

Technical Services Reports


Committee Consideration – 10 May 2011
Council Resolution – 24 May 2011

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T02.11	Reporting on past, current and future use of fertiliser by the City of Nedlands.
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Committee:	10 May 2011
Council:	24 May 2011

Applicant:	City of Nedlands
Owner:	City of Nedlands
Officer:	Andrew Dickson – A/Manager Parks Services
Director:	Ian Hamilton – Director Technical Services
Director Signature:	
File ref:	PRS/100-15
Previous Item No's:	Item 14.1 – Council meeting – 23 February 2010
Disclosure of Interest:	No officer involved in the preparation of this report had any interest which required it to be declared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act (1995).

Purpose:

To present to Council a report on the past, current and future use of fertilisers by the City, inclusive of a comparison with the practices of other Local Government Authorities in the Swan River catchment area.

Recommendation to Committee:

Council receives the report on past, current and future use of fertiliser by the City of Nedlands, inclusive of a comparison with the practices of other Local Government Authorities in the Swan River catchment area.

Strategic Plan:

- KFA 1: Infrastructure
 - 1.3 Provide and maintain quality passive and active recreational and leisure facilities and open space to meet community needs.

- KFA 2: Natural Environment
 - 2.1 Develop and implement a hierarchy of parks consistent with City plans and community requirements.

- KFA 5: Governance
 - 5.1 Manage the City's resources in a sustainable and responsible manner.

Background:

At Council meeting on the 23 February 2010, Council requested Administration to prepare a report on the past, current and future use of fertiliser by the City, and a short comparison with other Local Government Authorities in the Swan River Catchment area.

Key Relevant Previous Decisions:

Council resolution:

Item 14.1 – Council meeting – 23 February 2010

That Council requests Administration to prepare a report on the past, current and future use of fertiliser by the City and a short comparison with other Local Government Authorities in the Swan catchment area.

Proposal Detail:

The following report is broken down into 4 key elements/ issues:

- Past use of fertiliser (Refer page 3)
- Current use of fertiliser (Refer page 4)
- Future use of fertiliser (Refer page 5)
- Short comparison of other Local Government Authorities in the Swan River Catchment area (Refer page 5)

In addition, the attachments that identify specific fertiliser are as per compounds, not trade name. This is a direct result of the Councils new policy on pesticides.

Consultation:

Required by legislation: Yes No

Required by City of Nedlands policy: Yes No

Consultation type: Requests for information Dates: Ongoing

During the compiling of this report the following Local Government Authorities were approached.

- Town of Claremont
- City of Subiaco
- City of Perth
- City of Bayswater
- City of Belmont
- Town of Victoria Park
- City of South Perth
- City of Canning
- City of Melville

- Swan River Trust
- WALGA

Legislation:

- Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006
- Fertilisers Act 1977
- Environmental Protection Act 1986
- Environmental Protection (Packaged Fertiliser) Regulations 2010
- Local Government Act 1995

Budget/financial implications:

Budget:

Within current approved budget:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Requires further budget consideration:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Financial:

The ongoing implementation of best practices in fertiliser programming necessitates the use of advanced products and application methods. This will require an increased cost over and above current and past practices.

Risk Management:

- Fertilising of turf areas adjacent to the Swan River is undertaken as per recommendations from South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL's) Phosphorous Awareness Project.
- Appropriate signage is deployed during application for public notification all in accordance with Australian standards and Council policy.

1. Past use of fertiliser

Garden Beds

In the past the practice was to only fertilise garden beds that contained roses. All other garden beds received no ongoing fertilising. All garden beds received some soil improvement at the time of planting.

Rose beds were fertilised using products that were highly soluble and not environmentally efficient. There were no foliar applications of fertiliser to treat nutrient deficiencies and no soil sampling used in the fertiliser programming.

Trees

Trees received fertiliser during the planting and establishment phase only. Once established, generally a 2 year period, they received no fertilising unless there was a necessity to correct an identified nutrient deficiency.

