



AGENDA

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, 22 February 2024

I hereby give notice that a Tree Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 22 February 2024

Time: 9:00 AM

**Location: Darwin Innovation Hub
Level 1/48-50 Smith Street, Darwin City**

Webcasting:

**Simone Saunders
Chief Executive Officer**

TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Kon Vatskalis (Chair)
Councillor Morgan Rickard
Australian Institute Landscape Architects Fiona Eddleston
Larrakia Nation Ben Smith
NT Arboriculture Association Richard Kenyon
Parks and Wildlife Bryan Harty
Community Member Adam Grainger
Community Member Dr Greg Leach
Alternate Councillor Mick Palmer

OFFICERS

Executive Manager Operations, Tracy Bignell
Manager Parks and Open Spaces, Lisa Spann
Technical Arborist, Melodee Brencher
Executive Manager Environment and Waste Services, Nick Fewster
Coordinator Environment and Climate Change, Emma Smith
Supervisor Operations Services, Claire Scicluna
Administration Officer, Maya Moon

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1 Meeting Declared Open

2 Acknowledgement of Country

3 Apologies and Leave of Absence

3.1 Apologies

3.2 Leave of Absence

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

4 Electronic Attendance

4.1 Electronic Attendance

4.2 Electronic Attendance Notified

5 Declaration of Interest

6 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Tree Advisory Committee Meeting - 23 November 2023

7 Actions Arising From Previous Minutes

8 Presentations

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE - TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Author: Executive Manager Operations

Authoriser: General Manager Community

Attachments: 1. Proposed Changes - Functions and Membership

RECOMMENDATIONS

Council Officers plan to recommend the following at a subsequent Council meeting:

1. THAT the report entitled Review Terms of Reference – Tree Advisory Committee be received and noted.
2. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee endorse the proposed changes to the Functions and Membership sections of the Terms of Reference at Attachment 1 and refer these to Council for approval.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the proposed changes to the Tree Advisory Committee's Functions and Membership sections of the Terms of Reference.

KEY ISSUES

1. In accordance with Clause 9.1 of the Tree Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference it is a requirement for the Terms of Reference to be reviewed annually by the Committee and any changes to be presented to Council for endorsement.
2. At the Tree Advisory Committee meeting of 23 November 2023, the committee were informed that a review would be undertaken at the first scheduled meeting in 2024.
3. City of Darwin officers have conducted a review of the Functions and Membership sections of the Terms of Reference and the suggested changes are presented for endorsement.

<p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>A review of the Functions and Membership sections of the terms of reference has been undertaken and suggested changes are contained in the document at Attachment 1 as track changes.</p> <p>Following consideration of the suggested changes at the meeting, City of Darwin's Governance team will incorporate these into the standard template for Council's approval.</p>	
<p>PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION</p> <p>The Tree Advisory Committee, at its meeting of 23 November 2023, resolved:</p> <p>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC012/23</p> <p>That the Tree Advisory Committee notes that the Terms of Reference will be reviewed at the first scheduled meeting in 2024.</p>	
<p>STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT</p>	<p>6 Governance Framework</p> <p>6.2 Roles and Relationships</p>
<p>BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS</p>	<p>Legislation:</p> <p><i>Local Government Act 2019</i></p>
<p>CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p>	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).</p>



Tree Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference Review

4 FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Tree Advisory Committee as required, are to:

- a) Review and monitor the implementation of the City of Darwin Greening Strategy actions on an annual basis
- b) Review and monitor the implementation of the actions in the -report Establishing a Resilient Urban Forest for Darwin on an annual basis
- c) Review and update the document Preferred Trees for Darwin on a five yearly basis or as external circumstances require
- d) Review and update the document Trees Not Recommended to be Planted on a five yearly basis or as external circumstances require
- e) Investigate and make recommendations on Species that are Colourful, Tropical and/or Flowering.

5 MEMBERSHIP

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT), City of Darwin shall appoint suitably qualified individuals to be members of the Committee based on selection criteria related to their expertise, experience, dedication, and commitment to the purpose of the group.

Membership Provisions

- a) Up to two (2) community members, and
- b) Up to ~~six (6)~~ four (4) organisational memberships consisting of representation from:
 - i. Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
 - ii. Northern Territory Arboriculture Association
 - iii. Larrakia Nation
 - iv. Parks and Wildlife (George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens)
 - ~~v. Territory Natural Resource Management~~
 - ~~vi. Urban Development Institute of Australia (NT)~~
- c) Two (2) Council Members on the Committee, the Lord Mayor, and one Council Member. There may also be an alternate Council Member.

Observers with specialist skills and experience may also attend by invitation of the Committee and/or Council.

The term of membership for community members is two (2) years.

10 MEMBER REPORTS**11 GENERAL BUSINESS****12 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 23 May 2024

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act:

16.1 City Of Darwin Proposed Tree Canopy Coverage Target

This matter is considered to be confidential under 51(e) - subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.



