



Part 7 Codes

Division 2 Specific Development Codes

Chapter 21 Landscape Work

1.0 Purpose

To ensure that the planning, design, construction and management of Landscape Work results in high quality landscape outcomes consistent with local character and City image objectives. To ensure that layout and design of soft and hardscape elements, plant selection and construction is based on clear function and character objectives, consistent with Council's technical requirements.

The key objectives of this code are the:

- achievement of Landscape Work that complements and enhances the uses and developments with which it is associated;
- achievement of Landscape Work that is consistent with the identified landscape character of the locality;
- achievement of Landscape Work that contributes to and enhances the overall City image and townscape of the City of Gold Coast;
- retention of vegetation of ecological, aesthetic and/or cultural significance;
- retention of significant cultural landscapes, associated vegetation, gardens and landscape forms;
- facilitation of complementary design between Landscape Work in the public and private realms;
- promotion of landscape that is functional, and complementary to the climate and land form of the City of Gold Coast;
- achievement of sustainable landscape form for public open space areas and other public areas;
- facilitation of a landscape that can be maintained efficiently to promote the conservation of energy and water; and
- achievement of design and construction of Landscape Work that is consistent with all relevant Australian Standards.

2.0 Application

2.1 This code applies to development for the purposes of Landscape Work indicated as code assessable or impact assessable in the Table of Development of the domain or Local Area Plan (LAP) within which the development is proposed.

2.2 This section is intended to implement the Desired Environmental Outcomes (DEOs) and the objectives of the Planning Strategies relating, in particular, to the Urban Heritage and Character and the City Image and Townscape Strategies. It is supported by Council's overall Landscape Strategy, which has three parts:

Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City

Part 2 – Landscape Work Documentation Manual

Part 3 – Landscape Information Sheets

2.3 Performance Criteria PC1-PC4 apply to all development subject to this code.



3.0 Development Requirements

Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
Development is Code Assessable or Impact Assessable	
Local Landscape Character	
<p>PC1 Landscape Work must minimise impact on the environmental values and contribute to the visual amenity and character of the site and local neighbourhood.</p>	<p>AS1 New plantings on the site do not include plant species identified as prohibited or restricted for use in Planning Scheme Policy 13 – Landscape Strategy Part 2 - Landscape Works Documentation Manual, Section D – Guidelines for Undesirable Plants.</p>
Landscape Character	
<p>PC2 Landscape Work must contribute to the achievement of a high quality landscape character, City image and townscape for the Gold Coast.</p>	<p>AS2.1 The development is on a site identified in the Beach Strip Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and: is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Landscape Strategy Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) where such a site is located directly adjacent to a dunal area, planting within the area of the site that is seaward of any built structures incorporates a primary planting framework of local native dunal species to reinforce and enhance the natural dunal edge. Plant species used are to be in accordance with those identified for the different zones of the dunal area in Planning Scheme Policy 15 - Management of Coastal Dune Areas; b) the design of the Landscape Work incorporates the retention, enhancement or promotion of any existing significant cultural plantings and native plantings associated with the local character of the beach strip, such as Norfolk Island Pines, <i>Pandanus</i> sp, <i>Banksia</i> sp and <i>Cupaniopsis</i> sp; and c) where such is a residential choice, commercial or tourist development in centres between Palm Beach and Main Beach (particularly Surfers Paradise, Broadbeach and Main Beach), the Landscape Work associated with the site development includes the appropriate use of resort style landscape treatments, in conjunction with the use of local native coastal species; or where such is a residential choice, commercial or tourist development in centres between Currumbin Creek and Coolangatta, the Landscape Work associated with the site development promotes the coastal village character through a primary planting framework of local native coastal species. <p>AS2.2 The development is on a site identified in the Bay Islands Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; and b) local native vegetation is utilised as the primary planting framework in the Landscape Work.



