




City of Nedlands

Technical Services Reports

Committee Consideration – 12 November 2013
Council Resolution – 26 November 2013

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Applicant	City of Nedlands
Officer	Andrew Dickson – Manager Parks Services
Director	Mark Goodlet – Director Technical Services
Director Signature	
File Reference	CRS/073
Previous Item	Item 12.4 - report CP31.12 – Council Minutes 24 July 2012

Executive Summary

The City has received a request for removal of a street tree. Under the Council's Street Trees policy, this is a decision that must be made by Council.

Recommendation to Committee

Council approves the request from the owner of 75 Philip Road, Dalkeith for the removal of one (1) Queensland Box tree (*Lophostemon confertus*) street tree adjacent to their property conditional to:

1. the owners accepting all associated costs for removal of the street tree;
2. the owners compensating Council, in accordance with Council's Street Trees policy, the amount of \$1,440.00 being the current escalated amenity value of the street tree as independently assessed in 2012; and
3. the owners providing three (3) street trees chosen from the preferred species list to be installed at nine metre intervals on the established planting line within the nature strip and maintained for a period of 12 months from installation, with all associated costs to be borne by the owners.

Strategic Plan

KFA: Natural and Built Environment

Background

Council’s Street Tree policy allows for the removal of street trees in specific circumstances (refer to Attachment 1, excerpt from Council Policy Manual). All requests for street tree removal are considered by Administration in accordance with policy and delegated authority. In accordance with policy this request is required to be determined by Council.

Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:

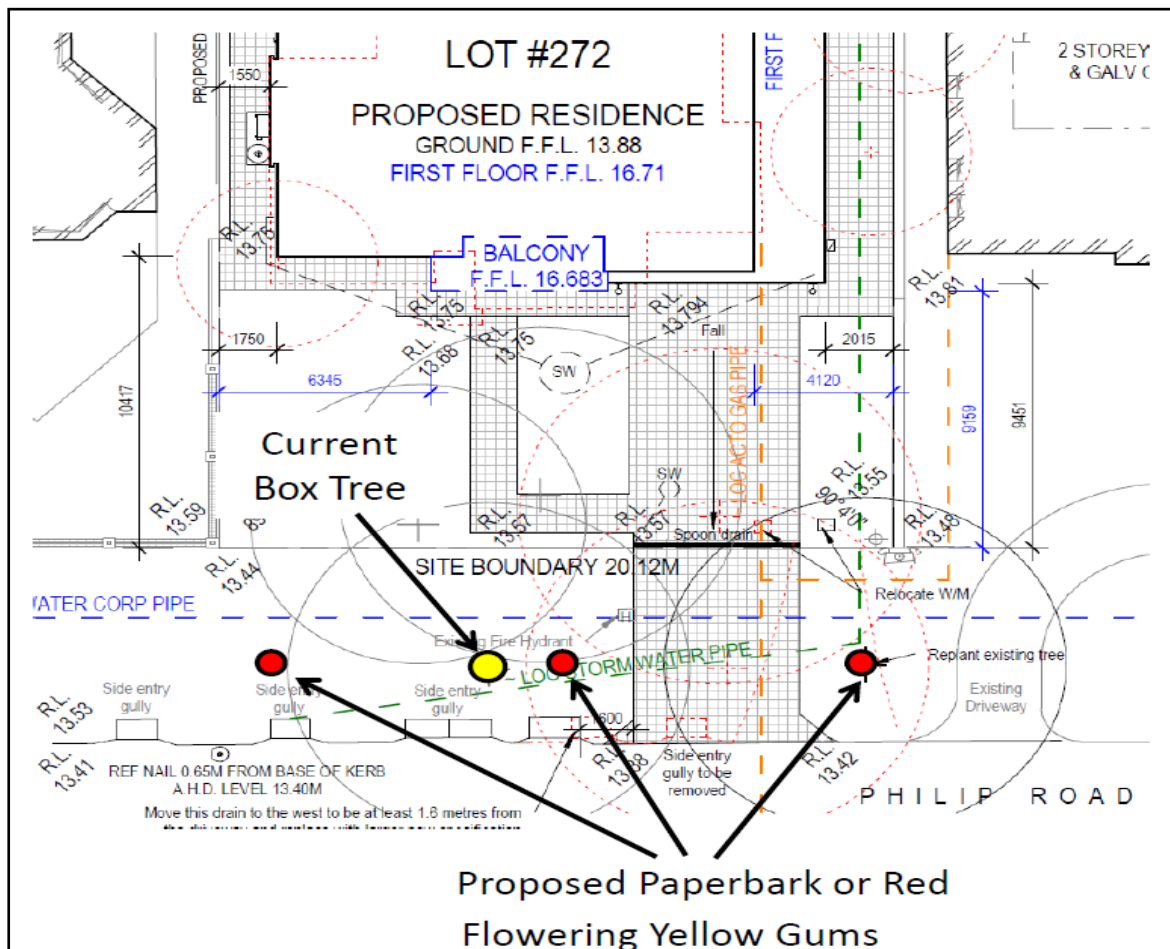
Item 12.4 - report CP31.12 – Council Minutes 24 July 2012

Council approves the following policy:

- b. Street Trees.

Discussion

Administration has been approached by the owner of 75 Philip Street Dalkeith requesting removal of the Queensland Box street tree adjacent to their property (refer to Figure 1). The request proposes to remove and replace the existing street tree in addition to planting two new trees on the nature strip, at no cost to the City. All replacement trees will be the same species, chosen from the preferred species list in consultation with Administration (see below proposal).



The reasoning for the request from the property owner is based on the Queensland Box tree approaching post maturity and being “misshapen”.

The predominant street tree species in Philip Road is the Queensland Box. The street tree proposed for removal is currently the only street tree on the nature strip abutting 75 Philip Road.

Administration supports the proposal on the basis the Queensland Box tree has a limited expected life span and was assessed during the street tree audit as having an average to indifferent overall form.



Figure 1 – Tree proposed for removal

Consultation

Required by legislation:

Yes

No

Required by City of Nedlands policy:

Yes

No

Direct consultation between applicant, Administration and Council.

Legislation / Policy

City of Nedlands Policy – Street Trees

Budget/Financial Implications

Within current approved budget:

Yes

No

Requires further budget consideration:

Yes

No

The proposal is at no cost to the City and, if approved, the City will receive compensation to the amount of \$1,440.00, in accordance with policy, for removal of the established street tree in addition to acquiring supplementary street tree assets.

Risk Management

Administration has evaluated potential risks with the proposal and assessed these as negligible with no requirement for controls.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council approve the requested street tree removal in accordance with the adjacent property owner's proposal, the proposed conditions and Administration's recommendation.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 – Excerpt from Council Policy Manual (Street Trees Policy)