and significant tourist attractions.

Showground Road and Renshaw-McGirr Way are also important 'Gateways' to Wellington Showground and the major events held here, as well as a 'Gateway' Road to Parkes and Bushrangers Creek Road is an important 'Gateway' Road to Wellington Showground and also to the popular Mount Arthur Nature Reserve. It would be appropriate for beautiful avenues of native trees to be planted as the important 'Gateway' leading from Wellington CBD to Wellington Caves and also to Mount Arthur Reserve which are both significant tourist attractions. This would 'further enhance and develop the "Impressive natural environment" and Wellingtons "Natural environment offerings" described in this document.

An example would include the avenue of Trees leading from Dubbo to the airport- a similar avenue with local native species such as hardy, long-living and local Kurrajongs would be ideal -or Jacarandas or Ficus or Eucalypt or Mugga Iron Bark or Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp megalocarpa.

The trees used should continue the theme of Wellingtons important 'Impressive natural environment' and 'natural environment offerings'.

Kurrajong trees or other hardy native species should be used. These trees are traditional, local, hardy and require minimal watering or frost protection. They are a hardy local species which is a great size shade tree and live to be very long age so would not require replacing in our lifetime. They are a common tree in this area and are preserved by farmers in their fields due to their hardiness and dual purpose as stock fodder in drought times.

‘Improving the vegetation corridors that run north south and east west from the rivers, through town and out to the surrounding rural land’.

A very important “vegetation corridor” in Wellington is the link from the Bell River out to Mount Arthur Reserve, along Bushrangers Creek Road and Showground Road. This vegetation corridor should be a priority as it links 2 of Wellingtons important natural resources and attractions. This nature strip should connect the river to the Reserve with planting of a corridor of native trees/shrubs/bushes and a nature strip to provide a wildlife corridor and natural link between these 2 important nature environments. The native trees that were removed along both sides of this road by DRC urgently need replacing for provision of shade, habitat, coolness, erosion reduction, enhanced levels of biodiversity, reduced sun exposure on Wellingtons only Recreation Walking/Cycling Track, improved mental wellbeing for residents using the walking track (currently too hot to use in summer as all the trees were removed), and street and road beautification and improving the look and amenity of one of Wellingtons most important ‘Gateway Roads’ as it leads from the CBD to the Wellington Showground which is where some of Wellington biggest attractions occur including the: Wellington Vintage Fair and Swap Meet, Wellington Boot Race Meet, Horse Races, Wellington Annual Show, Mount Arthur Challenge and many other events attracting many tourists and visitors along this road, which is currently barren, shadeless and treeless. This road also leads out to Mount Arthur Reserve which is a popular tourist attraction and a popular nature and recreation area for local residents so this ‘vegetation corridor’ should be a priority to restore it to its previous state prior to removal of all of the trees.

“Wellington is framed by an impressive natural environment where the junction of the Macquarie and Bell rivers meet at the foot of Mount Arthur”

Agree. This ‘natural environment’ appeal should be enhanced and maintained as much as possible in this masterplan with focus on using native and local trees, shrubs, plants and ground-covers as much as possible and as a priority as well as biodiversity for the importance of habitat for local birds, insects, bees and fauna.

This Masterplan does not prioritise native Australian species when it should. This Masterplan should aim to enhance and add to this 'natural environment' - not to detract from it with exotic species which are introduced species and not natural or part of the 'natural environment'. Introduced exotic species are not part of the 'natural environment' and can be detrimental to the environment.

"The township is characterised by wide streets"

The 'wide streets' in Wellington should be kept and maintained to remain as 'wide streets' especially the main street.

The streets should not be narrowed, the footpaths should not be widened and traffic islands and finger islands should NOT be put in place to interfere with the traditional wide streets. This characteristic feature of Wellington (wide streets) MUST be maintained. No middle islands should be put into the middle of the streets.

Trees can still be planted along the streets WITHOUT interfering with the wide streets.

"Wellington can support a greater variety of trees, especially exotic deciduous trees"

'Exotic deciduous' trees do not fit in, or enhance Wellingtons beautiful "***natural environment offerings***" and "***impressive natural environment***" appeal- as mentioned in this document.

In the current climate the priority should be the use of native and local tree species to increase and enhance the 'natural environment'. A wide and greater diversity of different **native** species ie: shrubs and bushes, smaller statue species, hedges, climbers, ground-covers are just as important as large trees for habitat, erosion control, thickets and habitat. The greater the variety of local species used, the greater the benefit for habitat and diversity for a greater variety of native birds, insects, fauna. This will enhance the levels of biodiversity. Native species are also more culturally significant for First Nations.

Disagree with the "*especially exotic deciduous trees*" there is no place for exotic introduced species in this current climate when environmental and natural environment issues should be a priority including preserving, rehabilitating, planting and increasing native and natural trees and habitat. The aim should be to eventually remove and eradicate all exotic and introduced species and replace them native Australian species. The ratio of Native Australian species compared to Exotic species should be **mostly natives** (nearly all as much as possible). A wide variety and biodiversity of native trees and shrubs and bushes is important.

“especially exotic deciduous trees”

Disagree. This should read ‘**especially local and native Australian trees**’.

Deciduous trees cause lots of issues with blocked gutters and drain pipes and leaf matter and many Australia species are not deciduous.

Australian trees are predominantly evergreen so this tree choice (exotic deciduous) WOULD NOT enhance or increase the ‘natural environment’ which is what a priority should be. Due to increasing environmental issues and climate change Native species should be used all the time and as much as possible- the focus should be to increase native species and diversity of same- NOT to use exotic and introduced species.

Deciduous trees are also not very common in the Australian natural environment. Evergreens will provide more important canopy cover and shade and many more benefits for habitat and coolness and important shade all year round. With the high incidence of skin cancers in Australia then a focus on trees which provide natural shade year-round should be a priority.

With climate change and rising temperatures evergreen trees provide more canopy and shade which is becoming more and more important and should be an important priority- so should native evergreens (NOT deciduous exotics).

No native tree should be replaced with an exotic ever.

Exotic trees also encourage non-native birds which become an issue- such as Starlings and Sparrows. Native species should be prioritised to encourage and provide habitat for local birds and wildlife.

“There are low levels of immigrants, with the majority of residents being born in Australia and coming from Australian heritage”

The Australian heritage and ‘natural environment’ SHOULD and MUST be maintained with priority of using native and Australian trees and shrubs and plants.

We live in Australia- we wish for a ‘**natural**’ native Australian landscape with native and local species- NOT introduced exotics from another country!

Exotics and introduced species have created havoc and caused many issues in the Australian environment so it is best to remove them as much as possible and encourage local and native species for rehabilitation and environmental appropriateness and important habitat for local birds, fauna and insects and bee pollination. The natural habitat is being cleared at an alarming rate and as a result some important species are becoming endangered and threatened species due to habitat loss and loss of hollows.

To try and counter-act this loss ALL replacement and tree plantings should prioritise local and native Australian species only.

An Australian natural landscape is also more appropriate and preferred and significant to First Nations as well as important food sources. First Nations should also be a priority to maintain the 'natural Australian environment' as much as possible for respect to the First Nations, with use of native Australian species.

"Wellington has the potential to become a popular tourist destination due to its natural environment offerings..."

Agree. Eco-tourism is fast becoming increasing popular and important.

It is all **nature-based** forms of tourism in which the main motivation is the observation and **appreciation of nature** in **natural** areas. The Principles of Ecotourism are: "harmony with the environment, minimising use of fossil fuels, **conserving local plants** and wildlife and blending with the **natural** and cultural **environment.**" Eco-tourism is **nature-based**, environmentally educated and sustainably managed.

Wellington has great potential for eco-tourism due to its abundance of '**natural**' attractions and location- which include the Catombal Ranges, Mount Arthur Nature Reserve (a free attraction), the junction of the Bell and Macquarie Rivers, Wellington Caves and Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum (a free attraction). Wellingtons beautiful "**natural environment offerings**" and "**impressive natural environment**" appeal, as mentioned in this document, could potentially become a major draw-card for Eco-tourism- for this reason it is highly important that this 'natural environment' is nurtured, maintained, enhanced and developed to remain as 'natural' as possible so the Street Tree Masterplan should aim to enhance this important feature of Wellington as much as possible. The priority should be on planting 'natural' and native trees and local species as much as possible.

These natural attractions attract many bush-walkers, trail-runners, bird-watchers, nature enthusiasts, kayakers and cyclists on the Central West Cycle Trail.

Wellington is also at the heart of regional sustainable power infrastructure development, and renewable energy, with several major projects located at Wellington including Bodangora Wind Farm, Mudgee Road and Suntop Solar Farm Projects as well as Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Wellington's local and regional identity could be more strongly aligned with this and Wellingtons identity could be further enhanced as a 'clean, green' town.

For this reason, it should be even more important to focus on increasing and enhancing the natural environment with diversity of local and native Australian species for the importance of maintaining and growing the 'natural' areas. Native Australian and local native species should be planted and prioritised to

enhance and grow Wellingtons 'natural environment' offerings. Can you imagine the beauty of beautiful avenues and nature corridors of native plants and trees and flora attracting birdlife, native bees and insects and providing important habitat for local fauna such as possums, birds and reptiles, like a botanical garden.

"Council will discontinue planting ash tree species"

If the ash tree species are exotics then this would be appropriate.

However, if native, like the Australian Mountain Ash (swamp gum) are 'native' ash then they have proved that they are hardy and long lasting trees in this area then they should not be removed or discontinued.

The '*replaced with a more appropriate species*' mentioned in this document should be Native Australian species, preferably local species.

"Maintaining the exotic, deciduous theme..."

Disagree. Priority should be to enhance and further develop the '***natural environment***' theme as much as possible with Native species prioritised over exotics in ALL circumstances. This will also further enhance Wellingtons appeal for eco-tourism and theme of its natural and beautiful surroundings in a natural valley at the foot of the Catombel Ranges and Mount Arthur Nature Reserve, at the junction of the important Bell and Macquarie Rivers. Exotics should NOT be planted as they are introduced species and not appropriate for local fauna and other flora. Exotic deciduous tree matter and leaves are ending up in the natural watercourses and contributing to mass fish and aquatic life kills by removing the oxygen from the water.

Wellingtons beautiful "***natural environment offerings***" and "***impressive natural environment***" appeal- as mentioned in this document, should remain a priority and 'exotic and deciduous trees' are NOT natural. This should read; "*Maintaining Wellingtons natural environment native theme*".

"Enhancing pockets of biodiverse areas with the selection of native and endemic species"

The areas of native species should not just be in 'pockets' but should aim to increase the cover of native Australian species over the entire Wellington area and eradicate all exotics and introduced species as much as possible and focus on gradually phasing them out and replacing them with native Australian flora. Planting native species to further enhance Wellingtons beautiful "***natural environment offerings***" and "***impressive natural environment***" appeal should be the priority here.

“predicted climatic changes in the Central West/Orana Region..shows that heatwaves, bushfires and average temperatures will increase in the near and far future.....rainfall in Spring and Summer will decrease....these will impact the ability of urban trees to thrive and survive and may exclude some species from being viable in the region”

This concerning reality shows the reason that increasing the canopy, increasing tree cover and using native Australian species should be a priority.

There are many benefits to planting Australian native species- they are more suitable to the climate and tolerate drought and frost conditions as well as provide important habitat for bees, birds, insects and native wildlife. Native plants provide shelter and food for wildlife and support pollinators. Native species attract a variety of birds, butterflies and other wildlife by promoting diverse habitats and food sources. Native plants promote biodiversity and stewardship of our natural heritage and they help the environment. Native plants provide food and shelter and many attract birds, butterflies and lizards. Native plants provide a wildlife corridor helping to connect animal and plant populations. By planting Australian native trees and plants can have a huge impact on the amount of native wildlife attracted to that area and studies have shown that suburbs with more native street trees have significant more bird species compared to other areas. Eastern spinebills, eastern yellow robins and superb Fairy Wrens are most likely to frequent areas composed of at least 50% Australian native plants.

Planting Australian native plants tends to be cheaper than planting other non-native varieties and selecting local varieties adapted specifically to those conditions can help reduce water needs and these plants and trees will be more hardy and frost and drought tolerant. One other benefit to planting Australian natives is that they are generally easy grow and require minimal maintenance .

In addition to the abovementioned benefits of Native Australian species there are also many benefits of trees which include social, communal, environmental, and economic benefits.

This Masterplan neglects to mention the previous and important tradition in Wellingtons street-trees of using local Kurrajong trees (also in Geurie and Dubbo). While these trees have proven themselves as a suitable and hardy and longevity local tree species, they also served an important **dual-purpose** of providing fodder for farmers stock in drought conditions. These included the avenues of Kurrajong trees along Showground road, Swift Street and many other streets and roads in Wellington, Geurie and Dubbo.

Kurrajong trees are extremely hardy, drought and frost tolerant, grow to an impressive size providing great canopy and can be pruned extensively in droughts to provide emergency fodder for stock.

Not only are these trees shapely and shady, but it is an excellent fodder tree which can be readily lopped for stockfeed during droughts. It is also a significant tree to First Nations with a variety of uses. It is an attractive species and they are described as 'the perfect shade tree'. Their deep roots help them survive droughts, and also means they are less likely to create problems for buildings and other structures. They also have the capacity to drop their leaves in dry winters. It is a very hardy tree with a cool green canopy and these trees can be seen around Wellington, Geurie and Dubbo- they have proven to be a suitable low-maintenance tree for this area with the advantage of a dual-purpose for fodder use. The tradition of using Kurrajong trees for roads and streets and parks should be maintained and prioritised as these trees are a tradition for Wellington, which should be maintained and continued. Any Kurrajong trees which are removed should be replaced with the same species and as there is likely to be more frequent and longer droughts then more Kurrajong trees should be planted to increase their cover and use for emergency fodder in dry times. They serve a dual-purpose which not many other trees do. Avenues of these trees would be suitable along Gateways and roads and would be extremely low maintenance and long living.

These predicted climatic changes also mean that a budget and a (short-term) time-frame for this Masterplan should also be set into this document as a priority.

"Wellington is covered by 12% tree cover"

This statistic is alarming in this current climate and with the predicted climatic changes mentioned in this document. In a hot, dry climate such as this increasing the tree canopy should be an urgent priority to help reduce climate change effects.

There should be tree plantings in Wellington to increase the canopy as an urgent priority. **The goal should be to increase the tree cover to at least 40%- 50% by 2030.**

The DRC practice of chopping down and bulldozing established trees for unimportant reasons (and planting tiny saplings) should cease immediately and the practice of preserving, maintaining, saving, planting and increasing tree cover and native species should become effective immediately. There should be NO further unnecessary removal of any trees and any dead older trees should be trimmed and left in place for hollows. NO HEALTHY TREES

SHOULD BE REMOVED and no native trees should be replaced with non-native trees.

“Wellington has 36% impervious surface cover”

This will contribute to heat and increased temperatures.

This needs to be reduced, increased tree canopy and foliage and ground cover is required.

This urban street tree canopy cover will help deliver a sustainable future for our town to create cooler and shadier neighbourhoods.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

“Wellington has 1% shrub cover”

Only 1% shrub cover is alarmingly inadequate. Smaller Shrubs are essential for adequate habitat for small birds such as finches, fairywrens, wagtails, swallows, bee-eaters, king-fishers, honey-eaters, quails as well as for insects and smaller fauna, lizards, reptiles.

This needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control and riverbank stabilisation.

“1,100 vacant street tree sites across Wellington”.

This statistic is alarming in this current climate and with the predicted climatic changes mentioned in this document.

NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED

A Street Tree Budget for Wellington **MUST** be allocated with the aim to plant and fill all of these sites and increase and develop the existing canopy as soon as possible.

A budget and a timeframe should be set and reviewed regularly or annually to ensure the target is met. The goal should be to increase the canopy of fill these vacant sites with trees in as shorter timeframe as possible.

“18.6% of all street trees in Wellington are Claret Ash”

Diversity and native species should be a priority. Biodiversity is extremely important and **this Masterplan should be looking at diversifying all street trees as much as possible, the more diversity, the better for the environment.** Standardising all the same trees is not appropriate and should not occur. An expert from Burrendong Arboretum has suggested that a suitable tree for here would be ‘*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*’. Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include

local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Mrytle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

Mugga Iron Bark is a suitable large tree. **Fuzzy box** is a **local endangered species**, and **Callistemons** are great for smaller trees.

Ficifolia (red flowering gum) is another ornamental eucalypt that does well in this area.

Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many Casuarinas for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas- Hakeas, Banksias and Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos which are found in the Wellington area.

Tall trees, smaller statue trees, shrubs and bushes, grasses and ground-covers are also all essential for habitat diversity and birds.

"Almost 85% of Wellingtons trees are mature aged""only the small number of trees planted over the last decade".