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<p>AS2.3</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Hope Island Estates Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) where such is a residential choice, commercial or tourist development, the Landscape Work includes the appropriate use of resort style landscape treatments, in conjunction with the use of local native species; c) where such a site includes large areas of open space and/or drainage corridors and buffer areas, local native species are utilised in the landscape as the primary planting framework; d) where such a site is located adjacent to a major road corridor, a strong boulevard character is reinforced in the streetscape work by the use of dominant and consistent plant forms in a simple but formal configuration, using appropriate exotic or local native species; and e) where such a site is located adjacent to a major road corridor, front fencing is primarily transparent, visually unobtrusive and articulated with the use of appropriate vegetation, materials and colours. <p>AS2.4</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Broadwater Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) any existing significant cultural and/or remnant vegetation on the site is retained and/or is reinforced in the Landscape Work with new planting that reflects the forms and growth habits of the traditional or remnant planting forms; and c) where such a site is immediately adjacent to the Broadwater, planting within the area of the site that is directly adjacent to any water body utilises a primary planting framework of local native species as part of the Landscape Work; or where such a site is adjacent to open space areas linked to the Broadwater, planting within the area directly adjacent to the open space area utilises a primary planting framework of local native species as part of the Landscape Work. <p>AS2.5</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Southport Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) any existing significant cultural and/or remnant vegetation on the site is retained and/or is reinforced in the Landscape Work with new plantings that reflect the forms and growth habits of the existing cultural and/or remnant plantings; and



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<p>c) where such a site is located along Scarborough or Nerang Streets, streetscape framework planting creates a strong boulevard character, and provides shade, amenity and vertical enclosure through the use of single trunked canopy shade species. Dominant vertical forms, such as palms and resort style landscape treatments, are not utilised as part of the Landscape Work within or directly adjacent to the streetscape; or</p> <p>where such a site is located along Short Street, streetscape framework planting reinforces the existing informal leafy streetscape utilising single trunked canopy shade species as part of the Landscape Work. Dominant vertical forms, such as palms and resort style landscape treatments, are not utilised in the Landscape Work within or directly adjacent to the streetscape.</p> <p>AS2.6 The development is on a site identified in the River Valleys Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) incorporates a primary planting framework of local native plant species in the Landscape Work; c) any existing significant cultural and/or remnant plantings are retained and/or reinforced in the Landscape Work, with new plantings that reflect the forms and growth habits of the existing cultural and/or remnant plantings; d) Landscape Work includes minimal cut and fill of the original landform, utilises open style and transparent fencing, and reduces the impact of any bulk massing in building form on the site; e) where such a site is located along a major road corridor, Landscape Work on the site promotes and enhances varying road experiences through open, filtered and enclosed views of any rural areas, creeks and riverine vegetation; f) where such a site is located on a ridgetop, crest or upper slope of a foothill, the character of any undeveloped ridgelines is reinforced and enhanced as part of the Landscape Work on the site; and g) where such a site includes and/or is adjacent to a creek and/or river system, Landscape Work utilises local native riverine species in the design that contribute to the rehabilitation and expansion of the riparian zone. <p>AS2.7 The development is on a site identified in the Albert Corridor Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) incorporates a primary planting framework of local native plant species in the Landscape Work;



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) any existing significant cultural and/or remnant plantings are retained and/or reinforced in the Landscape Work, with new plantings that reflect the forms and growth habits of the existing cultural and/or remnant plantings; d) where such a site is located along a major road corridor, Landscape Work on the site promotes and enhances varying road experiences through open, filtered and enclosed views of any rural areas, riverine vegetation and surrounding ridgeline; e) where such a site is located on a ridgetop, crest or upper slope of a foothill, the character of any undeveloped ridgelines is reinforced and enhanced as part of the Landscape Work on the site; f) where such a site includes and/or is adjacent to a creek and/or river system, Landscape Work utilises local native riverine species in the design that contribute to the rehabilitation and expansion of the riparian zone; g) where such a site is located within a significant rural landscape or floodplain area, the Landscape Work on the site reinforces and promotes the open character of the floodplain environment and/or rural landscape; and h) where such a site is in an industrial area fronting a major road corridor, the Landscape Work presents a dense and green outlook to the road corridor frontage. <p>AS2.8</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Beenleigh and Sugar Cane Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) any existing significant cultural and/or remnant planting, particularly that associated with rural landholdings, are retained and/or reinforced in the Landscape Work, with new plantings that reflect the forms and growth habits of the existing cultural and/or remnant plantings; c) where such a site is located adjacent to the bay edge, Landscape Work utilises a primary planting framework of local native species in an informal landscape setting that enhances the low scale and natural character of the area; d) where such a site includes industrial or commercial development, the Landscape Work incorporates a dense landscaped buffer area, with a primary planting framework of local native species to screen the development from any residential and rural uses; and e) where such a site includes industrial development along major traffic routes, Landscape Work incorporates a landscaped buffer strip of local native species along the street frontage to present a dense and green outlook to the street.



