11/06/2020
C265case

SCHEDULE 8 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO8** .

SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC AND NATIVE TREES IN CASEY

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

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The City of Casey boasts many individual native and exotic trees and groups of trees with special significance. Collectively, these trees add to the diversity of vegetation in the municipality and have ecological importance, while on an individual level they may contribute to the character of a local area, or have particular cultural values. The *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey) identifies those exotic and native trees considered to be of most significance in the municipality. Their selection is attributed to one or more factors, including landscape context, aesthetic value, rarity, localised distribution, age, outstanding size or species example, curious growth form or cultural and heritage linkages.

Casey has lost many of its significant trees over the years as a result of urban development, either through direct vegetation removal or poor care and maintenance practices. This has been further exacerbated through limited controls protecting such vegetation. The application of planning controls to safeguard the future of Casey's significant exotic and native trees provides a positive step that will benefit the environment and the community.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

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To protect and conserve significant exotic and native trees for their intrinsic, environmental, ecological, scientific, landscape and cultural heritage values.

To ensure that any use or development of land within the Tree Protection Zone of a significant tree, as identified in the C *asey 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 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 *Casey Significant Tree Strategy (incorporating The Significant Tree Register)* (City of Casey).
- To undertake maintenance of a significant tree(s) on public land by the public land manager, including dead wooding and broken limb removal, 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 *Casey 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 the identified significant tree.
- The impact of the proposal on the health, appearance and stability of the 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 *City of Casey Significant Trees Strategy* , incorporating 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, consistent with the principles of *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.