



**Randwick City
Council**
a sense of community

WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
BUSINESS PAPER

TUESDAY 12 MAY 2015

Administrative Centre 30 Frances Street Randwick 2031
Telephone: 1300 722 542
Fax: 02 9319 1510
council@randwick.nsw.gov.au
www.randwick.nsw.gov.au



WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Works Committee Meeting of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick on Tuesday, 12 May 2015 at 6:00pm

Committee Members: The Mayor T Seng, Andrews, Belleli, Bowen, D'Souza (Deputy Chairperson), Garcia, Matson, Moore, Nash, Neilson, Roberts (Chairperson), Shurey, Smith, Stavrinou & Stevenson

Quorum: Eight (8) members

NOTE: At the Extraordinary Meeting held on 28 September 2004, the Council resolved that the Works Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Confirmation of the Minutes

Works Committee Meeting - 14 April 2015

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Committee by Members of the Public

Privacy warning;

In respect to Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act, members of the public are advised that the proceedings of this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of clause 69 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Urgent Business

Works Reports

W13/15	Tree Removal - Outside 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee	1
W14/15	Commemoration of Martin Joseph "Paddy" Bastic OAM	15

Notice of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee
GENERAL MANAGER

Works Report No. W13/15



Subject: Tree Removal - Outside 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee
Folder No: F2004/07359
Author: Bryan Bourke, Tree Management Officer

Introduction

The owner of 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee, logged a service request with Council on 14 October 2014 regarding ongoing damage being caused to his property and adjacent public infrastructure by the roots of a mature Council owned *Ficus 'Hillii'* (Hill's Weeping fig) street tree.

Issues

Subsequent to this service request being logged, a work instruction was issued to Council's Road Services department to remove the damaged footpath immediately adjacent to where the fig tree is located to allow Council's Tree Gang to assess the viability of tree root pruning and other management/retention options.

The size and amount of tree root material required to be removed was assessed as being excessive and would dramatically impact the health of the subject tree and its stability. No root pruning was undertaken. The removed section of footpath was reinstated in asphalt.

On 15 January 2015 the owner of the same property emailed Council and detailed a range of concerns and damage being caused specifically to his property, including:

- structural cracking to the front brick retaining wall
- cracking to one of the carport support columns
- cracking of adjacent to internal gas and water services/pipes
- a history of large branches from the subject tree dropping onto his property and onto public land

He also included photographs of large fig tree roots immediately adjacent to his retaining wall taken when Council was undertaking rectification works at the end of 2014. These photographs reinforce why these major structural roots were left intact and the damaged footpath reinstated in asphalt.

The tree has to be regularly pruned away from domestic service wires to maintain statutory clearances and branches have to be regularly pruned back because they overhang into adjacent residences with periodic failures. The stormwater pipes from the adjacent property travel directly underneath the fig tree root mass and enter the gutter just east of where the tree is located. Because of ongoing blockage and damage issues these had to be replaced in PVC plastic. The pruning of major roots was undertaken several years ago to allow the reconstruction of the driveway and crossover into the property caused by large fig tree roots.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

W13/15

Direction 10b: Environmental risks and impacts are strategically managed.
Key Action: Develop and implement policies, programs and strategies to manage environmental risks and impacts.

Financial impact statement

It is estimated that the removal of the Hill's Weeping fig outside 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee, and its replacement with two advanced *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lilly Pillys) would cost in the vicinity of \$6,000. The required funds would come from Council's annual tree management budget.

Conclusion

The mature Council owned *Ficus 'Hillii'* street tree growing outside 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee, has important visual and habitat significance. It is estimated to be approximately sixty years old and up until this point Council has been committed to retaining it, despite the fact that associated tree root damage has progressively increased in both frequency and severity. The tree has been assessed as having significant scenic and amenity value and with providing important habitat and food source for a variety of fauna. Because of the damage being caused by its roots, the impact of removal on land degradation would be negligible. Using Australian Standard *ASDR99307* the tree has been assessed as having an amenity value of \$14,000. It has also been calculated that the tree has a moderate hazard rating but this will probably increase as the tree ages and weather events become more severe. Because of the size and amount of root material required to be removed to effectively deal with the damage being caused by its roots, any further root pruning is not in any way a viable option. This is supported by the findings of Council's Tree Gang arborists when the damaged footpath adjacent to where the tree is located was removed in December 2014. Effectively, the only practicable long-term management option is to remove the subject tree and to replace it with a more appropriate tree species as nominated in Council's Street Tree Masterplan.

