LET'S TALK ABOUT TREES
Managing the Urban Forest

LTAT

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LETTER OF SITE INSPECTION

TPZ Calculations Bellarine Rail Trail Stage 2 Jetty rd Urban Growth Plan

July 2022

Version 1.1

LET'S TALK ABOUT TREES

Managing the Urban Forest

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1.0 Key Objectives

This Letter of Site Inspection is prepared at the request of SMEC.

It locates tree in close proximity to the boundary fence of the development site and the Bellarine Rail Trail boundary, and the development site and the Portarlington Road.

The inspection was undertaken July 2022.

2.0 Methodology

The inspection for this record was performed on site, in July 2022.

The inspection was undertaken by Matthew Branagh level 5 Consulting Arborist from Let's Talk About Trees.

A ground-based Visual Tree Assessment was performed on the above-ground section of the trees, in line with modern Arboricultural Practices and Principles, and AS 4970 – 2009 – Protection of Trees on Development Sites, AS 4373 – 2007 – Pruning of Amenity Trees.

3.0 Discussion

The following trees were noted in close proximity to the site as presented in the following table.

Bellarine Rail Trail Interface

No.	Identification	Est. Age Yrs	ULE	Health	Structure	Significance	Hazard	Esti. Height	DBH (cm) *=multi stemmed	TPZ Radius (m) SRZ Radius (m)	Comment
1	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	10	65*	7.8 SRZ 2.8	Multi stemmed X 8 sound tree
2	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	10	70*	8.4 SRZ 2.8	Multi stemmed X 6 sound tree
3	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	Y	L	G	G	H	L	6	21	2.5 SRZ 1.5	Sapling Sound
4	*Acacia mernsii – Black Wattle*	M	L	G	G	H	L	7	28	3.4 SRZ 1.9	Sound Planted

No.	Identification	Est. Age Yrs	ULE	Health	Structure	Significance	Hazard	Esti. Height	DBH (cm) *=multi stemmed	TPZ Radius (m) SRZ Radius (m)	Comment
5	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	11	75*	9.0 SRZ 2.9	50% Failed tree
6	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	11	40	4.8 SRZ 2.3	Planted tree sound
7	*Acacia pycnantha – Golden Wattle*	M	L	G	G	M	L	8	22*	2.6 SRZ 1.8	Sound tree with atypical form which over hangs the boundary into the development site.
8	*Acacia mernsii – Black Wattle*	M	L	G	G	H	L	7	22*	2.6 SRZ 1.8	Sound bifurcated tree
9	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	10	42	5.0 SRZ 2.3	Planted sound
10	*Acacia mernsii – Black Wattle*	Y	L	G	G	H	L	6	<15	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Sound sapling
11	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	8	36	4.3 SRZ 2.2	Planted sound
12	*Eucalyptus leucoxylon – Yellow Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	6	27*	3.2 SRZ 1.9	Planted tree with very poor root structure
13	*Allocasuarina verticillata – She Oak*	SM	L	G	G	M	L	7	27*	3.2 SRZ 1.9	Sound planted
14	*Allocasuarina verticillata – She Oak*	SM	L	G	G	M	L	7	18	2.2 SRZ 1.6	Sound planted
15	*Allocasuarina verticillata – She Oak*	SM	L	G	G	M	L	7	16*	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Sound planted
16	*Acacia mernsii – Black Wattle*	SM	L	G	G	M	L	6	16	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Sound planted
17	*Eucalyptus leucoxylon – Yellow Gum*	SM	L	G	G	H	L	7	23	2.8 SRZ 1.8	Sound planted
18	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	M	L	G	P	H	L	7	29	3.5 SRZ 2.0	Grows with a significant failing lean – Short useful life

