



<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	Policy
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRIVATE STREET TREE PLANTING</b>
<b>NUMBER:</b>	POL-4015

## PURPOSE

This Policy provides direction to Shire Operations and ratepayers on provision of street trees for private plantings in the road reserve. The purpose of the policy is to:

- Contribute to council strategic outcome of reducing global warming
- Reduce local thermal footprint and micro climate of townsites
- Enhance the aesthetics of streets by planting new trees
- Increase townsite canopy cover

This policy forms part of a framework that develops high quality streetscapes, moving toward a greener townsite, increasing street and reserve tree numbers and overall canopy cover and urban forestation. The program is designed to increase Street Tree numbers, increase wildlife habitats and increase solar passive benefits.

Delivery of the program will be dependent on annual available approved budget.

## DEFINITIONS

**Tree** is any single or multi-stemmed woody perennial plant, generally more than 2m in height at maturity.

**Shire tree** is any tree which has a majority (more than 50%) of its trunk growing from Council managed land.

**Street Tree** is any tree, planted on the street verge by the Shire or developers as a contribution to the streetscape, amenity and the urban forest.

**Reserve Tree** is a tree that is located within a park, reserve or natural area.

**Remnant Tree** is any tree that has naturally grown in an area, usually prior to development.

**Urban Forest** is a population of trees and other plants growing within an urban setting for the purpose of improving the liveability of that urban setting whilst providing social, economic and environmental benefits to the community as a whole.

**Vandalism** means the unlawful destruction, damage or injury to Shire owned tree assets which can include, but not limited to, poisoning, pruning, causing malicious damage to, removal and/or ringbarking.

**Road Reserve** means any land dedicated at common law or reserved, declared or otherwise dedicated under an Act as an alley, bridge, court, lane, road, street, thoroughfare or yard for the passage of pedestrians or vehicles or both.

**Street Verge** means the portion of road between a property boundary and the road kerb, bitumen edge, or edge of maintained trafficable surface. It may accommodate public utilities, footpaths, stormwater flows, street lighting poles, street trees and other landscaping.

## POLICY STATEMENTS

1. The Manager of Infrastructure will have authority for approval of private tree plantings and the species. The Manager of Operations is responsible for the provision and delivery to the designated address.
2. The number of trees delivered in any annual period is subject to budgetary provision of funds for tree acquisition and planting.
3. The Shire will supply trees free of charge on receipt of a written application from the property resident. The tree will be of a species from an approved list held in stock by the Shire. The precise frontage planting location is subject to approval by the Shire, and will be subject offset alignment from kerb, sight distances, infrastructure impact and pedestrian amenity.
4. It will be the responsibility of the requesting property owner to plant, water and maintain the tree until it is established (self-sustaining). Approved established trees will then become 'street trees', and maintained by the Shire.
5. Street trees will under no circumstances be planted under existing powerlines.
6. Street trees are to be located;
  - a. So as not to interfere with underground services (on their correct alignment)
  - b. No closer than one meter from infrastructure including crossovers, footpaths, street lights and drainage pits.
7. Trees planted in the road reserve without Shire approval are considered unauthorised plantings. The Shire reserves the right to remove unauthorised plantings.
8. Street trees will be of such species as to be endemic local or exotic species, the list of which trees is subject to approval of Council.
9. A street tree planting will;
  - a. Be planted within the verge
  - b. Generally supplied at one tree per 20m frontage
  - c. Subject to pedestrian and road safety assessment by the Shire
  - d. Be of no more than 3 trees to any one 20m frontage
10. A resident can supply and plant an approved species tree at their own expense subject to the Policy conditions.
11. The Shire reserves the right to remove street trees.

## APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF ACCEPTABLE TREES

Insert Appendix

## DOCUMENT AND VERSION CONTROL

<b>Responsible Directorate</b>		Infrastructure	
<b>Responsible Officer</b>		Director Infrastructure and Strategic Projects	
<b>Statutory References</b>		<i>Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions) Regulations 1995, 5. Interfering with, or taking from, local government land. Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions) Regulations 1995, 17. Private works on, over, or under public places.</i>	
<b>Related Documents</b>		POL-4010 Asset Management Policy POL-4002 Private Works and Developments on Road Verges and Shire Managed Land	
<b>Amendment History (Adoption and last 3 amendments)</b>			
Version	Date Issued Resolution Number	Item #	Description of Change:
1.0	28/11/2023 - 118937	12.5.3	Council Adoption
<b>Date of Next Review</b>		November 2026	