



# Policy

**Planting and landscaping on  
footpath zones and nature strips  
within road reserves and drainage  
easements**

**2020**

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## Information about this document

Date Adopted by Council	26 August 1997
Resolution No	
Document Owner	Director Infrastructure Services
Document Development Officer	Manager Works
Review Timeframe	4 years
Last Review Date	21 October 2020
Next Scheduled Review Date	21 October 2024

### Document History

Doc No.	Date Amended	Details/Comments eg Resolution No.
DM632076		
E2020/76006		Reviewed with minor amendments made to: title (include “zones”); 1.1 grammar change; 2.8 inclusion of “or where necessary to provide new infrastructure such as paved footpath and the like”; and removal of 2.10 but a new link provided at related documents section to Council’s native planting guide.

### Further Document Information and Relationships

Related Legislation	
Related Policies	
Related Standards, Procedures, Statements, documents	<a href="#">My Local Native Garden – planting guide</a>

Note: Any reference to Legislation will be updated in the Policy as required. See website <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/> for current Acts, Regulations and Environmental Planning Instruments.



## 1. Objectives

- 1.1 To effectively control the proper planting of trees, shrubs and landscaping within footpath and nature strip areas in road reserves and drainage easements.
- 1.2 To provide clear and safe pedestrian thoroughfares.
- 1.3 To prevent damage to Council's underground water, sewerage and stormwater services and maintain access to services for maintenance.

## 2. Policy Statement

- 2.1 No retaining walls, trees, shrubs, hard landscaping or massed plantings or physical structure with hard edges or rockeries to be placed within the footpath or nature strip within road reserves and drainage easements controlled by Council unless it complies with this policy.
- 2.2 Trees, shrubs, landscaping, plantings, retaining walls and other physical structures including hard edged gardens or rockeries shall not be placed within 1.5 metres of either side of underground services to allow adequate access for maintenance.
- 2.3 Where plantings or landscaping is approved and then carried out within the footpath or nature strip area, a corridor of 1.5 metres wide (minimum) and 2 metres high (minimum) shall be maintained for pedestrian traffic.
- 2.4 A clear area width of 1.0m behind kerb is to remain free of massed planting or hard landscaping for the safe movement of pedestrians.
- 2.5 To avoid obstructing vision of drivers and pedestrians, trees (including shrubs, planting and landscaping) are not to be closer than 15m from the building line of the intersecting street.
- 2.6 No landscaping or planting is to be placed where it may obstruct the vision of drivers or pedestrians, adjacent to driveways, etc.
- 2.7 All plantings and landscaping is to be kept a minimum of 1.5m from table drains to allow drainage and access for maintenance.
- 2.8 Council reserves the right to remove any tree, shrub, planting or landscaping, etc, deemed to present a safety problem, maintenance problem or where necessary to provide new infrastructure such as paved footpaths and the like.
- 2.9 If plantings etc. are considered to be a problem Council will notify the owner of the need for removal. If this notice is not complied with Council will remove any tree, shrub, planting or landscaping and in the event of such removal, Council will not be responsible for the reinstatement or cost of items removed, and Council will recover the cost of removing any trees, shrubs, plantings, landscaping, etc.