



Mr Marcello Tuteri
100 Harris St, L3 WeWork
Pymont NSW 2009

22 February 2021
ATM Ref: 20211751.3

Dear Mr Tuteri,

Re: RIDBC Centre for Excellence, Culloden Road, Macquarie University

Australis Tree Management has been commissioned to complete a statement regarding changes to the proposed design to allow the retention of trees.

Culloden Road Frontage

It is understood that tree removal at Macquarie University is exempt from Council permits under Part 9.5 of the Ryde DCP and that none of the trees on this site are listed by Council as being significant, requiring protection or preservation.

Approximately twenty-seven (27) planted trees are located along Culloden Road within the proposed driveway and car parking. Approximately 30% are either young, small or trees with severe structural issues or declining in health and are not highly valued for retention.

The remaining eighteen (18) trees proposed for removal can be replaced with more than the proposed seven (7) trees if desired. These replacement trees should be indigenous species with a variety of mature heights. They should be of quality stock (*AS 2303-2015 Tree stock for landscape use*) to promote their long-term retention.

A longitudinal planting pit with quality soil and drainage or with a structural soils mix could be constructed between the driveway entrances to ensure tree longevity and vigour. A variety of species would also be of benefit to improve biodiversity and reduce detrimental effects of monoculture planting.

The followings trees are located in the north western part of the site near the Culloden Road boundary. They were originally proposed for removal as they were significantly impacted by the proposed driveway. After discussions regarding design alternatives, it was determined that these trees could be retained with the construction of a suspended driveway.

Tree no. 2394 *Corymbia citriodora* (Lemon-scented Gum) is mature in age and appears to be in adequate (3) health with some deadwood and signs of compressed bark. The tree has a dead limb hanging in the canopy. It has a 'TreeAZ' rating of 'A' and an estimated life expectancy of 40+yrs. The proposed driveway will be suspended with a void and surface grates to allow for rainwater and airflow to the root system. Provided structural roots over 40mm in diameter are protected and not damaged the tree should tolerate the proposed works.

Tree no. 2395 *Corymbia citriodora* (Lemon-scented Gum) is young in age and appears to be in average (3) health with a 5cm diameter wound on a scaffold limb. It has a 'TreeAZ' rating of 'Z1' and an estimated life expectancy of 40+yrs.

Tree no. 2457 *Eucalyptus microcorys* (Tallowwood) is located on northern side of the proposed outdoor play area. Is mature in age and appears to be in decline (2) health with the removal of two (2) scaffold limbs removed at 3m high. It also has excessive deadwood and epicormic growth throughout the canopy. It has a 'TreeAZ' rating of 'Z3' and an estimated life expectancy of 15-40yrs.

The following two (2) trees are located in the southern part of the site near a proposed storm water swale. It was achievable to construct the swale outside their Tree Protection Zones where pipe outlets will be installed to allow for rainwater availability for the trees.

Tree no. 2342 *Eucalyptus saligna* (Sydney Blue Gum) is an indigenous tree species is located southern part of the site. It is mature in age and appears to be in adequate health with deadwood and epicormic growth throughout the canopy and the tree has suffered from pruning events. The trunk has a wound and cavity at approximately 7m high and second trunk wound and cavity on the opposite side at approximately 6m high. At this stage it has a 'TreeAZ' rating of 'A' and an estimated life expectancy of 40+yrs.

Tree no. 2365 *Eucalyptus botryoides* (Bangalay) is an indigenous tree species is located southern part of the site. It is mature in age and also appears to be in adequate (3)

health. The tree has deadwood and mature epicormic growth within the canopy. It also shows small previously failure branches. It has a 'TreeAZ' rating of 'A' and an estimated life expectancy of 40+yrs.

The existing trees and canopy cover of the site when viewed from Culloden Road frontage is somewhat sparse in the majority of the area for the proposed works. The retention of these three (3) additional trees, the retained trees, the proposed planting by Oculus (whether addressing Culloden Road or within the wider site), and the general Macquarie University policy of replacement planting at a rate of greater than 1:1 collectively has the potential benefit of contributing to canopy replacement over time. Increased canopy cover will further aid in the reduction of land surface temperatures and enhance the visual amenity of the site when viewed from the public domain.

Signed



Meredith Gibbs. Dip. Hort. (Arb.)

Australis Tree Management

Culloden Road Frontage

