

# PRELIMINAY ARBORICULTURAL REPORT FARNELL ST, FORBES

### 14 December 2023

### Version 2

Prepared for: Land and Housing Corporation

c/- ADW Johnson

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### INTRODUCTION

### **Background**

This Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment was prepared for Mathew London of ADW Johnson concerning the development proposed for Farnell St, Forbes.

The site is located in the Forbes Shire Council area, which does not have a tree protection policy for trees on private land.

The report seeks to identify and assess all trees, including street trees and those located in neighbouring properties that could be impacted by development.

The report will assess the trees and their retention value to help guide the potential layout of the development.

In preparing this report, the author is aware of and considers the objectives of the:

- Forbes Development Control Plan 2013 (Forbes DCP)
- Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites (AS4970)

The following plans have been provided and referenced:

Title	Author	Date	Reference on document
Constraints Plan	ADW Johnson	23/08/2022	Dwg ref.: QS0502-CONS-001[A] Ver.: A
Detail and Contour Survey Upon Crown Land Lots	ADW Johnson	18/05/2023	Dwg ref.: 240380(2)-DET-001-A Ver.: A Pages 1 - 14
Extent of Works	ADW Johnson	01/08/2023	Dwg ref.: 240380(2)-PSK-006[A] Ver.: A

# Methodology

A site visit was conducted on the 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, to assess the relevant trees, collect data and make comments concerning the trees and the site.

The assessment is based upon a visual inspection from ground level using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) approach developed by Mattheck & Broeler (1994). The inspection was limited to a visual inspection of the trees without dissection, probing, aerial inspections (climbing) or tree root mapping. The assessment information relates to observations and data collected on the day of the inspection only and does not include changes after that.

Trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) was measured 1.4m above ground level (unless otherwise stated) using a Yamayo Diameter Tape. Tree heights were estimated. Tree Protection Zones (TPZ) were calculated using *AS4790* guidelines.

AS4790 has been used as a benchmark in preparing this report.

### **Aims**

- Identify the trees that have the potential to be impacted by the development, including street trees and private trees growing close to the boundary lines in adjacent properties.
- Assess the trees for their significance and retention value using a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS) to help guide the potential layout of the development. Refer to Appendix 2 – STARS.
- Calculate the Tree Protection Zones (TPZ) of all relevant trees.

# **Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)**

Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites (AS4970) defines the TPZ as 'A specified area above and below the ground and at a given distance from the trunk set aside for the protection of a tree's roots and crown to provide for the viability of a tree to be retained where it is potentially subjected to damage by development.'

AS4970 states, 'If the proposed encroachment is greater than 10% of the TPZ or inside the SRZ, the project arborist must demonstrate that the tree(s) would remain viable.'

# Structural Root Zone (SRZ)

AS4970 defines the SRZ as 'The area around the base of a tree required for the tree's stability in the ground.'

# **OBSERVATIONS**



Figure 1 The area marked Red shows the onsite area considered for this report.

### The Trees

123 trees or tree groups have been considered for this report.

Only vegetation of tree species of significant size and landscape value have been included. This does not include large shrubs, hedge plants or woody weeds.

Refer to Appendix 1 Tree Schedule for tree data and Appendix 3 - Tree Location Plan.

### **Onsite Trees**

33 trees were found located onsite and may be removed without consent. However, numerous trees with a medium to high retention value should be considered for retention. Refer to Appendix 1.

### **Protected Trees**

90 trees were located close to the boundary line within adjacent properties or are street trees.

Under *AS4970*, these trees must be protected from development impact in accordance with the requirements of *AS4970*. Requirements of tree protection is specified with ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT dated 14 December 2023 by Douglas Arbor.

Mayer

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**Disclaimer:** The information in the report is true and accurate to the author's best knowledge. Best professional judgement was used to make recommendations. However, the author of this report is not responsible for any action taken or not taken in reliance on it. This report remains the property of the author and "the Client". It may not be used or reprinted without their express permission.

# **REFERENCES**

IACA, 2010, IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS), Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists, Australia, <a href="https://www.iaca.org.au">www.iaca.org.au</a>

Mattheck, C & Breloer, H 1994, *The Body Language of Trees: A handbook for failure analysis*, The Stationary Office, London.

Australian Standard AS4970-2009 – Protection of trees on development sites, 2009.

