

INTRODUCTION

This Policy has been formulated in response to recommendations in the Capel and Boyanup Townsite Strategies to *prepare a landscape policy for new urban areas (including industrial areas) to address landscape, amenity, environmental and management objectives*. The desire to ensure that issues such as amenity and sustainability are addressed in the landscaping of urban areas is an important impetus for the Policy.

The Policy refers to the urban areas of Dalyellup, Capel, Boyanup, Peppermint Grove Beach and Gelorup. The Policy relates to:

- Public open space (parks and reserves) and new subdivisional roads;
- Development of privately owned land - commercial; tourist; industrial; residential; and public purpose development; and
- Existing road and street verges (public nature strips) in urban areas.

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with any landscaping provisions in the Shire of Capel District Planning Scheme and the WAPC operational policy 'Liveable Neighbourhoods', as well as other relevant publications such as the 'Local Government Guidelines for Subdivisional Development' published by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (IPWEA).

Landscaping of public open space and subdivisional roads

Subdividers of urban land and their design consultants often place an emphasis on distinctive landscape features in parks and entry statements which may create the need for ongoing high levels of maintenance. The broader community often place more priority on natural landscaping, trees and habitat as well as paths, gardens, seating, shelter, play grounds and informal activity areas. These are the elements that bring them closest to nature and active recreation, particularly in urban environments.

The landscaping of public spaces, including parks, new roads and street verges, should be approached in a manner that reflects community, cultural and heritage aspirations, as well as the principles of sustainability. Landscape design and plant selection are critical components in the provision of public spaces that will be used and enjoyed by the community.

Landscaping of approved development

The landscaping of urban development should be carried out in accordance with approved landscape plans which address the relevant policy objectives and best practice guidelines to the satisfaction of the Shire of Capel.

This Policy includes provisions that developers and consultants can use in meeting the Shire's requirements for sustainable landscape design, preparation of landscape plans and the selection of appropriate species.

Landscaping of existing road verges

As road verges are not on private property, landscaping of verge nature-strips must be done in accordance with the *'Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2016'*, Policy 7.7 and other relevant Shire policies and specifications. Residents are required to apply to the Shire for a permit before they carry out landscaping works on a verge.

OBJECTIVES

The principal aim of the Policy is to enhance amenity, environmental, sustainability and cultural outcomes in relation to the landscaping of public spaces and development sites in urban areas.

The objectives for landscaping within urban areas of the Shire are to:

- retain existing native vegetation for its environmental, landscape amenity and cultural heritage values;
- use indigenous species in the landscape to reflect a sense of place and enhance ecological outcomes;
- encourage best practice in relation to sustainability, landscape design and species selection;
- provide for the needs of the community by ensuring that public spaces are functional, accessible and safe for the intended purpose;
- encourage the use of landscaping outcomes that reinforce public health, social interaction, cultural heritage and Shire character; and
- provide guidelines for the sustainable landscaping and maintenance of public spaces and development sites.

POLICY STATEMENT

The landscaping of public spaces and development sites in urban areas of the Shire of Capel is to reflect the provisions of the Shire of Capel Urban Landscape Strategy adopted by Council.

The Strategy is a 'whole of organisation' policy document and must be referred to and used as the whole document. Accordingly, the provisions of the Strategy are not repeated in the Policy Manual as they are to be referred to in the context of the Strategy as a stand-alone publication.

POLICY APPLICATION

The Policy applies to the urban areas of the Shire of Capel including land in the *Residential, Urban Development, Town Centre, Light Industry, Special Use* and *Foreshore Protection* zones and in the *Recreation* and *Public Purpose* reserves. The Policy also applies to land in the Shire that is subject to a rezoning or a structure plan that proposes urban development.

Procedure:	
Originating Section: Engineering & Development Services	Relevant Legislation: Town Planning Scheme No 7 Planning and Development Act 2005
Reviewer: Executive Manager Engineering & Development Services	Delegated Authority:
Adopted: Minute OC1003, 12.10.11	Other References:
Amended:	
Review Date: December 2017	