

DTI:Planning Review

From: David Stockbridge [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2022 6:01 PM
To: DTI:Planning Review
Subject: Submission

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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Dear Review Panel,

My name is Dave Stockbridge and I am a City of Salisbury resident and local real estate agent of 25 years experience.

The nuisance this invasive pest of tree poses to locals is such that they can at worst render a home unsaleable and at best are detrimental to the value of a property.

The damage to local walking paths means that May aged mother in law who lives with us is no longer confident to walk around the neighbourhood as paths have lifted and serve as a tripping hazard.

After a downpour our street is backed up as water is unable to drain away. This leaves pools of water for days in front of our home that lead to increased mosquito activity. We are unable to keep our drive way clear of mud after a rain.

Our neighbours now have drainage and plumbing issues that directly relate to the Iron bark tree in the median strip in front of their house.

This menacing tree is damaging their home from below and threatening their safety from above.

Below my local MP John Fulbrooks office sent some suggestions as to how to prepare a submission and I cut with all of it and attach it below-

Eucalyptus Sideroxylon was widely planted within the City of Salisbury during the 1980s and 90s. Native to eastern Australia, the species has thrived locally, with many specimens now classified as either being regulated or significant trees.

As a relatively quick grower capable of reaching 30 metres in height, it can cause:

- Damage to roads, kerbing and footpaths
- Structural damage to privately owned driveways and houses

- Destruction of stormwater pipes, water and sewerage mains
- Large falling tree limbs
- Inability to establish lawns and other smaller plant species

It's a very thirsty tree, making it difficult to establish lawns and gardens in areas overlapping its root structure. There are many examples within the City of Salisbury where residents are unable to establish front gardens.

Its root structure is considered aggressive. Local trees have caused damage to driveways, houses and underground pipes. Many residents have paid high costs to repair damage to their property from trees growing on Council land – but existing rules often prevent removal of the tree.

Given the large size of the species, the risk of falling limbs is increased, particularly during warmer months. This threatens personal safety and risks damage to fences, sheds and houses. Insurance can be expensive to obtain, and the costs of damage can be high.

Given the destruction *Eucalyptus Sideroxylon* is causing, especially as a non-native species, it is not appropriate to have automatic protections against its removal based purely on its size.

Residents within the City of Salisbury want a healthy, vibrant tree canopy that provides shade and supports wildlife. Unfortunately, *Eucalyptus Sideroxylon* is an example of the wrong tree species growing in the wrong place.

I call for change to reflect that when a *Eucalyptus Sideroxylon* specimen:

- Presents a danger either to the public or to private citizens, or
- is causing substantial damage to either public infrastructure or private property,
- Then, approval may be granted for its removal, on condition that:
 - It be replaced with an appropriate tree species near to where the removed tree once stood, and
 - (If removed from Council land) an additional tree be planted within a separate public land holding.

While this may create a short to medium term loss of canopy, over the long term it could increase canopy, as well as improve public safety and tree quality.

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Kind Regards,

Dave Stockbridge

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