# APPENDIX 1 – TREE SCHEDULE

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Common Name	Age	Height [m]	Canopy [m]	DBH [cm]	Health	Structure	TPZ [m]	ULE	Retention Value	Protection Status	Observations
1	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	7	6	30	Good	Fair	3.6	M	M	No	Onsite tree. Asymmetrical crown
2	Callistemon viminalis	Weeping Bottlebrush	M	6	6	45	Good	Good	5.4	M	Н	Yes	Growing on boundary line. DBH measured at 0.5cm
3	Melaleuca sp.		M	3	2	15	Poor	Poor	2	S	L	Yes	
4	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	4	5	29.21	Good	Fair	3.51	M	Н	Yes	Multi trunk
5	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	4	4	20	Good	Fair	2.4	M	Н	Yes	
6	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	4	5	26.68	Good	Fair	3.2	M	Н	Yes	Multi trunk
7	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	4	5	30	Good	Fair	3.6	M	Н	Yes	
8	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	7	6	30	Good	Good	3.6	L	Н	Yes	Approximately 2.5m from boundary.
9	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong	M	7	7	55	Good	Good	6.6	L	Н	No	Onsite tree.
10	Jacaranda mimosifolia	Jacaranda	М	7	5	30	Good	Good	3.6	M	M	Yes	Approximately 1m from boundary. Canopy over hangs site by 2m
11	Ceratonia siliqua	Carob	М	6	7	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	M	Yes	DBH estimated. 1m from boundary. Canopy overhangs site by 4.5m
12	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	6	5	35	Good	Fair	4.2	M	Н	Yes	
13	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	6	5	30	Fair	Fair	3.6	S	M	Yes	
14	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	7	6	35	Fair	Fair	4.2	M	Н	Yes	
15	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	7	6	35	Fair	Fair	4.2	M	Н	Yes	
16	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	7	5	30	Fair	Fair	3.6	S	M	Yes	
17	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	6	5	30	Fair	Poor	3.6	S	M	Yes	
18	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	M	5	5	30	Good	Fair	3.6	M	M	Yes	
19	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	M	7	7	42.43	Fair	Poor	5.09	S	L	No	Onsite tree. Lopped, history of branch failure. Multi trunk
20	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	М	7	7	49.24	Fair	Poor	5.91	S	L	No	Onsite tree. Lopped, history of branch failure, decay in trunk. Multi trunk
21	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	M	3	3	15	Fair	Poor	2	S	L	No	Onsite tree.
22	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	M	3	3	12.17	Fair	Poor	2	S	L	No	Onsite tree. Stump regrowth. Multi trunk
23	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	M	3	3	20	Poor	Poor	2.4	S	L	No	Onsite tree. Dieback, decay in trunk.
24	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	6	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	DBH estimated. Approximately 2m from boundary