This alarming statistic is alarming in this current change as there is potential that the majority of these street trees could reach their end-of-life close to the same time which could have a disastrous effect if these trees all reached the end of their life-span within the same time. It takes many many years for trees to become mature-aged. Some trees which are up to 100 years old it will take another 100 years for these trees to grow to this size again.

This means that lack of tree-planting in the last decade needs to made up to 'catch 'up' and make up for this lack of tree planting and lack of action on increasing the tree canopy.

A tree budget and an action plan with established timeframes and end-dates needs to be done as a matter of urgency before an environmental disaster occurs in the future of Wellington from lack of action of Council not planting trees for a decade!

Trees should be replanted on a constant and on-going plan to avoid this occurring again in the future. NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED.

Trees need to be preserved, prioritised, saved, maintained, planted and native species should be used.

The DRC practice of chopping down established trees for unimportant reasons (and planting tiny saplings) should cease immediately and the practice of

preserving, maintaining, saving, planting and increasing tree cover and native species should become effective immediately. There should be NO further unnecessary removal of any trees and any dead older trees should be trimmed and left in place for hollows. Trees should be planted on regular basis in the appropriate season on a constant plan.

NO HEALTHY TREES SHOULD BE REMOVED. There should be an active tree planting program to continue to increase the canopy, fill in vacant sites, increase the diversity and grow the ratio of native Australian species and the natural environment.

“Over 96% of street and park trees are in good to fair health”

No healthy trees should be removed.

There should be a **Tree Preservation Order** for on both public and private land to protect any existing trees and canopy.

“As these trees reach end of life and need to be removed, they will actively be replaced with a species appropriate for the location”

This should say they will be actively be replaced with NATIVE Australian species, appropriate.

Any native tree should be replaced with another native tree.

In the case of the traditional Kurrajong trees, these should be replaced with the SAME species.

Any native trees removed, should only be replaced with native species!!

Trees that have been used traditionally such as Kurraongs and Eucalypts should be maintained and replanted as the same species, especially if it is proven to be suitable and long lived.

“Street Tree Prioritisation:”

Priority 1:

-This should include **all Residential areas** as a priority (not only if they contain social housing)

-This should include **public green Recreation walking/Cycle ways and walking trails and tracks** as a priority

-This should include **River Riparian Zones** as a priority

-This should include **popular thoroughfares for walking as a priority** (for example the walking track from Wellington CBD to Wellington Showground and Mount Arthur is highly frequented and utilised by walkers to/from major events on a regular basis so a shady tree-lined canopy should be a priority for the users of the Track).

-This should include **Community Priority** (not just Elected Members)

-This should include **ALL residential areas** (not just 'streets containing social housing') ALL residents pay rates so the tree-planting priority in all residential areas should be FAIR and EQUAL. It is not fair and equal to only prioritise streets containing social housing.

-This should include Street Tree beautification of **Wellingtons Gateways and highways leading into and out of Wellington as these roads create important first impressions to visitors and tourists and people passing through.** By having beautiful tree-lined avenues and nature corridors on the out-skirts of Wellington will enhance first impressions and Wellingtons natural environment and beauty. **The trees listed in this plan lack diversity and biodiversity. There should be a wide variety of different tree species listed, prioritising Native and local species.**

Pyrus calleryana= this species is not native- it is a species of China and Vietnam. It is an invasive species, the wood is weak so after a storm they may be split and broken, they are susceptible to aphids, scale insects and caterpillars, fire blight, root rot, and leaf spot, they have a short life span, and require watering- they have traits of an invasive weed and have become a plague tree. For these reasons this tree is UNSUITABLE for Wellington and SHOULD NOT be used.

Agree with: Callistemons, Grevilleas, Eucalyptus, Ironbark, Grevillea, Bottlebrush. Would suggest: '*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*'.

Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Mrytle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

Mugga Iron Bark is a suitable large tree. **Fuzzy box** is a **local endangered species**, and **Callistemons** are great for smaller trees.

Ficifolia (red flowering gum) is another ornamental eucalypt that does well in this area.

Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many Casuarinas for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas- Hakeas, Banksias and Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos which are found in the Wellington area. Kurrajongs are a traditional Wellington street tree and this theme should be maintained. These trees are proven as hardy, low maintenance and long living and also serve a dual purpose as fodder in droughts This tradition

should be maintained especially with the predicted climatic changes of increased droughts and dry.

“Tree Canopy Targets: from 12% to 30% by 2050”

This target/goal is alarmingly inadequate and NOT good enough

Even the city of Sydney has a target of 30% by 2030. Melbourne city has a target of 40% by 2040. If major cities can achieve this then a small rural country town should exceed this goal by far!

For a rural country town this should be much higher.

This target needs review and needs to be AT LEAST 30% by 2030 or sooner!!

The ratio of 12% tree canopy versus 36% impervious surface cover such as concrete, pavings, asphalt is concerning and needs to be addressed as a priority.

Only 1% shrub cover is alarmingly inadequate. Smaller Shrubs are essential for adequate habitat for small birds such as finches, fairywrens, wagtails, swallows, bee-eaters, king-fishers, honey-eaters, quails as well as for insects and smaller fauna, lizards, reptiles.

This urban street tree canopy cover will help deliver a sustainable future for our town to create cooler and shadier neighbourhoods.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

A short-term timeframe and a budget should be set with annual reviews for this Masterplan.

“Wellington has 50% green cover”

This is concerning and inadequate and the target should be the increase this green cover.

Increasing the amount of green cover and open spaces can help to combat the effects of climate change and should be a priority.

Wellington Street Tree Master Plan

-The species to be replaced should be Native species as a priority for habitat and to increase and enhance the natural environment of Wellington. Callistmons, Grevilleas, Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, and traditional Kurrajongs should be used. Areas for priority should include:

-Percy Street (next to Wellington Public School- between Maughan and Maxwell Street) This street is bare and barren and urgently needs NATIVE trees and shade especially as it is near a school and Australia has a large rate of skin cancers.

-Showground Road and Bushrangers Creek Road- This important gateway road should be a Priority 1 as the trees removed in 2019 still have NOT been replaced as the community were promised they would be. An “avenue of 48 native trees”

was supposed to be replanted along this road on both side of the road in 2021 but needs to done as a priority. This important corridor provides an important link between the Bell River and Mount Arthur Reserve so a canopy of native Australian species should form this important naturestrip and corridor.

Wellingtons only Walking/Cycling Track is also along this road and needs important shade for track users as currently there is none.

-Renshaw-McGirr Way out past Wellington Showground- this **important gateway road** into Wellington lacks trees and shade and needs an avenue of native trees on both side of the road for beautification and shade as currently it is bare with NO trees.

-Market Square- This area is close to the CBD, visible from the Mitchell Highway and urgently needs trees as a priority for this important public green space. The trees have been removed and this area is currently bare and shadeless which makes it not very useful for community green space. This area used to have beautiful shade trees around its perimeter. These should be replaced as a priority.

-Bell Park- this important riverside park (originally set aside by the Wellington Progress Group in the 1800's) should be planted as a botanical garden with botanical plants and native species- it is currently very bare.

-The trees to be planted along the Mitchell Highway should state "Mixed **Australian Native Species**". There are no constraints along the highway to limit or prevent large native tree species to be used and this is an important Gateway into Wellington- beautiful avenues of mixed native species would be ideal and beautify this area as well as enhance Wellingtons important 'natural environment'.

Mitchell Highway leading towards Sydney has 'N/A'- this is an important gateway road into Wellington and should be beautified for first impressions with native tree avenues and shade to form a beautiful tree-lined entranceway into Wellington.

Gobolian Street- has N/A next to it. This street is riverside and beside the important Macquarie River Riparian Zone. As it is close to the river environment trees here are especially important for the river birdlife as well as habitat and wildlife corridor.

Wellington Pool- the trees urgently need planting here as they were removed and shade in the Wellington Pool is urgently required. Natives should only be used as leaves won't drop into the pools and this is an important riverside area and habitat.

Montefiores native mound sound/barrier (beside Mitchell Highway) needs to be replanted as a priority with the Natives that it was covered in before all over, 1 row is inadequate, the entire mound used to be covered in Native plants,

shrubs and groundcovers. These should be replaced for a sound and visual native corridor between the highway and the houses in Montefiores.

Cameron Park Riparian Rehabilitation Zone – the established trees in the riverbank which were removed for the Pedestrian Bridge need replacing ASAP as a priority for riverbank stabilisation and erosion control. Native species should be used.

-The important Parks in Wellington (Market Square, Rygate Park, Cameron Park, Pioneer Park, Apex Park, Kennard Park, Lions Park, Skate Park) SHOULD be included in the Priority 1 area as these are important community open green spaces and tree plantings and shade here should be a priority for shade at sporting events and for recreations purposes.

Diversity and native species should be a priority. An expert from Burrendong Arboretum has suggested that a suitable tree for here would be '*Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. Megalocarpa*'. Suggestions for other suitable native species of trees to plant would include local flora and trees specific to the Wellington and Mount Arthur areas such as Wattles and Eucalyptus, Bottlebrush, Kurrajongs. In addition other suitable species would include: **Bottlebrush, Acacia, Wattle, paperbark, Weeping Myall, Lilly Pilly, Myrtle, Banksia, She-oak, Eucalyptus, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Mallee, Hakea, Callistemon, red flowering gums, Australian crepe myrtle, dwarf apple gum, mauve mist callistemon, Jacarandas.**

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Casuarinas are important and a local species which also are a feed source for the important and threatened yellow-tailed black cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo so planting as many Casuarinas for the black cockatoos in this area is essential and should be a priority. In addition to Casuarinas-Hakeas, Banksias and Acacias are also an important and essential food-source for the threatened local black cockatoos.

Tall trees, smaller statue trees, shrubs and bushes, grasses and ground-covers are also all essential for habitat diversity and birds.

There does not seem to be many native trees in this plan. This needs to be more balanced with priority of Native species, more biodiversity and more Native trees and plants to further enhance Wellington 'natural environment' appeal.

Tree Planting Plan: Cameron Park:

"In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited".

DISAGREE. Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to 'limit' these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**- this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control.

"Targeted removal of small trees and shrubs and either leaving more openness in the landscape"

DISAGREE. There should be NO removal of any healthy trees or shrubs. It is better to encourage a botanical-type riverside garden. Shrubs, foliage, undercover and smaller trees and shrubs are essential in a riverside environment. It is NOT appropriate to remove these.

There should be more natives than exotics in this plan.

No healthy trees or shrubs should be removed.

"A significant proportion of trees on the swimming pool site have recently been removed as part of the construction of the new pool"

The trees urgently need replanting here as they were removed and shade in the Wellington Pool is urgently required. The shade within the pool area is inadequate! Natives should only be used as leaves won't drop into the pools and this is an important riverside area.

"The proportion of small species is high. These small trees interrupt the potential long vistas through the park. In general, planting of small species of trees and large shrubs should be limited"

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to 'limit' these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**- this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control.

"focus on targeted removal of small trees and shrubs"

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River Riparian Restoration Zone previously established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Plants such as rushes, sedges, and reeds, ground covers and under-story plants are important for erosion control and habitat. Native animals require a complex structure of grasses, shrubs and trees to provide food and shelter. Replanting of native species trees, forbs and grasses helps to improve water quality and biodiversity. Undercover and smaller species and large shrubs provide important cover for smaller birds, insects, reptiles and bees and provides important erosion control. There are threatened platypus that live in this area and they require grasses, bushes and smaller trees to protect and hide their burrows and they require green cover and foliage to hide and camouflage.

It is NOT appropriate to remove or limit small species of trees and large shrubs beside a river environment – this foliage is important and should be developed further to encourage king-fishers, finches, parrots, fairy-wrens etc as well as important bees and butterflies and insects who rely on this important cover. Ground covers and low foliage also help prevent erosion and hold river-banks in place. It is NOT appropriate to 'limit' these. This document also states that **Wellington only has 1% shrub cover**- this needs to be improved as an urgent priority as shrubs and foliage is essential for small native birds, insects and reptiles, platypus and essential for protection, nesting, habitat and erosion-control. **NO HEALTHY TREES OR SHRUBS SHOULD BE REMOVED. THE AIM IS TO INCREASE THE CANOPY, THIS WOULD DECREASE IT**

"The use of native species, especially eucalypts, is not keeping with the historical theme, Therefore, more sympathetic species are recommended."

DISAGREE: Cameron Park is beside the important Bell River and includes the important previously established Riparian Rehabilitation Zone established by Wellington Shire Council, Local Lands Services, Central West Councils Environment and Waterways Alliance. Riparian corridors and waterways are ecologically important providing water and important habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna.

Native species are essential for a healthy river environment and native flora and fauna is essential to be maintained in this important area. It would not be appropriate to remove native species from this riverside environment- they are essential for river health and essential for native birds, reptiles and insects.

"Riparian Zone: Restoration of the natural riparian vegetation would both enhance the river environment itself and improve local ecological values"

AGREE: A plan to achieve natural restoration of the river bank is essential and should be a priority for the important health of the river and local flora and fauna, insects and reptiles and bird-life. Only Native species should be planted

here. This important riverbank Riparian Rehabilitation area needs to be maintained and developed further.

"Pruning: All pruning work must be carried out by appropriately qualified arborists. Pruning by under-trained or non-specialist personnel must not occur:"

AGREE

Thankyou for providing the opportunity for feedback and community consultation, I hope this important feedback is considered and I have sought much feedback and advice from many local Wellington residents for this document and the Public Spaces Street Tree Committee members.

Kind Regards,



ED23/58052

14

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 29 March 2023 9:10 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council
Subject: SUBMISSION - DRAFT WELLINGTON STREET TREE MASTER PLAN - FILE12/875
Attachments: 0_142931_29Mar2023090934_DRAFT Wellington Street Tree Master Plan.docx

⚠ CAUTION: This email came from outside the organisation. Be cautious clicking links and do not open attachments unless they are expected.

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	██████
Surname:	██████
Residential address:	████████████████████
Contact number:	██████████
Email:	██████████████████
Written submission:	
File Upload:	0_142931_29Mar2023090934_DRAFT Wellington Street Tree Master Plan.docx

DRAFT Wellington Street Tree Master Plan (ID23/335)



A tree master plan needs to have a budget allocation and an implementation plan to have any meaning. A plan to 'increase the tree canopy over both Wellington and Montefiores from 12% and 17% respectively to 30% by 2050' (p.11 Wellington Street Master Plan) is meaningless unless it includes milestone targets and review dates e.g. what progress is predicted by 2030? 2035? How will this be measured? Without interim targets and review dates, 2050 could ultimately be unachievable.

A Tree Master Plan needs to be implemented in conjunction with the Wellington Town Centre Plan.

Wellington Town Centre Plan (5.9) notes that the tree planting in Wellington is 'inconsistent and poorly maintained' and 'limited tree cover for shelter'. This impacts on liveability, social cohesion and the overall attractiveness for both residents and visitors.

The environmental, social, economic and cultural benefits of street trees are clearly outlined in the report. For these to be realised, a budget needs to be allocated for planting and maintenance, reviewed on a regular basis and reported to the Council via the Wellington Town Committee and Tree Committee.

First impressions are important. Priority should be given, firstly, to the tree planting of the approaches to the town, then the town centre and, lastly, the residential areas. The approach to Wellington from Dubbo has been vastly improved on the southern side of the highway, but this bank of shrubs needs to be maintained or it will, again, fall into disrepair.

Careful consideration needs to be given to the variety of species planted. Many native species, particularly gums are not suitable as street specimen trees (eg Myall St, Dubbo). Gum trees drop leaves, bark, branches, suffer dieback and are a fire accelerant. Acacia and callistemon, while fast growing, are also known to have a short life-span so are not suitable as a long-term species selection. Care must also be taken when planting the trees that enough area is left around the trees to give them sufficient access to water runoff. Bitumen should not be laid close to the tree. This starves the tree and causes premature dieback.



