2 July 2020

Courtney Hipperson
Gallagher Jeffs
Email: courtneyh@gj.com.au

Dear Courtney

Park Village, Highett: conservation area status

Our ref: Matter 31364

The conservation area supports native vegetation of considerable local significance (Biosis Research 2011).

I inspected the conservation area on 29 January and 26 June and have the following to report.

There was little or no vegetation within the development area due to recent earthworks.

Indigenous eucalypt trees

A total of 28 River Red Gum and Yellow Box mature trees are present, these being the significant indigenous trees for which the conservation area has been created (Attachment 1).

Table 1. Indigenous trees

Species	Common name	Comments
Eucalyptus camaldulensis	River Red Gum	20 trees, plus seedling recruitment
Eucalyptus melliodora	Yellow Box	8 trees, plus seedling recruitment

An arboricultural assessment was undertaken on 26 June (Treescape Consulting 2020). In summary 'the stand of trees is generally in a fair to good overall condition with a dense canopy of foliage and good growth indicators such as extension growth, leaf size and colour'.
Various tree protection and management actions and guidelines are recommended.

Other indigenous trees

Three other indigenous tree species are present:

Table 2. Other indigenous trees

Species	Common name	Comments
Acacia mearnsii	Black Wattle	A few trees
Acacia implexa	Lightwood	Regenerating seedlings
Exocarpos cupressiformis	Cherry Ballart	One tree (multi-stemmed)

Other indigenous vegetation

Several indigenous shrubs and ground layer species are present:

Table 3. Other indigenous species

Species	Common name	Comments
Acacia paradoxa	Hedge Wattle	Regenerating seedlings
Dichondra repens	Kidney-weed	Scattered plants
Einadia nutans	Nodding Saltbush	Several plants
Kennedia prostata	Running Postman	Several plants
Lachnagrostis avenacea	Common Blown-grass	Scattered plants
Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush	Several plants
Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Grass	Scattered plants
Muellerina eucalyptoides	Creeping Mistletoe	Scattered plants
Rytidosperma racemosum	Slender Wallaby-grass	Scattered plants
Solanum laciniatum	Large Kangaroo Apple	Regenerating seedlings

The future management agency (City of Bayside) should place not mulch around the trees or undertake any soil disturbance during any site decontamination without first protecting this ground layer vegetation.

Non-indigenous vegetation

A considerable number of planted non-indigenous trees, mainly Australian native eucalypts, are present. These trees are not significant and since some may compete with the indigenous trees it is recommended the future management agency (City of Bayside) review the suitability of retaining these trees.
Some well-formed specimens could be retained where they are well away from the indigenous trees.

Introduced herbaceous species (weeds) are widespread and generally dominant in the groundlayer.
They present no immediate threat to the indigenous flora so their management is not required at present.

Selected photos of the vegetation are in Attachment 2.

Reference

Biosis Research 2011. Flora and fauna assessment: CSIRO Highett, Victoria. Report to CSIRO, Author: Jeff Yugovic, Biosis Research Pty Ltd.

Treescape Consulting 2020. Arboricultural impact assessment: Park Village residential development 37 Graham Road Highett. Report commissioned by Sunkin Highett Pty Ltd, prepared by Peter Clark, Treescape Consulting Pty Ltd.

Please contact me if you have any enquiries.

