Item 22 – Environmental mapping

a. Remove the critical corridor mapping from the City Plan Major update 2 & 3 amendment package and retain City Plan version 8 corridor mapping

The Environmental significance – Biodiversity areas overlay map identifies the City’s strategic areas of environmental significance including critical corridors, substantial remnants and core habitat areas and defines a viable network for protecting these areas. This overlay map was proposed to be updated as part of the amendment.

During the first round of public consultation, a number of submissions were received that raised concerns with the critical corridor component of the Environmental significance – Biodiversity areas overlay map.

While changes were made to the critical corridor mapping in response to submissions and readvertised in round 2 of public consultation, some community concern regarding the mapping remained.

In addition, a recent Planning & Environment Court Judgment and changes in State Government legislation have identified unintended consequences of the mapping methodology.

A review of the amendment package found that the proposed critical corridor mapping is not fit for purpose and that if this mapping were to proceed without changes, there is a risk of mapping being removed from a site or sites, only to be returned in a future iteration of the City Plan.

Therefore it is proposed to remove the critical corridor component of the Environmental significance – Biodiversity areas overlay map from the amendment. This means the current critical corridor mapping will not be amended through this amendment package. The City will continue to work to review the mapping for a future amendment.

It should be noted that other changes to the Environmental significance overlay mapping previously advertised will remain in the amendment.

Refinements open for consultation

- Remove the critical corridor mapping from the City Plan Major update 2 & 3 amendment package and retain City Plan version 8 corridor mapping.

Sections of City Plan affected

The following sections are affected by the refinements:

- Environmental significance – Biodiversity areas overlay map

Background paper

A background paper, which includes analysis that informed the proposed refinements, was endorsed by Council on 16 February 2021.

- Round 4 Item 22 & 23 Technical report for critical corridor analysis associated with City Plan Major Update 2 & 3