REPORT: Review of the Public Tree Removal - Amenity Valuation Policy (2023)

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 2 April 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/676

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek endorsement• Adopt a policy	
Issue	Readoption of the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy.	
Reasoning	This policy assists in the protection of public trees by assigning an amenity valuation of the tree based on the contribution of the tree to the landscape. Members of the public can request the removal of a public tree, on the basis that they pay the amenity value that goes back into tree planting programs.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places – Recreation and Open Space
	Funding Source	Policy generates income to assist in future planting programs.
	Proposed Cost	\$0
	Ongoing Costs	\$0
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2019)
	Impact on Policy	Update of Policy

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 6 Environmental Sustainability

CSP Objective: 6.2 We recognise, plan for and respond to the impacts of climate change

Delivery Program Strategy: 6.2.1 The impacts of climate change are identified and addressed through collaboration with our community and government

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the report Review of the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2023) be noted.**
- 2. That the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2023) be adopted with the amendments.**
- 3. That the report Review of the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2023) be placed on public exhibition for four weeks in April/May 2023.**
- 4. That a report to be tabled at the July 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council for consideration of adopting the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2023), with amendments if required from the public exhibition.**

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

IM
Manager Recreation and
Open Space

BACKGROUND

Previous Resolutions of Council

Infrastructure, Community and Recreation Committee (ICRC19/52 - TREE AMENITY VALUATION ON PUBLIC TREES)	<p><i>I refer to this matter and advise that Council at its Ordinary meeting of Council resolved:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. That the report from the Manager Recreation and Open Space, dated 5 August 2019, be noted.</i> <i>2. That the Tree Amenity Valuation on Public Trees be adopted and implemented, with any funds raised as a result of the policy placed in a Restricted Asset for future Street Tree planting.</i> <i>3. That the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy be adopted.</i> <i>4. That the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy is reviewed annually with the Chief Executive Officer having the authority to modify/strengthen the policy, as required, to reflect an increased knowledge base as the policy is implemented, and changing community expectations.</i>
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REPORT

In September 2019, following community consultation, the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy was adopted by Council. This Policy effectively enabled a value to be calculated for an individual or group of trees using the City of Melbourne’s model based on Yau’s 1990 modified Maurer-Hoffman Formula. This model takes into account a number of factors including the size of the tree (that is related somewhat to the age of the tree), the species of the tree, the aesthetic value of the tree (eg: is it a single tree, or part of an evenly planted avenue), its location (eg: whether it is a reserve, village, residential street or park) and its overall condition (eg: health, vigour, life expectancy).

Under the Policy a Developer or member of the public can request to have a public tree removed for any number of reasons. Prior to the implementation of the Policy Council had limited means to discourage or dissuade the developer/member of the public to retain the tree.

However, the adoption and implementation of the Policy has proven to be extremely successful in helping to retain our public trees. Under the Policy a tree is valued and correspondence sent out the resident/developer advising them the amenity value, the cost of removal and replacement of tree. In the majority of cases the customer chooses not to proceed with the removal of tree due to the value of the tree and associated costs. Since the implementation of the Policy possibly an estimated 60 trees have been retained in our landscapes. Examples of where the policy has been applied and trees have been retained include:

Ronald Street Bore

Council was requested by a nearby resident to remove a mature Lemon Scent Gum from Operational Land. The basis of the request was the tree dropped leaves, fruiting bodies and bark into the resident's yard. The resident also raised concerns about potential limb drop.



Figure 1. Ronald Street Bore site – Lemon Scented Gum

The tree was assessed by Council's arborist and it was determined that it was healthy with no structural integrity concerns. The tree was valued at \$19,024, plus the cost of removal and the re-establishment of a new tree. In total the resident would have been required to pay \$21,024 to have this tree removed from the landscape.

As a result of the implementation of the valuation policy the tree has been retained.

Church Street

Council was approached by the Developer to have 2 Hoop Pines removed to make it easier for construction works to take place.



Figure 2. Church Street – 2 Hoop Pines.

Council's arborist valued the trees collectively at \$13,439 plus the costs of removal and the re-establishment of 2 trees. In this instance the Developer would have been required to pay for the installation of root vaults as the replacement trees would have been required to be planted in the road pavement. This increased the cost required by the Developer to pay to \$40,283.

As a result of the valuation policy the trees have been retained, with protective measures installed.

Kintyre Park (Lincoln Parkway)

Council was approached by two residents, who had recently constructed dwellings in the area, to remove a total of 5 Lemon Scented Gums. These trees were planted approximately 17 years ago as part of the development of the Kintyre Estate.



Council's arborist valued the 5 trees with a value of \$37,463 being identified. With removal costs and re-establishment of replacement plantings the total cost for the removal of the trees would have been \$54,844.

As a result of the implementation of the valuation policy the trees have been retained in the landscape. Council undertook formative pruning of the trees to reduce impacts to residents.

The changes in the proposed Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy include:

1. The Director Community Culture and Places being the final approval authority for the removal of public trees for civil infrastructure works or emergency works.
2. A clause allowing Council to pursue and recoup the amenity value of a tree or trees where a tree has been wilfully killed, and the individual/s can be positively identified.

In these instances the latest data on the tree and images will be used to calculate the value of the tree/s.

3. The \$/cm (Diameter at Breast Height) table has been updated using the 2020 figures that are available.

Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with internal staff (Recreation and Open Space and Greenspace Operations) as was discussed at Executive Leadership Team in 2021.

This is an update of an existing Policy and the proposed changes are not significant.

Resourcing Implications

No further resources are required to continue to implement this Policy.

Planned Communications

The Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy to be placed on public exhibition for 28 days with the community invited to make comment.

If adopted the updated Public tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy will be uploaded to the Council website and made available to the public.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Council Policy - Amenity Valuation of Public Trees 2023 draft
- 2 [↓](#) CALCULATING TREE AMENITY VALUE 2020 Template revised April 2023



DUBBO
REGIONAL
COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY

Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation

Date April 2023

Council Resolution Date 9 September 2019

Clause Number ICRC19/52

Responsible Position Manager Recreation and Open Space

Branch Recreation and Open Space

Division Community Culture and Places

Version 3

TRIM Reference Number

Review Period Annually

Review Date 3 April 2023

Consultation

- Street Tree Advisory Committee
- Infrastructure, Community and Recreational Committee and Council, May 2019 (ICRC19/30)
- Public Exhibition: 5th July – 2 August 2019

Document Revision History	
Description	Date
Version 1 (draft)	22 August 2019
Version 1 adopted ICRC19/52	9 September 2019
Version 2 (draft – internal consultation)	1 February 2021
Version 3 (draft)	3 April 2023
Notes	

POLICY

PURPOSE

The implementation of the Amenity Valuation of Public Trees will assist in the protection of public trees through the establishment of a value for trees which have requested to be removed by Developers, or by members of the public. As public trees effectively are owned by the broader community, the establishment and the recouping of this value resulting from its removal compensates the general public for the loss of amenity value that will then go back into other public tree planting programs.

Where public trees are removed at the request of the public, Developers, etc., Dubbo Regional Council shall take the approach on passing on all of the identifiable costs associated with the removal, valuation and replacement and establishment of the tree/s.

In the instances where public trees are required to be removed for Council based projects, a negotiated outcome between Community Culture and Places Division and the Division that owns the project will be determined. As an aspirational goal Council should attempt to plant as least as many advanced (85 - 100 litre) trees as are being removed to reduce the impact to the future tree canopy of the urban area and utilising an appropriate planting methodology for the environment to reduce future impacts and conflicts.

For street trees that already exist within the road carriageways of Dubbo and Wellington (for example road shoulders, medians) the preferred planting methodology utilises the Stockholm Methodology. Tree pits will be generally sized in accordance with the Stockholm planting methodology, and using the formula $V = \pi r^2 \times 0.6$ to determine minimum root vault size. This formula takes into account the projected mature canopy of the tree but has a reduction factor to recognise street trees generally do not reach their full potential. Pit sizes may also be reduced due to site specific constraints. Public trees that are removed for construction works are to be covered under this Policy. Trees removed on the basis of safety or emergency infrastructure works to the general public are exempt. A recommendation by Council's arborist is required, with a following recommendation from the Manager Recreation and Open Space and final approval from the Director Community Culture and Places.

Funds generated through the implementation of the Amenity Valuation of Public Trees framework shall be utilised in public tree replanting programs.

For the purpose of this Policy a public tree includes those that are located within carriageways inside the 80km urban zones, and within the public open space network.

BACKGROUND AND RELATED LEGISLATION

Trees make a valuable contribution to the way that humans observe and interact with their environment. In the urban setting particularly trees play a significant role in the aesthetic softening of the built environment through their shape and their foliage and floral displays. It has long been recognised (eg: Neely, D. 1979 *Guide for Establishing Values of Trees and other Plants. Revision IV*

and Maurer – Hoffman 1970) that this aesthetic contribution by urban trees has a value to the general public that can be calculated and potentially recouped in circumstances where trees are requested or required to be removed.

Where street and park trees are removed on the request of the public and Developers Dubbo Regional Council shall take the approach on passing on all of the identifiable costs associated with the removal and re – establishment of the tree.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all urban street (inside the 80km/hr zones) and trees located within the open space network throughout the local government area that are either owned or managed by the Dubbo Regional Council.

Where Developers, or the public, approach Council requesting the removal of a public tree/s, an assessment of the tree/s will be conducted by a Level 5 Council arborist to determine the amenity value of the tree/s in accordance with the adopted methodology. The Developer, or member of public, will be required to compensate the public for the loss of amenity value prior to the removal of the tree/s, as well as the cost of removal and replacement of the tree, in accordance with the adopted Street Tree Planting standards.

Members of the public that request the removal of a public tree can only do so with trees that are immediately adjacent to their property, and where they are the land owner of that property. Trees that are identified on Dubbo Regional Council's Significant Tree Register, where they are on public land, are covered under this Policy. However other approvals will be required prior to Council considering their removal.

Council currently manages over 40,000 public trees, with approximately 27,500 of these being located within our streetscapes.

Where a tree/s covered under this Policy have been wilfully damaged, killed or destroyed a valuation of the tree/s will be carried out using the latest data and images collected on the tree/s. Where the individual/s can be positively identified that caused damage or death of the tree Council retains the right to take the necessary steps to recoup the amenity value of the tree/s.

DEFINITIONS

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Public Tree	Urban street and trees growing within the open space network in the local government area that are either owned or managed by the Dubbo Regional Council. This excludes trees that are located on Operational Land.
Developer	A person or a company that buys land and builds houses, offices, shops, or factories on it, or buys existing buildings and makes them more modern
Land owner	A person that owns the land
Tree Amenity Value	The calculated value of a tree that recognises the contribution of a tree or trees to the landscape through a range of attributes and values.

POLICY

Where public trees are removed, other than by Council for infrastructure projects, Dubbo Regional Council shall take the approach on passing on all of the identifiable costs associated with the tree.

These costs can be summarised as:

Removal Cost + Amenity Cost + Re – instatement and Establishment = Total Charge

To determine the **Total Charge**, both the removal cost and the re–instatement and establishment costs will be based on the actual costs of undertaking the works. To determine the Amenity Cost of the tree/s to be removed, the modified version of the City of Melbourne model based on Yau's 1990 modified Maurer-Hoffman Formula shall be used. This model takes into account a number of factors including the size of the tree (that is related somewhat to the age of the tree), the species of the tree, the aesthetic value of the tree (eg: is it a single tree, or part of an evenly planted avenue), its location (eg: whether it is a reserve, village, residential street or park) and its overall condition (eg: health, vigour, life expectancy).

The basic monetary value of the tree was taken from the internationally accepted table of values devised by the American Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers and the International Society of Arboriculture, which in the base year 1988 was \$US27 per square inch trunk basal area. This figure was converted to a value corresponding to centimetres in trunk diameter at breast height (DBH), the Basic Monetary Value table, and updated in 2017 to reflect more current monetary values.

When young trees with a 6cm trunk diameter or less will be replaced by another tree, there will be no amenity value charge. All other charges will be applied.

Amenity value shall be calculated using the formula below:

Value (V) = Basic Value (\$) x Species (S) x Aesthetics (A) x Locality (L) x Condition (C)

- The **basic monetary value** of a tree is determined by matching the trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) with its corresponding base value that is updated annually.
- The **Species value** of a tree is assessed according to its known natural life span and its rate of growth in a particular environment. For example, a long-lived tree will be scored higher than a short-lived tree.

Significant features to the tree will also modify how the tree is scored. Judgment regarding species factor is required to be made by a qualified Arborist.

- The **Aesthetics value** of a tree is determined by the impact on the landscape if the tree were removed. This category is closely tied to the locality factor (below).
- The **Locality factor** is determined by the tree's geographical situation. Trees in a major centre, main street or boulevard score highest because of the stressful growing environment in which the tree has to survive. As the location becomes more rural, the significance of the tree diminishes.

- The **tree condition value** is determined by a qualified arborist considering the condition of the trunk, growth (associated with health), and the structure of the tree and whether or not it is compromised by pests and/or disease.

For Council based projects where public trees are required to be removed for Council based projects, a negotiated outcome between Community Culture and Places Division and the Division that owns the project will be determined. It is proposed that this negotiated outcome between Community Culture and Places and the division that owns the project continues. The aspirational goal is to replant at least the same number of advanced (>100 litre) trees that were removed as part of the project, and to and utilise an appropriate planting methodology for the environment to reduce future impacts and conflicts.

For street trees that already exist within the road carriageways of Dubbo and Wellington (for example road shoulders, medians) the preferred planting methodology utilises the Stockholm Methodology. Tree pits will be generally sized in accordance with the Stockholm planting methodology ($V = \pi r^2 \times 0.6$). This formula takes into account the projected mature canopy of the tree but has a reduction factor to recognise street trees generally do not reach their full potential. Pit sizes may also be reduced due to site specific constraints. Public trees that are removed for construction works are to be covered under this Policy. Trees removed on the basis of safety or emergency infrastructure works to the general public are exempt.

A recommendation by Council's arborist is required, with a following recommendation from the Manager Recreation and Open Space and final approval from Director Community Culture and Places.

Funds generated through the implementation of the Amenity Valuation of Public Trees framework shall be placed in a Restricted Asset to help fund future public tree replanting programs.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility for enacting this Policy will lie with the Director Community Culture and Places, or a delegated representative.

The valuation process will be undertaken by a qualified Level 5 arborist.

TREE AMENITY VALUATION CALCULATION

The following formula has been adapted from the City of Melbourne "Calculating a Tree's Amenity Value" to assist in the determination of a reasonable amount that DCC would be paid by a Developer or resident for the unscheduled removal of a public tree.

This formula only calculates the amenity value of the tree. Further charges including the cost of removal, stump grinding, tree planting and 24 months of establishment costs would be determined and charged separately in most cases.

The tables below relate directly to the "Calculation Sheet".

Table 1 Species Factor

Species Group	Characteristics
1	trees of short life span (<50yrs), Fast growth. <i>Examples: Prunus, Acacia, Virgillia, Laburnum</i>
2	trees of short life span (<50yrs), slow growth. <i>Examples: Malus, Crataegus, Eugenia, Waterhousia, Pyrus</i>
3	trees of medium life span (50 – 150 yrs), fast growth rate. <i>Examples: Populus, Liquidamber, Eucalyptus, Angophora, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Michelia, Salix, Casuarina, Hakea, Celtis, Acmena</i>
4	trees of medium life span (50 – 150 yrs), slow growth rate. <i>Examples: Brachychiton, Fraxinus, Gleditsia, Lagunaria, Jacaranda, Shinus, Phoenix, Melia, Robinia, Lophostemon, Lirodendron, Agonis, Metrosideros, Syzgium</i>
5	trees of long life span (>150 yrs), fast growth rate. <i>Examples: Cupressus, Platanus, Ficus, Pinus</i>
6	trees of long life span (>150 yrs), slow growth rate. <i>Examples: Ulmus, Quercus, Sequoia, Ginkgo, Araucaria</i>

Table 2. Modifier

0	Normal plant status
1	an ubiquitous species (grows like a weed) Example: Salix, Fraxinus rotundifolia, Pittosporum undulatum.
2	a rare species in the locality, a special precious cultivated variety, a tree on the "significant tree register" , has special historical or other significances

Table 3. Aesthetics Factor

1	contributes little to the landscape
2	one of a group of close plantings
3	wide plantings
4	irregular spacing between trees: regular spacings one side
5	street or pathway plantings, regular spacing both sides
6	solitary feature specimen tree

Table 4. Locality Factor

	Locality (L)
1	in undeveloped bushland or reserves
2	in villages
3	in outer suburb areas and residential streets
4	in inner city suburbs
5	in City Park or Reserve, significant street near City centre
6	in City Garden or City Centre secondary street
7	City Centre Main Street, Principal Boulevard

Table 5. Tree Condition

	TREE CONDITION (C)	RATING
1	6, 7, 8, 9	very poor
2	10, 11, 12, 13	poor
3	14, 15, 16, 17, 18	fair
4	19, 20, 21, 22	good
5	23, 24, 25, 26	excellent

TREE AMENITY VALUATION CALCULATION

CTAV

Tree amenity valuation formula:

$$\text{Value (V)} = \text{Basic Value (\$)} \times \text{Species (S)} \times \text{Aesthetics (A)} \times \text{Locality (L)} \times \text{Condition (C)}$$

Tree #

Species

Location

Step 1. Determination of Basic Monetary Value (\$)

The basic monetary value of a tree is determined by measuring the trunk diameter at breast height (DBH).
DBH = 1.4m above ground surface.

DBH

Basic Value

Step 2. Determination of species factor (S)

A tree is assessed according to its known natural lifespan and its rate of growth in a particular environment (**Characteristics**). For example a long lived tree will be scored higher than a short lived tree. Significant features to the tree will also modify how the tree is scored. Judgement regarding species factor must be made by a qualified arborist.