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<p>AS2.9</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Suburban Estates Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) where such a site includes open space areas, Landscape Work incorporates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a primary planting framework of local native species; ▪ the retention of existing significant remnant vegetation in the design; and ▪ enhancement of visual and physical linkages to open space areas surrounding the site; c) where such a site includes drainage reserves in open space areas, Landscape Work incorporates the principles of dual use drainage systems, such as wetlands, informal open space and detention basins, where such are consistent with hydraulic/stormwater drainage management practices; d) where such a site requires a landscaped buffer to screen incompatible uses from residential areas, the Landscape Work incorporates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ an adequate buffer area to facilitate the specific function required of the screen, eg. where adjacent to busy roads, landscaped buffer strips are of an appropriate width (preferably a minimum of ten (10) metres) that incorporates sufficient area of plant material to provide an effective screen; and ▪ a planting structure within the buffer of trees and screening shrubs utilising local native species as the primary planting framework; and e) where such a site includes streetscape work that is part of the site development, the landscape work provides shade and amenity. This incorporates the use of single trunked canopy shade species, utilising low maintenance local native species as the planting framework, with exotic species as feature planting, where appropriate. <p>AS2.10</p> <p>The development is on a site identified in the Canal Estates Character Area on Planning Strategy Map PS10 – Gold Coast Character Map and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) is consistent with landscape character elements identified in Planning Scheme Policy 12 – Part 1 – Landscape Character: Guiding the Image of the City; b) where such a site includes streetscape work as part of the site development, Landscape Work provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ shade and amenity that incorporates the use of single trunked canopy shade species utilising low maintenance, local native species as the planting framework, with exotic species as feature planting, where appropriate; and ▪ front fencing that is designed to be primarily transparent and not visually dominant, avoiding the creation of blank walls or barriers at the street interface;



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) where such a site incorporates public open space areas, local native species are utilised as the primary planting framework; and d) where such a site is directly adjacent to a canal or waterway, Landscape Work incorporates natural looking materials to any revetment treatment, and utilises local native species as the primary planting framework in the areas between the property boundary and the canal or waterway edge.

Landscape Design

<p>PC3</p> <p>The Landscape Work, including that within streetscapes, public open space and private property, must complement new and existing development through the provisions of Landscape Work that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) responds to opportunities and constraints of the existing site characteristics; reinforces and enhances identified local character; b) is best suited to the use and function of the site and environmental/climatic conditions; and c) has regard for ongoing maintenance. 	<p>AS3.1</p> <p>Landscape Work for the site reinforces and enhances existing significant topographical features, including local native vegetation, waterways, overland flow paths and landform as identified on a Site Survey and Analysis for the site.</p> <p>AS3.2</p> <p>Landscape Work for the site reinforces local landscape character, as identified in PC2 and AS2.1 to AS2.10 for Landscape Character above.</p> <p>AS3.3</p> <p>Landscape Work in public areas, such as road reserves, parks and other open space, provides shaded environments and passive recreation spaces for users and visitors to the site.</p> <p>AS3.4</p> <p>Where a site incorporates high use facilities, Landscape Work is located and maintained in a way that does not create unsafe environments by blocking surveillance, creating concealment spots and reducing sightlines.</p> <p>AS3.5</p> <p>Landscape Work promotes the effective use of water. Selection of plant species and layout of the landscaped area minimises the demand for use of potable water from the City's water reticulation system.</p> <p>AS3.6</p> <p>Plant species utilised in Landscape Work in streetscapes and public open space areas minimise the need for high intensity landscape maintenance.</p> <p>AS3.7</p> <p>Landscape Work contributes to the stability of local soils and minimises sediment and erosion activity.</p> <p>AS3.8</p> <p>Landscape Work complies with a Statement of Landscape Intent (in some cases approved for Preliminary Operational Work – Landscape), where such a site includes one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) rare and threatened flora or habitat for rare and threatened fauna under the Nature Conservation Act 1992, or is identified by the Planning Scheme as being of ecological significance, or is protected vegetation under Specific Development Code 36 – Vegetation Management; b) the site is to contain large areas of replanting and/or rehabilitation; c) the site is to consist of large areas of open space (including private and public); d) the site has significant overland drainage and/or drainage corridors;
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Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) the site incorporates important views as identified by the Site Analysis; f) the site is located in an area of identified. g) particular local or neighbourhood character; h) it is proposed to alter the landform significantly; i) the development requires additional streetscape work; j) the development incorporates built form which is located in areas of high visual prominence. <p>AS3.9 The Landscape Work is in accordance with a Detailed Landscape Plan, approved for the Operational Work – Landscape Development Permit, prepared in accordance with Planning Scheme Policy 13 – Part 2 – Landscape Works Documentation Manual.</p> <p>AS3.10 The solid wall for podium landscape planting, erected on top of a basement, is not to exceed 0.5 metres in height and is to be located not within 1.0 metre of the basement's outer perimeter.</p>
<p>PC4 Landscape Work in public open space (or that open space to be dedicated as part of an open space contribution) must provide for effective management of the landscape of the site during construction, at 'on' and 'off' maintenance and for future ongoing maintenance regimes.</p>	<p>AS4.1 Landscape Work complies with an Open Space Management Statement (in some cases approved as part of the Preliminary Approval for Operational Work – Landscape) where such a site includes one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the retention and/or removal of flora or habitat for rare and threatened fauna under the Nature Conservation Act 1992, or is identified by the Planning Scheme as being of ecological significance, or is protected vegetation under Specific Development Code 36 – Vegetation Management; b) extensive areas of natural wetlands or other complex drainage systems; c) large areas of open space, including identification of key linkages to a wider open space system; d) areas that may be subject to significant erosion and/or sediment deposition. <p>AS4.2 The Landscape Work for the site is in accordance with an Open Space Management Plan approved for the Operational Work – Landscape Development Permit, prepared in accordance with Planning Scheme Policy 13 – Part 2 – Landscape Works Documentation Manual, where such an area has one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) includes removal of areas of rare and threatened flora or habitat for rare and threatened fauna under the Nature Conservation Act 1992, or is identified by the Planning Scheme as being of ecological significance, or is protected vegetation under the Specific Development Code 36 – Vegetation Management; b) includes retention of areas of significant natural vegetation; c) includes extensive areas of replanting and large rehabilitation areas; d) includes wetlands and other drainage corridors; e) will require storage of materials on-site during construction; f) forms part of a wider open spaces system; g) may be subject to erosion or sediment deposition; includes fauna habitats that require protection and/or expansion; h) includes areas of bushfire hazard; and



Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
	i) incorporates significant public facilities such as picnic or playground areas.
PC5 Landscape Work must be designed and constructed to achieve a reasonable and practicable response to all public risk duty of care issues.	AS5 The design and construction of Landscape Work in public open space areas is consistent with all relevant Australian Standards.

4.0 Compliance

All Landscape Work must be completed in accordance with the approved Detailed Landscape Plan, prior to the proposed use commencing. All Landscape Work must be maintained and managed in accordance with the Detailed Landscape Plan at all times and to the satisfaction of Council.

5.0 Maintenance Security

5.1 Explanation

For successful establishment of Landscape Work, particularly planting, maintenance is a key component in achieving high quality landscape in the long term. Maintenance is often required for a prolonged period of time after final landscape approval is granted. Security is sometimes required to ensure that the Landscape Work is undertaken in accordance with the approved landscape plan and that follow on maintenance and responsibilities are met.

5.2 Provisions

Maintenance Security may be required, at the discretion of the Council or its delegate, where it is considered necessary to ensure that Landscape Work and associated maintenance requirements are completed to an acceptable standard. The maintenance security will be submitted prior to the issue of the Certificate of Compliance.

6.0 Other Relevant Matters Requirements

The information in **Clause 6.0** is provided in good faith and to the best of Council's knowledge. Applicants should satisfy themselves as to the applicability of other relevant matters.

6.1 Preparation of Landscape Plans

Submission of a Landscape Plan is required where indicated by this Planning Scheme or as a condition of a development approval.

A standard process for submission of Landscape Plans, in association with development applications, is promoted by Council. This process applies to all development applications that have a Landscape Work component. It is acknowledged that the amount of information to be included in the submitted landscape plans may vary, according to the particular circumstance of the proposed development.

There are four types of Landscape Plans that may be required as part of a development application. These are:

- a) Statement of Landscape Intent;
- b) Detailed Landscape Plan;
- c) Open Space Management Statement; and
- d) Open Space Management Plan.

6.1.1 Statement of Landscape Intent

Explanation

A Statement of Landscape Intent indicates the broad scale resolution of landscape design issues, and assists in designing and assessing future Landscape Work associated with development. It is required where a proposed development may impact on the character, function, environment and amenity of a site and/or its surrounds.

