COUNCIL POLICY EN302 ROAD VERGES

KEY FOCUS AREA

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to supplement the Town's Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law by providing guidance on "permissible verge treatments" on road verges

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with the Town of Claremont's *Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law*.

Policy

General

All requests of landowners and occupiers for any treatment to a road verge for part of the verge directly in front of their land must be submitted in writing with plans and specifications. Such plans and specifications are not required to be professionally prepared but must clearly indicate the extent and finish intended.

Paving

Council supports the paving of road verges where on-street parking is not permitted or readily available. Where paving is permitted, the following conditions apply:

1. Permissible materials are porous paving, to the satisfaction of the Town.
2. Parking restrictions (e.g., signage or line marking) will not be installed to limit public road parking or facilitate access to the hardstand.
3. All verge treatments containing hardstand materials are required to include at least one street tree – a spacing of 8 to 10 meters to maintain the expansion of streetscape canopy is required.
4. Street trees
    a. Are to be carefully protected from root damage using the Australian Standards for protection of trees on development sites (AS4970:2025)
    b. Irrigation of street trees by means of tree bubblers connected to private irrigation or hand watering is required.
    c. Hardstand materials may not be installed closer than 2 metres to a street tree. The hardstand area must not exceed one third of the area of the verge, excluding any vehicle crossovers.
5. Verge paving construction must meet Town of Claremont's crossover paving technical requirements.
6. Artificial Turf is not permitted.
7. If a landowner or occupier installs an unapproved verge treatment, they may be directed to remove it and reinstate the area to a permissible verge treatment. The landowner or occupier is required to bear all costs.

Landscaping

Where landscaping is permitted, the following conditions apply:

1. Acceptable materials are to the satisfaction of the Parks and Environment Department.
2. No sharp, poisonous or hazardous plants are to be approved
3. The planting and maintenance of either a lawn or a garden on the balance of the verge is to be in accordance with the following:
    a. Clear sight visibility is maintained at all times for a person using the abutting thoroughfare in the vicinity of an intersection or bend in the thoroughfare by restricting plant heights to a maximum of 0.4m.
    b. Plants to a height greater than 0.4 m are permitted in areas where sight lines are not a consideration.
    c. Where there is no made footpath on any alignment on the verge, a pedestrian is to have safe and clear access of a minimum width of 2m along that part of the verge immediately adjacent to the kerb.
    d. No large rocks, large logs or pot plants are to be installed where assessed to be a risk to road or footpath users.
    e. No loose stone or gravel is permitted.
4. No fences, walls or raised garden beds are to be installed. Temporary fencing is permitted for a maximum period of 24 months, to protect the landscaped area during establishment of plants
5. Coarse mulch, waterwise local native plants and suitable reticulation is encouraged
6. Street trees are to be carefully protected by an approved means
7. A minimum area of 750mm x 4m for the presentation of waste bins (240 litres x 2 per household) is to remain accessible on the kerb side of the verge for this purpose. The location of this area is to be practical for the loading of the bins.

    An area for bulk verge collections of at least 4 m2 must be available and may be provided in a combination of the following options
    a. An open area on the verge
    b. under a tree with a minimum 1.8m clearance of the canopy, or
    c. alongside the kerb in an area with a minimum width of 1m.

Document Control Box			
Legislation:	*Nil*		
Organisational:	Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law 2003 Verge Landscaping Guidelines		
Version #	**Decision:**	**OCM Date:**	**Resolution Number:**
1.	Adopted	21 June 2005	232/05
2.	Reviewed	7 July 2009	182/09
3.	Reviewed	4 September 2012	169/12
4.	Reviewed	10 December 2013	360/13
5.	Reviewed	9 December 2014	203/14
6.	Reviewed	13 December 2016	206/16
7.	Reviewed	18 December 2018	228/18
8.	Reviewed	24 September 2024	143/24
9.	Reviewed	31 March 2026	36/26
10.	Reviewed	27 October 2026	151/26