Characteristics

Table trees of short life span (<50yrs), Fast growth. Examples: Prunus, Acacia, Virgillia, Laburnum

Character value

Modifier value

Table Normal plant status

Modifier value

Total S factor

Step 3 Determination of aesthetics factor (A)

The aesthetic value of a tree is determined by the impact on the landscape if the tree was removed. This category is closely tied to the locality factor (L), see Step 4.

Aesthetics

Table wide plantings

Total A factor

Step 4. Determination of Locality factor (L)

The locality factor is determined by the tree's geographical situation. Trees in the CBD or a major arterial road (urban) score highest because of the stressful growing environment that the tree has to survive in. As the locality becomes more rural the significance of the location of the tree diminishes.

Locality	
Table	3 in outer suburb areas and residential streets
Total L factor	
1.5	

Step 5. Determination of Tree Condition (C)

Tree condition value is determined by the corresponding total score of the assessment criteria.

Condition		Rating	Score
Trunk	Solid and Sound	5	5
	Sections of bark damaged / missing	3	
	Extensive Decay, hollow trunk	1	
Growth	> 15cm twig elongation this season	3	1
	5 to 15 cm twig elongation	2	
	< 5 cm twig elongation	1	
Structure	Healthy, stable and sound	5	3
	Some deadwood and dead limbs	3	
	Extensive dieback and deadwood	1	
Pests & Diseases	No pest / disease infestation	3	3
	Minor symptoms of infestation	2	
	Advanced symptoms of infestation	1	
Canopy Developm	Full balanced canopy	5	3
	Full but unbalanced, lop – sided	3	
	Unbalanced and lacking full canopy	1	
Life Expectancy	> 50 years	5	3
	10 – 50 years	3	
	< 10 years	1	
			18
Total C Factor		0.6	

TOTAL AMENITY VALUE OF TREE \$5,955

TABLE 1	DBH (cm)	2020
	6	\$368.01
	7	\$500.98
	8	\$654.36
	9	\$828.16
	10	\$1,022.43
	11	\$1,259.34
	12	\$1,472.29
	13	\$1,727.90
	14	\$2,003.94
	15	\$2,300.45
	16	\$2,617.41
	17	\$2,954.80
	18	\$3,312.65
	19	\$3,690.95
	20	\$4,089.69
	21	\$4,508.88
	22	\$4,948.53
	23	\$5,408.63
	24	\$5,889.16
	25	\$3,690.14
	26	\$6,911.58
	27	\$7,453.51
	28	\$8,015.80
	29	\$8,598.57
	30	\$9,201.81
	31	\$9,825.50
	32	\$10,469.62
	33	\$11,134.19
	34	\$11,819.20
	35	\$12,524.68
	36	\$13,250.60
	37	\$13,996.97
	38	\$14,763.80
	39	\$15,551.07
	40	\$16,358.77
	41	\$17,186.94
	42	\$18,035.55
	43	\$18,904.61
	44	\$19,794.12
	45	\$20,704.08
	46	\$21,634.48
	47	\$22,585.33
	48	\$23,556.64
	49	\$24,548.38
	50	\$25,560.58
	51	\$26,593.23
	52	\$27,646.33
	53	\$28,719.88
	54	\$29,813.86

	55	\$30,928.31
	56	\$32,063.19
	57	\$33,218.53
	58	\$34,394.33
	59	\$35,590.56
	60	\$36,807.24
	61	\$38,044.38
	62	\$39,301.95
	63	\$40,579.99
	64	\$41,878.45
	65	\$43,197.39
	66	\$44,536.76
	67	\$45,896.58
	68	\$47,276.85
	69	\$48,677.57
	70	\$50,098.74
	71	\$51,540.36
	72	\$53,002.42
	73	\$54,484.94
	74	\$55,987.89
	75	\$57,511.31
	76	\$59,055.17
	77	\$60,619.48
	78	\$62,204.23
	79	\$63,809.43
	80	\$65,435.09
	81	\$67,095.18
	82	\$68,747.74
	83	\$70,434.75
	84	\$72,141.69
	85	\$73,870.08
	86	\$75,618.42
	87	\$77,387.22
	88	\$79,176.46
	89	\$80,986.15
	90	\$82,816.28
	91	\$84,666.88
	92	\$86,537.91
	93	\$88,429.39
	94	\$90,341.33
	95	\$92,273.71
	96	\$94,226.53
	97	\$96,199.82
	98	\$98,193.53
	99	\$100,207.72
	100	\$102,242.34
	101	\$104,297.40
	102	\$106,372.92
	103	\$108,468.88
	104	\$110,585.29
	105	\$112,722.17

	106	\$114,879.48
	107	\$117,057.25
	108	\$119,255.45
	109	\$121,474.11
	110	\$123,713.22
	111	\$125,972.78
	112	\$128,252.78
	113	\$130,553.23
	114	\$132,874.13
	115	\$135,215.48
	116	\$137,577.28
	117	\$139,959.53
	118	\$143,028.55
	119	\$144,785.36
	120	\$147,228.95
	121	\$149,693.00
	122	\$152,177.48
	123	\$154,682.42
	124	\$157,207.81
	125	\$159,753.65
	126	\$162,319.93
	127	\$164,906.66
	128	\$167,513.84
	129	\$170,141.46
	130	\$172,789.55
	131	\$175,458.20
	132	\$178,147.04
	133	\$180,856.47
	134	\$183,586.34
	135	\$186,336.65
	136	\$189,107.42
	137	\$191,898.63
	138	\$194,710.29
	139	\$197,542.41
	140	\$200,394.97
	141	\$203,267.99
	142	\$206,161.44
	143	\$209,075.34
	144	\$212,009.70
	145	\$214,964.51
	146	\$216,829.20
	147	\$220,935.46
	148	\$223,951.61
	149	\$226,988.21
	150	\$230,045.24

TABLE 2		Species Factor (S)	
	Species Group	Characteristics	Score

	1	trees of short life span (<50yrs),Fast growth. <i>Examples: Prunus, Acacia, Virgillia, Laburnum</i>	0.5
	2	trees of short life span (<50yrs), slow growth. <i>Examples: Malus,Crataegus, Eugenia, Waterhousia, Pyrus</i>	0.6
	3	trees of medium life span (50 – 150 yrs), fast growth rate. <i>Examples: Populus, Corymba, Liquidamber, Eucalyptus, Angophora, Grevillea, Melaleuca, Michelia, Salix, Casuarina, Hakea, Celtis, Acmena</i>	0.7
	4	trees of medium life span (50 – 150 yrs), slow growth rate. <i>Examples: Brachychiton, Fraxinus, Lagunaria, Jacaranda, Shinus, Phoenix, Melia</i>	0.8
	5	trees of long life span (>150 yrs), fast growth rate. <i>Examples: Cupressus, Platanus, Ficus, Pinus</i>	0.9
	6	trees of long life span (>150 yrs), slow growth rate. <i>Examples: Ulmus, Quercus, Sequoia, Ginkgo, Araucaria</i>	1.0
	MODIFIERS		
	0	Normal plant status	0.0
	1	an ubiquitous species (grows like a weed) Example: Salix, Fraxinus rotundifolia, Pittosporum undulatum. Dangerous (poor branch attachment). Example: Ulmus fastigata, Eucalyptus nicholii). Has undesirable characteristics (eg: allergenic). Example: Lagunaria patersonii)	-0.1
	2	a rare species in the locality, a special precious cultivated variety, a tree on the "significant tree register" , has special historical or other significances	0.1

TABLE 3	Aesthetics_A	Score_A
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1	contributes little to the landscape	0.5
2	one of a group of close plantings	0.6
3	wide plantings	0.7
4	irregular spacing between trees: regular spacings one side	0.8
5	street or pathway plantings, regular spacing both sides	0.9
6	solitary feature specimen tree	1

TABLE 4	Locality (L)	Score
1	in undeveloped bushland or reserves	0.5
2	in villages	1
3	in outer suburb areas and residential streets	1.5
4	in inner city/town areas	1.75
5	in Regional Park or Reserve, significant street near City/town centre	2
6	in Historical Park or City/town secondary street	2.25
7	City Centre Main Street, Principal Boulevard	2.5

TABLE 5	TREE CONDITION (C)	SCORE
	6	0.2
	7	0.2
	8	0.2
	9	0.2
	10	0.4
	11	0.4
	12	0.4
	13	0.4
	14	0.6
	15	0.6
	16	0.6
	17	0.6
	18	0.6
	19	0.8
	20	0.8
	21	0.8
	22	0.8
	23	1
	24	1

	25	1
	26	1

Tree List

Acacia baileyana
Acacia deanei
Acacia decurrens
Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia mearnsii
Acacia pendula
Acacia pravissima
Acacia salicina
Acacia spectabilis
Acer buergerianum
Acer negundo
Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Blaze'
Acmena smithii
Agonis flexuosa
Albizia julibrissin
Alphitonia excelsa
Alnus cordata
Alnus jorullensis
Angophora costata
Angophora floribunda
Araucaria bidwillii
Araucaria columnaris
Araucaria cunninghamii
Araucaria heterophylla
Arbutus unedo
Backhousia citriodora
Banksia serrata
Bauhinia x blakeana
Bauhinia variegata
Betula pendula
Brachychiton acerifolius
Brachychiton discolour
Brachychiton populneus
Brachychiton rupestris
Backhousia citriodora
Callistemon citrinis
Callistemon 'Harkness'
Callistemon salignus
Callistemon viminalis
Callitris glaucophylla
Callitris rhomboidea
Casuarina cunninghamiana
Casuarina glauca
Crataegus laevigata
Cedrus atlantica
Cedrus deodara
Celtis australis

Celtis occidentalis
Cercis siliquastrum
Chamaecyparis lawsoniana
Cinnamomum camphora
Corymbia citriodora
Corymbia eximia
Corymbia ficifolia
Corymbia gummiferum
Corymbia maculata
Corymbia ptychocarpa
Corymbia torelliana
Cupressus sempervirens
Dodona viscosa
Elaeocarpus reticulatus
Erythrina crista-galli
Eucalyptus albens
Eucalyptus bicostata
Eucalyptus blakelyi
Eucalyptus botryoides
Eucalyptus camaldulensis
Eucalyptus cladocalyx
Eucalyptus cinerea
Eucalyptus conica
Eucalyptus crebra
Eucalyptus dunnii
Eucalyptus forrestiana
Eucalyptus leucoxylon
Eucalyptus leucoxylon dwarf form
Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. megalocarpa
Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. maculosa
Eucalyptus melliodora
Eucalyptus microcarpa
Eucalyptus microtheca
Eucalyptus nicholii
Eucalyptus platypus
Eucalyptus polyanthemus
Eucalyptus robusta
Eucalyptus rossii
Eucalyptus sideroxylon
Eucalyptus stricklandii
Eucalyptus tereticornis
Eucalyptus torquata
Ficus microcarpa var. hillii
Fraxinus americana var.
Fraxinus excelsior
Fraxinus excelsior 'Aurea'
Fraxinus graeffthii
Fraxinus ornus
Fraxinus oxycarpa raywoodii

Geijera parviflora
Ginkgo biloba
Ginkgo biloba 'Princeton Sentry'
Gleditsia triacanthos var.inermis Varieties
Grevillea robusta
Hakea laurina
Hakea salicifolia
Hymenosporum favum
Jacaranda mimosifolia
Koelreuteria paniculata
Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei varieties
Lagunaria patersonia
Leptospermum petersonii
Liquidambar formosana
Liquidambar styraciflua"Goduzam" Gold Dust
Lophostemon confertus
Maclura pomifera 'Wichita'
Magnolia grandiflora 'Exmouth'
Malus floribunda
Malus ioensis "Plena"
Malus tschonoskii
Melia azedarach
Melaleuca linariifolia
Melaleuca quinquenervia
Melaleuca styphelioides
Metasequoia glyptostroboides
Nerium oleander
Nyssa sylvatica
Olea europea
Paulownia tomentosa
Phoenix canariensis
Phoenix reclinata
Photinia robusta
Pinus canariensis
Pinus halepensis
Pinus pinea
Pistacia chinensis
Platanus X acerifolia
Podocarpus elatus
Populus x canadensis "Evergreen 65 – 1"
Populus x P. euramericana "Veronese"
Populus nigra cv. "Italica"
Populus yunnanensis
Prunus cerasifera "nigra"
Pyrus calleryana Bradford
Pyrus calleryana Chanticleer
Pyrus nivalis

Pyrus ussuriensis
Quercus coccinea
Quercus palustris
Quercus suber
Robinia pseudoacacia (Varieties)
Salix babylonica
Sapium sebiferum
Schinus areira
Sophora japonica 'Princeton Upright'
Stenocarpus sinuatus
Syzygium paniculatum
Tristaniopsis laurina
Ulmus glabra 'Lutescens'
Ulmus parvifolia
Ulmus procera
Waterhousea floribunda
Washingtonia robusta
Zelkova serrata 'wireless'



REPORT: Dubbo Regional Council Tree Preservation Order (Public Trees) and Significant Tree Register

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 29 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/660

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement	
Issue	Adoption of the updated Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register (current format)	
Reasoning	To provide continued protection of public trees (and those listed on private land that appear on the Significant Tree Register) through to March 2024.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places – Recreation and Open Space
	Funding Source	General Rates
	Proposed Cost	\$1,000
	Ongoing Costs	\$1,000 p.a
Policy Implications	Policy Title	No Policy
	Impact on Policy	No impact.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	6 Environmental Sustainability
CSP Objective:	6.1 We achieve net zero emissions
Delivery Program Strategy:	6.1.4 Existing and new development is sustainable, has sufficient greenspace and efficiently uses resources
Theme:	6 Environmental Sustainability
CSP Objective:	6.2 We recognise, plan for and respond to the impacts of climate change
Delivery Program Strategy:	6.2.1 The impacts of climate change are identified and addressed through collaboration with our community and government

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Dubbo Regional Council Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register 2023 be noted.
2. That the Dubbo Regional Council Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register 2023 be adopted, noting the identified changes.

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

IM
Manager Recreation and
Open Space

REPORT

In accordance with the former Dubbo City Council's resolution of 23 June 1995 (Clause 95/64) a review has been conducted of the Significant Tree Register and the Tree Preservation Order. A broader review of Dubbo Regional Council's Tree Preservation Order is currently in train. The proposed document ensures that the current protection provided by the Tree Preservation Order continues while this review takes place.

Dubbo Regional Council also maintains a Significant Tree Register identifying trees within the local government area that have been nominated and assessed as having a level of significance. This significance may be derived from a number of factors including historical, cultural, environmental, rarity, part of a remnant landscape, or connection to a famous person/event, etc.

It is proposed that once adopted the Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register will remain in force until 1 March 2024. An updated Significant Tree Register and Tree Preservation Order will be developed and submitted for consideration at the February 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Since the adoption of the last Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register the following changes have occurred:

1. Five *Brachychiton rupestris*, bottle trees relocated from 40 Myall Street to Taronga Western Plains Zoo. These have been removed from the Significant Tree Register.

The relocation of the trees was approved by Council Infrastructure and Liveability committee on 8 October 2019 following a request by Taronga Western Plains Zoo (TWPZ). The trees were located on private land at 40 Cobborah Road Dubbo. The request was for the purpose of salvaging the trees as the owner of the land, Betgal Pty Ltd, approached and offered this opportunity to TWPZ as during the master planning of the site for redevelopment it was identified that these trees will need to be removed.

2. Tree 914 – *Brachychiton populneus*, Kurrajong – tree died - lower Macquarie Street.
3. Tree 912 – *Brachychiton populneus* Kurrajong – tree died - lower Macquarie Street.
4. Tree 44318 – *Eucalyptus torquata*, Coral Gum – tree died – Obley Road.
5. Tree 44332 – *Eucalyptus torquata*, Coral Gum – tree removed – Obley Road.
6. Tree 44333 – *Eucalyptus torquata*, Coral Gum tree died – Obley Road.

Consultation

As part of an annual review process internal and external consultation is not undertaken, unless it has potential significant impacts.

Resourcing Implications

Management of the current Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register requires only minimal resources. Under the current Tree Preservation Order residents have the responsibility of managing trees on their private land, unless the trees are identified on the Significant Tree Register.

To undertake the review of the documentation and make amendments costs \$1,000 per year.

Total Financial Implications	Current year (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Current year + 4 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
b. Operating expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000
d. Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0
e. Total net impact (c – d)	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000
Does the proposal require ongoing funding?			No			
What is the source of this funding?			N/A			

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Planned Communications

If adopted the Tree Preservation Order and Significant Tree Register will be placed on Dubbo Regional Council's website to make it broadly available to the community.