When is it Required?

The Statement of Landscape Intent is required to accompany any application for a development permit for a Material Change of Use or Reconfiguring a Lot application (to accompany Plan of Development or Concept Plan) where required by the Planning Scheme or by a request for information. The Statement of Landscape Intent may be in some cases approved, if acceptable, as a Preliminary Approval for Operational Work – Landscape. Conditions of this approval will show the requirements for the Detailed Landscape Plan required for Operational Work – Landscape development permit.



Contents of Statement of Landscape Intent

A typical Statement of Landscape Intent identifies (but is not limited to) the following:

- a) existing features on the site to be retained or removed, eg. vegetation and built form;
- b) notations of design intent for any Landscape Work, including desired character themes and proposed function;
- c) proposed location and function of public and private open space areas;
- d) approximate location of softscape areas, including buffers, screens, major garden bed areas and delineation of hardscape areas;
- e) notation of species types for all areas to be replanted (eg. native, exotic, feature planting, form and colour);
- f) approximate location of any building/structure/site furniture, and an indication of their form, materials and colours (including entry statements);
- g) any significant overland drainage paths;
- h) open space design concepts, visual and pedestrian links; and
- i) Open Space Management Statement, if required in the following clause of this code (refer **6.3**, below).

6.1.2 Detailed Landscape Plan

Explanation

A Detailed Landscape Plan provides detailed design drawings for all Landscape Work related to an Operational Work- Landscape application associated with a development proposal. This requirement only applies to Landscape Work where a development permit is required under the provisions of this Planning Scheme, or as required by a condition of another development permit.

When is it Required?

A Detailed Landscape Plan is to be submitted and approved for Operational Work - Landscape prior to the issue of an approval for building work or, where building work approval is not required, prior to the commencement of the development/use. Detailed Landscape Plans must comply with any preliminary Operational Work – Landscape approval documentation, such as the Statement of Landscape Intent.

Contents of Detailed Landscape Plan

The contents of a Detailed Landscape Plan must contain sufficient information to enable construction work and assessment by Council (Refer to **Planning Scheme Policy 13 – Part 2 – Landscape Works Documentation Manual** for further detailed information). A typical Detailed Landscape Plan is to include (but is not limited to) the following:

External Work Details:

- a) construction set out and dimensions, relative levels and contours;
- b) surface treatment, including planting areas, turf, hardscape, edge treatments and mounding; and
- c) building footprints, location and details of any fencing, footpaths, retaining walls, architectural screens/walls, gates, entry statements, seats, bollards, bins, lights, water features, pools, signage and irrigation.

Planting Plans:

- a) building footprints showing window and door locations, roof lines and awning lines;
- b) location of proposed species, notation and numbers of all species proposed, plant schedule;
- c) planting bed preparation details, including topsoil depths, mulch, subgrade preparation, details of planter boxes and podiums, fertilisers and irrigation; and
- d) maintenance period for Landscape Work.

Management of Public Open Space

Public open space areas are areas of land that will be transferred to Council as part of an open space contribution associated with a Material Change of Use or a Reconfiguring a Lot development permit. Management of public open space areas is critical during the construction phase, at the 'on' and 'off' maintenance phase and for their future ongoing sustainability.



6.1.3 Open Space Management Statement

Explanation

When planning and designing proposed public open space areas as part of the design development of the whole of the site, it may become apparent during the Site Survey and Analysis phase that there are particular elements (built or natural) associated with open space development that require consideration from a management perspective early in the design process. In these cases an Open Space Management Statement may be required to accompany a Statement of Landscape Intent. An Open Space Management Statement is a broad outline of the proposed methods and strategies for managing areas of open space during the construction phase, 'on' and 'off' maintenance, and future management requirements, and address elements such as:

- a) vegetation proposed to be retained, relocated or removed;
- b) water quality management including lake management;
- c) erosion control;
- d) sediment control;
- e) bushfire hazard management;
- f) proposed maintenance periods and levels of maintenance; and
- g) other issues, such as access and linkages to other areas of open space, as may have been identified during the design stage or in the Site Analysis.

When is it Required?

An Open Space Management Statement is submitted where required by the Planning Scheme, or in response to a request for information. If an Open Space Management Statement is required, it is to be submitted in most cases in conjunction with the Statement of Landscape Intent and, if acceptable, may be approved with the Statement of Landscape Intent as part of a Preliminary Operational Work – Landscape Approval associated with the Material Change of Use or Reconfiguring a Lot development permit.

