

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
TREE REMOVAL / TREE PRUNING APPLICATION

APPLICANT: Frances Ryan

ADDRESS: 121 Elizabeth St PL: 03 5585 1074
..... Edenhope vic 3318

LOCATION OF TREE TO BE
REMOVED/PRUNED: Above - on nature strip

SPECIES OF TREE TO BE
REMOVED/PRUNED: Eucalyptus

REASON FOR REQUEST: Causing damage to the kerb,.....
..... holding water back. Due to the severe method of pruning
..... for powerlines, the tree is at risk of dropping large limbs
..... onto the neighbouring unit. It is also an eyesore as it
..... has a large 'u' shape cut into the middle of it.

Signature: F Ryan

Date: 13-5-15

OFFICE USE ONLY

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: To be referred to Council.

AUTHORISING OFFICER: [Signature]

DATE: 21/5/15

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
TREE REMOVAL REPORT

APPLICANT: Frances Ryan

ADDRESS: 121 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope 3318

LOCATION OF TREE TO BE REMOVED: Nature strip, 121 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope.

SPECIES OF TREE TO BE REMOVED: Eucalyptus

REASON FOR REQUEST: Causing damage to the kerb, holding water back. Due to the severe method of pruning for powerlines, the tree is at risk of dropping large limbs onto the neighbouring unit. It is also an eyesore as it has a large “u” shape cut into the middle of it.

RECOMMENDATION:

This Eucalyptus tree is located on the nature strip at 121 Elizabeth Street, Edenhope. The tree is quite large and situated directly under overhead powerlines. It has been severely pruned to allow powerline clearance through the middle and there are large limbs adjacent to and overhanging the fenceline. This is regarded as a risk to private property.

The tree is also causing noticeable damage to the kerb & channel.

The applicant’s reasons for removal fall within the Tree Removal Criteria clause 5.3.1 of the Street Tree Policy, in that:

The street tree posing an extreme public nuisance because of its species, size, location, or attributes;

and it is recommended that the tree be removed.

Vemco, Powercor’s vegetation control contractors, has highlighted this tree to be unsuitable being directly under powerlines and has recommended its removal.

AUTHORISING OFFICER: Bernie Maddern

DATE: 21 May 2015

PARKS & GARDENS STAFF REPORT:

PARKS & GARDENS STAFF:

DATE:



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

STREET TREE RISK ASSESSMENT

Tree Location: 121 ELIZABETH STREET
EDENHOPE

Tree Species: GUM TREE

Tree Age and Condition: 10 Years +
Active large tree, been trimmed
with large re growth, approx 15 metres in height.

Current situation and risks: Damage to infrastructure
and re growth over shadowing units.
Bundled cable running through middle of tree
currently

Future Risk: Re Growth is weaker point of attachment
to main trunk with potential ~~big~~ breaking off
in heavy wind falling onto roof of unit. Continued
Kerb + Channel damage + footpath distortion

Risk Rating: ☐ Low ☐ Medium ☒ High

Assessor: Terry Dugh

Date: 17/06/2015



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 16 JULY 2015 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

13.4 APPLICATION TREE REMOVAL – 121 ELIZABETH STREET EDENHOPE

FILE NUMBER: PSO 389

AUTHOR: BERNIE MADDERN CONTRACTS MANAGER

FOR DECISION

Introduction

This report is to consider a street tree removal application received from Frances Ryan, for the removal of one large Eucalyptus tree on the nature strip at 121 Elizabeth Street Edenhope.

Background

An original tree removal request for this tree was received by Gay Edwards of 121 Elizabeth Street on 1 June 2012. This tree removal request was not approved on the basis that it did not meet the Shire's street tree policy removal criteria.

Recently a further request has been received from Frances Ryan as described below. This request has been referred to Council as it is deemed as an aged and significant tree situated on public land in a Township, as per Council resolution at the 21 November 2013 meeting.

Applicant:

Frances Ryan - Request dated 13/05/2015

121 Elizabeth Street Edenhope

Applicants Reason: Refer to attachment.

Risk Management Implications

Any street tree can pose a potential risk to the general public, however this risk is mitigated through Council's street tree management program through annual inspections and is audited annually by Council's insurers CMP.

A recent individual risk assessment has been carried out by Council's Works Manager on this tree. The assessment states that the tree is over 30 old. It is an active large tree, has been trimmed with large re growth, approximately 15 metres in height. The current risks identified are damage to infrastructure and regrowth overshadowing adjacent housing units. Bundled cable is running through the middle of the tree canopy.



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 16 JULY 2015 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Future risks are growth is weaker at the point of attachment to main trunk with potential breaking off in heavy winds and falling onto roof of unit. Usual risks for any township tree-scapes are kerb & channel damage and footpath distortion.

