

## 10.10 Road Verge Development Criteria

### Objective

To encourage the development of roadside verges and determine guidelines for these developments.

NOTE: This policy should be read in conjunction with the Shire of East Pilbara's Public Places and Local Government Property Local 2011, and the Public Places and Local Government Property Amendment Local Law 2012. If there is an inconsistency between the local law and this policy, the local law shall prevail.

### Policy

1. Council's policy is to encourage and support the development of road verges in urban areas, as either maintained grass or as a dry garden or a mixture of both.
2. Only those items listed in clause 6.6 of the Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2011 are permissible verge treatments.
3. Preferred Treatment
  - a. The preferred treatment is for the road verge to be fully grassed with irrigation and up to two trees per 20m of frontage.
4. Alternate Treatments
  - a. Subject to clauses 6.6(2)(b)(i) and 6.6(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2011, a dry garden of small vegetation, shrubs and ground covers may be established.
  - b. Within this area weed control using plastic sheeting with garden mulch or wood chips, is acceptable, however all materials used must be contained to prevent spillage onto the verge, pathway or road area and must not present a pedestrian hazard.
  - c. Where the Council is satisfied that there is a need to park on the road verge rather than on the property or roadway then the Council may approve up to 50% of the road verge area and verge length to be of compacted unbound materials. Such material is not to be placed within 15m from a street corner and is to be compacted and water bound to a smooth finish, have a depth a minimum of 150mm. The balance of the road verge is to be developed to satisfy Points 2 a) or 3 a) above.
5. Street Trees and Plantings
  - a. Council will supply up to two trees of a suitable species, provided the property owner agrees to plant, water and maintain them.
  - b. No trees are to be planted within 15m of street corners or within 2m of crossovers, or where they may cause damage to utilities in the verge.
  - c. Spreading varieties of trees and shrubs also are not supported unless they can be set well back to avoid intrusion into traffic safety sight lines.
  - d. Poisonous trees and shrubs are not permitted to be planted on any road verge.
  - e. Street trees are not to be removed without the approval of the Council.

## 6. Irrigation Systems

- a. Any irrigation system is to be installed and operated to avoid nuisance to the public and not spray on to either a pedestrian pathway or vehicle carriage way.
- b. All water pipes are to be installed at a preferred depth of 3400mm and any fitting connected to the pipe should not protrude above the surface of the lawn or garden.

## 7. General

- a. Any improvements placed or constructed on the verge are placed there at the risk of the property owner.
- b. No assistance will be given by Council for development, ongoing operation or maintenance costs other than the provision of the street trees.
- c. Levels of new verge areas are to be graded at 2% up from the top of kerb to the property boundary (maximum of 150mm) with any variation to be approved by Technical Services staff. Levels are also to be compatible with the properties on either side.
- d. Where Council has designated one side of the road for a future pathway, levels will be provided by Council's staff.

## 8. Unacceptable Road Verge Treatments

- a. Only those items listed in clause 6.6 of the Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2011 are permissible verge treatments Unacceptable road verge treatments include, but a not limited to: Concrete and pavers unless in accordance with Councils "Crossover Policy";
- b. Rough, coarse or irregular mulch materials which are uncomfortable or difficult to walk on;
- c. No large rocks or non-frangible items can be placed on the road reserve
- d. Poorly graded materials such as river stone, crushed rock, pea gravel and other decorative treatments unless incorporated into a defined landscaping plan approved by the Director Technical & Development Services,
- e. Treatments that constitute a hazard to pedestrians or road users

## Authorisation Details

<b>References:</b>	<i>SoEP Public Places and Local Government Property Local 2011</i> <i>Public Places and Local Government Property Amendment Local Law 2012</i>		
<b>Authorised by:</b>	Council		
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# Policy Manual