

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
25 MAY 2009**

ORDER OF DAY

ORDER 4	RESPONSE TO PETITION - REVIEW SMITH STREET RATING FROM CATEGORY 2 TO CATEGORY 1
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	SMITH STREET, ST KILDA
RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:	DAVID YEOUART, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY ASSETS AND SERVICES
AUTHOR:	FIONA BLAIR, MANAGER PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SERVICES
FILE NO.:	E3123/09
ATTACHMENTS:	NIL.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report is presented to council in response to a petition which was tabled at The Ordinary Meeting of Council on 23 February 2009, asking for Council to consider changing the streetscape upgrade category for Smith Street, between Foster Street and Blessington Street, from category 2 to category 1.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. That Council resolves to:
- 2.1.1. Note the current priority rating and process for determining streetscape renewal, where streets with no trees are upgraded before streets with incomplete streetscape.
- 2.1.2. That Council direct officers to respond to the residents detailing:
- the streetscape upgrade process;
 - advising that Smith Street would not be upgraded to a rating one and
 - advising that Smith Street is first on the list of rating two streets for St Kilda and would be renewed preceding the completion of rating one streetscape upgrades

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1. The petition requested
- Changing the streetscape upgrade category for Smith Street, between Foster Street and Blessington Street, from category two (2) to category one (1).
- Landscaping works to occur in 2009

3.2. The history of queries regarding streetscape renewal in Smith Street is as follows:

- Records show, there have been requests for upgrade within the street, over the past nine years.
- Council response on each occasion was that, there were higher priorities for streetscape renewal, i.e. where there were no trees and that Smith Street may not be upgraded for some time.
- Council has received a petition signed by twenty (20) residents, asking to change the streetscape rating from category two (2) to category one (1), which will expedite the upgrade process.

3.3. Category information

Council has a current priority rating for streetscapes, to determine tree planting opportunities and priorities.

The table below details the categories that streets are classified into when assessing current streetscape condition

Rating	Streetscape Description
Rating One	No trees in street
Rating Two	Incomplete streetscape of poor quality stock, non matching working species, many vacant spaces
Rating Three	Streetscape close to completion, may need some replacements or slight adjustments in removing poor stock/incorrect stock
Rating Four	Streetscape mature and of good condition, no works required
Rating Five	Streetscapes that have been reviewed however will not be upgraded until enough interest is shown by public and resident
Rating Six	Planting not possible due to size of footpath or surrounding infrastructure

3.4. Based on Council's streetscape priority classification Smith Street, St Kilda is categorised as a rating two (2) streetscape, due to the site having an incomplete streetscape of poor quality stock, non matching species and many vacant spaces.

3.5. For the past five years a budget allocation of 250K has been allocated for streetscape upgrades in the municipality. Each year a proportion of that budget is allocated to upgrading major streets and neighborhood streets across the municipality.

3.6. Currently, in St Kilda there are thirty (30) streets categorised as rating one, which would be upgraded prior to the rating two streets.

3.7. However, Smith Street is number one (1) on the list of the thirty-seven (37) rating two (2) streets for St Kilda

3.8. Money has been allocated in the Draft 2009/2010 budget to review current council process and policy for tree management within the city.

As part of this process, a program of works will be developed that identifies the streetscape upgrades to occur in a five-year program.