Active Turf Areas

In the past all active turf areas received fertilising across the whole reserve. Active turf areas were fertilised using products that are highly soluble and not environmentally efficient. There were no foliar applications of fertiliser to treat nutrient deficiencies and no soil sampling used in the fertiliser programming.

Passive Turf Areas

As a general rule, passive turf areas received no fertilising unless there was the necessity to correct an identified nutrient deficiency. The exception to this rule is where the turf variety was couch grass. In couch grass the nutrient requirement is slightly higher than that of kikuyu.

Attachment 1 outlines the past fertilising practices used by the City of Nedlands.

2. Current use of fertiliser

Garden Beds

Currently rose beds only receive fertilising. Both native and non native garden beds receive little or no fertilising once established unless there is the necessity to correct an identified deficiency.

Rose beds receive fertilising using a combination of slow release and soluble products which are more environmentally efficient than products used in the past. Foliar applications of fertiliser are used to treat nutrient deficiencies and soil sampling is used in the fertiliser programming.

Trees

Current tree fertilising practice is similar to past treatment in that they are only fertilised at planting and during establishment. Furthermore, new trees now receive hand watering during the summer period for the first 2 years, to which an organic seaweed extract is added to aid in the root development and increase the trees resistance to stress. A wetting agent is also added to assist the water in penetrating the soil.

Active Turf Areas

Current fertilising practice used on active turf areas includes treating sports surface only as opposed to the whole reserve. All sports surfaces differ slightly with maintenance and fertiliser requirements dependent on the sporting activities that take place. The more physically intensive team sports such as rugby, AFL and soccer tend to need higher maintenance and fertiliser application requirements to sustain healthy and vigorous turf.

Foreshore Active Turf Areas

The foreshore active reserve areas are fertilised with a specific product that has advanced technology which provides a certain degree of environmental safe guarding. A recent inclusion to the City's practices is that all fertilising on the foreshore reserves is done in consultation with, and as recommended by, Sports Turf Technology following the analysis of scheduled soil sampling that they carry out for the City (Attachment 2).

Passive Turf Areas

There has been no change in practices used on passive turf areas in the past.

Attachment 3 outlines the current fertilising practices used by the City of Nedlands.

3. Future use of fertiliser

The proposed future fertiliser use is as per current use outlined above. All fertiliser use must comply with legislation. Products used may change in accordance with new technologies and techniques. All fertiliser use will be carried out in conjunction with soil sampling to ensure efficient use.

4. Short comparison of other Councils in the Swan Catchment area.

The following Local Government Authorities were approached to which only three responded:

- Town of Claremont
- City of Subiaco
- City of Perth
- City of Bayswater
- City of Belmont
- Town of Victoria Park
- City of South Perth
- City of Canning

- City of Melville
- Swan River Trust
- WALGA

Comparison Results

Similar products and technologies were reported to be used as those employed by the City of Nedlands across all situations. Generally garden beds received minimal fertiliser application. Trees similarly receive little or no fertiliser application.

As with the City of Nedlands other local governments indicated that the largest fertiliser program they carried out was on active reserves. In this regard, similar products, technologies and practices are employed.

All respondents have indicated that in recent times they had implemented the use of advanced fertiliser technologies and now use environmentally efficient fertilisers as standard practice similar to the City.

Conclusion:

This report demonstrates that current technologies, programming and practices applied within the City are at industry standard.

Attachments:

1. Overview of past fertiliser use by the City of Nedlands
2. Sports Turf Technology soil sampling report
3. Overview of current fertiliser use by the City of Nedlands
4. Fertilising program for City of Nedlands rose gardens.

