

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This policy describes Council's position regarding the mowing of nature strips in urban areas.

2.0 Objective

- 2.1 The objective of this policy is to set out both Council's responsibility and property occupants' role in relation to the mowing of nature strips, in order to provide a safe, functional and aesthetically pleasing streetscape.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all Council controlled lands between property boundaries and Council controlled roads in the urban areas of the Wynyard and Somerset townships.

4.0 Policy

4.1 Definition

4.2 Nature Strip

The area of land between a property boundary and the edge of a roadway. The primary purpose of this land is to facilitate pedestrian movement alongside the roadway and provide an area for infrastructure provision.

4.3 Acceptable Condition of Nature Strips

A nature strip should be maintained to a reasonable level of appearance. This usually translates to the regular mowing of grass throughout the year, in order to keep the nature strip aesthetically pleasing and conforming to the overall streetscape of our urban areas.

4.1 Council's Responsibility Regarding Nature Strips

4.1.1 Council will maintain nature strips adjoining or within:

- (a) Public reserve areas such as beaches, foreshores, bushland, parks or gardens;
- (b) Council facilities such as public buildings, recreation grounds or swimming pools;
- (c) Central Business Districts; and
- (d) Areas of neglect, where nature strips create an eyesore or safety hazard.

4.2 Property Occupants' Role Regarding Nature Strips

4.2.1 Traditionally, property occupants have maintained nature strips adjoining their properties. Council lacks adequate resources to effectively maintain these diverse areas, which taken together, constitute a large and sparsely spread area of land. As such, property occupants' efforts are required in order to maintain nature strips throughout our urban areas to a reasonable condition. Property occupants' maintenance of nature strips not only benefits the adjoining property, but also enhances the utility, attractiveness and value of the community as a whole.

5.0 Legislation

Public Reserves By-Law, Number 5 of 2003.

6.0 Responsibility

6.1 The Director Infrastructure and Development Services is responsible for the overall management of the policy.

7.0 Minute Reference

Minute No. 12.2

8.0 Council Meeting Date

15 November 2010