Contents of Open Space Management Statement

A typical Open Space Management Statement is a written or graphically presented broad outline for managing open space areas during the construction phase, at the 'on' and 'off' maintenance phase, and for future management of elements such as:

- a) proposed area to be dedicated open space, contours and other topographical information pertaining to the site;
- b) sensitive vegetation and fauna, including habitats and corridors;
- c) water quality management, including lake management;
- d) erosion and sediment control management;
- e) bushfire hazard management;
- f) proposed level and length of maintenance periods; and
- g) other issues, such as access and linkages that may have been identified during the design stage or in the site analysis.

6.1.4 Open Space Management Plan

Explanation

The detailed design of any existing and/or proposed public open space areas may require an Open Space Management Plan to be prepared and submitted to Council. The Open Space Management Plan may be required where Council, or its delegate, considers that the nature of the open space requires detailed management issues to be clearly identified.

An Open Space Management Plan is the detailed identification of the management issues related to the open space areas, including:

- a) during the construction phase;
- b) the quality of the open space area when it comes 'on' and 'off' maintenance; and
- c) the future ongoing maintenance and management requirements of the open space.

When is it Required?

An Open Space Management Plan is required by the Planning Scheme as a condition of approval of a Material Change of Use, Reconfiguring a Lot development permit or a preliminary Operational Work – Landscape approval, or where Council, or its delegate, considers the nature of the open space requires detailed management.



Content of an Open Space Management Plan

A typical Open Space Management Plan is to include (but is not limited to):

- a) Management of Open Space Areas during the Construction Phase:
 - a) delineation of proposed public open space areas;
 - b) protection measures for vegetation to be retained or relocated;
 - c) location and details of all proposed on-site sediment and erosion control methods;
 - d) methods and details of disposal of vegetation approved for removal;
 - e) details of protection or translocation of any fauna on-site (where appropriate);
 - f) temporary fire hazard mitigation measures, eg. fire trails, water storage facilities (only where appropriate – information can be drawn from any Bushfire Management Plan undertaken for the whole site);
 - g) details of methods for maintaining appropriate water quality (if appropriate);
 - h) location and details of storage of materials and storage compound for machinery on-site;
 - i) location and details of temporary access for vehicles and site construction personnel;
 - j) access/protection to any infrastructure services by others;
 - k) location and details of any enclosures, including boundaries;
 - l) methods of control of declared plants and recognised environmental weeds;
 - m) maintenance periods; and
 - n) other issues as previously identified in the site analysis and design process.

- b) Quality of Open Space Areas at 'On' and 'Off' Maintenance

Council requires that all open space areas at 'on' and 'off' maintenance are of a standard that can be easily maintained and will not require additional work to be undertaken to bring these areas up to an acceptable standard by Council at 'off' maintenance. Elements that need to be addressed are the:

- a) standard and quality of grassed areas;
- b) cleaning of any silt deposition;
- c) standard of any planting areas, including retained vegetation areas, rehabilitation areas and garden areas;
- d) condition of any permanent infrastructure, such as irrigation, on-site sediment and erosion control devices, hard surfacing;
- e) condition of any park facilities or play equipment;
- f) rubbish and site debris removal;
- g) standard to be achieved with regard to declared plants and recognised environmental weeds; and
- h) standard of fire hazard mitigation measures (fire trails and water storage facilities).

- c) Ongoing Management/Maintenance Regimes for Open Space Areas

The purpose of including ongoing maintenance and management regimes is to provide Council with a clear indication of possible future management issues that will need to be addressed in order to provide appropriate resources to maintain the areas to the required standard. This part of the Open Space Management Plan should be developed as a stand-alone document, or summary of undertakings, to assist Council in determining maintenance programs and costs. This is required to cover the following matters:

- a) identification of the purpose of the open space area, including objectives for future use;
- b) details of actions for each proposed open space area;
- c) future management and maintenance regimes for protection of significant vegetation areas, ecological systems, waterways and fauna;
- d) future management of bush fire hazard (only where appropriate);
- e) management of domestic farm/feral animals (if appropriate);
- f) tree management procedures;
- g) future management and maintenance regimes for sediment and erosion control devices, and irrigation;
- h) proposed future need for infrastructure, including public facilities;
- i) maintenance of built form and hard surfacing;
- j) management and control of declared plants and recognised environmental weeds; and
- k) management of rubbish.