Overview of past fertiliser use by the City of Nedlands

Situation	Fertiliser practices	Compound Components used	Rates and Frequencies	Percentage of total use city wide.
Garden Beds	Rose beds only	N (13%), P (2%), K (14%) + Zn, Fe, Mg and Mn	Applied at label rates every 6 weeks	~5%
		Sheep Manure		
Native garden beds	No fertilising	Not applicable	Not applicable	0%
Tree planting & establishment	At time of planting only	N (23%), P (5%), K (10%) + Cu, Zn, Mn and Mo	1 tablet per tree	~20%
		Seaweed extract	Applied during watering	
Active turf areas	Annual fertiliser program	N (16%), P (0%), K (10%) + Fe and Mn	2 x annually in Oct and Mar	~70%
		Ferrous Sulphate Fe(20.5%)	Every 6 weeks between May and August	
		Manganese Sulphate Mn(17.3%)		
Passive turf areas	No fertilising, other than couch grass	N (16%), P (0%), K (10%) + Fe and Mn	Only when required	~5%
		Ferrous Sulphate Fe(20.5%)		
		Manganese Sulphate Mn(17.3%)		

Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), Sulphur (S), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Boron (B), Zinc (Zn), Copper (Cu), Molybdenum (Mo), (~) approximately



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SPORTS TURF
TECHNOLOGY

TO: Andrew Dickson FROM: Ken Johnston
Company: City of Nedlands Ref: NCC011
Phone: 0413 706 391 Phone: 9367 3568
Fax: 9386 8087 Fax: 9367 2843
Date: 1/4/11 Pages: 1 of 10

RE: Rugby Field Measurements taken 21/1/11, 22/2/11 and 22/3/11

Hi Andrew,

Measurements

Soil Moisture (surface 100mm of profile)

Site	Average volumetric soil moisture content		
	21 st Jan'11	22 nd Feb'11	22 nd Mar'11
Charles Court Reserve	4.6%	23.4%	54.0%
Allen Park	16.2% (DU of 75%)	21.5% (DU of 52%)	29.0% (DU of 35%)

Soil hardness (surface 100mm of profile)

Site	Average volumetric soil moisture content			Acceptable Range
	21 st Jan'11	22 nd Feb'11	22 nd Mar'11	
Charles Court Reserve	50 Nm	41 Nm	31 Nm	30 – 80 Nm
Allen Park	38 Nm	37 Nm	39 Nm	30 – 80 Nm

Site Observations

CCR 21st January 2011



CCR 22nd February 2011



CCR 22nd March 2011



Allen Park Rugby
21st January 2011

Average moisture content of 16.2% in the surface 100mm of the root zone.



Allen Park Rugby
22nd February 2011

Average moisture content has risen slightly to 21.5% in the surface 100mm of the root zone. However the uniformity of the irrigation application has declined resulting in dry areas across the rugby field.



Allen Park Rugby
22nd March 2011



Discussion

Charles Court Rugby

The surface 100mm of the root zone has become significantly softer as the soil moisture levels have increased.

The soil salinity levels in the surface 100mm of the root zone have risen to 33 mS/m, which is getting up towards moderate levels of salinity.

Allen Park Rugby

The uniformity of the soil moisture has continued to fall; the performance of the irrigation system needs to be checked.

The soil hardness has remained constant over the monitoring period.

Recommendations

Charles Court Rugby

- Continue with the current watering program
- Schedule an application of foliar iron, manganese and nitrogen for early April.

Allen Park Rugby

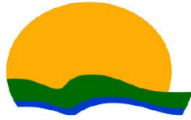
- Schedule an application of foliar iron, manganese and nitrogen for early April.



Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	ATP11045
Site ID	Charles Court Rugby	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	21-Jan-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	2.6				
Phosphorus (%)	0.45				
Potassium (%)	2.7				
Calcium (%)	0.34				
Magnesium (%)	0.23				
Sodium (%)	0.28				
Sulfur (%)	0.20				
Zinc (ppm)	28				
Copper (ppm)	8				
Iron (ppm)	57				
Manganese (ppm)	10				



SPORTS TURF
TECHNOLOGY

Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	BTP11160
Site ID	Charles Court	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	22-Feb-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	3.1				
Phosphorus (%)	0.48				
Potassium (%)	2.8				
Calcium (%)	0.38				
Magnesium (%)	0.31				
Sodium (%)	0.86				
Sulfur (%)	0.29				
Zinc (ppm)	51				
Copper (ppm)	12				
Iron (ppm)	180				
Manganese (ppm)	13				



Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	BTP11161
Site ID	Charles Court	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	22-Mar-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	2.5				
Phosphorus (%)	0.44				
Potassium (%)	2.2				
Calcium (%)	0.47				
Magnesium (%)	0.34				
Sodium (%)	0.99				
Sulfur (%)	0.28				
Zinc (ppm)	51				
Copper (ppm)	7				
Iron (ppm)	157				
Manganese (ppm)	18				



SPORTS TURF
TECHNOLOGY

Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	ATP11046
Site ID	Allen Park Rugby	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	21-Jan-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

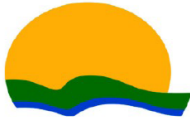
		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	1.9				
Phosphorus (%)	0.39				
Potassium (%)	2.1				
Calcium (%)	0.33				
Magnesium (%)	0.23				
Sodium (%)	0.39				
Sulfur (%)	0.15				
Zinc (ppm)	24				
Copper (ppm)	6				
Iron (ppm)	43				
Manganese (ppm)	12				



Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	BTP11161
Site ID	Allen Park	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	22-Feb-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	2.2				
Phosphorus (%)	0.39				
Potassium (%)	2.0				
Calcium (%)	0.42				
Magnesium (%)	0.28				
Sodium (%)	0.64				
Sulfur (%)	0.20				
Zinc (ppm)	37				
Copper (ppm)	7				
Iron (ppm)	63				
Manganese (ppm)	14				



SPORTS TURF
TECHNOLOGY

Client	City of Nedlands	Sample number	BTP11160
Site ID	Allen Park	Turf type	Kikuyu
Sample date	22-Mar-11		

LEAF ANALYSIS RESULTS

		Deficient	Marginal	Sufficient	High
Nitrogen (%)	2.1				
Phosphorus (%)	0.42				
Potassium (%)	1.9				
Calcium (%)	0.54				
Magnesium (%)	0.31				
Sodium (%)	0.65				
Sulfur (%)	0.22				
Zinc (ppm)	39				
Copper (ppm)	8				
Iron (ppm)	105				
Manganese (ppm)	18				

Regards,

Ken Johnston

Overview of current fertiliser use by the City of Nedlands

Situation	Fertiliser practices	Compound Components used	Rates and Frequencies	Percentage of total use city wide.
Garden Beds	Rose beds only	N (8.3%), P(0%), K (15%), S (18%), Fe (1%), Mg (2%)	Refer to attachment	~5%
		N (11%), P (2%), K (8%), S (0.2%), Fe (0.02%), Mn (0.03%) + B, Cu, Zn, Mo		
		N (21%), P (0%), K (19%)		
Native garden beds	No fertilising	Not applicable	Not applicable	0%
Tree planting & establishment	At time of planting only	N (23%), P (5%), K (10%) + Cu, Zn, Mn and Mo	1 tablet per tree	~20%
		Seaweed extract	Applied during watering	
Active turf areas	Annual fertiliser program	N (15%), P (0%), K (20%) + Mg	2 x annually in October and March	~70%
		N (22%), P (2%), K (4%), S (15%), Fe (0.9%)	2 x annually in October and March	
		N (5%), P (0%), K (15%), Fe (4%), Mg (2%)	Every 6 weeks between May and August	
Passive turf areas	No fertilising, other than couch grass	N (12%), P (1.8%), K (10%), Fe (0.2%), Mn (0.3%)	Only when required	~5%
		N (5%), P (0%), K (15%), Fe (4%), Mg (2%)		

Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), Sulphur (S), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Boron (B), Zinc (Zn), Copper (Cu), Molybdenum (Mo), (~) approximately

City of Nedlands – Rose Fertilising Program

2010 pgm	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Tri-star Granulated @ 30gms per sq/m	X		X		X		X		X			
Vitaplant liquid fertiliser @ 40-60ml per 100sq/m		X		X		X		X				
Baileys liquid Kelp @ 100-150ml per 100sq/m (option)		X			X			X				
Apex Native Custom mix 21-0-19 5-6mth	X						X					
Grosorb soil wetter @ 20-40gms per sq/m	X				X							
Mancozeb, Bayleton or similar	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		Wettable Sulphur	X
Maldison, Confidor, Mavrik or similar	X	X	X	X			X	X				