APPENDICES:

1 [DRC_Tree_Preservation & Significant Tree_2023](#)



TREE PRESERVATION ORDER APRIL 2023



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PART A



1. DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Notice is hereby given that Dubbo Regional Council at its August 2018 meeting resolved to make the following Tree Preservation Order, such Order taking effect as of 27 April 2023.

1. This Order applies to Trees or Groups of trees included in the Significant Tree Register and to Trees and Groups of trees on the Interim List associated with that Register and to all trees on public land and public roads.
2. This Order applies to all lands within the whole of the Dubbo Regional Local Government Area.
3. Subject to the exclusions listed in Schedule 1 and concessions listed in Schedule 2 hereunder this order prohibits –
 - i. The ringbarking, cutting down, topping, lopping, and removing, injuring or wilful destruction of any tree or groups of trees listed in the Significant Tree Register or the Interim List associated with that Register.
 - ii. The substantial alteration, giving cause or permission to substantially alter the natural ground level, either by excavation or fill around the trunk or within the drip line of a tree to which the Tree Preservation Order applies without the consent of Council.

SCHEDULE 1 (EXCLUSIONS)

This Order does not apply to a tree or group of trees that:

- a. Is not listed on the Significant Tree Register or the Interim List associated with that Register, with the exemption of trees on public land and public roads;
- b. Is on land covered under the provisions of New South Wales forestry Act 1916, as amended; or
- c. Is declared a Noxious Plant under the provisions of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993; or

- d. Comprises part of a horticultural or orchard establishment where the lopping of and pruning of trees is a necessary agricultural practice of such undertaking; or
- e. Is subject of an approval granted under the provisions of New South Wales Soil conservation Act; or
- f. is required to be topped, lopped or removed by a Public Authority pursuant to an obligation imposed under an Act of Parliament for the purpose of installing, maintaining or repairing a public utility installation; and
- g. Is not listed, declared or nominated as an endangered species, endangered population, endangered ecological community or critical habitat under the Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995.

SCHEDULE 2 (SPECIAL CONCESSIONS)

1. Trees within three (3) metres if a proposed structure of a building which is the subject of a building application may be removed following receipt of a building approval.
2. Groups of trees or sections thereof which are required to be dealt with under the provisions of the Rural Fires Act, 1997.
3. Trees of Groups of trees required to be dealt with in the course of works for which consent has been issues under Part V of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Enquiries may be directed to Council's Director Community Culture & Places, on telephone (02) 6801 4000.

Murray Wood
Chief Executive Officer
Civic Administration Building
Church Street DUBBO NSW 2830

2. PREAMBLE

Since European settlement, Australia has lost approximately 70% of its original tree cover. This is primarily due to clearing for agricultural and other primary production developments. Urban development has also contributed significantly to the removal of natural vegetation.

The loss of native vegetation in urban areas has largely been offset by the planting of amenity trees and cultivation of gardens in the streetscape, parks and privately owned land. A number of these trees or groups of trees have significant values associate with them and they require a higher level of protection to ensure their persistence within the urban landscape.

Council proclaimed a Tree Preservation Order on 23 June 1975.

The original intent of the Tree Preservation Order was one of education in so far as providing some control over the lopping or removal of trees would lead to a greater community awareness of the importance and value of trees to the environment and urban amenity.

Current community attitudes towards trees and the environment indicate that this strategy has been largely successful.

3. TREE ORDER ADMINISTRATION

There is a community expectation that the City's tree canopy will be maintained and enhanced and that Council will play a leading role in ensuring that this is the case. The community feeling is often demonstrated following any works on or which might impact on what communities consider significant trees.

It is fundamental that any Tree Preservation Order recognise:

1. The significance of the trees to be preserved;
2. That in some instances preserving very large old trees is inappropriate and the preservation of smaller younger and more vigorous trees is more beneficial;
3. Vegetation communities, i.e. natural occurring associations of vascular plants are often as important as trees;
4. The desire to protect trees and vegetation must be balanced with the other infrastructure requirements, safety and the "rights" of individuals who "own" trees. And
5. The resourcing implications of administering and enforcing the Order.

4. INTERPRETATION OF THE GUIDELINES

The Tree Preservation Order applies to both rural and urban lands within the entire Dubbo Regional Local Government Area.

The Tree Preservation order applies only to Trees and Groups of Trees and communities registered on the Significant Tree Register on the Interim List associated with the Register.

Dead trees are trees classified as Noxious under the Biosecurity Act are not covered by this Order.

Nominations of Trees or groups of Trees can only be made under one or more of the categories defined within the Significant Tree Register.

5. BREACHES

Where a clear breach of the Tree Preservation Order occurs, legal proceedings may be commenced against the offending party.

6. DELEGATIONS

Delegations to provide determinations under the Tree Preservation Order will rest with:

- a. The Chief Executive Officer,
- b. The Director of Community Culture & Places,
- c. Manager Recreation and Open Space, and
- d. Horticulture and Landcare Asset Coordinator.

PART B



1. SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

Throughout Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area there are individual trees and groups of trees to which are attached additional values that make them "significant." While these trees may be considered significant for differing reasons they require an additional and appropriate protection to ensure both their immediate protection and their long term persistence within the landscape.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

To ensure the identification, preservation and proper management of significant trees and significant groups of trees within the Dubbo Regional Council.

3. DEFINITION OF A SIGNIFICANT TREE

Individual trees and Groups of Trees may be considered significant for a variety of reasons. The reasons in which a tree or a group of trees may be considered significant within Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area are listed below:

A Single Tree may be listed as significant because:

a. It may be a remnant of a previous landscape.

As such, it should provide evidence of changes in the landscape that might have resulted from former human culture, environmental occurrences and changes to climatic conditions or human behaviour.

b. It may have been planted by a famous person.

The significance may be local, regional, national or international and may be enhanced or diminished by the number of trees planted by that particular person.

c. It may be rare, old or magnificent etc.

The number of specimens should be greatly reduced and the future viability of the species is heavily dependent on this specimen.

Old trees are often removed in streetscapes and other public areas due to safety concerns. However, under good management regimes it is sometimes possible to retain these trees in an over mature state

– and thus provide a rare example of a species in that state. A magnificent tree will gain significance through its position in the landscape and its association with buildings and other structures. Very often, a particularly fine specimen will be defined as magnificent.

It may represent a species that is not commonly used for amenity horticulture in the Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area.

d. It may be a particularly fine representation of its species.

A tree should demonstrate all the typical characteristics generally associated with the species in greater magnitude than other trees. It should have shape, balance or symmetry that makes the tree distinctive.

e. It may be a specimen of an endangered species.

The future regeneration of the species should be such that the propagation of the tree through natural processes would be highly unlikely and the preservation of this tree is reliant to a large degree on this tree.

f. It may be of cultural value eg: may have Aboriginal markings or early survey markings etc.

The tree should be notable due to an association with a specific event, cultural story or as a result of markings that provide evidence of past events or social customs.

g. It may be of a particular aesthetic value.

The tree should be impressive due to uncharacteristic growth habit or combine within the landscape, place or architecture of a given area to further enhance these values.

h. It may have biological value to the environment.

The tree should be such that its loss to the environment would seriously threaten the natural biological processes of the immediate habitat.

A Group of Trees may be listed as significant for any of the following reasons:

- a. They collectively fulfil any of the criteria for single trees.**
- b. They may form an integral part of the landscape of a heritage building or precinct.**
As such, the trees should enhance or complement significant architecture or provide evidence of social customs in association with traditional buildings and should constitute a representative site.
- c. They may be a group of trees which have some historic significance.**
The trees should be notable because of an association with a memorable event or provide evidence of past social customs, natural occurrence or human behaviour.
- d. The trees should co-exist or support another feature of the natural environment that would face extinction if this association was to cease.**
- e. The trees should provide a fundamental understanding of the customs or lifestyles of previous generations, either alone or in association with other elements.**
- f. The trees are integral component of the watershed and drainage system (including the aquifer recharge system).**
The trees should be such that they support the natural hydrological processes of a particular area and their retention is essential to the maintenance of those processes.
- g. The trees provide habitat for native wildlife.**

The importance of a group of trees to native wildlife, especially those as identified as "endangered" or "threatened" under State or Federal legislation, should be assessed on the ability of the native fauna to inhabit other areas in the event of loss of those trees.

The Tree Preservation Order does not apply to any tree or group of trees on private property which is not listed as "Significant."

4. PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATING A SIGNIFICANT TREE OR GROUP OF TREES

- a. A tree or group of trees is nominated in accordance with the relevant criteria as previously defined. Nominations must be clearly supported by documentary evidence as to significance in terms of the criteria.
- b. Nominations can be made by any member of the public, Councillor, Council officer, statutory authority or interest group.
- c. Once a nomination is received, it is placed on an "Interim List" and the provisions of the Tree Preservation Order apply until a determination is made otherwise. The land owner is advised of the nomination and may make a submission in support or otherwise of the nomination.
- d. Nominations are assessed by suitably qualified staff of the Liveability Division and transferred from the interim list to the Register or not registered and removed from the Interim List. The Register is then ratified by Council.
- e. The nominator and the land owner are advised of the decision.
- f. As circumstances change over time a periodic review of the Register is carried out to ensure that trees on the Register are still regarded as significant and worthy of protection.
- g. If a tree or group of trees is removed from the Register, the land owner and the original nominator are, where possible, advised of the decision and the reasons.

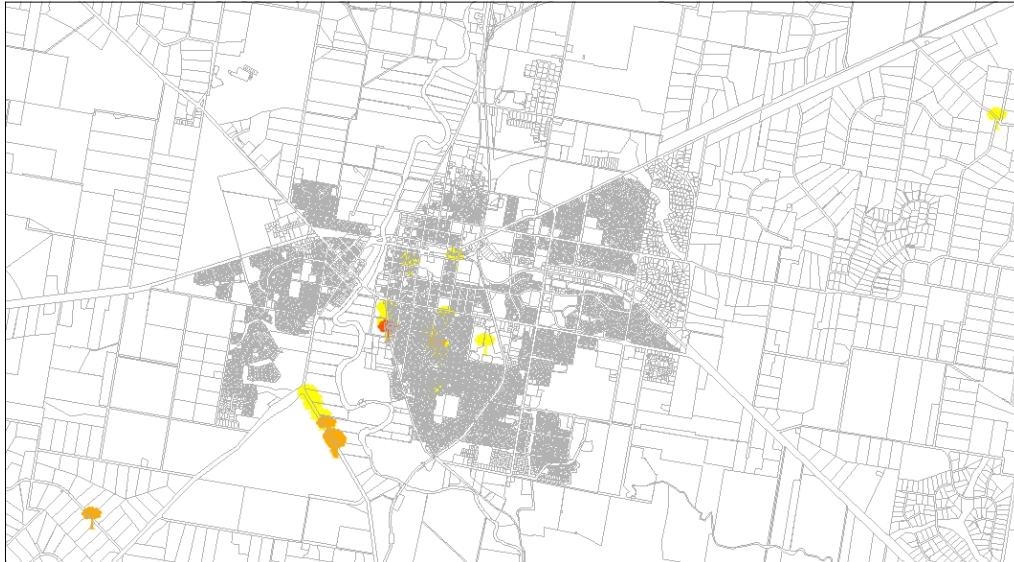
Applications may be made to deal with registered significant trees or groups of trees and in cases where approval is granted certain conditions may be imposed such as replacement plantings, restrictions on the amount of pruning, etc.

This process is represented diagrammatically through a flow chart labelled Appendix A.

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER AND TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

PART C. THE SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

KEY:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

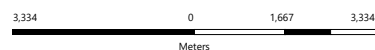


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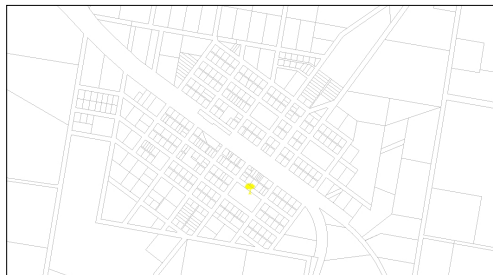
Tree Locations within Dubbo Area 2023



Projection: Transverse Mercator
Coordinate system: MGA (GDA94) Zone 55

Print Date: 3/04/2023 - 2:13 PM

Location of Significant Trees within the city of Dubbo (03/04/2023).



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Tree Locations within Geurie Village Area 2023



Projection: Transverse Mercator
Coordinate system: MGA (GDA94) Zone 55

Location of Significant Trees within the village of Geurie (03/04/2023).



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Tree Locations within Wellington Area 2023






Projection: Transverse Mercator
Coordinate system: MGA (GDA94) Zone 55

Location of Significant Trees within the city of Wellington (03/04/2023).

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 27L Durraween Lane / 22 Thornwood Road DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Group of trees comprising:- <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> (Yellow Box) <i>Callistris columellaris</i> (White Cypress) <i>Eucalyptus albens</i> (White Box) <i>Acacia</i> spp.	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Group of Trees Wildlife Endemic			
<u>Date of last inspection:</u> March 2023 I.M			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> This block is scrubby bushland consisting mainly of <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> , <i>Eucalyptus albens</i> and <i>Callistris columellaris</i> with an understorey consisting predominately of <i>Acacia</i> spp. The <i>Callistris</i> have continued to thicken and may need to be thinned out in the future to prevent them from dominating this bushland. This Group of Trees were inspected visually from the property boundary. It is recommended that this Group of Trees remain on the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Cnr Talbragar and Fitzroy Streets DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> Common: Jacaranda Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen. Historic – This tree was reportedly (Daily Liberal) planted to mark the end of World War 2.			
<u>Date of last inspection:</u> <u>March 2023</u> I.M			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree appears to be structurally sound at the time of inspection. There remains a small amount of dead wood and stubs within this tree, and there is evidence of epicormic growth that indicates that the tree has been under stress. Sandstone blocks have been placed under the drip zone of the canopy to exclude vehicles from parking underneath and causing compaction. This tree was inspected visually. It is recommended that this tree remains on the Significant Tree Register.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Uniting Church Grounds Church Street DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> Common: Camphor Laurels Number: two (2)
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Heritage – World War 1 plantings. Specimen		
<u>Dubbo's Methodist Heroes.</u> The members and adherents of the local Methodist Church to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon, at 4 o'clock, will plant a number of camphor laurel trees in the church grounds. These will be dedicated to the memory of the members of the church who have gone to fight for King and Empire.		
The Dubbo Liberal and Macquarie Advocate, Friday 2 August 1918, page 2		


<p style="text-align: center;">Methodist Church.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PLANTING OF MEMORIAL TREES.</p> <p>Some weeks ago it was decided to take out the old pepper trees in front of the Methodist Church and Parsonage, and to plant camphor laurels in their places. Having had a large number of young men and one nurse go out from the church to participate in the great struggle now taking place in Europe, it was thought fitting to follow the lead set by the Municipal Council, and dedicate the trees to their memory. For the past three weeks working bees have been preparing the holes for the trees, with the result that the function came off on Saturday last. The front of the church was decorated with the flags of the Allies, and there was a very large attendance of members and adherents. After afternoon tea had been partaken of, the Rev. F. Walkden Brown explained the purpose for which they were assembled, and spoke of the heroism of the young men who had gone out to fight our battles. Three cheers were given for the King and the lads at the front, and then the planting took place.</p> <p>The following are the names and by whom the trees were planted:—Walter England (killed), planted by Mrs. J. B. England; Harold, Jack (killed) and Daniel Ison, by Mr. Alf. Ison; Thomas and George Boyle, by Miss Bessie Boyle; Les. Cartrell, by Mrs. Geo. Lees; H. W. Mylchreest, by Mrs. Mylchreest; Clarence and Stanley Bond, by Mrs. Bond; Arnold Paul, by Mrs. Paul; Nurse Parker, by Miss Parker; Joseph J. Lang, (killed), by Mrs. Lang; Leslie Astley, by Mr. T. E. Astley; Cecil Blackmore, by Mrs. A. F. Brown; John J. Jeffery, by Mrs. G. D. Ison; Reg. Bruce, by Mrs. S. Bruce; Frank Cooper (died of illness), by Mrs. Bond; Robert Etchells, by Miss Stella Astley; Eric T. Cook (killed), by Miss Hazel Paul; Norman L. Martin, by Mrs. F. Walkden Brown; Horace Benham, by Mrs. Alf. Benham; George E. Ellis (died of wounds), by Mrs. E. J. Croft; Reginald Morgan (killed), by Miss L. Benham; H. Harvey, by Mr. G. Harvey; Thomas Baker, by Mrs. T. A. McGinness. Trees are also to be planted for the late Joseph Cox and Samuel Armstrong.</p> <p>The Dubbo Liberal and Macquarie Advocate, Tuesday 6 August 1918, page 3</p>	
<p><u>Date of last inspection.</u></p> <p>March 2023</p> <p>I.M</p>	

