

## Response to Submissions – Further Information re Heritage Impact

Alterations to the Australian Habitat and construction of a Wildlife Retreat are proposed at Taronga Zoo. Approval has been sought and the DA exhibited as SSD 7419. The Department's review of additional submissions received indicated that further information was required about heritage in relation to trees to be removed. This was supplied and further additional information was requested in late October 2016 namely:

### **Heritage**

*The HIS states that trees 197L and 290L on the S170 register to be removed are to be replaced in a suitable location elsewhere. The replacement locations should be nominated on the requested landscape plan.*

The orange jessamine (*Murraya* 197L) and the wisteria (290L), which are on the s170 register, are proposed to be removed. Further investigation was undertaken and the *Murraya* is now not considered to be an Interwar planting or early ornamental planting (as stated in the LMP). It was planted in the 1980s along with the wisteria (290L). The wisteria was not identified in the LMP but was added to the s170 register later with no indication of the supposed heritage value.

The first SSD 7419 addenda addressing this issue stated that these plants are common species that would be suitable to use in shelter and shrub plantings. It said '*could be planted at a suitable location*' but did not suggest that they were required to be planted in the Retreat site which includes an Australian section exhibit nor that it was necessary to plant replacement species now.

The use of these species has been discussed with the Zoo's landscape and horticultural section. They stated that there are many *Murraya* plants already throughout the site. It is not considered necessary to plant further specimens on heritage grounds.

Wisteria requires a structure to climb over, such as a pergola or trellis. It is also not an appropriate species in an Australian themed exhibit as proposed for the Retreat. The re-erected shelter shed will be within the Australian themed area and it is also not an appropriate structure to be covered with a climbing plant, which could be damaging. Wisteria is appropriate for rest areas or other public spaces. When these are proposed wisteria could be considered as an appropriate shade provider but no such areas are proposed currently.

**It is not considered necessary on heritage grounds to replant these species in the Retreat or elsewhere but they could be considered in future plantings elsewhere.**

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