

## 20. BROAD PARK EXTENSION - APPLICATION TO REMOVE MACROCARPA RR 9027

<b>Officer responsible</b> Parks Manager	<b>Author</b> Gary Harrow, Area Parks Officer
Corporate Plan Output: City Wide Parks Maintenance, page 9.4.15	

The purpose of this report is to present a resident's request to remove a macrocarpa tree from the unformed portion of the Broad Park extension classified as Open Space 1 in the proposed City Plan.

A house is soon to be built on the site with the garage 3 metres from the boundary. The house itself will be approximately 7 metres from the base of the tree. Some of the branches overhang the property.

The applicant's reasons for removal are:

1. The tree overhangs the section by 7 metres.
2. Parts of the tree occupy space of the proposed house.
3. Although the tree is evergreen, foliage is dropped all year round and will gather on the roof, block gutters and aid in discolouration of the plaster finish.
4. All morning sun is blocked on the eastern side by the tree.
5. Risk of tree collapsing on our home, causing us unnecessary worry."

The views of the residents nearby are currently being sought the results will be available at the Board meeting.

The Parks Unit believes that this tree is safe, is of significant value to the landscape of the area and is somewhat of a landmark in the Ballance/Broadpark Street area. It compliments the older trees in Broad Park and the younger ones nearby in the lee of the sand dunes. It is the only large tree between Broad Park and Bottle Lake Forest Park.

I believe that most of the resident's concerns can be met by trimming the tree away from the boundary but the lack of morning sun is something the Council must also take into account when seeking community views. The Council receives similar requests daily from residents but only a few subsequently result in requests to remove the tree altogether.

The Council will be aware that neighbours are legally entitled to prune branches away from their boundaries but the Council, being a good neighbour, usually undertakes this at no cost to the applicant.

The area immediately to the west of the tree (approximately 20 metres of the applicant's property) used to be unformed legal road until requests from local residents resulted in the road being stopped and sold to the neighbours in 1995/96.

I have attached (*see page 65*) photographs of the area taken from the north, south and west.

There are plans to extend the cultivated area of Broad Park to the Crown Land just north of this tree and when completed, this tree will be valuable as a shade tree for the many people now using the area. The car park is a main terminus for recreational walkers, joggers and mountain bike riders using the coastal tracks.

**Recommendation:** That the Board recommend to the Parks and Recreation Committee the tree not be removed but trimmed back from the boundary by the Council.

**Chairperson's  
Recommendation:** That the aforementioned recommendation be adopted.