



Randwick City  
Council  
a sense of community

# Urban Forest Policy

Effective Date:	<b>11 September 2007</b>
Contact Officer:	Coordinator Tree Management Services
TRIM Document Number:	D02130470

The implementation of this policy will incorporate the following management principles:

## Objectives

- To continually improve the knowledge and understanding of best practise urban tree management by Council, Council officers, the community and arboricultural and other industry groups
- To encourage and facilitate involvement by the whole community in the promotion and development of the urban forest
- To identify threatening processes on urban forests, and to review and improve policies, legislation and environmental planning instruments to ensure the best planning, improvement and management for Randwick's urban forest

- a) **Planned Management** – A strategic plan is fundamental to achieving the optimum development and enhancement of the urban forest.
- b) **Systematic Management** – Ensuring that there are adequate resources invested in the management of the urban forest and that those resources are managed efficiently. This will assist in the provision of the best cost-benefit outcomes.
- c) **Integrated Management** – Urban forest management must be integrated into the management of the entire urban environment – including built infrastructure and the natural environment.

## Policy Statement

In accordance with the objectives of Council's Urban Forest Policy, Council will ensure that:

- a) The urban forest is recognised as a vital component of the urban landscape which provides a range of benefits, including, amongst other things, aesthetic appeal, a sense of wellbeing, provision of habitat and enhanced biodiversity, improved recreational opportunities, improved air quality, reduction in water run-off, protection from the elements, increased property values and public and private amenity;
- b) The urban forest be preserved, replenished and enhanced to achieve identified and appropriately targeted canopy cover, providing optimal benefits within allocated budgetary frameworks through the implementation of best practise arboricultural principles and ecologically sustainable development (ESD);
- c) The development and management of Randwick's urban forest aims to achieve a balance between the competing requirements and interests of the environment, utilities and infrastructure managers, budgetary limitations, the proprietary rights of property owners and the protection of the investment property owners have made in their properties.

These principles are incorporated into a range of programmes, strategies and policies currently utilised by Council to protect and enhance the urban environment, including:

- Street Tree Masterplan
- Street Tree Identification Manual
- Tree Management Technical Manual
- Randwick Tree Preservation Order 2005
- Significant Tree Register
- Street Tree Inventory/Database (proposed)
- GIS mapping of Council tree assets (proposed)
- Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012
- Tree Management Development Control Plan
- Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (currently being drafted)
- Community Street Tree Planting Programme
- Contract for Tree Pruning and Associated Works (ensuring compliance with Australian Standards)
- Bushland Management programmes – including bush regeneration projects, pocket parks project, native haven and bushland education programmes
- Randwick residential and commercial Development Control Plans (DCPs)
- Ongoing annual tree planting programmes (Environmental Levy projects, main roads planting, supplementary planting)
- Community Nursery – indigenous plant stock and community education

Minute No: W39/2007  
Meeting Date: 11 September 2007  
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