

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

MINUTES

TOWN ASSETS COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 48 OLD PERTH ROAD, BASSENDEAN
ON WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2019, AT 9.30AM

1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member opened the meeting, welcomed all those in attendance and conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

2.0 ATTENDANCES, APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Jai Wilson, Presiding Member
Cr Renee McLennan, Mayor
Cr Kathryn Hamilton

Staff

Peta Mabbs, CEO
Phil Adams, Executive Manager Infrastructure
Steve Morrissey, Parks & Gardens Supervisor
Deanie Carbon, Communications Coordinator
Amy Holmes, Minute Secretary

3.0 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Town Assets Committee Meeting held on 10 July 2019

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 4.1

MOVED Cr McLennan, Seconded Cr Hamilton, that the minutes of the Town Assets Committee meeting held 10 July 2019, be confirmed as a true record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 3/0

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Update – Tree Planting in the Town

APPLICATION

The purpose of this report is to garner support on a range of species to be purchased in October 2019 for the 2020 Winter tree planting program.

BACKGROUND

Council has set the direction for the Town's Street Tree Planting program through ROC18/62196 which provides a high level aim of canopy of 70% and detailed components along with a budget of \$1.088M which includes purchasing, planting, watering and tree maintenance whilst taking into consideration the soil types of the area.

Infrastructure Services is developing a Street Tree Planting Program that will encompass the entire Town including verges, roundabouts, median strips, reserves, playgrounds, Industrial area, carparks and areas where Power Lines have been undergrounded. A program of works will be developed itemising plantings for specific locations based upon soil types and residents' preferences (where applicable).

Priority areas have been set by Council and include Eden Hill West, Ashfield where the Overhead Power Lines have previously been undergrounded; in addition to the Industrial area and roundabouts at Walter/Iolanthe and Ida/Scaddan Streets. The Ashfield carpark adjacent to the child care centre and play areas such as the skate park at Bassendean Oval will also be priority areas. Other specific areas identified

within the attached document “Suggestions re: future Tree program” will also be worked into the program.

Additionally, tree planting will be incorporated into innovative road safety initiatives that incorporate plantings into roundabouts and chicanes such as in Hardy Rd and other locations throughout the Town.

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Town is an open and engaging Local Government and therefore residents will be provided a list of species to choose from, based upon the soil type within the area. Providing residents with choice within the range suitable for their area will ensure people value and are committed to caring for their verge tree. The Town will run a marketing program that promotes the benefits of trees and encourages residents to choose the largest trees possible.

There are obvious benefits to this approach in terms of ownership by residents of their new verge tree. This program alone however will not achieve the significant plantings targeted for winter 2020 and beyond in order to achieve the significant tree plantings and desired canopy target.

Whilst a resident-driven approach will be adopted for verge trees in residential areas, the Town will select all other plantings to ensure larger trees with greater canopy are the preferred choice where overhead power lines do not preclude them.

Methodology: To plan this sufficiently, the Parks and Gardens Unit will assess each specific area (verge, median, roundabout, reserve etc) and develop up a program of works. This can incorporate boulevard type plantings and diverse plantings that fit within the current street scape and which is suitable to the residents of that area.

This detailed planning will ensure the most suitable species will be planted for the location. It is anticipated that for roundabouts we will plant the Illawarra Flame Tree and for reserves in river areas we will plant the Flooded gum, Marri, Tuart and Rivergums. In areas where we have large open spaces such as reserves and wide verges (such as Reid and Hamilton St) we will plant the large Eucalypts and in the Industrial area the Corymia's, Maculata's and Tuarts would be suitable.

Limitations of large species: The Parks and Gardens Unit understands the intent of procuring large species to maximise canopy cover whilst also balancing the preferences of residents for smaller to medium trees on residential verges.

By way of background, the Unit often receives requests from residents to remove tree limbs, which leave some of the trees ineffective as a canopy producer or for the trees to be removed entirely. Providing flexibility for residents to therefore select trees that are suitable for their particular area i.e. a choice within a vegetation and soil band, whilst also acknowledging whether underground power is a factor, will be important in succeeding.

Longer term planning: The Parks and Gardens Unit is currently investigating improved sourcing arrangements with the City of Bayswater, other LGAs and the EMRC.

Species: Below is table of proposed species for the 2020 winter planting season. The Parks and Gardens Unit has added additional larger species to those presented at a recent Councillor workshop.

Over the past winter (2019), eighty-four (84) residents requested a street tree based upon a selection of six tree species. Two of those were Eucalyptus rudis and Corymbia maculata, both large trees, the other four species were of medium height. Out of the 84 requests, only five residents selected Eucalyptus rudis and two selected Corymbia maculata.

The intent of the below table is for the Asset Committee to nominate the percentage of each tree species to be procured with the current aim of ordering 600 trees in October 2019. Through experience, it is anticipated that the majority of the tree plantings in the long term will incorporate the following proportions: 5% large, 60% medium and 35% small trees based upon resident preferences on verges.

Procurement: The options available to the Town that could be considered are to procure a minimal amount until the detailed planning is undertaken or to procure a range from the below list that makes up a total of 600 trees.

SMALL TREES

Name	Height	Width
Eucalyptus Torquata – Coral Gum	6 – 12m	5 – 10m
Lagerstroemia Indica -Crepe Myrtle	6 – 8m	3 -4m
Melaleuca Viridiflora – Paperbark	3 – 10m	6 – 8m
Prunus Cerasifera – Black cherry plum	4 – 6m	4 – 6m
Bauhinia cunninghamii Kimberley Bauhinia	5m	6m

MEDIUM TREES

Name	Height	Width
Jacaranda Mimosifolia - Jacaranda	10 -15m	10 -15m
Corymbia Ficifolia – Red flowering gum	10 – 15m	10m
Fraxinus Raywoodii – Claret Ash	10 – 12m	6m
Eucalyptus Todtiana – Coastal Blackbutt	10 – 15m	4 – 5m
Tipuana tipu Pride of Bolivia	12 – 15m	10m
Brachychiton acerifolius Illawarra Flame tree	12m	7m

LARGE TREES

Name	Height	Width
Corymbia Calophyllia – Marri	30 – 40m	20 – 25m
Eucalyptus Gomphocephla – Tuart	30 – 40m	10 – 15m
Corymbia Citriodora - Lemon scented gum	30 – 40m	15 – 20m
Platinus Acerifolia – Plane tree	20 – 30m	15 – 20m
Erythrina Variagata – Coral tree	25 – 30m	12 – 15m
Eucalyptus rudis Flooded gum	30m	20m
Corymbia Maculata Spotted gum	40 - 45m	20m

RISK ASSESSMENT

At this time many other Local Governments are undertaking procurement of the future planting stocks and there is a risk that the Town will not be able to purchase the volume of preferred species it is seeking for Winter 2020.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Nil

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Budget is allocated.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION — ITEM 8.1

That the Town Assets Committee:

1. Receives the Street Tree Planting Program report.
2. Supports the procurement of the tree species being 5% large, 60% medium and 35% small on verges.

Cr Wilson moved the officer recommendation with an amendment to Point 2, as follows:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION — ITEM 8.1

TAC - 1/10/19 MOVED Cr Wilson, Seconded Cr McLennan, that the Town Assets Committee:

1. Receives the Street Tree Planting Program report; and
2. Supports the procurement of the tree species being **30% large, 50% medium and 20% small.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 3/0

9.0 CLOSURE

The next meeting is to be advised.

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 9.48am.