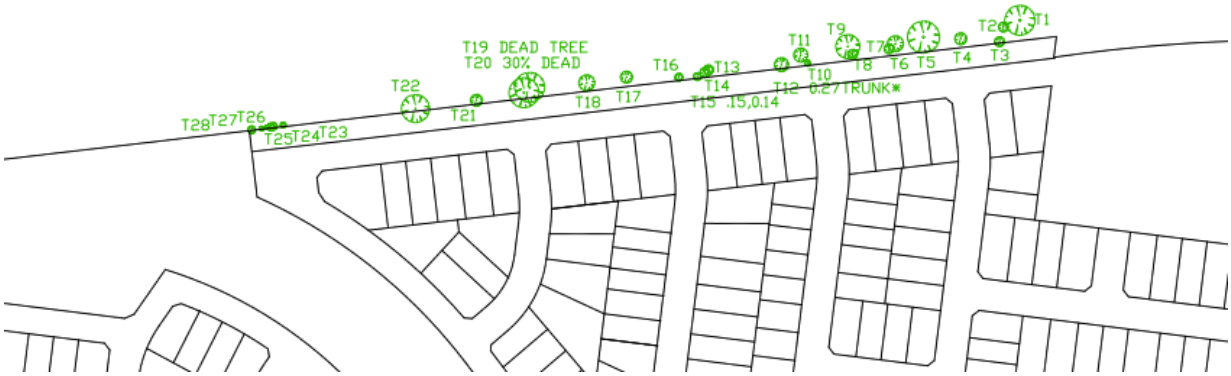
No.	Identification	Est. Age Yrs	ULE	Health	Structure	Significance	Hazard	Esti. Height	DBH (cm) *=multi stemmed	TPZ Radius (m) SRZ Radius (m)	Comment
19	*Eucalyptus viminallis – Manna Gum*	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	Dead tree indigenous remnant indigenous – not planted
20	*Eucalyptus viminallis – Manna Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	11	57*	6.8 SRZ 2.6	Remnant indigenous – not planted 50% dead
21	*Eucalyptus leucoxylon – Yellow Gum*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	8	24	2.9 SRZ 1.8	Sound planted
22	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis – Red Gum*	M	L	G	G	H	L	9	43	5.2 SRZ 2.3	Sound with major trunk failings
23	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	14	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound
24	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	16	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound
25	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	14	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound
26	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	12	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound
27	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	16	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound
28	*Acacia implexa - Lightwood*	SM	L	G	G	L	L	5	18	2.0 SRZ 1.5	Planted Sound

Portarlington Road Interface

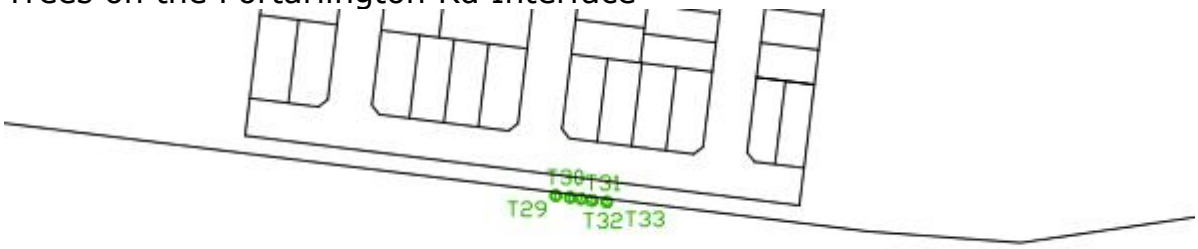
No.	Identification	Est. Age Yrs	ULE	Health	Structure	Significance	Hazard	Esti. Height	DBH (cm) *=multi stemmed	TPZ Radius (m) SRZ Radius (m)	Comment
29	*Melaleuca armillaris – Honey Myrtle*	M	M	F	P	L	M	6	18*	2.2 SRZ 1.6	Poor structure and form planted – identified as a local weed species
30	*Melaleuca armillaris – Honey Myrtle*	M	M	F	P	L	M	6	20	2.4 SRZ 1.7	Poor structure and form planted – identified as a local weed species

No.	Identification	Est. Age Yrs	ULE	Health	Structure	Significance	Hazard	Esti. Height	DBH (cm) *=multi stemmed	TPZ Radius (m) SRZ Radius (m)	Comment
31	*Melaleuca armillaris – Honey Myrtle*	M	M	F	P	L	M	6	21	2.5 SRZ 1.7	Poor structure and form planted – identified as a local weed species
32	*Melaleuca armillaris – Honey Myrtle*	M	M	F	P	L	M	6	25*	3.0 SRZ 1.8	Poor structure and form planted – identified as a local weed species
33	*Melaleuca armillaris – Honey Myrtle*	M	M	F	P	L	M	6	18*	2.2 SRZ 1.6	Poor structure and form planted – identified as a local weed species