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Common Name	Age	Height [m]	Canopy [m]	DBH [cm]	Health	Structure	TPZ [m]	ULE	Retention Value	Protection Status	Observations
25	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	40	Fair	Fair	4.8	M	M	Yes	DBH estimated. Approximately 1m from boundary
26	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak	M	8	6	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	Approximately 3m from boundary
27	Ulmus parvifolia	Chinese Elm	M	8	8	42	Good	Fair	5.04	L	Н	Yes	Street tree
28	Ulmus parvifolia	Chinese Elm	M	7	7	43	Fair	Fair	5.16	L	Н	Yes	Street tree
29	Fraxinus griffithii	Evergreen Ash	S	3	2	1	Fair	Fair	2	S	L	Yes	Street trees. Group of 5 small trees
30	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	S	4	3	20	Good	Good	2.4	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
31	Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistachio	M	3	4	25	Good	Good	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree. DBH measured at 0.5m
32	Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistachio	M	3	3	25	Fair	Poor	3	M	L	No	Onsite tree. Branch failure, poor structure
33	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	M		5	35.36	Fair	Poor	4.24	S	L	No	Onsite tree. Major branch failure, broken head. Multi trunk
34	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	M	7	4	30	Dead	Poor	3.6	D	L	No	Onsite tree. Dead
35	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	M	7	5	15	Dead	Very Poor	2	D	R	No	Onsite tree. Dead
36	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	M	7	5	15	Fair	Fair	2	M	M	No	Onsite tree.
37	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	M	7	5	35.36	Dead	Very Poor	4.24	D	R	No	Onsite tree. Dead. Multi trunk
38	Sapium sebiferum	Chinese Tallow Tree	M	5	6	23	Good	Good	2.76	L	Н	No	Onsite tree.
39	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	J	3	3	12.88	Fair	Poor	2	M	R	No	Onsite tree. Stump regrowth. Multi trunk
40	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box	S	4	2	12.21	Fair	Poor	2	M	R	No	Onsite tree. Dieback, stunted, poor structure. Multi trunk
41	Lagunaria patersonia	Norfolk Island Hibiscus	M	5	3	20	Good	Good	2.4	M	M	No	Onsite tree.
42	Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistachio	M	3	4	14.73	Fair	Fair	2	M	M	No	Onsite tree. Multi trunk
43	Unknown		M		3	15	Good	Fair	2	M	L	No	Onsite tree. DBH measured at base
44	Eucalyptus leucoxylon	Yellow Gum	M	7	7	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	Private tree approximately 1m from boundary. DBH estimated
45	Eucalyptus leucoxylon	Yellow Gum	M	13		55	Good	Good	6.6	L	Н	Yes	Private tree approximately 1m from boundary. DBH estimated
46	Ulmus parvifolia	Chinese Elm	M	5	6	29	Good	Fair	3.48	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
47	Callistemon viminalis	Weeping Bottlebrush	M		6	28	Good	Fair	3.36	L	Н	Yes	Street tree. Growing on property boundary.
48	Fraxinus excelsior 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	S	3	4	13	Fair	Fair	2	S	M	Yes	Street tree
49	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
50	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Common Name	Age	Height [m]	Canopy [m]	DBH [cm]	Health	Structure	TPZ [m]	ULE	Retention Value	Protection Status	Observations
51	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
52	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
53	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
54	Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Bradford Callery Pear	S	4	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	Street tree
55	Sapium sebiferum	Chinese Tallow Tree	M	4	5	25	Good	Good	3	L	Н	Yes	Street tree
56	Sapium sebiferum	Chinese Tallow Tree	M	5	6	30	Good	Good	3.6	M	Н	Yes	
57	Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust	S	4	4	20	Fair	Fair	2.4	M	M	Yes	Street tree
58	Unknown	Conifer	S	4	4	15	Fair	Fair	2	M	M	Yes	Street tree
59	Fraxinus griffithii	Evergreen Ash	S	3	3	15	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	
60	Fraxinus griffithii	Evergreen Ash	S	2	2	12	Good	Good	2	M	Н	Yes	
61	Sapium sebiferum	Chinese Tallow Tree	M	5	6		Good	Good		L	Н	Yes	
62	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	4	4	25	Good	Fair	3	S	L	No	Onsite tree.
63	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	4	3	25	Good	Fair	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
64	Casuarina sp.	She-oak	M	6	3	25	Good	Fair	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
65	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	5	4	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
66	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	6	4	25	Good	Good	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
67	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	7	4	28	Good	Good	3.36	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
68	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	5	3	25	Good	Fair	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
69	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	5	2	25	Good	Good	3	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
70	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	5	3	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	M	No	Onsite tree.
71	Callitris sp.	Cypress Pine	M	5	3	35	Good	Poor	4.2	M	M	No	Onsite tree.
72	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	7	8	34.41	Good	Poor	4.13	M	M	No	Onsite tree. Multi trunk
73	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	7	8	38.85	Good	Poor	4.66	M	M	No	Onsite tree. Multi trunk
74	Acacia sp.	Wattle	M	8	10	44.82	Fair	Fair	5.38	M	M	No	Onsite tree. Multi trunk
75	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	33	Good	Fair	3.96	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
76	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Dead	Poor	3.6	D	R	Yes	Dead. 2m from boundary
77	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Dead	Poor	3.6	D	R	Yes	Dead. 2m from boundary
78	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Fair	Poor	3.6	M	M	Yes	

