

17th of January 2023

Edward Pieris
Project Manager
Sydney Infrastructure and Place
Transport for NSW

Dear Edward,

Preliminary assessment results for Appin Road Safety Improvements Project based on the Procedure for Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation and investigation (the procedure).

The project, as described in the assessment checklist, was assessed as being unlikely to have an impact on Registered Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The assessment is based on the following due diligence considerations:

- The project is unlikely to harm known Aboriginal objects or places.
- The AHIMS search indicated that a Culturally Modified tree was present within the project zone.
- An Arborist report has been completed with recommendations (Appendix A)

The following mitigations have been recommended to ensure the health and safety of the registered Aboriginal site (Culturally Modified Tree) during all works:

- Arborist to supervise works within the TPZ.
- Trunk protection: Trunk protection should be installed for the duration of the build. Trunk protection should comprise a thick layer of geotextile fabric beneath 1.8m lengths of softwood timbers aligned vertically and spaced evenly around the trunk (with a small gap of approximately 50mm between the timbers). The timbers should be secured using galvanised aluminium strapping (but not fixed to the tree).
- Root pruning: Any conflicting roots greater than 50mm in diameter identified during the supervised excavations shall be pruned using clean, sharp secateurs or a pruning saw to ensure a clean cut, free from tears. All root pruning (>50mm) must be documented and carried out by the project arborist.

Your project may proceed in accordance with the environmental impact assessment process, as relevant, and all other relevant approvals.

If the scope of your project changes, you must contact The Aboriginal Engagement Section, Greater Sydney Region, and your regional environmental staff to reassess any potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

If any potential Aboriginal objects (including skeletal remains) are discovered during the course of the project, all works in the vicinity of the find must cease. Follow the steps outlined in the Transport for NSW *Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure*.

For further assistance in this matter do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corrine Quinlan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Corrine Quinlan
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisor – Greater Sydney Region

Appendix A

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Appin Road Heritage Tree

Version 1

Prepared for:
WSP Australia Pty Limited



12 January 2023

Introduction

Tree Survey was commissioned by WSP Australia Pty Limited to assess a single tree (*Corymbia maculata*) located on Appin Road, Gilead. The subject tree is listed as Aboriginal Heritage and has been assessed as part of the Appin Road Safety Improvements addendum Review of Environmental Factors (REF).

The purpose of this report is to:

- Assess the current health and condition of the subject tree.
- Assess the potential impacts of the development on the subject tree.

The proposal

Key features of the proposal include:

- Change of northern and southern limits of work along Appin Road.
- Additional road safety barriers and fauna fencing along Appin Road.
- Adjustment to driveways and addition of koala grids at existing driveways along the proposed modification site.

Documents and plans referenced

The subject trees were assessed in accordance with a stage one visual tree assessment (VTA) as formulated by Mattheck & Breloer (1994)¹, and practices consistent with modern arboriculture. The conclusions and recommendations of this report are based on the findings from the site inspections, and analysis of the documents/plans listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Documents and plans

Document	Author	Version	Date
Pruning of Amenity Trees	Standards Australia	2	14/03/07
Protection of Trees on Development Sites	Standards Australia	1	26/03/10

¹ VTA is an internationally recognised practice in the visual assessment of trees as formulated by Mattheck & Breloer (1994). Principle explanations and illustrations are contained within the publication, Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment by Mattheck, C., and Breloer, H. Arboricultural Journal, Vol 18 pp 1-23 (1994).

Observations

The following observations were made during the site inspection:

- The subject tree (*Corymbia maculata*) is approximately 24m in height, with a canopy spread of 14m and a trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) of 650mm.
- The overall health and condition of the tree are good.
- The tree has been assessed as a high priority for retention due to its listing as Aboriginal Heritage.
- The tree protection zone (TPZ) for this tree has been calculated at 7.8m radius from the centre of the trunk. The structural root zone (SRZ) has been calculated at 2.8m radius from the centre of the trunk.
- A road safety barrier and fauna fence are proposed to be installed within the TPZ of the subject tree.
- There are two (2) options for the location of the fauna fence, in front (roadside) or behind the tree. Both options comprise the same number of footings and will have the same construction impact
- The road safety barrier will require eight (8) footings (150mm in diameter) within the TPZ.
- The fauna fence will require five (5) post footings (350mm in diameter) within the TPZ.
- Encroachment within the TPZ has been calculated at less than 3%.

Further details for each of the subject trees have been provided in **Table 2** (next page).

Table 2: Tree schedule

Proposal	Retain
Other notes	Impacts on the subject tree will be negligible
% Encroachment within TPZ	3%
Encroachment	Minor
SRZ (metres radius)	2.8
TPZ (metres radius)	7.8
DRB (millimetres diameter)	700
DBH Combined (millimetres diameter)	650
DBH 3 (millimetres diameter)	-
DBH 2 (millimetres diameter)	-
DBH 1 (millimetres diameter)	650
Priority for retention	High
Useful life expectancy	Medium
Tree significance	High
Age class	Mature
Structure	Good
Health	Good
Spread (metres diameter)	14
Height (metres)	24
Botanical name	Corymbia maculata
Id.	1

Discussion

The tree will be subject to a minor encroachment of less than 10% within the TPZ. The encroachment is highly unlikely to impact the overall health or condition of this tree. Under the current proposal, this tree can be successfully retained.