Trees on the Bellarine rail trail interface



Trees on the Portarlington Rd Interface

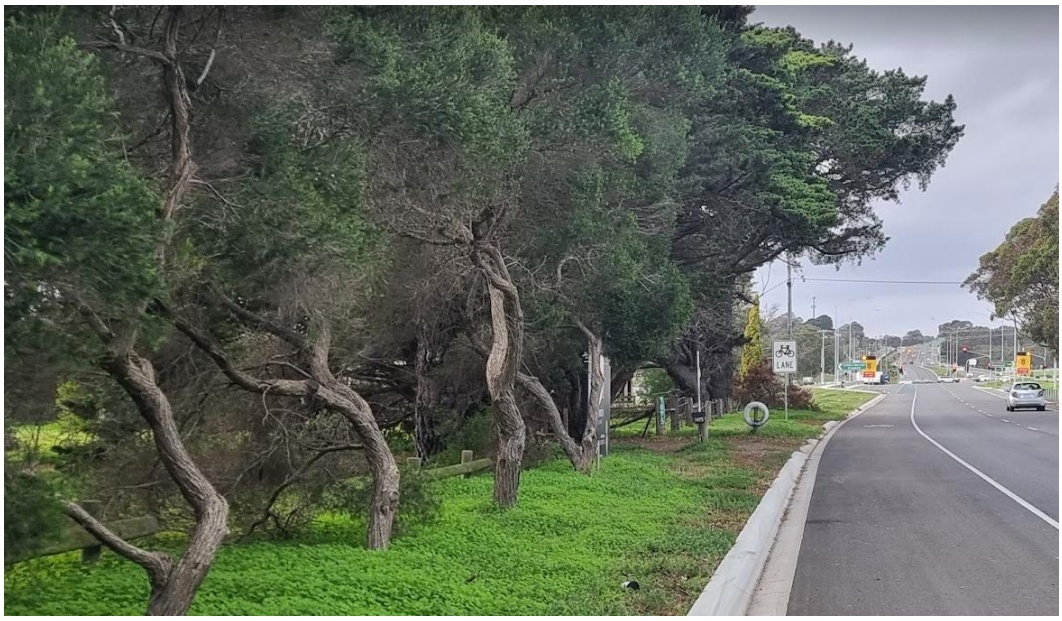


4.0 Conclusion

In conclusion I make an assessment that if a 10m buffer is provided along the boundary of the development site no trees on public lands will be encroached by development.

The trees of this report should be protected by a lineal steel mesh panel fence placed along the interface boundaries with the inspected public open spaces. This placement should be guided by AS4970-2009 protection of Trees on Development Sites.

The following pictures were taken on site.



5.0 Descriptor's

Definitions Descriptor's used for throughout this report.

AGE

Category	Description
Young	Juvenile or recently planted approximately 1-7 years.
Semi Mature	Tree actively growing.
Mature	Tree has reached expected size in situation.
Senescent	Tree is over mature and has started to decline.

HEALTH

Good	Foliage of tree is entire, with good colour, very little sign of pathogens and of good density. Growth indicators are good ie. Extension growth of twigs and wound wood development. Minimal or no canopy die back (deadwood).
Fair	Tree is showing one or more of the following symptoms; < 25% dead wood, minor canopy die back, foliage generally with good colour though some imperfections may be present. Minor pathogen damage present, with growth indicators such as leaf size, canopy density and twig extension growth typical for the species in this location.
Poor	Tree is showing one or more of the following symptoms of tree decline; > 25% deadwood, canopy die back is observable, discoloured or distorted leaves. Pathogens present, stress symptoms are observable as reduced leaf size, extension growth and canopy density.
Dead or dying	Tree is in severe decline; > 55% deadwood, very little foliage, possibly epicormic shoots, minimal extension growth.

STRUCTURE

Good	Trunk and scaffold branches show good taper and attachment with minor or no structural defects. Tree is a good example of the species with a well-developed form showing no obvious root problems or pests and diseases.
Fair	Tree shows some minor structural defects or minor damage to trunk eg. bark missing, there could be cavities present. Minimal damage to structural roots. Tree could be seen as typical for this species.
Poor	There are major structural defects, damage to trunk or bark missing. Co-dominant stems could be present or poor structure with likely points of failure. Girdling or damaged roots obvious. Tree is structurally problematic.

Hazardous Tree is an immediate hazard with potential to fail, this should be rectified as soon as possible.

