

## SIGNIFICANT TREE (PUBLIC LAND)

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Previous policy number: 2.1.4

### Policy Statement

The Town of Mosman Park acknowledges the environmental, social, cultural, economic and heritage value of trees on public land, and the need to provide additional protection and management to those deemed to be 'Significant Trees'. This Policy facilitates better engagement between the Town of Mosman Park and the community to create a Significant Tree Register for trees on public land for the betterment of Mosman Park. This Policy includes trees on public land that may be leased.

### Policy Details

#### Objective

The objectives of this policy are to outline:

1. The criteria that is required to be met for a tree/s to be considered for inclusion on the Significant Tree Register;
2. The process for a tree/s to be approved for listing on the Significant Tree Register;
3. The process for a tree/s to be removed from the Significant Tree Register; and
4. The Town's approach to protection, management, and replacement of trees on the Significant Tree Register.

#### Policy Principles

The Town of Mosman Park Significant Tree Policy (Public Land) promotes the following principles:

1. To protect and retain trees on public land wherever possible;
2. To formally recognise significant trees by way of a dedicated Register;
3. To manage trees in such a way to promote health, extend lifespan and mitigate safety concerns as per Australian Standards (AS 4373-2007; AS 4970-2009);
4. To educate the community on the importance and value of trees;
5. To plan for the replacement of declining Significant Trees; and
6. To proactively manage the Town's streetscapes to provide shade, amenity and continuity throughout Mosman Park

#### Policy Guidance

##### Criteria

For a tree/s to be considered for inclusion on the Significant Tree Register, at least one of the following criteria must be met:

- Display significant aesthetic value (size, species, location, growth form);
- Hold significant environmental value (age, species, rarity, habitat creation, seed/propagation viability, local or regional prevalence); and/or
- Hold significant historic or cultural value (religious, spiritual, social, community).

### Process

A written application must be made (by residents, visitors to the Town, groups, Officer's, other) to the Town of Mosman Park outlining the following information:

- Location (address or GPS location);
- Species (scientific and common name);
- Reasons for significance (list as many as possible);
- Approximate age of tree; and
- Any other known historical information.

Once received by the Town, an assessment will be made by the Manager of Parks and Streetscapes for inclusion on the Significant Tree Register. If required, additional information may be sought by a qualified arborist to assist in the determination. The original applicant will then be notified.

Once a tree has been included on the Significant Tree Register, this tree will be managed in consultation with an arborist on a schedule determined to be fit for the age, health, and prominence of the tree. All management actions will be in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards (AS 4373-2007; AS 4970-2009).

### Review

An assessment panel will be formed consisting of the Executive Manager of Technical Services, the Manager of Parks and Streetscapes, and the Senior Environmental Conservation Officer. The panel will meet on a five yearly basis, unless otherwise required, at which time trees will be considered for removal from the Register for any reason. The panel will make a recommendation to the CEO. Under delegated authority, trees that are dead, diseased, dangerous, or found to prevent necessary public works may be removed from the register at the discretion of the CEO. Trees proposed to be removed for any other reasons will be at the determination of Council.

### **Definitions**

**SIGNIFICANT TREE:** A tree on public land that has been assessed by the Town of Mosman Park and approved for inclusion on the Significant Tree Register.

**SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER:** A register held and maintained by the Town of Mosman Park of trees on public land approved for inclusion and referenced from then on as a 'Significant Tree'.

**PUBLIC LAND:** Any land under the care, control and management of the Town of Mosman Park.

**TREE:** A perennial woody plant generally with a main trunk and generally exceeding three meters in height.

**STREETSCAPE:** The collective visual elements of a street including trees, gardens, verges, footpaths, and more.

**Governance References**

Statutory Compliance	Nil.
Organisational Compliance	Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees.

**Policy Administration**

Directorate:		Officer title:
Technical Services		Manager Parks and Streetscapes
Next Review		Review Cycle
February 2023		
Version	Date	Ref
1	26 February 2019	OCM-014-2019
2		
3		