



29 January 2008

Beaumaris Conservation Society Inc
14 Emily Street,
Beaumaris 3193

RE: Proposed Car Park Design, 48–50 Tramway Parade, Beaumaris: TPA 2007/281

Recently I met Ron Morris and several other members of the Beaumaris Conservation Society at the proposed re-design of the car park on the corner of Tramway Parade and Keys Street Beaumaris.

At the meeting, concerns were raised regarding the complete removal of all trees within the carpark site; I was asked to assess the trees within the carpark and give an opinion (from an arboricultural perspective) regarding the overall condition and significance of existing trees on the site. Further, I was asked to give my opinion regarding the perimeter planting of 29 *Banksia integrifolia*.

The assessment of the trees on site found that 4 trees within the site displayed fair to good overall condition and are considered significant within the landscape because of their species, size and the longevity that would be expected.

Tree number 15, *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* (Large Fruited Yellow Gum) located on the southeast corner is a mature tree in good condition and has a useful life expectancy greater than 20 years; the tree would be considered to attain a high significance to the local area.

Trees numbered 17 & 18, *Melaleuca linariifolia* (Snow in Summer) located to the north of the existing toilet block are mature trees in good condition and have a useful life expectancy greater than 20 years; the tree would be considered to attain a high significance to the local area.

Tree number 21, *Allocasuarina verticillata* (Drooping She-oak) located closest to the toilet block is a mature tree in fair condition and indigenous to the local area and has a useful life expectancy greater than 20 years; the tree would be considered to attain a high significance to the local area.

As mentioned above 4 trees are considered to attain a high site significance and as such a high retention value; further the retention of the 4 trees would ultimately enhance the appearance of the site on completion of the carpark upgrade; however the retention of the trees will require some careful consideration regarding their protection. It would be recommended that an arboricultural report should be undertaken mentioning protection distances that are required to retain the trees in optimum condition, how to remove existing bitumen without damaging the trees and how to protect the trees during the construction phase.

Regarding the proposed planting of 29 *Banksia integrifolia* (Coast Banksia) around the perimeter of the carpark.

This species adapts well to coastal conditions and is a fantastic bird attracting tree; however the tree is large, 10–20 metres tall at maturity and fairly quick growing. This species is totally unsuitable to be planted in a narrow garden bed in close proximity to other trees; the likely result is that the trees will be competing for space and result in poor overall form and cause infrastructure damage within 20 years; further as this species reaches maturity the potential for branch and stem failure increases and given the weight of the timber of this species can cause considerable damage (as noted throughout Rye foreshore).

Banksia integrifolia is not considered a suitable species to be planted in a carpark area with small garden beds and has the potential to become problematic in the long-term.

Yours Sincerely,



Peter Clark
Director/Arboricultural Consultant

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