



<b>Legislation / local law requirements</b>	Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions) Regulations 1996 City of Vincent Local Government Property Local Law 2021 City of Vincent Parking Local Law 2023
<b>Relevant delegations</b>	2.2.9 Control of Roads, Reserves and Certain Unvested Facilities
<b>Related policies, procedures and supporting documentation</b>	D25/115332 - Operational Guidelines - Verge Treatments D24/77575 - Street Tree Policy Enhanced Environment Strategy 2025-2030

## PRELIMINARY

### INTRODUCTION

The verge is the area between the road carriageway and property, owned by the Crown and is under the care, control and management of the local government. Maintenance of the verge is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner or occupier.

Residents are encouraged to landscape and beautify their verge to improve aesthetics and positive environmental outcomes in the street. This may include treatments such as turf, plants and/or a portion of permeable paving.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the City of Vincent’s urban environment is maintained, enhanced, and accessible for all members of the community, while accommodating utility and service infrastructure. It establishes a consistent approach to decision-making and enforcement in relation to verge management, planting, parking, and general works within the verge area.

### OBJECTIVE

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Provide direction to what is a ‘*Permissible Verge Treatment*’ within a verge for the purposes of the City of Vincent Local Government Property Local Law which regulates responsibility for plantings and/or beautification of a verge.
- Ensure that a verge within the City is maintained at a safe level relative to that of the abutting road and/or footpath and provides traffic visibility and access for pedestrians.
- This policy is supported by Operational Guidelines as approved by the City’s Chief Executive Officer.

### SCOPE

This policy sets out the framework through which a verge is managed within the City.

The size and use of a verge vary throughout the City and some criteria, setbacks and or other obstacles may prevent verge improvement.



## POLICY PROVISIONS

### DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Policy the following definitions will apply:

**Carriageway** has the meaning given to it in the Road Traffic Code 2000.

**Carriageway** means a portion of road that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, and includes the shoulders, and areas, including embayment's, at the side or centre of the carriageway, used for the stopping or parking of vehicles; and where a road has 2 or more of those portions divided by a median strip, the expression means each of those portions, separately.

**City** means the City of Vincent.

**Footpath** has the meaning given to it in the Road Traffic Code 2000.

**Footpath** means an area that is open to the public that is designated for, or has as one of its main uses, use by pedestrians.

**Operational Guidelines** means a document prepared to support this Policy by providing detailed instructions, procedures, roles, responsibilities and standards for implementation. It is intended to guide good practice.

**Thoroughfare** has the meaning given to it in section 1.4 of the Local Government Act 1995.

**Thoroughfare** means a road or other thoroughfare and includes structures or other things appurtenant to the thoroughfare that are within its limits, and nothing is prevented from being a thoroughfare only because it is not open at each end.

**Verge** has the meaning given to it in the Road Traffic Code 2000.

**Verge** means that part of a thoroughfare between the carriageway and the land which abuts the thoroughfare but does not include a footpath.

**Verge treatment** means any treatment approved by the local government as a standard verge treatment permitted by the City of Vincent Local Government Property Local Law and includes any reticulation pipes and sprinklers.

## POLICY

### 1. BEAUTIFICATION OF STREET VERGES

The City encourages and assists where practicable a landowner or occupier to maintain the abutting street verge in a way that retains and enhances the streetscape, whilst minimising water usage.

A landowner or occupier of land abutting a street verge may undertake work to beautify the verge according to the Operational Guidelines.

Verge beautification works carried out in accordance with the Operational Guidelines do not require approval from the City.



Verge gardens and turf may incorporate certain landscaping features where permitted.

Permissible verge landscaping features include:

- Raised garden beds
- Rocks, stones and/or logs
- Compacted crushed-gravel pathways
- Paved pathways and bin-stand areas
- Seating and benches
- Decorative elements and solar lighting
- Play equipment

Synthetic turf is a non-permissible verge landscaping treatment.

## 2. MAINTENANCE OF STREET VERGES

### 2.1 Mowing

- (i) A verge along a main road and a district distributor road will be mowed by the City on a programmed basis.
- (ii) A verge along any other road shall be maintained or mowed by the adjacent owner or resident.
- (iii) Verge mowing assistance may be provided by the City, on a programmed basis, when the owner/occupier is a pension card holder (age or disability).

### 2.2 Cleaning

- (iv) Cleaning of litter and removal of the build-up of leaves and grass clippings from a verge is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner or occupier.

### 2.3 Landscaping of Verges and Medians

- (v) A verge and median of a main and distributor road within the City that is not otherwise maintained by an adjoining landowner will be landscaped and maintained by the City.

## 3. PAVING OF A STREET VERGE FOR PARKING

Non-permeable paving of a verge is not permitted within the City.

While parking on a verge is discouraged, in exceptional circumstances where limited kerbside and off-street parking is available to residents, the City may consider an application for approval to pave a portion of a verge for parking. The paving of the entire area of the verge will not be permitted; the paved area is to be kept to a minimum.

The application is required to incorporate a minimum of one verge tree, and additional trees should be provided where practicable.

Approved paving shall be permeable and designed and installed in accordance with Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) criteria and the specifications contained within the Operational Guidelines.

An owner or resident of a property wishing to pave a portion of the verge is to apply in writing to the City stating specific requirements relating to the proposal.



## 4. REMOVAL OF VERGE TREATMENTS AND REINSTATEMENT WORKS

A verge treatment may need removal by either the City or a utility/service provider to allow infrastructure work. If removed, the City or utility/service provider will reinstate to the standard stipulated within the Operational Guidelines.

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Responsible Officer	Manager Engineering
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Previous Title	VERGE TREATMENTS, PLANTINGS AND BEAUTIFICATION POLICY 2.2.4
Reviewed / Amended	16/06/2029
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