Condition:			
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>General Summary:</p> <p>These trees generally appear to be good health.</p> <p>The Western tree has suffered substantial damage to the southern trunk which has led to decay and a cavity forming. This may be exacerbated by the changed soil conditions around its base as there is a raised garden bed up to its trunks. The southern trunk extends over the footpath and the removal of this trunk should be given some consideration by the owner.</p> <p>This tree has a small amount of deadwood that should be removed to improve the aesthetics of the tree.</p> <p>A number of cotton palms are growing in this garden bed (most likely distributed by birds) and these will start to come into conflict with this tree within the next few years. These should be removed.</p> <p>The Eastern tree, apart from a small amount of deadwood, appears to be in good health.</p> <p>These trees were inspected visually.</p> <p>It is recommended that these trees remain on the Significant Tree Register.</p>			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Old RAAF Base Cnr Palmer and Cobra Streets DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Group of trees comprising;- <i>Callitris columellaris</i> (white cypress pine) and <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> (grey box)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Endemic Wildlife A Grassy Inland Grey Box Woodland Endangered Ecological Community forms part of the vegetation within this area.			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M.			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> This woodland area appears to be good condition, with recruitment of mainly <i>Callitris columellaris</i> and a small amount of <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> observed. This group of trees have been inspected visually from the property boundary. It is recommended that this group of trees remain on the Significant Tree Register.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Cnr Quinn and Fitzroy Streets DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachycition rupestris</i> Common: Bottle tree Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Street Tree			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> 24March 2023 I.M.			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> <p>Going back through the aerial photo archives, the earliest that the tree can be positively identified is 1975. It can not be identified in the 1971 aerial photograph. On this basis it is estimated that the specimen is approximately 48 years old.</p> <p>The tree appears to in good health with the leaves exhibiting no signs of chlorosis, disease or pest infestation.</p> <p>A large area on the southern face of the tree and smaller sections on both the eastern and northern faces shows a moderate level of past damage by borers. To a large degree there seems to adequate recovery, however there are small patches of dead / decayed wood on both the northern and southern faces. Upon further investigation some evidence of frass was discovered however this appeared to be old. Some minor sap exudations around these points of attack may be indicative of the plants response in trying to compartmentalise the injury and minimise its effects (Harris <i>et.al</i> 2004 (p 34)).</p> <p>No major defects were observed on the scaffolds or branches of this <i>B. rupestris</i>. It was noted however that on the major western scaffold that a previous branch failure and a small dead branch had caused a small amount of deformation of the scaffold. Although this is not likely to be detrimental in the short term, this stub and branch should be removed in the near future to allow recovery.</p> <p>A low level of dead wood was observed during the inspection and this will be scheduled to be removed.</p> <p>This tree has been inspected visually.</p> <p>It is recommended that this tree remains on the Significant Tree Register.</p>			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 275 Fitzroy Street DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Pinus pinea</i> Common: Stone pine Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Heritage			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree was inspected visually from the property boundary. It appears to be excellent condition with only minimal deadwood visible. Substantial new growth has been observed. It is recommended that this tree remains on the Significant Tree Register.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 287 Fitzroy Street DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Cedrus deodard</i> Common: Deodar cedar Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Heritage			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 M.K			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> <p>This tree has been inspected from the property boundary. This tree remains in excellent condition and it appears that there has been some pruning undertaken to lessen the incidence of damage by passing trucks, minimal deadwood was observed.</p> <p>It is recommended that this tree remains on the Significant Tree Register.</p>			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 63 Tamworth Street DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Araucaria bidwillii</i> Common: Bunya Bunya pine Number: one (1) Scientific: <i>Calodendron capense</i> Common: Cape chestnut Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen		<u>Photos:</u> No photos available.	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> 7/10/2010 M.W <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary.</u> It is recommended that the <i>Araucaria bidwillii</i> and the <i>Calodendron capense</i> remain on the Significant Tree Register at this stage until an assessment can be arranged.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 178 Gipps Street DUBBO NSW 2830	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Cedrus libani</i> Common: Cedar of Lebanon Number: one (1) Scientific: <i>Livistonia australis</i> Common: Cabbage tree palm Number: one (1)	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Unusual			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M. <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> These trees have been visually inspected from the property boundary. The <i>Cedrus libani</i> is in good condition with no changes in its health status. Some dead stubs still remain that have been previously identified as recommended to be removed. The <i>Livistonia australis</i> also remains in good condition. It is recommended that these trees remain on the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Tamworth and Bligh Streets	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 1	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.			
<u>Report:</u> DBH-580mm Height-10.5 mts Crown spread- 12mts Foliage colour and cover is normal. There is an injury to the western side of the trunk which has been wrapped in hessian for protection until healing is adequate. Minor remedial pruning is required to remove a small amount of deadwood and epicormic growth.			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 (Visual)			


I.M			
Condition:			
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
General Summary: Upon visual inspection it is noted that the tree is in good condition despite the injury to the trunk. Pruning has previously been performed on the tree resulting in a small amount of epicormic growth at the pruning points. Minimal amount of Lichen was observed on the S/SW side of the tree which has no impact on the health of the tree. There is a small amount of deadwood throughout the canopy of the tree. This line of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Tamworth and Bligh Streets	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 2
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.		
<u>Report:</u> DBH-410mm Height-8 mts Crown spread- 9mts Foliage colour and cover is normal. Minor pruning has been previously implementing resulting in epicormic growth at the pruning points. A branch tear on the southern lateral has healed adequately. Minor remedial pruning is required to remove a small amount of deadwood and epicormic growth.		
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M.		


Condition:			
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
General Summary:			
<p>Upon visual inspection it is noted that the tree is in good condition despite the injury to the lateral on the southern side. Pruning has previously been performed on the tree resulting in a small amount of epicormic growth at the pruning points. Minimal amount of lichen was observed on the southern side of the tree which has no impact on the health of the tree. There is a small amount of deadwood throughout the canopy of the tree.</p> <p>This line of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.</p>			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Tamworth and Bligh Streets	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 5	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.			
<u>Report:</u> DBH-380mm Height-7.5mts Crown spread- 8.5mts Foliage colour is normal and cover is sparse higher in the canopy. Minor pruning has been previously implemented resulting in epicormic growth response at the pruning points. Wound closure at the pruning points is good. Lichen on S/W side of tree observed which will have no impact on the health of the tree. Minor remedial pruning is required to remove deadwood and epicormic growth.		<u>Photos:</u>	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M.			

Condition:			
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
General Summary:			
<p>The tree is in fair condition, with the canopy showing signs of previous stress, a large amount of regrowth was noticed upon visual inspection with recommendations of further investigation and monitoring required. There is a path and roadway adjacent to the tree, compaction over the root zone is evident with most of the trees in the line and this is impacting negatively on the trees.</p> <p>This line of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.</p>			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Tamworth and Bligh Streets	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 7	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.			
<u>Report:</u> DBH-530mm Height-11.5mts Crown spread- 12mts Foliage colour is normal and cover is sparse throughout the canopy. Minor pruning has been previously implemented resulting in epicormic growth response at the pruning points. Wound closure at the pruning points is very good. Lichen on southern side of trunk and laterals observed which will have no impact on the health of the tree. Minor remedial pruning is required to remove deadwood and epicormic growth.		<u>Photos:</u>	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 M.K			


Condition: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
General Summary: The tree overall is in good condition with the canopy becoming a little sparse. There is a path and roadway adjacent to the tree, compaction over the root zone is evident and this is impacting negatively on the tree. This line of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Tamworth and Bligh Streets	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 8	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.			
<u>Report:</u> DBH-550mm Height-13mts Crown spread- 12mts Tree has died and will be removed.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> The tree has died and will be removed from the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Bligh and Cobra Streets.	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 9
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.		
<u>Report:</u> DBH-570mm Height-9.5mts Crown spread- 13.5mts Foliage colour and canopy cover is normal. Minor pruning has been previously implemented resulting in epicormic growth response at the pruning points. Wound closure at the pruning points is normal. Minor remedial pruning is required to remove a small amount of deadwood and epicormic growth.		<u>Photos:</u> 
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 I.M.		

Condition:			
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
General Summary:			
<p>The tree overall is in good condition. There is a path and roadway adjacent to the tree, however compaction over the root zone is less significant and the overall health and vitality of the tree is noticeable in comparison to some other trees in the line.</p> <p>This line of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.</p>			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Macquarie Street between Bligh and Cobra Streets.	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong Number: 10	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> One of a group of native trees. Forms a historic and unique remnant landscape. Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.			
<u>Report:</u> DBH-780mm Height-12mts Crown spread- 17mts Tree has died and will be removed.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 M.K			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> Tree has died and will be removed from Significant Tree Register			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Obley Road	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Eucalyptus torquata</i> Common: Coral Gum
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> A group of trees (16 in total) Cultural Significance Forms a historic avenue of trees		
<u>Report:</u>		<u>Photos:</u> Number 1 

Number 2



Number 3 which has been removed recently



Number 4 died



Number 5



Number 6



Number 7



Number 8



Number 9



Number 10



Number 11



Number 12



Number 13



Number 14



Number 15






Number 16




Number 17




		<p>Number 18 died</p>  <p>Number 19</p> 	
<p><u>Date of last inspection.</u></p> <p>March 2023</p>			
<p><u>Condition:</u></p> <p>Excellent <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Poor <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><u>General Summary:</u></p> <p>Of the 19 trees that was originally nominated for inclusion into the Significant Tree Register three have either died or have been removed. The trees vary in health, condition and structure. The trees were originally planted and maintained by the Toongi Progress Association, around the 1940s or early 1950s. This group of trees should be included in the Significant Tree Register.</p>			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 8L Sappa Bulga Road	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> Common: Iron bark	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Age Size Endemic Habitat			
<u>Report:</u> DBH – 110cm Height – 28m Crown Spread – 21m Estimated to be between 300-400 years of age. Good form and condition. Previous branch failure has been noted, which may related to climate and or previous wind event. Medium to Low deadwood present within canopy with relatively good structure. Minimal epicormic growth present.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> November 2022			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>		Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> The tree has been estimated to be between 300-400 years of age and is overall in good condition, this particular species of tree is endemic to the region. This tree should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Bell Park Warne Street, Wellington	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Pinus pinea</i> Common: Stone Pine	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Aesthetic value within the landscape		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 IM <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree has been visually inspected. The tree is deemed to be in good condition with low to medium deadwood present. This particular specimen dramatically enhances the surrounding landscape and therefore should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			


<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 8 Gisborne Street, Wellington	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> Common: Kurrajong	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Age Cultural Value Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 IM			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree has been visually inspected. The tree is deemed to be in good condition with minimal deadwood present. This particular tree has significant cultural value and has been recorded to be planted in 1934 by a local resident to whom the family still reside. This tree should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 5 Maughan Street, Wellington	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Corymbia citriodora</i> CommOn: Lemon Scented Gum	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection:</u> March 2023 IM <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree has been visually inspected. The tree is deemed to be in excellent condition with minimal deadwood present. The trees health, vigour and structure dramatically enhances the streetscape and the environment. This particular tree additionally enhances the habitat quality in the streetscape aspect. This tree should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			

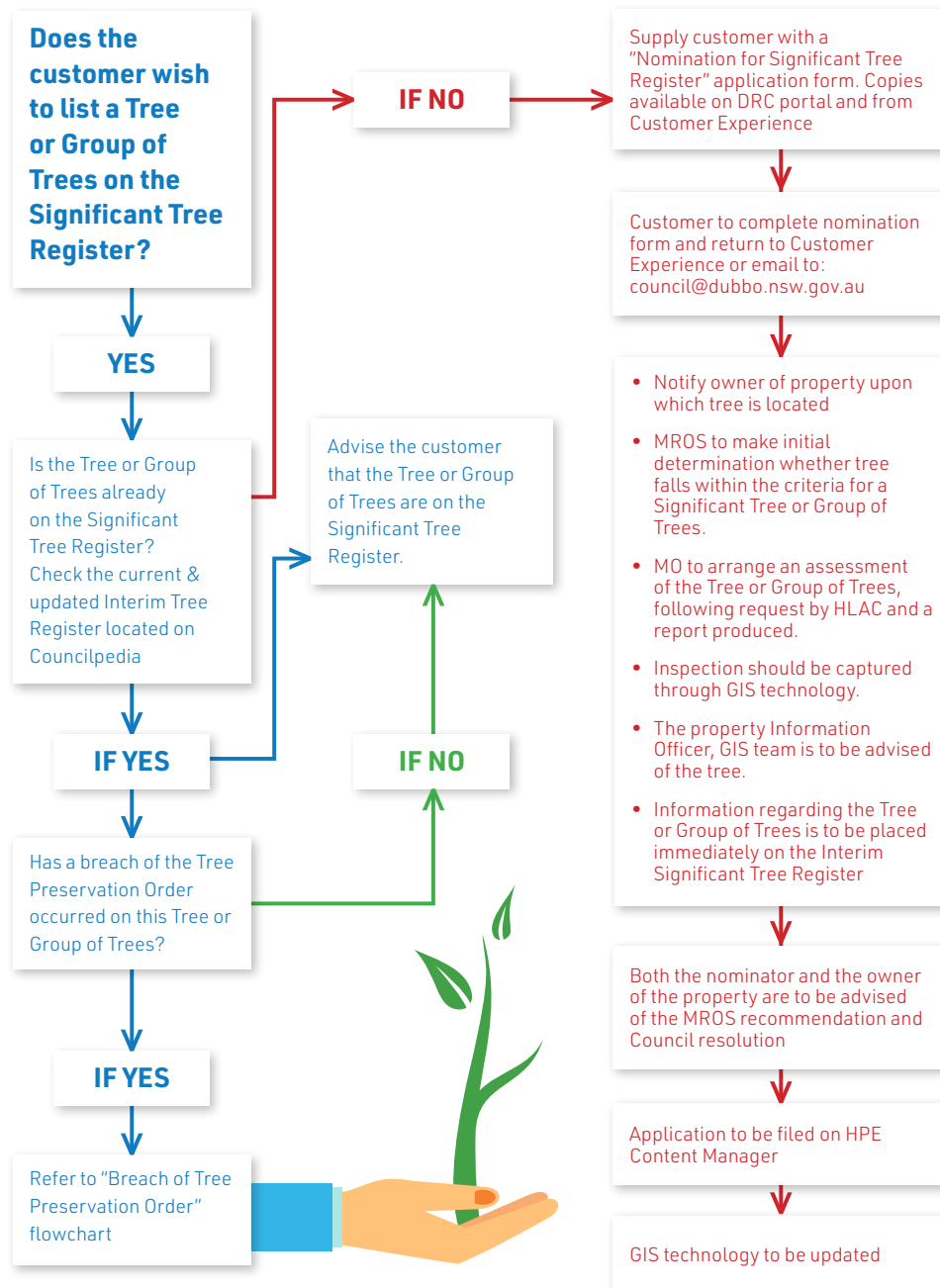
<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> 21 Wellington Street, Geurie.	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Eucalyptus conica</i> Common: Fuzzy Box	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Specimen Creates value for habitat the environment and aesthetics.		<u>Photos:</u> 	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 IM			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> This tree has been visually inspected. The tree is deemed to be in good condition with minimal deadwood present. Minor epicormic growth was evident throughout the canopy. A number of hollows have formed throughout the tree, which pose no significant threat to the trees health or structure but will require regular inspections and monitoring, the hollows do however, enhance habitat quality. The size and structure of this tree enhances the aesthetics of this village streetscape. This tree should be included in the Significant Tree Register.			

Interim Listing

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u> Old Dubbo Road and Wellington Street, Geurie	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> Common: Western Grey Box
<u>Reason for Listing:</u> Part of remnant landscape		<u>Photos:</u> 

			
<u>Date of last inspection.</u> March 2023 IM <u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>			
<u>General Summary:</u> A significant number of western grey box of varying ages and health status. Trees are to be formally inspected to determine value and significance.			

APPENDIX A – TREE PRESERVATION ORDER



APPENDIX B

NOMINATION FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM



NOMINATION FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

I/We
of (address)

Contact phone number

Wish to nominate (Please ✓ appropriate box): ☐ A Tree ☐ A Group of Trees

For inclusion on the Significant Tree Register.

DESCRIPTION OF TREE (for single tree)

Scientific Name

Common Name

Size: Height (Estimate) metres

Width of Crown (Estimate) metres

Trunk Diameter cm (at breast height)

LOCATION OF TREE

(Provide details on the location of the tree. For example: situated 2 metres south of the front fence and 5 metres east of the western fence on the block at No. 315 Some Street. Attach a map if necessary).

NAME OF OWNER OF PROPERTY ON WHICH TREE IS SITUATED ON:

Address of owner

Contact phone number

APPENDIX B

NOMINATION FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM



DESCRIPTION OF TREES (FOR GROUPS OF TREES)

1. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
2. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
3. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
4. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
5. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
6. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
7. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
8. Scientific (species):
Common Name:
9. Scientific (species):
Common Name:

LOCATION OF GROUP OF TREES

(Provide details on the location of the group of trees. Attach a map if necessary).