City of Nedlands - 25 Aug 2010

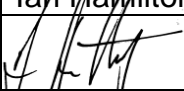
The above fertiliser program is only to be used as a guide, certain factors like Budget restraints, climate, timing restrictions and the change in soil characteristics can alter the type of fertiliser used, frequency and the timing for application.

A few points to consider:

- The application of liquid kelp will need to be applied directly to the soil. This is in hope to stimulate microbial activity to aid in breaking down the organic matter.
- Vitaplant to be applied monthly or when necessary.

T03.11**Quarterly Report - Requests for street tree removals referred for Council consideration.**

Committee:	10 May 2011
Council:	24 May 2011

Applicant:	City of Nedlands
Owner:	City of Nedlands
Officer:	Andrew Dickson – A/Manager Parks Services
Director:	Ian Hamilton – Director Technical Services
Director Signature:	
File ref:	PRS/117
Previous Item No's:	Council Minutes 27 July 2010 – item CM18.10
Disclosure of Interest:	No officer involved in the preparation of this report had any interest which required it to be declared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act (1995).

Purpose:

To present for Councils consideration, requests for street tree removals that cannot be approved by Administration under delegation pertaining to Councils Street Trees policy, (refer page 13 of Council Policy Manual – attachment 1).

Recommendation to Committee:**Council:****a) refuse the request for street tree removals as listed at:**

- i. 69 Circe Circle, Dalkeith
- ii. 26 Reeve Street, Swanbourne

b) approves the request for street tree removal as listed at:

- i. 14 Lynton Street, Swanbourne

Strategic Plan:

- KFA 2: Natural Environment
- 2.3 Promote, maintain and protect existing plant diversity (both native and introduced) in the City.

Background:

Council’s street tree policy allows for the removal of street trees in certain specific circumstances. (Attachment 1, page 13 Council Policy Manual). Any requests for tree removal are considered by Administration in accordance with the Policy.

Where requests for tree removal are declined, residents sometimes pursue their options beyond Administration, by contacting elected members. These requests are then referred back to Administration for consideration by Council.

Key Relevant Previous Decisions:

Council Minutes 27 July 2010 – item CM18.10

Proposal Detail:

A quarterly report will now be developed to allow Council to consider the residents concerns and Administrations comments as per the intent of the Council Street Tree Policy.

Each individual request is listed with discussion points including the nature of the request, the merits of the request, and a recommendation from Administration.

Consultation:

Required by legislation: Yes No

Required by City of Nedlands policy: Yes No

Consultation type: Direct consultation between residents and Administration.

Dates: Ongoing

Legislation:

- Local Government Act 1995
- Council Policy – Street Trees
- Council Policy – Verge Development

Budget/financial implications:

Budget:

Within current approved budget: Yes No

Requires further budget consideration: Yes No

Financial:

Not applicable

Risk Management:

Recommendations from Administration take into account the applicable standards, statutory requirements and common law principles with regards to the management of trees within public land.

Discussion:

69 Circe Circle, Dalkeith (Refuse request to remove)

A request has been received from the owner of 69 Circe Circle Dalkeith to remove one Queensland Box street tree adjacent to their property on the grounds it is shading recently installed solar panels, thus subsequently affecting the performance of the panels.

After reviewing the request the resident is informed that there is no provision in the Policy that would allow their request. It was explained to them that the previous provision allowing the removal of Box Trees was revoked when the current Policy came into effect. At the residents request a City representative met with them onsite to discuss possible solutions including the pruning back of the height of the tree to allow more morning sun through to the panels.

The resident was advised that this would only provide a temporary and limited solution as the City is obliged to adhere to Australian Standards for the pruning of trees and this would place constraints on the amount of pruning that could be undertaken. Furthermore it was discussed that pruning would need to be ongoing and this was an unrealistic solution for the long term.

