

5.12 Tempe

History and Context

Tempe is a busy, established residential and industrialised precinct, which sits on the northern bank of the Cooks River. The residential area tends to be located to the western side of the Princes Highway, whilst the industrial area is located more to the eastern side. Tempe's commercial district runs along the Princes Highway, and includes the large IKEA development that opened in 2011. Tempe is named after an early home in the nearby area, which was named after Vale of Tempe in Ancient Greece. Settlement of the area dates from the 1830s, with a village first laid out in 1842. Rapid growth took place during

the late 1800s and early 1900s, spurred by the opening of the railway line in 1884. Some expansion continued during the post-war years.

The precinct is bounded by the railway line and Belmore Street in the north, the City of Botany Bay, Rockdale City and the Alexandra Canal in the east, the Cooks River in the south, and the railway line and Richardson Crescent in the west.

Physical Influences

Tempe at 156ha (9.7% of total area) is an average size precinct, comprising the lowest number of trees of less than 940 (4.15% of total number of trees). This low figure is largely due to a substantial portion of the area is either industrial land (which



historically has received little attention with regard to tree planting), or large recreational open spaces (namely Tempe Recreation Reserve).

The majority of residential streets are narrow with verges less than 1.8m wide. Along these streets, vehicles are often park partially on the footpath pavement. There are some exceptions to this street typology, with some more generous width streets that have a slightly wider verge between 1.8-3.5m wide such as Stanley Street, Edwin Street and Tramway Street.

Existing Streetscape Character

The low street tree population across the precinct has resulted in a more visually sparse streetscape, where the built forms dominate. The majority of the residential typology is made up of small, utilitarian terrace houses and workers cottages.

In recent years little attention has been given to tree planting in Tempe with only 5% of trees being in young age class, and 82% of trees being mature age class. As a result only 41% of trees are considered to be in good condition, with 58% of trees considered to be in fair, poor or very poor condition. There is potential to focus on tree planting in this precinct, providing there are also improvements upon tree pit preparation.

Tempe is defined by:

- Well defined residential and industrial areas with the Princes Highway usually separating and demarcating the different areas.
- Opportunity to plant more and medium sized trees, particularly in-road when practical.
- Narrow streets with a fully paved verge less than 1.8m wide.
- The biodiversity priority planting area connecting Sydney Park with the Cooks River through most of the Tempe precinct.

Current Dominant Species

Botanical Name	No. of trees	Percentage (%)
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	142	15.15%
<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	122	13.02%
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	63	6.72%
<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i>	60	6.40%
<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i>	47	5.02%
Proportion of total species mix	434	46.32%
Total number of trees	937	100.00%

Precinct Objectives

- To enhance the streetscape with street trees of appropriate scale and form.
- To reinforce the residential character through a mix of deciduous and evergreen tree planting that respond to the street typology.
- To increase the number of street trees and canopy cover in the precinct.
- To reduce the reliance on *Callistemon viminalis* (Bottlebrush) by introducing other suitable tree species.
- Maintain and provide plantings that contribute to the continuation and expansion of identified biodiversity areas and native habitat corridors.



Figure 5.24- Like Sydenham & St Peters many streets have very narrow footpaths and overhead wires and tree planting is often difficult, for example in Fanning Street, Tempe. Cars often park partially on the footpath adding to the tree conflicts (Photo Arterra)

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Street Name	Power Lines	Verge Type	Existing Dominant	Proposed Species	Key Observations
Barden Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> , <i>Callistemon salignus</i> (opposite wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Powerlines on one side, frequent parking on footpath. Suggest planting to one side only.
Bay Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i>	<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Limited opportunity to plant trees. Option to plant in the few grass only areas. Existing trees suffering from pests.
Bay Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> <i>Callistemon salignus</i> cv.	<i>Callistemon salignus</i> (opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Variable verge width. Section of paving between Cook St and Princes Hwy. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Bellevue Street	None or UG	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	-	<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Some grassed verge available.
Belmore Street	Overhead (Even)	Large (>5m)	Mixed	<i>Angophora costata</i> , <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> , <i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> , <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>	Fronts railway land and is a rear lane to properties fronting Terry Street. Planting on railway side only.
Bridge Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Acmena smithii</i> , <i>Callistemon salignus</i> , <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> (opposite wires) <i>Angophora hispida</i> , <i>Synoum glandulosum</i> (under wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area.
Brooklyn Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv.	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> (opposite wires) <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> (under wires)	
Collins Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> (opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> , <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> , <i>Angophora hispida</i> (under wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area.
Cook Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	-	Very narrow verge. Two existing trees on the street
Edgar Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i> , <i>Acacia binervia</i> , <i>Acmena smithii</i> (opposite wires) <i>Banksia serrata</i> , <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area.
Edwin Street	Overhead (Even)	Large (>5m)	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i>	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> (opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Opportunity to plant larger species on odd side, keeping Water Gums under power lines.
Fanning Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i>	<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> , (opposite wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Powerlines on one side, frequent parking on footpath. Limited planting in this street. Suggest planting to one side only.
Foreman Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i> (opposite wires)	Very narrow street. Continue with new planting of Blueberry Ash on one side only.
Gannon Street	ABC	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> (opposite wires) <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> , <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	ABC existing, busy road. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Green Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i> (near new commercial building near Griffiths St)	No existing trees, except Brush Box in reserve. Variable verge width. Opportunity to plant outside commercial building where verge is wider. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Griffiths Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (in road) <i>Callistemon salignus</i> (opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> , <i>Angophora hispida</i> (under wires)	Existing Eucalyptus theme on railway side. Replace Callistemon. Camphor Laurel and Brush Box in-road. Past Station street too narrow for street planting.