HAZARD

Hazard is rated into three levels; **LOW, MEDIUM,** and **HIGH**.

1. **LOW;** Tree appears to be structurally sound, is healthy with no signs of pests or disease, has good vigour and is clear of any hazards.
2. **MEDIUM;** Tree displays signs of structural problems, evidence of pests or disease, signs of low vigour, deadwood, decay, may be growing into an area that could create a hazard.
3. **HIGH;** Tree is an immediate hazard with the potential to fail, this should be rectified as soon as possible.

USEFUL LIFE EXPEECTANCY – ULE

LONG ULE; Trees that appears to be retainable with an acceptable level of risk for more than 40 years.

1. Structurally sound trees located in positions that can accommodate future growth.
2. Storm damaged or defective trees that could be made suitable for retention in the long term by remedial tree surgery.
3. Trees of special significance for historical, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to secure their long-term retention.

MEDIUM ULE; Trees that appear to be retainable with an acceptable level of risk for 15 to 40 years.

1. Trees that may only live between 15 and 40 years.
2. Trees that may live for more than 40 years but would be removed to allow the safe development of more suitable individuals.
3. Trees that may live for more than 40 years but would be removed during the course of normal management for safety and nuisance reasons.
4. Storm damage or defective trees that can be made suitable for retention in the medium term by remedial work.

SHORT ULE; Trees that appear to be retainable with an acceptable level of risk for 5 to 15 years.

1. Trees that may live for 5 to 15 years.
2. Trees that may live for more than 15 years but would be removed to allow the safe development of more suitable individuals.
3. Trees that may live for more than 15 years but would be removed during the course of normal management for safety and nuisance reasons.
4. Storm damaged or defective trees that require substantial remedial work to make safe and are only suitable for retention in the short term.

REMOVE; Trees with a high level of risk that would need removal within the next 5 years.

1. Dead trees.
2. Dying or suppressed and declining trees through disease or inhospitable conditions.
3. Dangerous trees through instability or recent loss of adjacent trees.
4. Dangerous trees through structural defects including cavities, decay, included bark, wounds or poor form.
5. Damaged trees that are considered unsafe to retain.

6. Trees that will become dangerous after removal of other trees for the above reasons.

SIGNIFICANCE / RETENTION VALUE

Significance is rated into three levels; **LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH**.

LOW; Trees that offer little in terms of contributing to the future landscape for the reasons of poor health or structural condition, species suitability in relation to unacceptable growth habit, noxious, poisonous or weed species or ULE, or a combination of these characteristics. Should be considered for removal.

MODERATE; Trees with some beneficial attributes that may benefit the site in relation to botanical, horticultural, historical or local significance but may be limited to some degree by their future growth potential at the site by maintenance requirements now or in the future. These trees should be considered for retention if possible within the development design, they may be modified to allow for construction. (eg. pruning, etc;)

HIGH; Trees with the potential to positively contribute to the site due to their botanical, horticultural, historical or local significance in combination with good characteristics of structure, health and future development. Should be considered for inclusion within development plans.

6.0 Terms and Limitations

- Any legal information in the report has been provided to Let's Talks About Trees by an external source and it is assumed to be correct. All references to property title and/or control or ownership of land are assumed to be correct as Let's Talk About Trees has been advised.

- Great care has been taken in sourcing information for this report so as it is correct. Let's Talk About Trees cannot be responsible for information provided which is not directly under control of its staff.

- No Let's Talk About Trees employee shall be required to give testimony or attend court for any matter in relation to this report, unless further contractual arrangements have been made.

- This report must not be altered in any shape or form. It has been written as a whole document and is intended for use as a whole document. Any changes or modifications to this report not undertaken Let's Talk About Trees by shall render this report invalid in its entirety.

- In no way is this report biased or weighted. The content of the report is written in the full, honest opinion of the Let's Talk About Trees Consulting Arborist.

- No diagrams, pictures, graphs or other reference material in this report is said to be to scale or value unless stipulated. All measurements and values are made to the best of the author's ability at the time of reporting and should be checked before using as final measurements for whatever reason.

- This report is developed around the information provided by our client in the project brief. Only issues covered by the project brief are discussed in this report.

- All details, information and advice contained in this report have been researched and referenced. Where no reference is included, it is the author's learned opinion, experience and observations.