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Common Name	Age	Height [m]	Canopy [m]	DBH [cm]	Health	Structure	TPZ [m]	ULE	Retention Value	Protection Status	Observations
79	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	33	Good	Fair	3.96	L	Н	Yes	
80	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	
81	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Dead	Poor	3.6	D	L	Yes	
82	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	36	Poor	Poor	4.32	S	L	Yes	
83	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Poor	Poor	3.6	S	L	Yes	
84	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	11	5	38	Good	Fair	4.56	L	Н	Yes	
85	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	9	6	38	Good	Poor	4.56	M	M	Yes	
86	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	9	6	35	Good	Fair	4.2	M	M	Yes	
87	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	9	6	35	Dead	Poor	4.2	D	R	Yes	Dead
88	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	9	6	35	Fair	Poor	4.2	M	L	Yes	
89	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	Н	Yes	
90	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	Н	Yes	
91	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	7	6	25	Fair	Fair	3	L	Н	Yes	
92	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	12	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	
93	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	4	2	20	Fair	Poor	2.4	M	M	Yes	
94	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	Н	Yes	
95	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	Н	Yes	
96	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	Н	Yes	
97	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	8	5	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	Н	Yes	
98	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	
99	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	5	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	
100	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	7	6	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	Н	Yes	
101	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	7	6	35	Poor	Poor	4.2	L	Н	Yes	
102	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	40	Good	Fair	4.8	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
103	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	9	5	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
104	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	35	Good	Fair	4.2	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
105	Eucalyptus cladocalyx	Sugar Gum	M	10	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
106	Schinus molle	Peppercorn Tree	OM	5	5	25	Fair	Poor	3	S	L	Yes	2m from boundary

Tree No.	Botanical Name	Common Name	Age	Height [m]	Canopy [m]	DBH [cm]	Health	Structure	TPZ [m]	ULE	Retention Value	Protection Status	Observations
107	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong	M	7	8	55	Good	Good	6.6	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
108	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong	M	9	8	55	Good	Good	6.6	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
109	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
110	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	30	Good	Poor	3.6	M	L	Yes	2m from boundary
111	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	7	3	30	Fair	Fair	3.6	M	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
112	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	12	6	47	Fair	Fair	5.64	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
113	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	8	6	30	Good	Fair	3.6	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
114	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	11	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
115	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	11	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
116	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	11	6	48	Good	Fair	5.76	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
117	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	6	3	30	Poor	Poor	3.6	S	L	Yes	2m from boundary
118	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	6	3	30	Good	Fair	3.6	S	L	Yes	2m from boundary
119	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	13	7	65	Good	Fair	7.8	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
120	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	7	5	35	Poor	Poor	4.2	S	L	Yes	2m from boundary
121	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	14	8	75	Good	Good	9	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
122	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	10	6	45	Good	Fair	5.4	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary
123	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	Mugga Ironbark	M	12	8	45	Good	Good	5.4	L	Н	Yes	2m from boundary

#### **Notes on Tree Schedule**

Tree No.: Tree identification number used to identify each tree or tree group.

Species: Botanical name and common name of the tree species. Where the species is unknown, "sp." Is indicated after genus.

Age: J – Juvenile that is yet to establish. S – Semi-mature - established tree that has not reached its genetic potential of form and/or size. M – Mature – tree that has attained its genetic potential for form and size. OM – Over-mature – tree that shows symptoms of irreversible decline.

Height: Tree height in metres.

Canopy: Average estimated canopy spread in metres. Where the canopy is significantly asymmetrical all directions of canopy radius are estimated.

**DBH:** Diameter at Breast Height measured at 1.4m above ground unless otherwise noted. Multiple measurements indicate multiple trunks.

**Health: G - Good** – In good health with no significant health issues noted. **F - Fair** – Some health issues that could be addressed by intervention. **P - Poor** – Significant health issues that could be addressed by intervention. **VP - Very Poor** – Significant health issues unlikely to be addressed by intervention.

Structure: G - Good - No defects noted within the tree. F - Fair - Minor defects noted within tree. P - Poor - Major defects noted within tree. VP - Very Poor - Significant defects have caused tree structure to fail.

**ULE: Useful Life Expectancy** – The estimated length of time the tree will live with an acceptable level of risk and provide a positive amenity value to the site. **L - Long** – 40 yrs. or more. **M - Medium** – 16 -39 yrs. **S - Short** – 5 -15 yrs. **R - Remove** – tree requires removal.

Retention Value: See STARS below. H - High, M - Medium, L - Low, R - Remove.

Protection Status: No - Onsite tree that maybe removed without approval. Yes - Offsite tree (private or street tree) requiring protection from development impact.

TPZ: Tree Protection Zone – A defined radial area around a tree within which certain activities are prohibited or restricted to prevent or minimise the potential negative impact on the tree. Calculated as per AS4970.

# IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS)© (IACA 2010)©

In the development of this document IACA acknowledges the contribution and original concept of the Footprint Green Tree Significance & Retention Value Matrix, developed by Footprint Green Pty Ltd in June 2001.

The landscape significance of a tree is an essential criterion to establish the importance that a particular tree may have on a site. However, rating the significance of a tree becomes subjective and difficult to ascertain in a consistent and repetitive fashion due to assessor bias. It is therefore necessary to have a rating system utilising structured qualitative criteria to assist in determining the retention value for a tree. To assist this process all definitions for terms used in the Tree Significance -Assessment Criteria and Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix, are taken from the IACA Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments 2009.