MINUTES

**Tree Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, 23 November 2023**

Unconfirmed

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM BIDJPIDJI (MEETING ROOM 1), LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE,
HARRY CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 9:00 AM**

PRESENT: Councillor Morgan Rickard
Larrakia Nation Ben Smith
Parks and Wildlife Bryan Harty
Community Member Dr Greg Leach
Councillor Mick Palmer

OFFICERS: Matt Grassmayr (General Manager Community)
Tracy Bignell (Executive Manager Operations)
Lisa Spann (Manager Parks and Open Spaces)
Jamie Lewis (Senior Coordinator Parks and Reserves)
Emma Smith (Coordinator Environment and Climate Change)
Karen Long (Senior Administration Officer)
Claire Scicluna (Supervisor Operations Services)
Bonne Zhao (Administration Officer)

APOLOGY: Chairperson Kon Vatskalis
NT Arboriculture Association Richard Kenyon
Australian Institute Landscape Architects Fiona Eddleston
Community Member Adam Grainger

GUESTS: Nil

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APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC010/23**

Moved: Alternate Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Larrakia Nation Ben Smith

THAT Councillor Morgan Rickard is appointed as chair for the meeting.

CARRIED 5/0

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

THAT the Chair declared the meeting open at 09:03am.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**3.1 Apologies**

Chairperson Kon Vatskalis

NT Arboriculture Association Richard Kenyon

Community Member Adam Grainger

Australian Institute Landscape Architects Fiona Eddleston

3.2 Leave of Absence**3.3 Leave of Absence Notified****4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE****5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF****5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members****5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff**

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC011/23

Moved: Larrakia Nation Ben Smith
Seconded: Community Member Dr Greg Leach

THAT the minutes of the Tree Advisory Committee Meeting held on 24 August 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 5/0

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 MEETINGS DATES AND COMMITTEE REVIEW

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC012/23

Moved: Parks and Wildlife Bryan Harty
Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

1. THAT the report named Frequency of Meetings and Committee Review be received and noted.
2. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee sets its meeting schedule for 2024 as follows:
 - a) meetings to be held on the fourth Thursday of the month
 - b) meetings to be held from 9.00am to 10.00am
 - c) meetings to be held at City of Darwin and electronically via Teams
 - d) four meetings to be held on:
 - i. 22 February 2024
 - ii. 23 May 2024
 - ii. 22 August 2024
 - iv. 28 November 2024
3. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee notes the review undertaken for 2023 at **Attachment 1**.
4. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee notes that the Terms of Reference will be reviewed at the first scheduled meeting in 2024.

CARRIED 5/0

Annual Review - 2023

Committee Functions	Result
Functions of the Committee achieved	<p>The committee has achieved its functions in 2023 reviewing the following documents and making recommendations to Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Darwin Greening Strategy • Report Establishing a Resilient Urban Forest for Darwin • Preferred Trees for Darwin (including colourful, tropical and flowering options) • Trees Not Recommended to be Planted
Committee scheduled their frequency of meetings, times and locations the calendar year prior	Four meetings were scheduled for 2023
Membership Provisions of the Committee achieved	<p>The committee has maintained consistent organisational representation and community membership throughout 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two community members • Australian Institute of Landscape Architects • Northern Territory Arboriculture Association • Larrakia Nation • Parks and Wildlife (George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens) • Urban Development Institute of Australia (NT) – noting organisational representative advised in August unable to continue to represent UDIA
Number of scheduled meetings for the calendar year achieved	All four meetings for 2023 have had quorum
Achievements / Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted a schedule in February for delivery of advice to Council on matters outlined in the committee's terms of reference. • Provided recommendations to Council that were adopted relating to the City of Darwin Greening Strategy, Report Establishing a Resilient Urban Forest for Darwin, Preferred and not recommended to be planted lists and the Trial Species list excluding one recommendation on canopy coverage. • Council has requested further clarification from the committee on canopy coverage in the Darwin Greening Strategy

9.2 TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS - CANOPY COVERAGE**MOTION**

1. THAT the report on canopy coverage be received and noted.
2. THAT Tree Advisory Committee members provide further clarification on their recommendation that Council endorses a 1% change to canopy coverage as the target over the 10 years of the greening strategy for consideration at the next committee meeting.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Larrakia Nation Ben Smith

1. THAT the report on canopy coverage be received and noted.
2. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee members recommend that a 33% increase to canopy coverage as the target over the remainder of the greening strategy for consideration at the next committee meeting and an officers report to be provided to the next Committee meeting, subject to CSIRO data modelling.

CARRIED 5/0

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC013/23

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Larrakia Nation Ben Smith

1. THAT the report on canopy coverage be received and noted.
2. THAT the Tree Advisory Committee members recommend that a 33% increase to canopy coverage as the target over the remainder of the greening strategy for consideration at the next committee meeting and an officers report to be provided to the next Committee meeting, subject to CSIRO data modelling.

CARRIED 5/0

10 MEMBER REPORTS**10.1 PREFERRED TREE SPECIES****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC014/23**

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Alternate Councillor Mick Palmer

THAT the Tree Advisory Committee notes that Fiona Eddleston provides the consolidated list of proposed preferred tree species to City of Darwin staff prior to the next meeting.

CARRIED 5/0

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 TREE MANAGEMENT AND TREE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TAC015/23

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Parks and Wildlife Bryan Harty

THAT a scoping paper be presented at the May 2024 meeting outlining the benefits, processes, resource implications, funding requirements, and indicative timeframes for capturing and valuing trees as a financial asset.

CARRIED 5/0

11.2 CLOSING COMMENTS

1. Community Member Greg Leach to send Royal Darwin Hospital published paper to Administration for distribution to the Tree Advisory Committee members.
2. General Manager Community conveyed thanks to the Tree Advisory Committee for the work achieved throughout the year.
3. Councillor Morgan Rickard thanked City of Darwin staff for their hard work and contribution to the City.

12 NEXT MEETING

22 February 2024 at 09:00am

Meeting closed at 09:47am.