

3. Tree removal and replacement

The City of Port Phillip seeks to avoid tree removal wherever possible. There are circumstances, however, in which tree removal is an acceptable management option. Tree removal may occur for human health and safety, to protect infrastructure, to facilitate approved development and infrastructure improvements, to maintain a healthy urban forest or for ecological restoration.

	Policy Statement	Action	Time frame
Tree assessment process			
3.1	All tree management options will be investigated prior to the removal of a tree/s.	Tree removal will only be approved if there are no other viable options.	ONG
		Removal of dead trees will be undertaken as part of the regular tree maintenance program as per the City of Port Phillip Tree Management Technical Guidelines.	ONG
		When trees are removed for development the amenity valuation charged is used to plant trees in the area surrounding the development (Refer 6.6).	ONG
3.2	Trees will be removed in a timely manner where they no longer contribute to the streetscape due to poor health or condition.	Identify and strategically replace senescent trees that no longer contribute to the amenity of streetscapes and/or park.	ONG
3.3	The City of Port Phillip commits to a fair, equitable and transparent appeals and reinspection process.	Council will consult and inform the community about proposed tree removal in accordance with the City of Port Phillip Tree Management Technical Guidelines.	ONG
		The process for tree removal requests will be documented on the City of Port Phillip web site.	YR 1
		The appeals process will be undertaken in accordance with the City of Port Phillip Tree Management Technical Guidelines.	ONG
Tree Replacement			
3.4	Replacement of trees that have to be removed due to tree death, poor health or risk to people or infrastructure, will be undertaken as a priority.	Schedule replacement planting of trees removed due to tree death, poor health or risk to people and infrastructure as part of the tree removal process.	ONG
3.5	The City of Port Phillip will ensure that the best green outcome is obtained if a tree is removed for development.	Every effort will be made to replace and increase tree canopy cover lost when a tree is removed due to development. The number and type of replacement trees planted will be chosen to suit the site and maximise tree canopy cover.	ONG
Emergency situations			
3.6	Trees will be removed should they pose a risk to public safety.	Trees will be removed on the same work day as notification is received for immediately hazardous trees.	ONG