NAME OF OWNER OF PROPERTY ON WHICH TREE IS SITUATED ON:

Address of owner

Contact phone number

CATEGORY UNDER WHICH NOMINATION IS BEING MADE: (SEE BACK PAGE FOR LIST OF CATEGORIES)

THIS NOMINATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: (LIST RELEVANT INFORMATION WHICH MAY SUPPORT YOUR NOMINATION IN TERMS OF THE CATEGORY NOMINATED ABOVE).

APPENDIX B

NOMINATION FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM



THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:
(LIST DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE AND ATTACH COPIES, EG: NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.)

I/We understand that this nomination will be assessed and may or may not be successful. I also understand that the owner of the tree or trees will be notified of the nomination and may make a submission in support or otherwise of the nomination.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Nomination received on:

Owner notified on:

Received by:

Notified by: ☐ Mail ☐ Fax ☐ Phone ☐ In person ☐ Public Notice ☐ Web

By: _____

ENTERED INTO DATA BASE ON Date: _____

By: _____

ASSESSORS RECOMMENDATIONS AND REASONING:

PLACED ON INTERIM LIST: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: _____

By: _____

NOMINATOR NOTIFIED OF RECOMMENDATION BY:

Notified by: ☐ Mail ☐ Fax ☐ Phone ☐ In person ☐ Public Notice ☐ Web

By: _____

OWNER NOTIFIED OF RECOMMENDATION BY:

Notified by: ☐ Mail ☐ Fax ☐ Phone ☐ In person ☐ Public Notice ☐ Web

By: _____

ENTERED INTO DATA BASE ON Date: _____

By: _____

APPENDIX B

NOMINATION FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM



A Single Tree may be listed as significant because:

i. It may be a remnant of a previous landscape.

As such, it should provide evidence of changes in the landscape that might have resulted from former human culture, environmental occurrences and changes to climatic conditions or human behaviour.

j. It may have been planted by a famous person.

The significance may be local, regional, national or international and may be enhanced or diminished by the number of trees planted by that particular person.

k. It may be rare, old or magnificent etc.

The number of specimens should be greatly reduced and the future viability of the species is heavily dependent on this specimen.

Old trees are often removed in streetscapes and other public areas due to safety concerns. However, under good management regimes it is sometimes possible to retain these trees in an over mature state – and thus provide a rare example of a species in that state. A magnificent tree will gain significance through its position in the landscape and its association with buildings and other structures. Very often, a particularly fine specimen will be defined as magnificent.

It may represent a species that is not commonly used for amenity horticulture in the Dubbo Local Government Area.

l. It may be a particularly fine representation of its species.

A tree should demonstrate all the typical characteristics generally associated with the species in greater magnitude than other trees. It should have shape, balance or symmetry that makes the tree distinctive.

m. It may be a specimen of an endangered species.

The future regeneration of the species should be such that the propagation of the tree through natural processes would be highly unlikely and the preservation of this tree is reliant to a large degree on this tree.

n. It may be of cultural value eg: may have Aboriginal markings or early survey markings etc.

The tree should be notable due to an association with a specific event, cultural story or as a result of markings that provide evidence of past events or social customs.

o. It may be of a particular aesthetic value.

The tree should be impressive due to uncharacteristic growth habit or combine within the landscape, place or architecture of a given area to further enhance these values.

p. It may have biological value to the environment.

The tree should be such that its loss to the environment would seriously threaten the natural biological processes of the immediate habitat.

A Group of Trees may be listed as significant for any of the following reasons:

h. They collectively fulfil any of the criteria for single trees.

i. They may for an integral part of the landscape of a heritage building or precinct.

As such, the trees should enhance or complement significant architecture or provide evidence of social customs in association with traditional buildings and should constitute a representative site.

j. They may be a group of trees which have some historic significance.

The trees should be notable because of an association with a memorable event or provide evidence of past social customs, natural occurrence or human behaviour.

k. The trees should co-exist or support another feature of the natural environment that would face extinction if this association was to cease.

l. The trees should provide a fundamental understanding of the customs or lifestyles of previous generations, either alone or in association with other elements.

m. The trees are integral component of the watershed and drainage system (including the aquifer recharge system).

The trees should be such that they support the natural hydrological processes of a particular area and their retention is essential to the maintenance of those processes.

n. The trees provide habitat for native wildlife.

The importance of a group of trees to native wildlife, especially those as identified as "endangered" or "threatened" under State or Federal legislation, should be assessed on the ability of the native fauna to inhabit other areas in the event of loss of those trees.

The Tree Preservation Order does not apply to any tree or group of trees on private property which is not listed as "Significant."

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM TEMPLATE

APPENDIX C. SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTRATION FORM TEMPLATE

<u>Nominator:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Species:</u> Scientific: Common: Number:	
<u>Reason for Listing:</u>			
<u>Report:</u>		<u>Photos:</u>	
<u>Date of last inspection.</u>			
<u>Condition:</u> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>General Summary:</u>			



REPORT: Determination of Councillor Membership on Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 3 April 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/680

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Addressing Council resolution. Seek direction or decision	
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Councillor attendance is required for Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory committee.Review of community membership required for 15 Expressions of Interest received.	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Council resolved on the 25 August 2022 to endorse the new Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee.The endorsed Terms of reference state that three Councillors will comprise part of the membership of committee.	
	Ongoing Costs	There are no financial implications.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	N/A
	Impact on Policy	There are no policy implications.
Consultation	External	Expression Of Interest advertised for membership.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.1 The health and safety of the community is improved

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.1.2 The needs of older people and people with a disability are monitored to ensure appropriate services and facilities are available

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.3 The lifestyle and social needs of the community are supported

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.3.1 The social service issues and requirements of our community are identified and met

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council determine the three Councillors to become members of the new Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory committee.
2. That the elected Councillors to form part of the review panel for the received expressions of interest from community members and decide on membership.

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

CW
Manager Community
Services

BACKGROUND

On 29 July 2022, Councillor P Wells and Councillor S Chowdhury put forward a Notice of motion for a Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and as such this report is for Councillors to determine the structure of this committee and Terms of Reference.

Previous Resolutions of Council

NOTICE OF MOTION: DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

28 July 2022	<i>That the Director Community Culture and Places provide to the August 2022 Council meeting a report on the proposed Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee with Councillor representatives, and a draft Terms of Reference to be determined.</i>
25 August 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. That a Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee be created.</i><i>2. That the Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee draft Terms of Reference be adopted.</i><i>3. That Council put out Expressions of Interest for membership for this Advisory Committee.</i>

On the 25 August 2022 at the Ordinary Council meeting. Council resolved to create the Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and adopted the Terms of Reference for that committee (see attached).

REPORT

On the 23 December 2022 a media release was published with a request for Expressions of Interest for community members to apply to be committee members of the new Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory committee. Expressions of Interest in joining the committee closed at 5pm on Monday 6 February and were submitted online via Council's website. Fifteen expressions of interest have been received.

Consultation

- Council endorsement
- External consultation in the form of Expressions of Interest
- Review panel to be formed consisting of Councillor Representatives, Director Community Culture and Places, Manager Community Services and Community Development Officer for Seniors and people with disability.

Resourcing Implications

- All internal resourcing through Governance and internal control, Strategic partnerships and communications and Community Services

Next Steps

- Councillor attendance for Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel to be confirmed
- Councillors listed as members to form part of review panel

- Review panel to review all 15 applications of expressions of interest for committee membership and decide on membership.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Terms of Reference - Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee - August 2022



DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

1. Values and Expectations

Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) committees, working groups or advisory panels are established to provide community and industry feedback to Council on a range of issues in an advisory capacity. Committees, working groups or advisory Panels are not decision making bodies.

DRC is committed to our values: Progressive, Sustainable, One Team, and Integrity. All DRC panel members are expected to act in accordance with our values and to work constructively together. These behaviours are expected of all panel members:

- Members will conduct themselves with respect to Council and each other
- Members will act as a two way conduit of information between Council, and the community/organisation they have been nominated to represent
- Members will confine their contributions to statement of facts
- Members will not insult or make personal reflection or impute improper motives to each other
- Members will not say or do anything that is inconsistent with maintaining order at meetings or is likely to bring the panel into contempt
- Members will allow other members to put their views without interruption

2. Aim

The Dubbo Regional Council Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee serves as an advisory resource and information support group to the Council.

3. Purpose

1. To periodically review Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan when required.
2. To provide advice on the potential solutions to issues raised in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan.
3. To encourage public consultation in initiatives designed to achieve the objectives of the Council as defined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan.



4. Membership

Members will serve on the Committee for the duration of the Mayoral Term. Should a member be absent from three consecutive meetings of the committee (without formal apology or leave granted by the committee), that person will cease to be a member. Any position made vacant under these terms will not be filled until the next round of expressions of interest, in conjunction with the Mayoral Term.

Community representation will be determined by way of open nomination, with successful applicants being decided by the Councillor representative/s, the Chief Executive Officer and/or relevant Director, and a relevant staff member.

5. Positions

Membership will comprise of:

- Three Councillors
- Director Community Culture and Places (or delegate)
- Manager Community Services
- Community Development Officer, Seniors & People with Disability
- Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Design (or delegate)
- Community members as determined by the selection panel after an expression of interest process.

The Chair will be the Councillor Representative.

The minute taker will be a representative from the Community, Culture & Places division.

6. Support and Administration

Council's Governance and Internal Control (GIC) branch will be responsible for the following arrangements:

- Sending meeting invitations
- Booking meeting rooms
- Preparing agendas
- Distributing agendas
- Preparing dummy minutes
- Finalising and distributing minutes

Council's Community Services branch will be responsible for the following:

- Confirming meeting dates with Governance
- Confirming agenda items and preparing reports





- Taking minutes using the dummy minutes proforma created by Governance, and returning to Governance within three business days of the meeting
- All matters to do with nomination, selection and replacement of panel members

Committee members will be responsible for the following:

- Responding to meeting invites; providing an apology in advance where necessary
- Reading agendas and accompanying reports ahead of any meeting
- Attending and contributing to meetings

7. Delegations and Reporting

The committee will have no delegated authority from the Council to make decisions binding the Council.

Outcomes of the committee will inform reports, with recommendations, as required, to the Council under the Director Community Culture & Places. Reports may include:

- Meeting minutes – to be submitted for notation to the Culture and Community Committee
- Contributions to the Community Strategic Plan 2040
- Specialist reports as requested by the Council

8. Meetings

Meetings will be held quarterly or as required for consideration of matters brought by the CEO.

9. Outcomes

A minimum of three community/industry representatives is required to attend each meeting to achieve quorum, as well as a majority of Councillor representatives.

In the event that the group is unable to come to a cohesive understanding on any matter or discussion item, a vote will be taken and will be noted in the minutes.

10. Order of Business

The order of business for each committee meeting will be:

1. Apologises
2. Conflicts of Interest
3. Confirmation of Minutes/Report of the Committee
4. Reports from Staff





5. Other items as required

11. Confidentiality and Communication

Confidentiality is to be maintained by all members of the panel, pursuant to guidelines of the Local Government Act. Discussions will be treated as confidential until the minutes are finalised and distributed, or as agreed for release to the media.

The identity, including personal information (such as contact details) of panel members is not to be shared without the express permission of the member in question.

Prior to any public and/or media comment (including social media) on matters addressed by the committee, members will consult with the Director Community Culture and Places.

Committee members will not speak publicly on behalf of the panel without the express direction of the Director Community, Culture and Places.

12. Code of Conduct

Elected officials (Councillors) must abide by the Code of Conduct which can be found on [Council's website](#). Representatives of Council administered committees, working groups or advisory panels and Committees must also abide by Council's Code of Conduct.





REPORT: DRTCC Photography Policy Review

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 13 January 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/48

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Provide update	
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Photography Policy was reviewed in January 2022 with the intention to strike a balance between protection of children under the guidelines of the Office of the Children's Guardian and the desire of hirers to promote their business or group with images and footage of performers under the age of 18. The revised Photography Policy was adopted on 24 May 2022 which allowed all areas on stage and backstage to be available for photography and filming for all hirers except dressing rooms and toilets. The exception applies to productions that have an all adult cast and crew (all over 18 years old) which allows photos and film to be taken in dressing rooms but not toilets, noting all persons being filmed or photographed must provide permission and images must not be of an inappropriate nature. It was recommended that a further report be provided to Council in March 2023 summarising the implementation and compliance to the policy. 	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Policy has been in place for ten months. Changes to the Policy have been communicated by staff to hirers and touring companies by email, updated venue hire agreement, updated venue signage, pre-show check emails and on-site inductions where the hirer signs an induction form acknowledging understanding and agreement. It is the hirer's responsibility to relay information on the Photography Policy to relevant members of their group. Breaches range from mild to serious. 	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Regional Events
	Funding Source	Nil
	Proposed Cost	Nil
	Ongoing Costs	Nil
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Photography Policy
	Impact on Policy	Review of amended Policy

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.6 The diversity of our heritage, cultural services and facilities are maintained and promoted
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.6.1 Our community participates in and celebrates the high quality of cultural services and facilities available

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) Photography Policy to continue without change.**
- 2. That complaints regarding child safety or inappropriate photographs and/or filming at DRTCC be directed to the Hirer in the first instance with the expectation any complaint will be dealt with in a satisfactory manner and the resolution be communicated to the manager DRTCC.**

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

LC
Manager Dubbo Regional
Theatre and Convention
Centre

BACKGROUND

The intent of the Photography Policy is primarily to protect children's right to privacy and safety, and to minimise the risk of images being taken from unauthorised areas and/or inappropriate content and uploaded to social media platforms. The secondary reason is to protect staff and others who are captured in photos or filming during the course of their work without their permission. The third reason is to manage Dubbo Regional Council's corporate risk in regards to level of responsibility to provide a safe environment for children and meet the business needs of hirers. The policy applies to all hirers, local, state, national and international.

The revised Photography Policy is in line with the Office of the Children's Guardian with the intent to protect children's rights to privacy and safety by not allowing photographs and footage to be taken in dressing rooms, change rooms and toilets. The Policy still allows dance businesses and local theatre and community groups to be able to market and share key elements of their business for growth and capture behind the scenes theatre experiences and comradery between performers.

Consultation with local performing arts groups highlighted their desire for a less restrictive policy and their willingness to share the responsibility of monitoring its implementation to ensure child safety. The aim is for hirers to have sound procedures in place to eliminate the incidences of photos being taken in dressing rooms and toilets when on site. Any complaints of images shared on any platform will be directed to the hirer in writing by the Manager DRTCC. The complaint is to be resolved by the hirer and advice provided to Council on the resolution. If there are continued breaches from the hirer, or a particular individual, the matter will be escalated and bans will be considered.

Previous Resolutions of Council

26 May 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) <i>That the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) Photography Policy be amended to allow for all areas on stage and backstage to be available for photography and filming for all hirers except dressing rooms and toilets.</i>2) <i>That the DRTCC Photography Policy be amended to allow local and touring productions that have an all adult cast and crew (all over 18 years old) opportunity to take photos and film in dressing rooms but not toilets, noting all persons being filmed or photographed must provide permission.</i>3) <i>That complaints regarding child safety or inappropriate photographs and/or filming at DRTCC be directed to the Hirer in the first instance with the expectation any complaint will be dealt with in a satisfactory manner.</i>4) <i>That the community and industry hirers are engaged on the intent and parameters of the amended policy.</i>5) <i>That alignment of the DRTCC Photography Policy be considered as part of the Child Safe Standards being developed by Dubbo Regional Council, as part of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Child Institutional responses to Child Sexual Abuse.</i>6) <i>A further report be provided to Council in March 2023 summarising implementation and compliance to the policy.</i>
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REPORT

The revised Photography Policy has been in place for 10 months and during this time there has been 15 known breaches. The breaches ranged from mild (ballet bag with child's full name in view) to serious (young dancer in a state of undress in the background).

Summary of Breaches:

- Professional touring companies – nil
- Local drama groups – nil
- Non-local dance schools during the Eisteddfod – 4
- Local dance schools during the Eisteddfods - 9
- Local dance school during annual concert - 2

Since the implementation of the revised Photography Policy, there are several local hirers that have implemented excellent practices to minimise the risk of harm to children and as a result, there have been no breaches during their events.