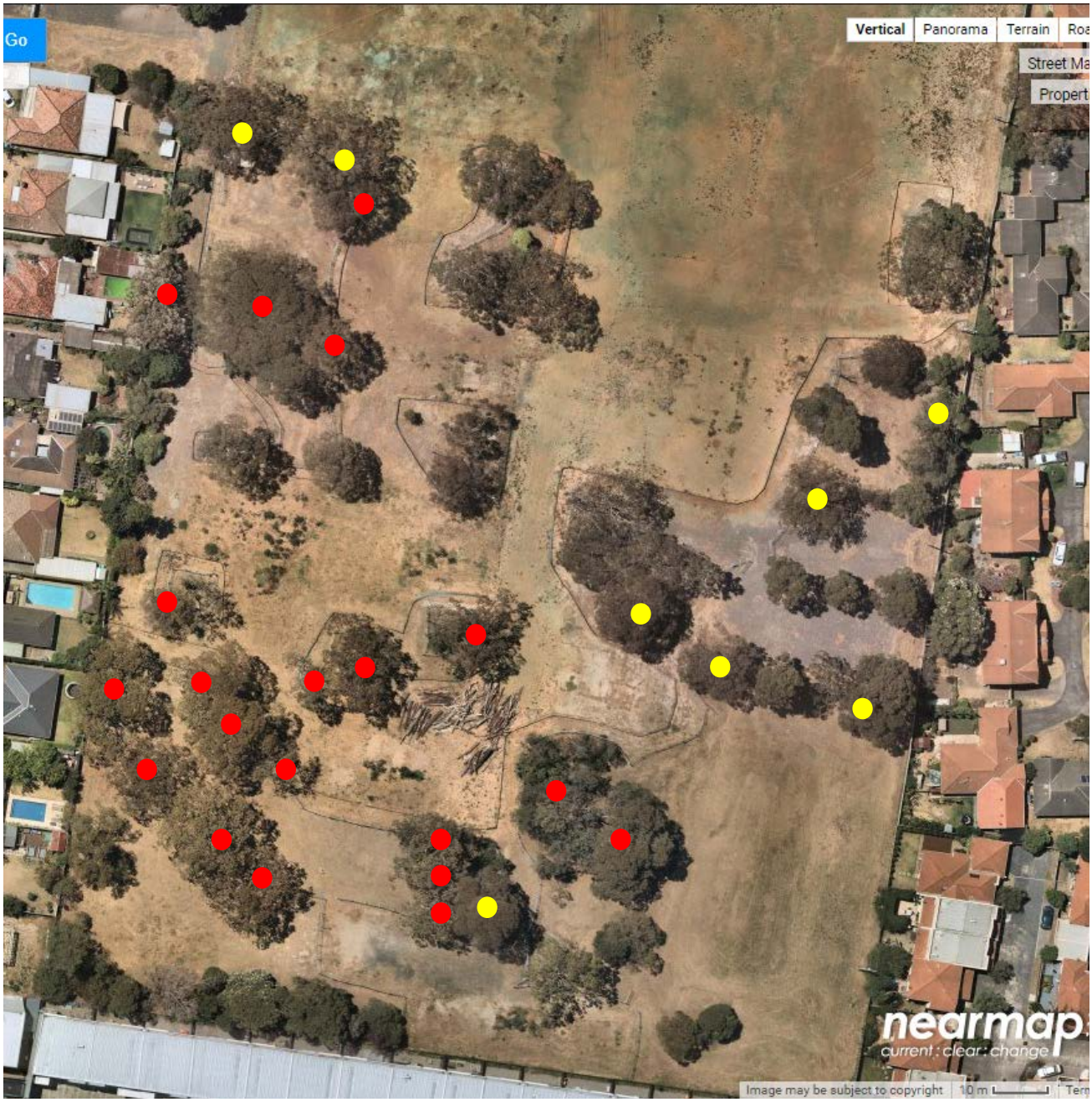
Yours sincerely

Dr Jeff Yugovic
Senior Ecology Consultant

Attachment 1. Indigenous eucalypt trees

Nearmap image 19.12.19

- Yellow Box
- River Red Gum



Attachment 2. Photos

Photo 1. Development area foreground, conservation area in background, 29 January 2020

Photo 2. Yellow Box, adjacent to Middleton Street entrance, 29 January 2020

Photo 3. Second Yellow Box, adjacent to Middleton Street entrance, 29 January 2020

Photo 4. Tree protection sign and fence, 29 January 2020

Photo 5. Large River Red Gum, 29 January 2020

Photo 6. Group of River Red Gums, 29 January 2020

Photo 7. Group of River Red Gums, one Yellow Box, 29 January 2020

Photo 8. River Red Gum partially defoliated by possums, 29 January 2020

Photo 9. Regenerating Lightwoods, 29 January 2020

Photo 10. Regenerating Yellow Box saplings, 29 January 2020

Photo 11. Regenerating Black Wattle and River Red Gums, 29 January 2020

Photo 12. Regenerating Hedge Wattle, 29 January 2020

Photo 13. Two large Yellow Box trees, north edge, 26 June 2020

Photo 14. Running Postman has germinated from soil disturbance, north edge, 26 June 2020

Photo 15. River Red Gum with young Lightwood, 26 June 2020

Photo 16. Vigorous tree recruitment, 26 June 2020