

5.4 AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S TREES OF SIGNIFICANCE INVENTORY TO INCLUDE THE JACARANDA TREE AT NO. 54 LINCOLN STREET, HIGHGATE

Attachments: 1. No. 54 Lincoln Street, Highgate - Tree Photograph

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council **APPROVES** an amendment to the City's Trees of Significance Inventory to include the Jacaranda tree (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) at No. 54 Lincoln Street, Highgate.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

For Council to consider an amendment to the Trees of Significance Inventory (the Inventory) to include the Jacaranda tree (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) at No. 54 Lincoln Street, Highgate in accordance with Local Planning Policy No. 7.6.3 – Trees of Significance (the Policy).

BACKGROUND:

The Inventory was first adopted in 1997 and includes 27 sites containing approximately 300 significant trees. Its purpose is to identify and protect trees under Clause 61 of Local Planning Scheme No. 2 which states:

"61. Development for which development approval not required

- (1) Development approval of the local government is not required for the following works –
 - (k) works to remove, destroy and/or interfere with any tree(s) where it is not listed on the City of Vincent Trees of Significance Inventory."

Of the trees included in the Inventory, only seven are contained within private property.

Following its adoption, the Inventory underwent review in 2003, 2010 and 2013, during which time over 400 additional trees were identified, assessed by an Arborist and met the criteria for inclusion onto the Inventory.

The Policy was adopted on 27 March 2001 providing a framework for the management of trees included on the Inventory. The Policy was amended on 25 June 2013, with a noteworthy addition being the ability for private landowners to nominate trees within their property for inclusion onto the Inventory. Since that time, an additional four trees have been nominated and adopted onto the Inventory.

A tree may be considered to be significant and worthy of inclusion onto the Inventory if one or more of the following criteria are found to be present:

- a) outstanding aesthetic quality;
- b) outstandingly large height, trunk circumference or canopy spread;
- c) commemoration or association with particular historical or cultural events;
- d) association with a well known public figure or ethnic group;
- e) specimen of great age;
- f) outstanding example of a particular species;
- g) rare or unusual species;
- h) horticultural, genetic or propagative value; or
- i) likely to be a remnant or regrowth local native tree.

DETAILS:

The City received a nomination from the owner of No. 54 Lincoln Street, Highgate on 23 December 2021 to include the Jacaranda tree (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) at the rear north/east corner of the property.

The property also contains a Federation Georgian cottage circa 1896 which is included on the City's Heritage List (Management Category A), however the subject tree is not specifically mentioned in the Statement of Significance and therefore not considered part of the heritage listing.

In assessing the tree in accordance with the process and selection criteria of the Policy, Administration has found the subject tree meets criteria: *a) outstanding aesthetic quality* and *e) specimen of a great age*.

The tree is large and is a good example of its species with well-structured crown and canopy spread, displaying a mass seasonal display of purple flowers. Examples of Jacaranda trees of similar size and quality are included on the Inventory, situated in Hyde Park and HBF Park (Perth Oval). Jacaranda trees have been identified in previous reviews of the Inventory as a valuable asset to the community from an aesthetic perspective given their vibrant floral display, providing seasonal colour to the landscape. The subject tree is considered to be of *outstanding aesthetic quality* for the aforementioned reasons.

The exact age of the tree is unknown, however the owner estimates it to be approximately 80 years old. An investigation of Landgate historic aerial maps shows the mature tree in situ in 1965 making it likely to be between 70 – 80 years old, meeting the criteria of a *specimen of a great age*.

The subject tree is also valued from an environmental perspective. Due to the impact of demolition and development on trees throughout developing areas of Vincent, retention of healthy, mature trees supports the City's objective of maintaining its urban tree canopy.

In accordance with the requirements of the Policy, the tree was assessed by arboriculturist Johnathan Epps having regard to its health and vitality as follows:

'All major branch unions appear sound. The foliage is of normal colour, size and density. It has a good form and is a good specimen.'

CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:

Consultation is not required under the provisions of the Policy or any legislation.

LEGAL/POLICY:

- City of Vincent Local Planning Scheme No. 2; and
- Local Planning Policy No. 7.6.3 – Trees of Significance

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Low: It is low risk for Council to support the recommendation to adopt the tree situated at No. 54 Lincoln Street, Highgate onto the Trees of Significance Inventory.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

This is in keeping with the City's *Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028*:

Enhanced Environment

Our urban forest/canopy is maintained and increased.

Sensitive Design

Our planning framework supports quality design, sustainable urban built form and is responsive to our community and local context.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

This is in keeping with the following key sustainability outcomes of the *City's Sustainable Environment Strategy 2019-2024*.

Urban Greening and Biodiversity

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS:

This does not contribute to any public health outcomes in the *City's Public Health Plan 2020-2025*.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

54 LINCOLN STREET, HIGHGATE
Trees of Significance nomination



- Jacaranda tree (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) at the rear north/east corner of the property, nominated for inclusion on the Trees of significance Inventory.
- Estimated age between 70 - 80 years.
- The tree has been assessed by an arboriculturist and found to be in *good form and a good specimen*.
- Assessed as meeting the criteria a) *outstanding aesthetic quality* and e) *specimen of a great age* in accordance with Local Planning Policy - Trees of Significance.



Lincoln street 1988



Lincoln Street 2021