Recommendations

The subject tree can be retained under the current proposal. Site-specific tree protection mitigation has been outlined below:

- **Trunk protection:** Trunk protection should be installed for the duration of the build. Trunk protection should comprise a thick layer of geotextile fabric beneath 1.8m lengths of softwood timbers aligned vertically and spaced evenly around the trunk (with a small gap of approximately 50mm between the timbers). The timbers should be secured using galvanised aluminium strapping (but not fixed to the tree).
- **Root pruning:** Any conflicting roots greater than 50mm in diameter identified during the supervised excavations shall be pruned using clean, sharp secateurs or a pruning saw to ensure a clean cut, free from tears. All root pruning (>50mm) must be documented and carried out by the project arborist.

Should you have any questions or queries regarding the information contained within this document, please feel free to contact Tree Survey via the details below:



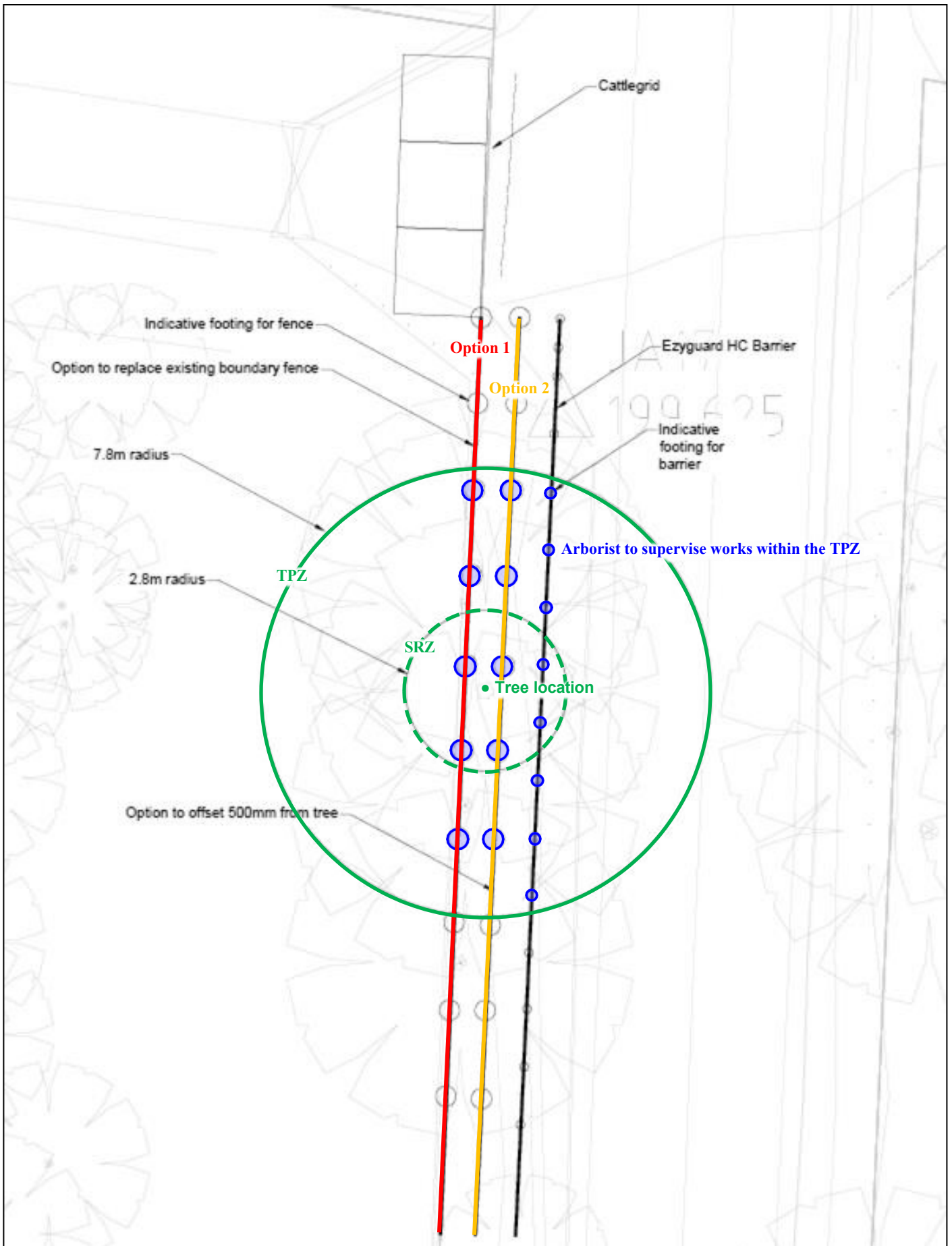
Phil Witten

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Appendix I – Site Plan



Appendix II – Site Photos