The removal of this tree would certainly have a detrimental impact on the Ritchard Avenue streetscape that would in no way be able to be realistically mitigated in the shorter term by the planting of one or two advanced replacement trees.

Recommendation

That the Council owned *Ficus 'Hillii'* (Hill's Weeping fig) growing outside 29 Ritchard Avenue, Coogee, be removed and replaced with two advanced *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lilly Pillys) as nominated in Council's Street Tree Masterplan.

Attachment/s:

1. Photographs - Subject tree and its visual importance in the streetscape and the root damage being caused to both public infrastructure and private property



Hill's Weeping fig is healthy and prominent in the Ritchard Ave streetscape



Canopy has to be regularly pruned away from domestic service wires

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W13/15



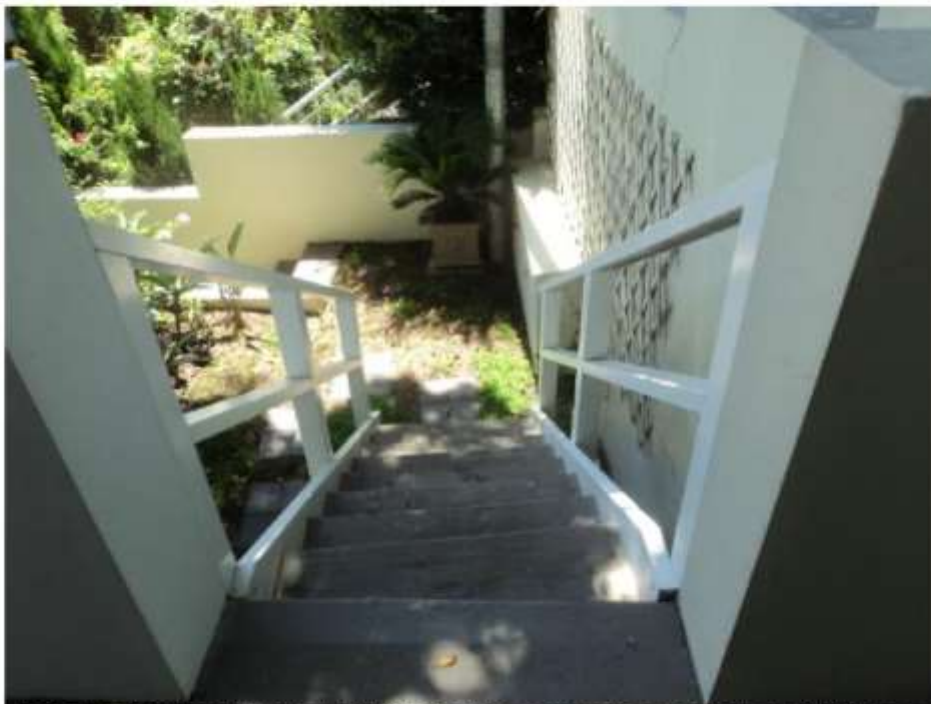
Large mass of buttress roots around base of tree running underneath footpath



Fig tree roots regularly lift footpath slabs and have dislodged carport support pier



Cracks in wall extend down to water and gas meter boxes at bottom of entranceway



Front steps have been uplifted and dislodged by movement caused to front brick fence

W13/15



Excessive cracking caused to front brick retaining wall by adjacent fig tree roots



Large cracks immediately adjacent to gas and water meter boxes



Cracking in property retaining wall caused by Council fig tree roots

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W13/15



Crack in wall of carport supporting pier also caused by fig tree roots



Damage to front wall and driveway where mailbox butts up to footpath

W13/15

W13/15



Cracks in pillar and retaining wall inside the front of adjacent property



Large fig tree root located adjacent to driveway and front brick fence of property



Tree roots run along the entire length of the front brick fence and retaining wall

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W13/15



Large root located underneath footpath cannot be severed because of proximity to tree



Major fig tree root had to be severed to allow damaged driveway to be replaced



Stormwater pipes had to be replaced in PVC plastic because of tree root damage

W13/15

Works Report No. W14/15



Subject: Commemoration of Martin Joseph
"Paddy" Bastic OAM

Folder No: F2004/06876

Author: Joe Ingegneri, Manager Technical Services

Introduction

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 27 August 2013, Council resolved:

"(D'Souza/Stevenson) that the park adjacent to the Maroubra Beach car park and bounded by Marine Parade, Mons Avenue and Fitzgerald Avenue be named "Paddy Bastic OAM Park" with a naming ceremony to be organised with Paddy's family once formal approval is complete."