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Street Name	Power Lines	Verge Type	Existing Dominant	Proposed Species	Key Observations
Hart Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (opposite wires) <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> (under wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Powerlines on one side, vehicles frequently parked on footpath. Suggest planting on one side only. Some planting underwires in this street.
Henry Street	ABC	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	-	Verge less than 1.5m, no existing trees. Recommend no tree planting.
Hillcrest Street	Overhead (Odd)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> (in road or opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Heritage Conservation area (brick paved footpath is listed as a Heritage Item). Two lines of high voltage along street. Possible in-road planting opportunity.
Holbeach Avenue	ABC	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> , <i>Araucaria columnaris</i> (opposite wires) <i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i> (under wires)	Major cycling route. Some Pines in poor condition.
John Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv.	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (in road) <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> (in verge)	Older Brush Box planted in-road. Further in-road planting opportunities. ABC a priority.
Leslie Street	Overhead (Odd)	Large (>5m)	Mixed	<i>Angophora costata</i> , <i>Acacia binervia</i> , <i>Acmena smithii</i> (opposite wires) <i>Synoum glandulosum</i> , <i>Angophora hispida</i> (under wires) <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> (only turning circle end)	Verge width is narrower around bulb. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Lyerston Street	Overhead (Odd)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (opposite wires) <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> (under wires)	
Nicholson Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	-	Very narrow verge and street, with no existing planting.
Old Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	
Princes Highway between Belmore Street and Cooks River	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Very difficult planting conditions. Variable verge width most typically less than 3.5m wide. Brush Box used in front of Ikea site. Recommend ABC a priority.
Quarry Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> (opposite wires) <i>Synoum glandulosum</i> , <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> (under wires)	Very narrow street and verge, with planting on both sides. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Samuel Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	Mixed	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (both sides)	
Smith Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> , <i>Angophora hispida</i> (under wires)	Suggest planting to one side only.
South Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Angophora hispida</i> , <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> , <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> (under wires)	Park contributing to street character. Recommend no planting in verge where adjacent to park.
Stanley Street	Overhead (Odd)	Large (>5m)	Mixed	<i>Corymbia maculata</i> , <i>Waterhousea floribunda</i> 'Green Avenue' (both sides)	Opportunity to plant bigger trees. Possible to plant taller trees to grow over wires.
Station Street between Princes Hwy and South Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> (opposite wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Powerlines on one side, vehicles frequently parked on footpath. Suggest planting on one side only.
Station Street between Princes Hwy and Griffiths Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Callistemon salignus</i> (opposite wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area.
Swamp Street	None or UG	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	-	<i>Corymbia eximia</i> (if permitted)	Major industrial and truck movement, close to airport. Possibly restrictions regarding height of trees.

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Terry Street	ABC	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i> <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv.	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (both sides)	Larger trees could be accommodated. Street ABC.
Toyer Street	Overhead (Even)	Large (>5m)	Mixed	<i>Angophora costata</i> , <i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> , <i>Acacia binervia</i> (opposite wires) <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> , <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> , <i>Angophora hispida</i> (under wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area. Asymmetrical verge arrangement
Tramway Street	Overhead (Even)	Large (>5m)	<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i> <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>	<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i> , <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> (opposite wires) <i>Synoum glandulosum</i> , <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Existing wide grass verge. Continue with Eucalyptus planting. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Union Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	-	No existing street trees, road is very narrow with cars parking on verge.
Unwins Bridge Road	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv. <i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Overhead power on both sides. Parts are too narrow for planting. Major street. Verge width variable. No power on western side past Hillcrest Street and High School. Recommend ABC a priority.
View Street	None or UG	Large (>5m)	-	<i>Casuarina glauca</i> , <i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i> , <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>	A collection of native tree species located in the reserve/open space areas. Any new plantings should continue with this native theme. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Way Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i> <i>Callistemon citrinus</i> cv.	<i>Callistemon salignus</i> , <i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i> , <i>Acacia binervia</i> (opposite wires) <i>Angophora hispida</i> , <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	Biodiversity priority planting area. One side of verge is grass. Suggest no planting in verge where adjacent to school yard.
Wells Avenue	ABC	Narrow (<1.8m)	Mixed	<i>Acacia binervia</i> , <i>Banksia serrata</i> , <i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i> (opposite wires) <i>Acmena smithii</i> var. <i>minor</i> , <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (under wires)	No through road. Biodiversity priority planting area.
Wentworth Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	<i>Banksia integrifolia</i> , <i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i> (opposite wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Vehicles frequently parked on footpath. Suggest planting to one side only.
William Street	Overhead (Even)	Small (<1.8-3.5m)	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cv.	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (in road) <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> (in verge)	ABC a priority. Older Brush Box planted in-road. Further in-road planting opportunities.
Wood Street	Overhead (Odd)	Narrow (<1.8m)	-	<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Footpath fully paved but some grassed areas to put larger trees in at end of cul-de-sac.
Young Street	Overhead (Even)	Narrow (<1.8m)	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> <i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i> (opposite wires) <i>Leptospermum petersonii</i> (under wires)	Street verge very narrow, fully paved and only 1.8m wide. Powerlines on one side, vehicles frequently parked on footpath. Suggest planting on one side only.