Administration are of the view that a more viable solution would be to reposition the existing solar hot water panel (situated on the north facing roof section) to accommodate the panels being installed on the north facing section.

26 Reeve Street, Swanbourne (Refuse request to remove)

A request has been received from the owner of 26 Reeve Street Swanbourne to remove a Queensland Box tree adjacent to their property on the grounds that the nuts that drop from the tree are dangerous as they are slippery when walked on when getting into their car.

An email was received in October 2010 with a request from the owner of the adjacent property to remove the tree as his wife and children often slip on the nuts on their paved parking bay on the verge. The resident

was advised that the City could not allow the trees removal in these circumstances as stated by the Policy as per the item - "Leaf, flower, nut or bark fall or protection or enhancement of views shall not constitute a reason for street tree removal."

The matter was referred by the resident to a Councillor who supported the removal of the tree because it posed a hazard. Administration advised that the tree itself posed no hazard and that the nuts on the paved car bay were a homeowner maintenance issue. Council Policy – Verge Development states that where verge developments are approved, maintenance of the verge is the responsibility of the property owner.

14 Lynton Street, Swanbourne (Approve request to remove)

A request under the old street tree policy was received from the owner of 14 Lynton St Swanbourne to remove a *Brachychiton populneum* street tree adjacent to their property on the grounds that it produces a seed pod that disperses fine needle like seeds that are particularly difficult to remove from the skin when touched.

The original request for the removal of the tree was forwarded to the City's Parks Coordinator (Arboriculture) for their attention. Upon receiving the request the officer attended the property and advised the resident that the tree could be removed as there was a provision in the Policy allowing this. This provision in the policy at this time was outlined in the accompanying Procedures & Guidelines at Procedure 4.13 (4) (vii) which allowed certain tree species and specimens to be removed based on an individual assessment. Administration concluded that this particular species of *Brachychiton* is inappropriate for use as a street tree due to the potential hazard of the seed pod.

The resident was previously provided with a quote on 22 March 2010 for removal by the City, as per the previous procedure. The quote was not followed up by the resident at this time due to work and travel commitments. Correspondence from the resident on 11 November 2010 advised that they had contacted the City the week before, to follow up on the removal, and had been advised that the tree could no longer be removed due to a change in policy. The resident expressed their disappointment they had not been advised of the policy change and would like the issue resolved to allow its removal.

The predominant tree species in the surrounding area in Lynton Street is the Peppermint tree.

Conclusion:

This report requests Council to consider, for approval or refusal, requests from residents for street tree removal taking into account the information put forward by Administration.

Attachments:

1. Council Street Tree policy

Street Trees

KFA	KFA 2 Natural Environment
Status	Council
Responsible Division	Technical Services
Objective	The policy seeks to define Council's approach to the selection and maintenance of street trees within the City of Nedlands.

Context

Many trees have been removed especially for construction purposes over the years and have not been replaced.

As the City of Nedlands is widely recognised as a City of tree lined streets and avenues, the City will undertake a street tree management program that:

- Records the current condition of the tree population;
- Recognises street trees as assets that will be maintained and renewed with regard to each tree's life cycle to achieve a high level of aesthetic return for an essentially indefinite period;
- Prioritises plans on a street by street basis for the improvement of the streetscape for the short, medium and long term;
- Minimises conflicts with the built environment and provides protection to and from tree growth;
- Involves members of the community in the selection, planting and protection of street trees.

Statement

Council's first priority will be to fill existing gaps on the City's residential verges.

Planting

- One street tree located approximately every 10 meters along the City's residential verges (two per standard lot); a "fill in the gaps" program will be initiated to facilitate this goal.

