

## DESIGN STATEMENT BY THE CONSULTANT

PROJECT: Trinity Grammar School Renewal Project  
Prospect Road, Summer Hill, NSW, 2130

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS: Arcadia Landscape Architecture Pty Ltd.

ABN: 83 148 994 870

### Trinity Grammar School Redevelopment – Modification 5 (SSD-10371-Mod-5)

To whom it may concern,

The landscape architectural documents submitted for this modification to the approved State Significant Design illustrate the design development of the landscape since the last SSDA submission. The proposed amendments are clouded and coded on the landscape drawings with each amendment described with a short summary.

The proposed amendments have occurred over the course of design development for the following reasons:

- Updated School user group and stakeholder requirements
- Updated access and maintenance strategy
- Architectural, structural, and civil updates necessitating changes to the landscape design
- Design development to rationalise and unify the overall site design

The amendments are generally minor and maintain the design intent and amenity of the original SSDA submission and subsequent MODS, and do not change the environmental impact in any meaningful way. The extent of soft landscaping and the proposed species composition remains consistent with the original submission, with most of the changes relating to the configuration of hard landscape elements such as walls, furniture and the like.

With regards to new tree planting, the latest amendments include the addition of 1 no. new tree into the site bringing the total up to 69 new trees. The latest amendments also maintain the existing trees to be retained on site, no additional trees are to be removed.

A detailed breakdown of each amendment as noted on the landscape drawings, is provided below.

## Landscape Drawing 200

### 1 – 200

The stair, seating terraces, and 4no. trees to the Jubilee Drive landscape were relocated further east to provide the necessary vertical clearance in the basement beneath for the driveway swept path.

## Landscape Drawing 202

### 1 – 202

The design of the Junior School outdoor play space has been developed following stakeholder meetings, to accommodate user group feedback. This includes the addition of a vegetable patch with raised vegetable beds and small shed.

## Landscape Drawing 203

### 1 – 203

Fixed furniture including bar tables and benches removed from courtyard at user group request to improve the flexibility of this space and allow for adaptable programming

### 2 – 203

Structural slab constraints extend further towards Oval 1, which compromises the available soil volume to the planter. In response, we have proposed changing 1no. tree from *Agathis robusta* to *Eucalyptus cineria*, which requires significantly less soil. This species is also used within other raised planters in the vicinity so this change maintains a consistent design approach.

### 3 – 203

Following the architectural change to the fire isolated stairwell, which required the stairwell to extend further east into the landscape, the design of the accessible ramps has been amended to suit. The landscape amendment maintains a useable dimension to the 1:20 ramp, maintains the required maintenance vehicle access around Oval 1, and maintains equal seating amenity to the original submission whilst ensuring the ongoing viability of existing tree no.26, which is to be retained in permeable paving to maximise natural infiltration of rainwater into the root zone.

## Landscape Drawing 204

### 1 – 204

The civil stormwater design updates to the Oval 2 interface of the teaching and learning (T&L) block required continuous barrier and/or strip drain to protect the T&L block from potential flooding during storm events. To accommodate the preferred location of the strip drain along the eastern edge of Oval 2, the raised planters had to be reduced in scale. The reduced scale does not compromise the design intent of the original submission, as the planters remain large enough to provide the spatial separation and planting amenity desired to this space. The same level of accessibility has been maintained to Oval 2 compared to the original submission, and an equal level of seating amenity has been included in the amended design.

### 2 – 204

Following the removal of the requirement for ramped service vehicle access through this space between Oval 1 and Oval 2 (access route was relocated), the amendment to the landscape design looks to consolidate a large useable terrace at shared grade with the café. Access from Oval 1 to the café terrace is provided along desire lines, with both stairs and 1:14 accessible ramps. The simplified and rationalised design to the edge of Oval 1 improves sightlines and wayfinding, and minimises the impacts to existing trees no. 26 and 27, which will be maintained in permeable paving. An equal level of seating amenity has

been included in the amended design compared to the original submission, with a greater emphasis on seating which addresses Oval 1.

3 – 204

In alignment with the architectural changes to the quadrangle locker rooms, four new separate stairs have been included in the amended landscape design which align to each of the four 'house' locker rooms. This allows for more efficient student movement and visibility. The same number of new trees has been maintained compared to the original submission, with stepped planters providing both for the avenue of trees and for planting to soften the new stairs and provide green outlook from the quadrangle.

## Landscape Drawing 205

1 - 205

The MSB enclosure was also able to be relocated during design development, allowing the elevated decking element to be lowered to a more suitable height. This has multiple benefits including easier access, improved sightlines for supervision of children, and reduced visual bulk creating greater emphasis on the existing mature trees. The design from the original submission has generally been maintained with minor changes to the overall configuration, and the same number and species of trees has been maintained to the play space.

2 – 205

An additional stair is proposed in the amended landscape design to connect the new junior play space to the existing external area located along the Seaview Street frontage.

## Landscape Drawing 207

1 – 207

Following discussion with the school stakeholder group the Chapel Drive water feature element has been redesigned as a water wall. In addition, the grove of new trees adjacent the ceremonial axis will now include one additional tree, an Acer palmatum, following a request from the School for a dedicated 'Survivor' tree.

In summary, the changes outlined above are typical of design development for a project of this nature, and in each case have been considered carefully to maintain the design intent of the original landscape submission. In most cases the changes have been brought about through technical challenges to the architectural, civil, and structural design, which have necessitated minor changes within the landscape. In other cases we have sought to respond to user group review and improve the level of access and circulation within the landscape design, whilst maintaining and improving the level of outdoor amenity provided through seating, planting and the like.

Accordingly, we submit that this modification proposal be supported.

Yours Faithfully - For Arcadia Landscape Architecture Pty Ltd.



Alex Longley  
Principal

26th October 2022