

TITLE:	Planting of Additional Trees and Shrubs in Parks and Reserves	FILE: R01/08
SECTION:	Works and Engineering Services	
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COUNCIL ADOPTION:	CM 30/07/85 MN 81228	
DATES AMENDED:		DATE: 09/11/98

## **PLANTING OF ADDITIONAL TREES AND SHRUBS IN PARKS AND RESERVES**

The planting of native plants is supported for four reasons:

- (i) They would like an urban landscape that is distinctively and recognisably, Australian;
- (ii) There is a nationalistic interest in the range of plants indigenous or even endemic, to Australia;
- (iii) It is believed that planting native plants is ecologically sound;
- (iv) There is a sentimental desire to restore the landscape to its pristine state, as before despoliation of man.

This policy addresses these motives as well as considering the man-made heritage of Ashfield, and the functional roles of plants:

- 1.1 A return is recommended to the emphasis on rainforest species, with a corresponding movement away from sclerophyllous plants. The former are generally longer lived, provide better shade, and a more definite green impact in the heavily urbanised Municipality. This would also be more consistent with heritage values - Palms, Figs, Hoop Pines, Brush Box blend well with older vegetation, and traditional architectural styles. Rainforest flora also contains many useful, tough, dense-crowned smaller trees useful for constrained locations. Preservation and regeneration of existing rainforest tree planting, should occur.
- 1.2 Adopt a more consistently ecological approach. Trees, shrubs and in some cases, grasses, associated with particular soil types and/or topographical features should be used in appropriate locations, forest trees of the shale ridges could be used in parks such as Ashfield Park, trees of the estuarine alluviums could be planted in Reg Coady or Richard Murden Reserves. This policy is only recommended where a naturalistic appearance is felt to be appropriate - certainly not in all areas of all parks.

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- 1.3 Continue to use and expand the use of exotic plants of proven usefulness. Trees such as Phoenix Palms, Butia Palms, Peppercorn trees, Plane trees and shrubs such as Plumbago, Lantano montevidensis, Indian Hawthorne are very useful, beautiful and in sympathy with the area and should no be passed over in a jungoistic fervour for native plants of less utility and resilience.
  
- 1.4 Establish an arboretum - a park where trees are planted in a scientific order and labelled to display different Australian species. Yeo Park because of its proximity to schools, its size and need for redevelopment, and its prominent position is suggested.