Issues

The proposal to name the park adjacent to the Maroubra Beach car park and bounded by Marine Parade, Mons Avenue and Fitzgerald Avenue "Paddy Bastic OAM Park", was submitted to the Geographical Names Board for their consideration.

The proposal was considered by the Geographical Names Board at their Board Meeting held on 25 March 2014. It was resolved to reject the proposal as the area is currently known as Broadarrow Reserve and it is a long standing name since 1977 that is well entrenched in the community.

The Geographical Names Board indicated that they do not support the changing of long established place names unless it is to avoid ambiguity or duplication. The Board also advised that post-nominal letters are not to be included when naming any geographical feature.

To commemorate the late Mr Bastic it was determined to investigate the naming or renaming of other locations and facilities in Maroubra. Several locations were considered. The locations and facilities that were considered to be in a prominent location and suitable to commemorate the late Mr Bastic are listed below.

- Maroubra Beach Playground
- Maroubra Pavilion

The Maroubra Beach playground is located adjacent to the Maroubra Pavilion. Generally, our playgrounds are not allocated commemorative names.

The Maroubra Beach Pavilion is a prominent building at Maroubra Beach. This location is in close proximity to the original nomination at Broadarrow Reserve. The pavilion is well known to locals and visitors. It is considered that this proposal to rename the pavilion as the Paddy Bastic Pavilion is a suitable and worthy option to commemorate the late Mr Paddy Bastic OAM. The renaming of a council facility can be undertaken by Council resolution and does not require external approval.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

W14/15

Outcome 7: Heritage that is protected and celebrated.
Direction 7a: Our heritage is recognised, protected and celebrated.

Financial impact statement

This funding is currently available in our operational budget.

Conclusion

The Geographical Names Board rejected the proposal to rename Broadarrow Reserve to "Paddy Bastic OAM Park". Consideration of alternative locations and facilities has been undertaken. An option to rename the Maroubra Pavilion as the Paddy Bastic Pavilion is considered the most suitable option to commemorate the late Mr Bastic.

Recommendation

That:

- a) the Maroubra Pavilion be renamed the "Paddy Bastic Pavilion".
- b) a naming ceremony to be organised with the family of the late Mr Martin Joseph "Paddy" Bastic OAM.

Attachment/s:

1. Letter from the Geographical Names Board regarding Paddy Bastic OAM Park proposal

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PO Box 143
Bathurst NSW 2795
T: 02 6332 8214
F: 02 6332 8217
E: gnb@lpi.nsw.gov.au
www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

Our Ref: GNB1302
Your Ref: F2005/00266 Doc No. D01878526
Contact: Jill Williams

The General Manager
Randwick City Council
30 Frances Street
RANDWICK NSW 2031

Attention: J Ingegneri

Dear Sir

Proposal to rename Broad Arrow Reserve to Paddy Bastic OAM Park

I apologise for the delay in replying to Council's request to rename Broad Arrow Reserve. The proposal was considered by the Geographical Names Board at its last meeting held on 25 March 2014.

Changing the names of long established place names is generally not allowed, except where necessary to avoid ambiguity or duplication. Broad Arrow Reserve was assigned in the Geographical Names Register as a geographical name for this reserve on 10 June 1977. It is a large well-known reserve and the name appears many times in Council databases and other internet sites.

The Geographical Names Board resolved to reject the proposal to rename Broad Arrow Reserve as it is a long standing name which is well entrenched in the community. The Board suggested that Council select another feature to commemorate the late Mr Bastic. Please note that post-nominal letters are not to be included when naming any geographical feature.

Please contact Mr Kevin Richards, Secretary, on 02 6332 8215 if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

Jill Williams
For Secretary
Geographical Names Board

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