



Council Policy Manual

CP20.8 Street Trees - Planting, Pruning and Removal

POLICY OBJECTIVE

To provide for the management of street trees in order to enhance the streetscapes and not detract from the community landscape requirements

POLICY STATEMENT

The following requirements shall be complied with in regard to the planting, pruning and removal of trees in streets. All approvals under this policy are to be made at an administrative level by the Manager Parks:-

1. Street Tree Planting

Trees to be planted in accordance with the following:-

- 1.1 the current City of Perth Street Tree Framework;
- 1.2 on an alignment suited to the immediate environment;
- 1.3 at an interval suited to the immediate environment no less than eight metres apart;
- 1.4 a suitable distance from a driveway crossover so as not to affect line of sight to on-coming traffic at exit of driveway crossover;
- 1.5 a minimum of five metres from a Western Power pole;
- 1.6 a minimum of three metres from a Western Power support pole;
- 1.7 a minimum of two metres from underground water or a gas service crossover where possible;
- 1.8 trees should generally be planted in a location so as not to obstruct access to the property;
- 1.9 the current Parks and Landscape services Procedures and Standards.



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2. Street Tree Pruning

Trees should be pruned, where possible, on a street by street programme in accordance with the following:-

- 2.1 all trees to be pruned to resolve conflict in such a way that causes minimal interference and does not have an adverse effect on their health, natural form or character;
- 2.2 a clearance of two metres from low voltage electricity Western Power mains cables;
- 2.3 a clearance of four metres from high voltage electricity Western Power mains cables less than 33,000v. Clearance of high voltage lines in excess of 33,000v is the responsibility of the power supplier;
- 2.4 a clearance of one metre from street lights and service cables;
- 2.5 wherever possible, pruning is to be effected prior to conflict with Western Power electricity lines;
- 2.6 trees not under power lines shall be crown thinned approximately every three years, where appropriate, to improve appearance, light penetration and structural integrity. Not more than 30% of the canopy growth is to be removed;
- 2.7 pruning is to be effected to reduce interference to private buildings. Canopy reduction to the property line will be assessed on an 'as requested' basis from the property owner. Not more than 30% of the canopy growth is to be removed;
- 2.8 requests for the pruning of trees maintained by the City in order to provide or restore views to or from private property or to provide views to advertising or other private signage be approved only where such pruning



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will not detrimentally affect the aesthetic quality, landscape value, health or structure of that tree;

2.9 AS4373 - 1996 Pruning of Amenity Trees;

2.10 the current Parks and Landscape services Procedures and Standards.

3. Street Tree Removals

Street tree removal requests to be in accordance with the following:-

- 3.1 removals shall generally be on a "remove and replace" basis. Replacement species will be in accordance with the current City of Perth Street Tree Framework;
- 3.2 abutting residents to be advised prior to removals;
- 3.3 requests from ratepayers for the removal of street trees shall be in writing and will be considered on their merits based on the following:-
 - 3.3.1 safety, health and condition of the tree;
 - 3.3.2 reasons highlighted by the ratepayers;
 - 3.3.3 value of tree in streetscape/landscape;
 - 3.3.4 potential for significant nuisance or damage to property;
 - 3.3.5 history of requests and associated actions in the street;
- 3.4 no tree shall be removed in order to improve the value of advertising signs;
- 3.5 street tree removal requests in relation to development applications shall be referred to the Manager Development Approval;
- 3.6 a schedule of tree removal action taken in terms of Clause 3.5 is submitted to the Council for information;



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- 3.7 To prevent the unnecessary removal of, or damage to, street trees as a result of building developments:-
 - 3.7.1. wherever possible, a proposed building be designed to avoid the necessity to remove or damage street trees;
 - 3.7.2. before an application for planning approval or a building licence is approved and issued, an inspection of the site is to be made to ascertain if a street tree is likely to be damaged or required to be removed as a result of the proposed development;
 - 3.7.3. where approval is given to remove a tree, the cost as determined by the Manager Parks be paid in advance by the applicant;
 - 3.7.4. where a tree is to be removed a suitable replacement, in accordance with the Council’s current Street Tree Framework, shall be planted at the cost of the applicant;
 - 3.7.5 any request for tree removal for development will be considered under the guidelines of AS4970 : 2009 - “Protection of Trees on Development Sites”;
- 3.8 the current Parks and Landscape services Procedures and Standards.

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