This rating system will assist in the planning processes for proposed works, above and below ground where trees are to be retained on or adjacent a development site. The system uses a scale of High, Medium and Low significance in the landscape. Once the landscape significance of an individual tree has been defined, the retention value can be determined. An example of its use in an Arboricultural report is shown as Appendix A.

# <u>Tree Significance - Assessment Criteria</u>

### 1. High Significance in landscape

- The tree is in good condition and good vigour;
- The tree has a form typical for the species;
- The tree is a remnant or is a planted locally indigenous specimen and/or is rare or uncommon in the local area or of botanical interest or of substantial age;
- The tree is listed as a Heritage Item, Threatened Species or part of an Endangered ecological community or listed on Councils significant Tree Register;
- The tree is visually prominent and visible from a considerable distance when viewed from most directions within the landscape due to its size and scale and makes a positive contribution to the local amenity;
- The tree supports social and cultural sentiments or spiritual associations, reflected by the broader population or community group or has commemorative values;
  The tree's growth is unrestricted by above and below ground influences, supporting its ability to reach dimensions typical for the
- taxa in situ tree is appropriate to the site conditions.

### 2. Medium Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-good condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form typical or atypical of the species;
- The tree is a planted locally indigenous or a common species with its taxa commonly planted in the local area
- The tree is visible from surrounding properties, although not visually prominent as partially obstructed by other vegetation or buildings when viewed from the street.
- The tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character and amenity of the local area,
- The tree's growth is moderately restricted by above or below ground influences, reducing its ability to reach dimensions typical for the taxa in situ.

### 3. Low Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-poor condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form atypical of the species;
- The tree is not visible or is partly visible from surrounding properties as obstructed by other vegetation or buildings,
- The tree provides a minor contribution or has a negative impact on the visual character and amenity of the local area,
- The tree is a young specimen which may or may not have reached dimension to be protected by local Tree Preservation orders or similar protection mechanisms and can easily be replaced with a suitable specimen,
- The tree's growth is severely restricted by above or below ground influences, unlikely to reach dimensions typical for the taxa in situ - tree is inappropriate to the site conditions,
- The tree is listed as exempt under the provisions of the local Council Tree Preservation Order or similar protection mechanisms,
- The tree has a wound or defect that has potential to become structurally unsound.

### Environmental Pest / Noxious Weed Species

- The tree is an Environmental Pest Species due to its invasiveness or poisonous/ allergenic properties,
- The tree is a declared noxious weed by legislation.

### Hazardous/Irreversible Decline

- The tree is structurally unsound and/or unstable and is considered potentially dangerous.
- The tree is dead, or is in irreversible decline, or has the potential to fail or collapse in full or part in the immediate to short term.

### The tree is to have a minimum of three (3) criteria in a category to be classified in that group.

Note: The assessment criteria are for individual trees only, however, can be applied to a monocultural stand in its entirety e.g. hedge.

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Table 1.0 Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix.

		Significance											
		1. High Significance in	2. Medium Significance in	3. Low Significance in Environmental Hazardous /									
_		Landscape	Landscape	Landscape	Pest / Noxious Weed Species	Irreversible Decline							
Estimated Life Expectancy	1. Long >40 years  2. Medium 15-40 Years  3. Short <1-15 Years  Dead												
Lege	end for Matr	ix Assessment			CONSULT	A C A							
	protecte prescrib	ty for Retention (H d. Design modification ed by the Australian S es must be implemented	or re-location of build tandard AS4970 Protect	ling/s should be cons ction of trees on deve	sidered to accommoda Nopment sites. Tree s	ate the setbacks as ensitive construction							
	critical; building	der for Retention however their retention works and all other alter	should remain priority on matives have been cons	with removal considered and exhausted.	ed only if adversely af	fecting the proposed							
		der for Removal (L n modification to be impl			rtant for retention, nor r	equire special works							
		Priority for Removal - These trees are considered hazardous, or in irreversible decline, or weeds and should be removed irrespective of development.											

### USE OF THIS DOCUMENT AND REFERENCING

The IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS) is free to use, but only in its entirety and must be cited as follows:

IACA, 2010, IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS), Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists, Australia, www.iaca.org.au

#### REFERENCES

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# APPENDIX 3 - TREE LOCATION PLAN