Consultation

	Stakeholder	Discussion
Internal	Manager, Regional Events	Informed verbally as breaches occurred.
External	Eisteddfod Committee	Advised of the changes to the photography policy by email, venue hire agreement and on-site induction, including prominent signage. Advised of breaches as they occurred.
	Local Dance Studios and Schools	Advised of the changes to the photography policy by email, venue hire agreement and on-site induction, including prominent signage.
	Local dramatic art groups	Advised of the changes to the photography policy by email, venue hire agreement and on-site induction, including prominent signage.
	Professional touring companies	Advised of the changes to the photography policy by email, venue hire agreement and on-site induction, including prominent signage.
	All other performance-based hirers	Advised of the changes to the photography policy by email, venue hire agreement and on-site induction, including prominent signage.
	Performing Arts Collective	Organised a meeting with the Performing Arts Collective for 30 January 2023 at 10am. Invitation also extended to the Principal of a new performing arts business operating as of January 2023. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss operational issues relevant to local hirers and seeking their input and to discuss their thoughts on the implementation of the Photography Policy.
	Performing Arts Collective	Email sent, plus reminder emails, to hirers to ascertain how they communicate the Photography

		<p>Policy to their members that will be part of the backstage activity. Three hirers responded.</p> <p>Hirer #1 – Instigated a policy where students are not permitted to have phones backstage, regardless of their age. All phones are held in a box until bump out. The same policy applies at the hirer’s studio. Only studio staff have authority to take photos.</p> <p>Hirer #2 – Have a dedicated committee member who takes backstage photos and uploads them onto social media platforms.</p> <p>Hirer #3 – Backstage photography is permitted by over 18 year olds. If photographs are published they must check with the people in the photo for permission and ensure appropriateness of content for wider audience. No photos in the bathrooms.</p>
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Resourcing Implications

- DRTCC is not resourced appropriately to monitor hirers of child-related performances for compliance or non-compliance to the Policy.
- Revised policy reduces the resourcing required to monitor compliance. Hirers, staff and general public now forward complaints rather than the obligation of staff to monitor.
- Non-compliant photos regarding photography and filming are directed to the hirer to resolve.

Planned Communications

- Communication to hirers to confirm the photography policy will continue

Timeframe

Key Dates	Explanation
13 April 2023	Culture and Community Committee Meeting
April	Communication to hirers of unchanged policy



REPORT: Submit Partnership Agreement between Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel and Dubbo Regional Council

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 31 March 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/672

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Seek endorsement by CouncilOther: Signing of Agreement by: Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council, Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Chairs of the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel	
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submit Partnership Agreement for endorsement.Agreement between Dubbo Regional Council and Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel.Partnership Agreement to be signed by CEO and Mayor.Agreement to be signed by Chair Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel.	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newly established Agreement to align with Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party Agreement.This Agreement to be reviewed every 2 years (timeframe).Partnership Agreement to be reviewed and signed in 2025.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places
	Funding Source	Nil
	Proposed Cost	\$0
	Ongoing Costs	Provide support to the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel as required.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	None
	Impact on Policy	None
Consultation	External (WAAP Committee)	This Partnership Agreement was created to align with the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party agreement.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 4 Leadership

CSP Objective:	4.1 Council provides transparent, fair and accountable leadership and governance
Delivery Program Strategy:	4.1.1 Council encourages and facilitates two-way communication with and between stakeholders and the community
Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.2 Our First Nations communities and cultures are celebrated and enhanced
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.2.2 The culture of our First Nations communities is recognised and celebrated
Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.2 Our First Nations communities and cultures are celebrated and enhanced
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.2.3 Items, areas and places of First Nations cultural heritage significance are protected and conserved

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Partnership Agreement between Wellington Aboriginal Action panel and Dubbo Regional Council be adopted.**
- 2. That the official signing of the agreement be actioned by the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel and representatives of Dubbo Regional Council.**

Kim Hague
Director Community, Culture and Places

KS
Aboriginal Liaison Officer

BACKGROUND

- Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel (WAAP) was established in September 2021.
- In alliance with the two Aboriginal communities (Dubbo and Wellington) Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel requested a Partnership Agreement be endorsed by Dubbo Regional Council to ensure Wellington Aboriginal community were being represented and voices were included by Dubbo Regional Council when it comes to projects, issues and celebrations that concern the Wellington community (specifically the Aboriginal community) in regards to;
 - Preserving Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
 - Preserving Wiradjuri language
 - Identifying and implementing opportunities to celebrate culture
 - Implementing an Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan and Employment Strategy
 - Supporting Aboriginal role models to become role models in the broader community
 - Providing Aboriginal art and culture in city streetscapes and in public buildings
 - Involving Aboriginal people in Council decision making processes by inviting membership on relevant Council committees and Working Parties.

REPORT

The Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel (WAAP) DRAFT Partnership Agreement (PA) has been collated by the members of the WAAP in alliance with the DACWP Partnership Agreement. The Partnership Agreement seeks to achieve collaborated common goals between WAAP and Dubbo Regional Council enhancing working relationships and between the Aboriginal people of Wellington and Council.

Council sees the WAAP as a representative body for the Wellington Aboriginal community. It is also recorded that the WAAP has key local Aboriginal stakeholders (e.g. WLALC, Wellington Town Common Committee, Nanima Preschool etc.) that represent their organisations and the Wellington Aboriginal community at the WAAP table.

The partnership agreement is a joint initiative of WAAP and Council. Whilst Council and the WAAP are committed to this partnership agreement, both remain autonomous bodies and retain their autonomy.

The Partnership Agreement details the approach to be taken by both the WAAP and Council to work in partnership to fulfil the aspirations of the Wellington community by;

- Promoting and preserving the rich Aboriginal culture and heritage
- Preserving the Wiradjuri language via encompassing the preservation into the local community via methods such as not limited to street signage, signage of significant places and/or dual signage of significant places.
- Welcome to Country and or Acknowledgement of Country are practiced and appropriate acknowledgement of Wiradjuri people in Council's email.
- Identifying and implementing opportunities to celebrate and promote culture in the community region.

- Implementing and promoting the Reconciliation Action Plan and an Aboriginal Employment Strategy.
- Implementing Aboriginal Cultural Appreciation and Awareness Training for Council staff and Councillors.
- Actively supporting Aboriginal role models to become role models in broader community
- Providing Aboriginal art and culture in city streetscapes and in public buildings.
- Involving Aboriginal people in Council decision making processes by inviting membership on relevant Council committees and Working Parties.
- Local Aboriginal Procurement Policy to be implemented to simulate local Aboriginal businesses, economic development and entrepreneurship. Providing opportunities to actively participate in growth and development of the local/regional communities.

Consultation

- Members of the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel
- Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer
- Council's Executive Leadership Team

Resourcing Implications

- Council Staff – Aboriginal Liaison Officer is a member of the WAAP

Next Steps

- Council's Executive Leadership team to endorse the attached Partnership Agreement
- Council to endorse
- Copy to be sent to Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel
- Launch of Partnership Agreement to be arranged for executed by the Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council and Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Chairs of the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel Chairs

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Partnership Agreement - Dubbo Regional Council and Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel

Partnership Agreement

Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel
(WAAP)

And

Dubbo Regional Council

2023

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Acknowledgement

The Wiradjuri people of Wellington valley are known as the Binjang people, Binjang meaning beautiful Valley. We the Binjang people acknowledge our totem The Maliyan (Wedgetail Eagle). The Binjang people respect the lands, the waterways and the skies that provide our ancestors a song-line (Dreaming Tracks) that watches over us, protecting our people, nurturing our culture, enabling us to be loreful custodians and guardians of this beautiful Wellington valley for all peoples, and for the many generations to follow.

Introduction

The Partnership Agreement (P.A) between the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel - WAAP) was endorsed by the Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) on _____ 2023.

The P.A seeks to achieve common goals between WAAP and DRC and to enhance working relations between the Wellington Aboriginal Community and DRC.

The DRC sees the WAAP as a representative body for the Wellington Aboriginal Community. It is also recorded that the WAAP has membership of other recognised Aboriginal people as community representatives from the Wellington community which includes but not limited to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations (E.G Wellington Local Aboriginal Land Council, Wellington Aboriginal Town Common and other traditional local Aboriginal groups).

It is acknowledged there are several other representative bodies, Aboriginal community-controlled organizations within the Wellington Community that must work closely with the WAAP through this P.A.

The DRC commits to supporting the secretariat role of the WAAP ongoing for the purpose of meeting regularly consistent with the WAAP Terms of Reference.

The partnership agreement is a joint initiative of the WAAP and DRC. Whilst DRC and the WAAP are committed to this partnership agreement, both are autonomous bodies and retain their autonomy.

The P.A details the approach to be taken by both the WAAP and DRC to work in partnership to fulfil the aspirations of the Wellington community by:

- ⊙ Promoting and preserving the rich Aboriginal Culture and Heritage;
- ⊙ Preserving the Wiradjuri language via encompassing the preservation into the local community via methods such as but not limited to street signage, signage of significant places and/or dual signage of significant places:
E.g. Nanima, Wellington Town Common, Blacks Camp etc.
- ⊙ Welcome to Country and/or Acknowledgement of Country are practiced and appropriate acknowledgement of Wiradjuri people in DRC's email.
- ⊙ Identifying and implementing opportunities to celebrate and promote culture in the community and region;
- ⊙ Implementing and promoting an Aboriginal Employment Strategy for DRC;
- ⊙ Implementing Cultural Competence and Awareness training for DRC Councilors and Staff.
- ⊙ Implementing an active, evolving Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- ⊙ Actively supporting Aboriginal role models to become role models in the broader community;
- ⊙ Providing opportunities for Aboriginal art and culture to be inclusive in city streetscapes and public buildings;

- © Involving Aboriginal people in Council decision making processes by inviting membership on relevant Council Committees and Working Parties.
- © Local Aboriginal Procurement Policy to be implemented to stimulate local Aboriginal businesses, economic development and entrepreneurship. Providing opportunities to actively participate in the growth and development of the local / regional communities.

Review Date

This P.A will be reviewed every two (2) years after the date of endorsement and thereafter at the request of either the WAAP or DRC. This P.A will remain in force until a review has been completed.

The P.A may be terminated by either WAAP or DRC via written notice to the other party, with a 21 day notice to terminate inclusive of reasons for termination.

Six month periodic review dates set for tracking and progress against key areas and measures within the Partnership Agreement.

Review to also capture progress across other business that may occur outside the P.A with DRC and WAAP, to be captured as good news stories in line with the agreed review dates.

The P.A to be reviewed and updated accordingly in 2025.

Commitment

Signatories to the Partnership Agreement

Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel, Chairperson

_____	_____	2023
Name	Signature	Date

Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel, Vice Chairperson

_____	_____	2023
Name	Signature	Date

Dubbo Regional Council, Mayor

Mathew Dickerson	_____	2023
Name	Signature	Date

Dubbo Regional Council, Chief Executive Officer

Murray Wood	_____	2023
Name	Signature	Date

Principles

The Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) ...

- DRC are committed to working with the WAAP towards the closing the gap outcomes.
- The DRC and WAAP are committed to working closely and supportively together for the term of the partnership agreement.
- DRC will refer matters of Aboriginal Culture and Heritage to the WAAP via the DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer. DRC to lead the process and facilitate any historical data that may have commenced with the process for further work if required
- DRC will refer developers and any future works to the WAAP as a point of reference for consultation and to be a conduit to key Aboriginal stakeholders in respect of any proposed development likely to affect areas or items of Aboriginal Cultural significance or the Aboriginal population within the DRC LGA.
- Recognise and acknowledge Aboriginal heritage and culture in its immediate and long-term activities.
- Is committed to establishing a formal process for the WAAP to be a key element of inclusion and input on DRC decisions with regards to cultural significance Inclusive of aligning additional feedback from other key Aboriginal stakeholders will also be built within the process.
- Is committed to working with the WAAP and supporting the efforts of the non-Aboriginal community in understanding issues of Aboriginal culture and heritage.
- DRC will continue to demonstrate commitment to the P.A in the development of services by DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer.
- Will take a leadership role in promoting, supporting and facilitating services and programs.
- DRC will develop strong relationships with WAAP across all Council Divisions.

The Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel) ...

- Is committed to working in partnership with DRC in the development process of providing accessible and appropriate Local Government services for the benefit of the whole community.
- To be an active conduit for the Aboriginal community and will refer DRC to key Aboriginal Stakeholders with respect to developments and future works which may impact on both the Aboriginal cultural heritage or the Aboriginal population within the DRC LGA.

- The WAAP must also acknowledge existing consultation process and Aboriginal stakeholders that are best suited to deal with matters concerning Aboriginal culture and heritage such as Aboriginal Land Councils or the relevant Native Title Groups.
- Is committed to working together to enhance programs and services for creating sustainable change by having WAAP members involved as part of DRC Committees.
- Is committed to working together to support and recognise significant dates on the Aboriginal calendar as per WAAP Cultural Protocols Document e.g. NAIDOC, Sorry Day, Apology Day and Reconciliation Week.
- Committed to supporting and assisting the DRC Aboriginal Liaison Officer in advocating for services and programs.
- Will notify and involve DRC in issues relating to the Dubbo Aboriginal Community via the DRC's Aboriginal Liaison officer.

Culture

DRC will refer matters of Aboriginal Culture and Heritage to the WAAP. Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage deals with more than just tangible artefacts with regards to the Aboriginal settlement of Dubbo.

It is also about the importance and significance of flora (e.g. food and medicine); fauna (e.g. totemic significance); landforms; landscapes; and language to the Aboriginal people of Wellington.

- DRC continue to invite and promote Aboriginal Elders and WAAP members to relevant official functions and receptions.
- To be consistent with other local protocol WAAP to provide contacts for local Aboriginal Elders to perform "Welcome to Country" ceremonies at relevant official DRC events upon written (email) request by DRC.
 - In the absence of an Elder, a representative of WAAP to do an Acknowledgement and in the absence of WAAP member,
 - A Council official will complete an Acknowledgement. An example of an Acknowledgement as follows:
 - *Guide for acknowledgment in the Wellington Community*

Good morning/evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to offer you an Acknowledgement.

*"I would like to acknowledge the Descendants of the Traditional people of Binjang Country,
within the Wiradjuri Nation of which we are meeting on today
I also acknowledge Aboriginal peoples from other Language Nations who now reside in
Wellington.*

*I pay my respect to Elders both past, present and future, and realise the sacrifices made by our
leaders to create a better future for Aboriginal people".*

*I would like to extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples present
today.*

- ⊙ The WAAP will advise DRC, via the DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, as per any recognised Cultural Protocol Document of relevant, significant cultural events and ceremonies.
- ⊙ DRC to provide advice and support to the WAAP to promote, host and participate in Aboriginal cultural events and ceremonies.
- ⊙ The DRC and WAAP are committed to working closely and supportively together for the term of the partnership agreement.
- ⊙ All matters of likely to impact the Aboriginal community including but not limited to Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage significance, received by DRC Council will be formally referred to the WAAP via the DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer within a reasonable timeframe (E.G to be included in next meeting agenda)

Communication

- WAAP will provide meeting dates and significant cultural events for the year to Personal Assistants to both the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer and DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer
- The DRC Mayor or a proxy appointed by the Mayor from the Councilor Representative to attend and actively participate in the WAAP meetings. Other DRC Council staff may attend meetings to report/consult on various Council matters including but not limited to the following:

1. Development Applications and other matters associated with Aboriginal Culture and Heritage.
Noting the WAAP is to be the conduit for processing contact to be communicated with the Local Aboriginal Land Council and any relevant Native Title Representatives
 2. DRC Aboriginal Employment Strategy, WAAP to be proactively consulted and inclusive for planning forums, drafts, reviews, evaluation and annual report,
 3. DRC Cultural Awareness training for Councilors, DRC Staff and other relevant key stakeholders
 4. Shaping Plans to Advance Regional Culture (SPARC) and
 5. Dubbo 2040 Community Strategic Plan.
- All relevant planning documents, including the DRC's 2040 Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Annual report will be consulted to the WAAP via DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer for input and feedback.
 - The Mayor of DRC and Chairpersons of WAAP are committed to liaise and work together on Wellington Aboriginal issues which are urgent and/or critical.
 - Prior to any public and/or media comment on major and/or critical issues impacting on the local area, the Wellington Aboriginal Community, DRC and WAAP will make every effort to consult with each other.
 - WAAP supports Aboriginal participation in DRC Council media strategies through publications, annual reports, web sites, posters, brochures, street art, music and dance etc.
 - WAAP to be included on any appropriate DRC controlled website.

Employment

- Both parties work in collaboration to build upon the foundations to establish the principles, ensuring consistent monitoring of the targets in the DRC Aboriginal Employment Strategy.
- WAAP provide advice on mentoring support services for trainees and apprentices. Mentoring Aboriginal employees will ensure sustainable and supporting employment outcomes.
- WAAP to be advised, via the DRC's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, quarterly on the key objectives and actions outlined in the Aboriginal Employment Strategy.

Some examples are but not limited to:

- Current statistics of Aboriginal Employment within all Divisions of DRC,
- Qualitative and qualitative data,
- The internal Aboriginal Employment Strategy
- Cultural awareness training (on-going)

INSERT PICTURE HERE

Reference <https://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/assets/Uploads/files/Aboriginal-Cultural-Heritage-Consultation-Requirements-for-Proponents.pdf>