

ITEM 9 POLICY REVIEW: FOOTPATHS AND ROAD RESERVES MOWING

The Footpaths and Road Reserves Mowing policy has now been reviewed as part of Council's rolling review schedule of its policies, with only minor amendments.

RECOMMENDATION

The draft Footpaths and Road Reserves Mowing Policy be adopted for a further period of 4 years.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Mark Roebuck, Manager City Works and Services
 Authorised by: Greg Doyle, Director Infrastructure and Works - Connectivity Assets and Liveable City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Footpaths and Road Reserves Mowing Policy

BACKGROUND

This Council policy was adopted on 5 August 1985, and a review of this policy was endorsed by Executive Management Committee on 26 March 2013. To progress Council's periodic process of review of policies, the Footpaths and Road Reserves Mowing Council Policy has been reviewed by City Works and Services Division.

PROPOSAL

Summary of changes proposed:

- Addition of the term 'road reserves' in the policy;
- Removal of specific types of mowing carried out by Council on road reserves.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The following staff were consulted as part of this review:

- Parks Coordinators (North, Central and South);
- Operations Managers;
- Parks + Open Space Manager (Acting).

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Wollongong 2022 goal "We are a healthy community in a liveable city". It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan	Delivery Program 2012-2017	Annual Plan 2017-18
Strategy	5 Year Action	Annual Deliverables
5.3.3 Well maintain assets that meet the needs of current and future communities are provided.	5.3.3.1 Manage and maintain community infrastructure portfolio with a focus on asset renewal	Continue to work with the community to review levels of service.

CONCLUSION

The Footpaths and Road Reserves Mowing Policy has been reviewed with only minor amendments from the previously adopted policy. Executive Management Committee have endorsed the amendments and recommended referral to Council for adoption.



ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [TO BE COMPLETED BY CORP SUPPORT]

BACKGROUND

Council owns the land ~~of on which public roads on behalf of the public and roadside reserves lie. Council does not have a legal obligation or sufficient funds to fully maintain the land of all public roads road reserves throughout the City. Council maintains the footpaths and road reserves adjacent to Council owned properties.~~

Council encourages adjoining property owners to maintain footpaths, including the mowing of grass, to provide a safe and attractive appearance of the road reserves.

OBJECTIVE

To define extent of Council involvement in mowing of footpaths and roadside reserves.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council will maintain footpaths and mow road reserves adjacent to Council-owned properties to a standard outlined in this Policy.

POLICY REVIEW AND VARIATION

- 1 Council is to have opportunity to review and adopt, at least once during its Term, each Council policy.
- 2 A resolution of Council is required to adopt any variations to this policy, with the exception of minor administrative changes, such as updates to legislative references, which may be endorsed by the Executive Management Committee (EMC). Endorsement of administrative changes made to this policy by EMC does not alter the requirement for it to be reviewed and adopted by each Term of Council.

FOOTPATHS MOWING

COUNCIL POLICY

STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES

1 ADJACENT TO COUNCIL-OWNED PROPERTIES

- (a) Properties with a high public visibility, such as Libraries and Council run facilities - the footpaths in the vicinity of these properties ~~should will~~ be maintained ~~at a high~~ to a suitable standard, including ~~hand-mowing, edge edging trimming~~ and removal of clippings.
- (b) Other Council properties - ~~no hand m~~Mowing ~~should will~~ be carried out ~~unless unavoidable and then only~~ to a standard sufficient for safe and nuisance-free pedestrian usage. ~~Mowing should be carried out by tractor mowing wherever possible.~~
Council staff will determine the most appropriate treatment method to undertake this work.

2 ADJACENT TO GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTIES

~~No mowing, by hand or tractor mower, to be carried out unless the cost is met by the government body concerned. Council does not mow footpaths and road reserves adjoining other Government owned property as a standard service.~~

3 ADJACENT TO PRIVATE PROPERTIES

In those cases where mowing is not being carried out, the property owner is to be asked to carry out the work, and if the work is not then done, Council ~~is to do~~will undertake the minimum amount of work necessary to provide safe and nuisance-free ~~conditions access for~~ for pedestrians. ~~Hand mowing is only to be undertaken in those cases where tractor mowers are unable to operate.~~ These considerations are to apply to tenanted or leased Council-owned properties with the exception that the tenant or lessor is first to be asked to carry out the work instead of the owner.

4 GENERAL

Authority to approve ~~of~~ exceptions to this policy, due to special circumstances, ~~is to be given to~~ the responsibility of the Manager City Works and Services.

FOOTPATHS MOWING

COUNCIL POLICY

SUMMARY SHEET

Responsible Division	City Works and Services
Date adopted by Council	[To be inserted by Corporate Governance]
Date of previous adoptions	EMC on 26 March 2013 ¹ , 5 August 1985
Date of next review	[List date - Not more than 4 years from adoption]
Prepared by	City Maintenance Manager
Authorised by	Manager City Works and Services

DRAFT

¹ Minor change to Clause 1(a) to reference Libraries and Council run facilities (not branch offices)