

* <b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Street Tree Removal Policy</b>
* <b>ADOPTED BY:</b>	<b>Glen Eira City Council</b>
* <b>DATE ADOPTED:</b>	<b>18 December 2007</b>

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## **1. Objective**

The aim of this policy is to provide clear guidance and direction for Council officers and the community in managing requests for street tree removals

## **2. Definitions**

### *Hazardous Tree*

A *Hazardous Tree* is a tree that poses an unacceptable risk to public safety or property. A hazardous tree may have one of the following defects that cannot be remedied using standard arboriculture or engineering practices:

- Dead or close to death
- Structurally unsound
- Poses a significant safety hazard (eg. exposed roots that present a trip hazard or it overhangs a road where a passing vehicle may strike it)
- Known cause of major damage to Council, public utility or private assets
- Poses a significant risk of transmitting disease to other trees.

A street tree is not a *Hazardous Tree* just because it may drop leaf litter, fruit, bark or causes minor damage to assets.

## **3. Policy**

- i. Council acknowledges that street trees contribute positively to the streetscape both as single trees and in forming an avenue effect. Street trees contribute to Glen Eira's reputation as a leafy green City.
- ii. Recognising the benefit of street trees, Council will only permit street tree removal in limited circumstances. Council will only allow removal of a street tree when:
  - It is a *Hazardous Tree*
  - Council is replacing the tree as part of its tree replacement program
  - Necessary Council or other authority's works require removal of the tree and no other practical/affordable solution is available
  - Necessary to accommodate a new vehicle crossover where no other alternative exists (including the redesign of the driveway and/or buildings within the subject property)
  - The tree is less than 4 metres high and has failed to thrive.
- iii. Where Council allows the removal of a street tree to provide for a new vehicle crossover, the person applying for the new crossover must pay Council the cost that Council estimates to replace and establish the new tree (establishment usually occurs in the first 10 years of a

tree's life). On receipt of payment, Council will arrange to remove existing and plant new tree preferably in the same naturestrip or nearby.

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- \* **Relevant Legislation:** Glen Eira Local Laws, Glen Eira Planning Scheme
- \* **Cross References to other Policies/Documents:** Policy 8.12 Street Design and Construction, Street Strategy 2007
- \* **Responsible Officer(s):** Director Assets & Facilities