11/06/2020
C265case

SCHEDULE 7 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO7** .

SIGNIFICANT RIVER RED GUMS IN CASEY

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

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There are many significant old-growth River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in the City of Casey, some which are hundreds of years old and pre-date European settlement. These tend to be located in the low-lying areas of the municipality, which form part of the Gippsland Plain Bioregion, and include Doveton, Eumemmering, Hampton Park and Lynbrook and along the Dandenong and Eumemmerring Creeks corridors.

River Red Gums are important to Casey, both individually and collectively, for their intrinsic environmental, scientific, landscape and cultural heritage values. Many of these large old trees are readily accommodated in Council's parks, reserves and roadsides, while a small number are also located on private land, including small residential lots. Casey is experiencing rapid urban growth, being located in Casey-Cardinia Growth Area, and the pressures associated with this, along with limited planning controls to protect and conserve these trees, makes them vulnerable to degradation or even loss.

The *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey) identifies those large River Red Gums that should be protected. In particular, those older trees containing hollows which are rare and add to the genetic diversity of flora and fauna of the area. These River Red Gums play an important role in the survival of a wide range of native fauna by providing a food source, shelter, refuges and nesting sites. Some River Red Gums provide a link with our past and have intrinsic Aboriginal cultural heritage value. Collectively, these trees are recognised for their distinctive and attractive form that contributes to the landscape quality and identity of the area.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

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To protect and conserve all significant River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) for their intrinsic environmental, ecological, scientific, landscape and cultural heritage values.

To protect and enhance the River Red Gums to provide a source of genetic diversity, fauna habitat and to enhance habitat connectivity within the municipality.

To protect and enhance the environmental and landscape values of a local area where significant River Red Gums have been identified.

To ensure that any use or development of land within the identified Tree Protection Zone of a significant River Red Gum, as identified in the *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey) does not compromise its long-term conservation.

3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is required for the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works listed in Clause 62.02-2 within the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey).

A permit is not required:

- To remove, destroy or lop any vegetation which is not listed in the *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey).
- To construct a building or construct or carry out works outside of the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey). The Tree Protection Zone is calculated by using the diameter at breast height (DBH), which is the diameter of the tree at 1.4 metres above ground level, multiplied by 12 to give a measurable distance from the tree.

- To construct a fence outside the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the C *asey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey).
- To undertake maintenance of a significant tree(s), including dead wooding and broken limb removal on public land by the public land manager to maintain the integrity of the tree or reduce the risk of personal injury or damage to property.
- To prune limbs less than 75 millimetres in diameter (measured at the pruning point), of any significant tree listed in the C *asey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey) for:
  - maintaining access to existing roads, driveways and footpaths.
  - clearing within two metres of an existing permanent structure.
  - reducing overhang to neighbouring properties.
- For construction and maintenance works for municipal purposes within the Tree Protection Zone, subject to such works being carried out in accordance with a Tree Management Plan approved by a suitably qualified arborist.

Pruning works must be undertaken in accordance with the *Australian Standard - Pruning of Amenity Trees, AS 4373-2007* .

4.0 Application requirements

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The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A report from a suitably qualified arborist to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, detailing the reason and need for the proposed works, options for alternative treatments and any remedial or restorative action proposed.

5.0 Decision guidelines

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The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit for removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The impact of the proposal on the intrinsic, environmental, ecological, landscape or cultural heritage significance of any identified significant tree.
- The impact of the proposal on the health, appearance and stability of any identified significant tree.
- The habitat value for native fauna of any identified significant tree, including hollow bearing trees.
- Any recommendations or management guidelines relating to the relevant identified significant tree(s) contained in the *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register*) (City of Casey).
- The recommendations of any report provided by a suitably qualified arborist relating to the relevant identified significant tree(s).
- Whether any proposed pruning of a significant tree(s) is in accordance with the *Australian Standard – Pruning of Amenity Trees, AS 4373-2007.*
- Whether the minimum tree protection requirements of *Australian Standard – Protection of Trees on Development Sites, AS 4970-2009* are met.
- Whether all alternative options, including the redesign or relocation of buildings has been considered to reduce impacts on the significant trees.

- Whether the planting of appropriate replacement tree(s) or vegetation is warranted, and consistent with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP, 2017) .
- Whether a long-term maintenance program is required for any identified significant tree impacted by building works.