



MINUTES
TREE RE-ESTABLISHMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2.00 pm 16 August 2018
Meeting Room 1, City of Darwin Civic Centre

1. PRESENT

Dr Greg Leach	Chairperson
Ms Yvette Brady	Greening Australia
Ms Fiona Eddleston	Australian Institute Landscape Architects
Mr Simon Smith	Nursery and Garden Industry NT
Alderman P Pangquee	City of Darwin Elected Member
Mr Jamie Lewis	City of Darwin – Technical Officer
Mr Tony Cox	Community Member
Mr Adam Grainger	Community Member

Observer

Chris Bailey	City of Darwin
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Secretarial

Ms Kerrie Small	City of Darwin
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2. APOLOGIES

Mr Richard Kenyon	NT Arboriculture Association
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**Richard attended the meeting from 3.45 pm.*

3. WELCOME

The Chair Greg Leach welcomed and introduced himself to the committee.

4. INTRODUCTIONS

All members introduced themselves to the committee.

The Chair requested that the meeting focus on evidenced based information.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

A review of the Terms of Reference is required and is to be reported by the Chairperson to the, City of Darwin.

Suggested changes to Terms of Reference (last dot point):

- Advise City of Darwin on best practice methods of tree **procurement**, propagation, planting, protection and **whole of life management** across the Darwin Municipality.

6. CITY OF DARWIN – EXPECTATIONS, DELIVERABLES, FORMAT OF REPORT, TIMELINE, RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO COMMITTEE

Jamie Lewis discussed the expectations of the Committee from City of Darwin perspective.

Jamie Lewis advised that Council resources will be available to the Committee. All material circulated within the Committee will be the responsibility of City of Darwin.

Alderman Pangquee discussed the need for community consultation and budget implications from a Council perspective.

Recommendation:

The Committee agreed that a period of community consultation was an important step in the process. Roll-out first draft lists and supporting documents for community consultation at about week 8. Suggestions included using Survey Monkey or City of Darwin “*have your say*” Engage Darwin website. Media team to engage the community through social media platforms etc. Community engagement to also target the Department of Education and Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

7. BACKGROUND REPORTS AVAILABLE TO COMMITTEE – COMPLETENESS, GAPS, WHAT ELSE IS NEEDED?

Background information has been circulated to members.

List of information provided to Committee via USB:

- AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees
- Draft AS2303 Tree stock for landscape use
- Suitable tree species – City of Darwin (Spreadsheet)
- City of Darwin Tree planting specifications
- 1995 Windthrow Kakadu
- Climate change risks for Australia’s Urban Forest – Final Nov17

- Greening Australia Post TC Marcus Survey
- Greening Australia Post TC Yasi Survey
- Scientific paper Tree damage from cyclones in Darwin
- Where should all the trees go
- TRAC Terms of reference

Members to read all documents provided. It was requested that members make available/share any relevant documentation to the Committee within the next week or two, via email.

Simon Smith suggested soil mapping - overlay of species and appropriateness to the topography and location. He was advised that supporting documentation is provided on USB.

ACTIONS:

Jamie Lewis to look back on Council planting techniques over the last 20 to 30 years and provide information to the Committee. Also provide planting specifications for the Lyons subdivision.

Clouston have planting information relating to planting throughout the CBD. Tony Cox to circulate to Committee.

Adam Grainger to provide more information to the Committee regarding overseas tropical regions – cyclone prone regions (examples).

8. WORKPLAN – TIMELINES FOR STAGES OF PREPARING REPORT TO CITY OF DARWIN, WHO IS DOING WHAT BY WHEN

Please refer to attached work plan (**Attachment A**). Please note timelines subject to change with regard to deadlines.

Plant List

Agreed to use the City of Darwin plant list as a starting point.

List to include evidence that trees have some resistance/resilience or susceptibility to cyclone damage.

Definition of a tree – a plant above 3 metres with a single stem (taken from Cyclone Tracey report).

The City of Darwin list of trees will have additional columns as per below list:

Main headings:

- **Description**
- **Benefits**
- **Constraints or Issues**
- **Environment and Uses**

Some of the sub-categories to be included under the main headings include:

- soil type
- large parks
- small parks
- street scapes
- suburban and urban landscapes
- supplementary irrigation
- drainage swales
- cyclone resilience
- maintenance costs
- ease of propagation
- purchase costs
- life cycle costs – benefits (sub-category list underneath benefits eg canopy etc)
- invasiveness

ACTIONS:

Jamie Lewis to circulate revised draft spreadsheet to Committee in the next few days.

Tony Cox to provide a copy of the Eden Fisher matrix and tree master class to Jamie.

Best Practice Document

Tony Cox to circulate draft table of contents to members for comment. The document was envisaged as being made up of 4 sections:

- Plant selection
- Plant Supply – procurement, early ordering and delays - use AS2303.
- Plants into the ground – what do we do to do it properly
- Plants life cycle management

Committee members to consider contributions under these broad sections.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Recommendation:

Committee members recommended Edan Fisher to be engaged as an expert advisor.

ACTIONS:

Jamie Lewis to contact Edan Fisher.

Media to note that there will be community consultation involved in this process.

The Chair to update work plan and recirculate to members.

Fiona Eddleston to provide a list of key stakeholders.

Member Leave Dates:

Tony Cox – 19 October to 30 November

Adam Grainger – 29 August to 7 September

Jamie Lewis – End of October for one week

Greg Leach – 17 August to 3 September

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Members to communicate draft ideas via email and reconvene at 2.00 pm, 6 September 2018 in Meeting Room 1 Civic Centre.

DRAFT WORK PLAN

Week 1 16-23 August

Agreement on starting point for lists and format for collating data. ? Sub group to start preparation of a draft of best practice propagation/planting recommendations for discussion by committee at Week 5 meeting. Discuss need for a community input period/mechanism?

Week 2 23-30 August

By 6th September the Committee has circulated internally individual/sector/community nominations for changes to the lists.

Week 3 30 August – 6 Sep

Internal circulation within committee. All nominated changes compiled up by CoD for presentation to the committee.

Week 4 6-13 Sep

Committee discusses all nominations and prepares first draft lists. Committee considers any additional references/reports that may provide additional species for consideration.

Week 5 13-20 Sep

Committee discusses propagation/planting recommendations and agrees to a first set of recommendations. Sector representatives take all drafts to their respective organisations for comment? By ??? 4th October?

Committee agrees to a period (2 weeks?) of public submissions on the plant lists (? closing 27th or 3 weeks by 4th October) and endorses drafts for public comment. **OR** CoD does a public notice advising that community submissions to the committee can be directed to the 2 community members on the committee.

Week 6 20-27 Sep

Committee considers any additional ad hoc Recommendations to be included in the report.

Week 7 27 Sep – 4 Oct

No meeting?

Week 8 4-11 Oct

Sector and public submissions considered by committee. Revised drafts of lists and propagation/planting documents prepared.

Week 9 11-18 Oct

Draft lists and a draft outline of the report considered by committee

Week 10 18-25 Oct

Additional ad hoc Recommendations discussed and finalised

Week 11 25 Oct – 1 Nov

Week 12 1-8 Nov

By 8th November report endorsed by Committee and forwarded to the General Manager Infrastructure, City of Darwin for submission to CoD Council meeting 13th November.