SCHEDULE 5 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as VPO5.

SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC, NATIVE AND INDIGENOUS TREES

1.0

Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The Significant Tree Study, City of Whitehorse (Homewood, April 2016) has identified exotic, native and indigenous trees on private land within the municipality which are significant for either their contribution to the landscape or streetscape, or because the vegetation is of local provenance.

Indigenous habitat trees of local provenance are part of regional vegetation linkages and provide a corridor for local bird life and fauna. These trees are integral to the establishment of a sustainable urban and native landscape.

Other trees are significant due to their age and size and interest they bring to the streetscape. The Whitehorse Neighbourhood Character Study 2014 recognises that such trees are integral to the neighbourhood character in the City. The species and dominance varies across the municipality and contributes significantly to the broad character types found across the region.

References

Significant Tree Study, City of Whitehorse (Homewood, April 2016)

Whitehorse Neighbourhood Character Study 2014 (Planisphere, 2014)

2.0

Vegetation protection objective to be achieved

To protect vegetation of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance.

3.0

Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop vegetation included in Incorporated Document No. 13 City of Whitehorse Significance Tree Study, 2016.

This does not apply to any vegetation which is:

- Deemed unsafe by a suitably qualified arborist, and to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- Being pruned for regeneration or ornamental shaping.
- A tree which is dead or dying to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- Being maintained in accordance with a management program, developed by a suitably qualified arborist and approved by the responsible authority.

4.0

Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application to remove, destroy or lop vegetation, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The applicable Statement of Significance included in Incorporated Document No. 13 City of Whitehorse Significance Tree Study, 2016.
- The species of vegetation and its significance, age, health and growth characteristics.
- Where applicable, whether any proposed lopping will adversely affect the significance or appearance of the tree.
- The location of the vegetation on the land and its contribution to the garden, neighbourhood and streetscape character.
- The impact of the tree on the structural integrity of existing buildings, including foundations.
- The availability of sufficient unencumbered land to provide for replacement planting.
- Vegetation management requirements to reduce fire hazard, prevent erosion and maintain flood control measures.
- The role of the vegetation in providing a habitat and vegetation corridor for bird life and fauna.
- The reason for removing the vegetation and practicality of alternative options which do not require the removal of vegetation included in Incorporated Document No. 13 City of Whitehorse Significance Tree Study, 2016