- A resident may request the planting of an additional tree. Consideration for an additional street tree will be assessed on the nature and habit of particular species.
- The City will supply and plant street trees up to the following sizes:
 - Indigenous trees 11 Litre bags
 - Exotic trees 45 Litre bags
- The City reserves the right to plant species that are in larger sizes or other than those on the Species List where it is considered appropriate.
- The City will bear the cost to supply and plant street trees in the sizes specified. Residents who request the City to plant larger trees shall bear the full cost to supply and plant the tree.
- Residents are encouraged to water all street trees.
- Residents may plant trees on their verge providing the plant conforms to the City of Nedlands Street Tree Policy and is of a variety from the preferred species list for the street.
- On selected streets after consultation with residents, planting shall be of a single species in order to create an avenue effect.
- When new trees are planted on the south side of an East/West street, consideration is to be given to ensuring residents do not lose their solar access in winter. In these cases, deciduous trees are the preferred option, where this conforms with the preferred species list.
- Replacement street trees will be planted, following consultation with the adjoining residents. However, it is acknowledged that there are some locations where it may be inappropriate for the planting of either new trees or replacement trees. In the event of a dispute between the adjoining landowner and the Administration on whether a tree should be planted the Chief Executive Officer will have the authority to make a determination.
- Tree selection must enhance gardens and trees already planted on the private property abutting to the verge concerned.

Species Selection

- The City will develop a Species Selection database of generally available stock to local conditions (to be displayed on the website). Tree species will be determined by the Council from time to time.

Pruning

- In the interests of public safety and the health of street trees pruning is only to be undertaken by personnel authorised by the City of Nedlands.
- Pruning will be carried out where it is identified that part of the tree is dead, diseased or dangerous or to comply with statutory requirements. All pruning of street trees will be in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4373-1996.
- Programmed pruning including under-pruning will be carried out on street trees in order to:
 - Maintain statutory clearances around and under Western Power equipment,
 - Remove traffic hazards and ensure trees do not interfere with vehicle movements,
 - Remove hazards or potential risks to members of the public.
- Non-programmed pruning of street trees will be carried out where necessary to remove a portion of a tree that is dead, diseased or hazardous.
- If a resident requests a street tree abutting their property to be pruned and it does not require pruning in the opinion of the CEO the ratepayer shall bear 100% of the cost to prune the tree if the pruning is approved.

Removal

- Street trees may not be removed unless one or more of the following criteria applies:
 - The tree is dead, post mature or in decline and no further remedial techniques are appropriate;
 - The tree poses a hazard whether to persons or property and pruning or other techniques cannot effectively remedy that hazard;
 - The tree is diseased or damaged to an extent that remedial techniques are unlikely to restore it;
 - Where a development is approved that necessitates the removal of a street tree, the developer shall replace the tree and bear 100% of the cost for the City to remove the tree and plant a replacement tree of an appropriate size and species at a suitable location on the same verge;
 - To facilitate a Council approved works programme (ie road works, drainage, utilities etc); or
 - the Council decides to remove and replace trees on selected main or other streets, to provide an avenue effect.
- Prior to the removal of a street tree Administration shall assess the tree and where practicable notify ward Councillors as a matter of courtesy of any proposed street tree removal one week prior to the removal and the reasons why in accordance with above.

- Unless circumstances dictate otherwise a street tree that has been removed shall be replaced by another tree of a suitable size and species.
- Removal of trees listed on the inventory of significant trees will only be authorised upon advice of a qualified arboriculturist and approval of Council.
- Leaf, flower, nut or bark fall or protection or enhancement of views shall not constitute a reason for street tree removal.
- In the interests of public safety, pruning and removal is only to be undertaken by personnel authorised by the City of Nedlands.

Notification requirements will be as outlined in the Council's Community Engagement Policy and Strategy.

All applications for development shall indicate the location of adjoining street trees on site plans.

Public Safety and Potential Liability

In the interest of public safety and potential liability issues, structures such as, but not limited to, swings, cubby houses, ladders etc are not permitted to be constructed in street trees.

Related Documentation

- Preferred species list / species selection database

Related Local Law / Legislation

- Local Government Act 1995
- Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
- Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1976

Related Delegation

4D Street Trees

Issued

27 July 2010 (Report CM18.10)

Amendments

Nil