Legislative Implications

Council is required to comply with the Electrical Safety Victoria (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010. This is done through the Council Tree Management Plan and agreed with Powercor.

Environmental Implications

This tree is quite large, established and quite old. It provides valuable shade in summer, although it typically it drop leaves, twigs, nuts etc. on the footpath and driveway. Due to its close proximity to another large Flowering Gum tree on the sealed pavement, its removal would not greatly change the aesthetics of the streetscape.

Financial and Budgetary Implications

If Council decides that the tree is to remain, there will be no cost.

The budget for urban tree removal is allocated against Urban Street Maintenance if Council decided that the tree is to be removed.

Cost of removal	\$1,000.00	(approx.)
Cost of stump removal	\$ 200.00	(approx.)
Total Cost	\$1,200.00	

Policy and Council Plan Implications

Consideration of the application to remove this tree must be undertaken within clause 5.2.1 the Tree Removal criteria in Council's Street Tree Policy which states:

The street tree poses an extreme public nuisance because of its species, size, location, attributes, or condition.

Communication Implications

An original tree removal request was received by Gay Edwards of 121 Elizabeth Street on 1st June 2012 advising that this tree had dangerous limbs over the unit, dropping of leaves & sticks, and recent ant infestation in tree causing ants inside unit and garage. This tree removal request was not agreed to by Council on the basis that it did not meet the tree removal criteria. Following the request some limb lopping was carried out to remove limbs overhanging the fenceline.



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The recent request dated 13/05/15 for the street tree removal was received from Frances Ryan stating that the tree is causing damage to the kerb, holding water back. Due to the severe method of pruning under powerlines, the tree is at risk of dropping large limbs onto the neighbouring unit. It is also an eyesore as it has a large “u” shape cut into the middle of it.

During annual street tree inspections in 2014 carried out under the 2010 regulations, Vemco identified this tree as directly under low voltage ABC power line, causing footpath damage and it was recommended for removal.

Conclusion

This Gum tree is well established, and does not constitute ‘an extreme public nuisance’ as determined by Council’s Street Tree Policy.

However it is situated directly under power lines and has been trimmed extensively to allow the powerline to pass through with the new required clearances.

Given future tree-scaping will move to alternative trees in these situations, it would not be unreasonable for Council to depart from their policy in this particular situation.

The recent risk assessment has highlighted changes to this tree in the past two years, additionally with some kerb & channel and footpath damage evident and large overhanging limbs close to the adjacent housing unit.

Council could deny the application, or Council could approve the application for removal conditional on the cost of removal being met by the applicant, or Council could approve the application for removal and meet the \$1,200 estimated cost with Council budget.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the application by Frances Ryan to remove the Gum tree situated on the nature strip adjacent 121 Elizabeth Street Edenhope, conditional on the cost of removal, including stump removal, to be met by the applicant.

Moved:	Cr Hawkins
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WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL**

Seconded:

That Council approve the application by Frances Ryan to remove the Gum tree situated on the nature strip adjacent 121 Elizabeth Street Edenhope, with the cost of removal, including stump removal, to be met by Council.

Motion Lapsed

Moved: Cr Richard Wait

Seconded: Cr Warren Wait

In relation to the application by Frances Ryan to remove the Gum tree situated on the nature strip adjacent 121 Elizabeth Street Edenhope:

That Council Officers report back to Council on alternative options that don't involve removing the tree.

Carried

For: Cr Richard Wait, Cr Warren Wait, Cr Meyer, Cr Jones

Against: Cr Hawkins

Attachments:

No.	Item	RecFind Ref
13.4.1	Letter from Applicant	15/002964
13.4.2	Tree Removal report	15/002964
13.4.3	Risk assessment	15/002964

8/7/2020



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL
TREE REMOVAL / TREE PRUNING APPLICATION

APPLICANT: Wendy Garton.

ADDRESS: Unit 1 / 121 Elizabeth St.
Edenhope Vic 3318.

LOCATION OF TREE TO BE
REMOVED/PRUNED: On the nature strip in front of
my unit.

SPECIES OF TREE TO BE
REMOVED/PRUNED: I think Flowering Gum.

REASON FOR REQUEST: The roots are protruding from the
ground. It is a trip hazard to the Elderly Lady who will
be living in my unit. There are no other trees as big as

Signature: Wendy Garton. this along the nature strip
I am worried about more.
Date: 30/6/2020. Cracks appearing in my unit
the leaves and gum nuts
are a nuisance it cuts
vision when backing out
AND POWER LINES GO
STRAIGHT THROUGH THE
MIDDLE.

OFFICE USE ONLY

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: MIDDLE

AUTHORISING OFFICER:

DATE:

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