

18 July 2025

OUR REF: 7484

YOUR REF: SSD-8989

Department of Planning and Environment  
4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcey Street  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

**ATTN: Traki Gotis** (Via email: [Dimitri.Gotsis@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Dimitri.Gotsis@planning.nsw.gov.au))

**RE: MODIFICATION TO SSD-8989 CATHERINE MCAULEY COLLEGE  
507 MEDOWIE ROAD, MEDOWIE NSW 2318**

Dear Traki,

Per our correspondence this letter outlines the applicant's response to the Request for Information issued 15 July 2025.

## **1. REPLACEMENT TREES**

*The 2 replacement trees are labelled 'New tree 1' and 'New tree 2', but their respective species have not been identified. Additionally, 'New tree 2' is proposed in close proximity to Tree 26, which is to be removed due to potential impacts from the construction and siting of the COLA. The COLA is not shown on the submitted landscape plans, making it unclear whether there would be spatial conflict with the proposed tree at planting or maturity. No information has been provided to demonstrate the suitability of this location for 'New tree 2', particularly in relation to the footprint of the COLA.*

The landscape plans have been updated (**Attachment 1**) to include species information for the two replacement trees on sheet L05.

Proposed 'New tree 2' has been relocated to be well outside the proposed COLA area. The COLA area is now shown on the plans. This comment is therefore no longer applicable.

## **2. REPLACEMENT TREES**

*The submitted planting schedule includes broader changes to the project's approved species mix, with differences in both species count and composition. The submitted schedule appears to introduce a new species mix that was not part of the modification application. If this revised planting schedule is intended to replace the previously approved mix, the Department requires*

*justification to explain how the proposed species selection aligns with the site's biodiversity values, including any benefits or improvements compared to the approved plan.*

*To inform the Department's assessment, please provide a written response including the following:*

- *identification of the species proposed for 'New tree 1' and 'New tree 2'*

As noted previously, species details are provided in sheet L05 of the updated landscape plans being 'New tree 1' *Angophora costata* and 'New tree 2' *Glochidion ferdinandi*.

- *justification for the location of 'New tree 2', including confirmation that the proposed planting location is compatible with the footprint and functional use of the proposed COLA*

As noted previously, 'New tree 2' has been relocated well outside the COLA area. This comment is therefore no longer applicable.

- *confirmation that both replacement trees are endemic to the local area and support the biodiversity values of the site*

'New tree 1' (*Angophora costata*) was selected as it:

- Was identified as a primary canopy species of PCT 3544 and consistent with the ecological structure and composition of the PCT
- Aligns with specific koala habitat value of the site being recognised as a Koala use tree under Schedule 3 of the Biodiversity and Conservation SEPP
- Is in accordance with Council's Biodiversity Technical Specification 2024 relating to replacement of native trees with a height over 3m and DBH greater than 300mm and B&C SEPP species preference and provenance requirements
- Avoids the limb drop issues of other species to be suitable for a school environment

'New tree 2' (*Glochidion ferdinandi*) was selected as it:

- Is in accordance with Council's Biodiversity Technical Specification 2024 as a suitable endemic species
- Is low maintenance
- Offers dense canopy for shade and habitat for fruit-eating birds
- Avoids the limb drop issues of other species to be suitable for a school environment

As such both species are considered appropriate for the area and specifically the biodiversity value of the site.

- *details of the height of each tree at planting and at maturity*

As noted previously, species details including height (both at planting and maturity) are provided in sheet L05 of the updated landscape plans being:

- 'New tree 1':
  - At time of planting – 2.5-3.5m
  - Maturity – 15-25m
- 'New tree 2':
  - At time of planting – 2-2.5m
  - Maturity – 8-12m

- clarification as to whether the revised planting schedule is intended to supersede the previously approved schedule

For clarity, it is confirmed that the revised planting schedule is near identical to that approved under Modification 3 (extract below). The only change in the revised schedule is the addition of one *Glochidion ferdinandi* (New tree 2) and provision of one *Angophora costata* (New tree 1).

PLANT SCHEDULE - CANOPY TREES					
All trees supplied are to comply with NATSPEC's "Specifying Trees a guide to assessment of tree quality"					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	POT SIZE	QUANTITY
<b>TREES</b>					
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum	30 m	10 m	100L	8
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheese Tree	5-10 m	10-15 m	100L	6
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak	11m	11m	200L	3
<i>Liquidamber styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	13 m	9 m	100L	14
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	10 M	8 M	100L	8
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	12 m	6-8 m	200L	16
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	Flax Leaved Paperbark	8-15m	5-10m	100L	5
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywoodii'	Claret Ash	12 m	7 m	100 L	10
<i>Backhausia citriodora</i>	Lemon Myrtle	8 M	6 M	100 L	13
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia	8-12m	4-6m	200L	11
<i>Hibiscus filiceus rubra</i>	Coast Cottonwood	8 m	5 m	100L	17
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native Frangipani	6- 8 m	5-6 m	100L	8
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	8 m	6 m	100L	26
<i>Platanus orientalis</i> 'Autumn Glory'	Autumn Glory' Plane	12-15 m	6-8 m	100L	7
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	8 m	6 m	100L	36
<i>Elaeocarpus eumundi</i>	Blueberry Ash	8-12 m	6 m	200L	20
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'	Flowering Ornamental Pear	8-12 m	6 m	200L	15
<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i>	Illawarra Flame Tree	12 M	6 M	100L	5
<i>Tristania laurina</i> 'Luscious'	Water Gum	10m	5-7 m	100L	55
<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	Orchid Tree	6-8m	6m	125 L	8
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Exmouth'	Bull Bay Magnolia	12 m	5-8m	100L	10
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Little Gem'	Little Gem	6M	3M	100 L	15
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese Maple	4 M	4 M	125 L	6
<i>Melaleuca linifolia</i>	Snow In Summer	8m	4m	200L	7
<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	Tallowood	30-40m	15m	200L	3
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Green Vase'	Japanese Zelkova	12-15 m	8-10m	200L	9
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> 'Burnley Select'	Chinese Elm	8-12m	6-8m	100L	20
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crepe Myrtle	5-8 m	3-6m	100L	18
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash	4- 6 m	2-3m	100L	15
<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i>	Evergreen Ash	6-8m	4m	100L	15
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese maple	4- 5 m	4m	100L	10
<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i>	Flame tree	12 m	6m	200L	11
<b>Total Number of trees</b>					<b>430</b>

- if a revised species mix is proposed, written justification from a suitably qualified person outlining how the changes support or enhance the site's biodiversity values, and how the new mix compares to the approved schedule.

As above, the species mix is near identical to that approved under Modification 3. No further consideration is required.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on (02) 4942 5441.

Yours sincerely,  
de Witt Consulting

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Jayne', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Samara Jayne**  
**Town Planner**

**Attachment 1: Updated Landscape Plans prepared by Terras Landscape Architects**

**Attachment 2: Correspondence from Biosis**