

19/01/2006
VC37**SCHEDULE 1 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as VPO1.

REMNANT VEGETATION WITH A HIGH DEGREE OF NATURALNESS**1.0**19/01/2006
VC37**Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected**

Much of the natural heritage of the City of Knox has been lost as the city has developed. The Vegetation Assessment and Protection Strategy for the City of Knox (Water Ecoscience, February 1998) has documented much of the vegetation which remains (“remnant vegetation”) and assessed its natural heritage values. This vegetation which is indigenous to the Knox area has at least two intact vegetation strata and therefore has a higher degree of naturalness than remnants which are less intact.

This vegetation is important as it represents Knox’s most intact natural environment and is a source of genetic material for the rehabilitation of Knox’s natural heritage. Some of this remnant vegetation contains rare or threatened vegetation species or species documented as being of local, regional or State significance.

Vegetation in the vicinity of the Dandenong Ranges National Park extends the biological values of the park. In the same way, the park acts as a reservoir of biological material which augments that remaining in the City of Knox. The result is a more stable reserve of plants and animals in both areas.

This vegetation is also important for the habitat it provides for indigenous fauna and for the maintenance of natural processes. Retention of this vegetation adjacent to waterways and natural drainage lines protects water quality and riverine habitat. Retention of this vegetation where it forms part of a vegetation corridor is important in providing linked habitat for fauna.

Remnant vegetation also beautifies and adds natural interest to the areas in which it is located.

Ref: Vegetation Assessment and Protection Strategy for the City of Knox (Water Ecoscience, February 1998)

Vegetation Survey of Linear Reserves – A Management Strategy for Riparian and Flood Plain Vegetation (Reid, J. et. al. September 1997).

2.019/01/2006
VC37**Vegetation protection objective to be achieved**

- To retain vegetation which is representative of the natural heritage of the City.
- To maintain a stock of indigenous vegetation to provide a source of genetic material for the re-establishment of the natural heritage of the City.
- To retain high quality habitats for native fauna.
- To retain vegetation which is rare, threatened or recognised as being of local, regional or State significance.
- To retain vegetation in the vicinity of the Dandenong Ranges National Park to extend the biological values of the park.
- To retain vegetation which provides a buffer to waterways.
- To retain vegetation which provides natural beauty and interest.

3.0

19/01/2006
VC37

Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

4.0

19/01/2006
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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- The location of existing vegetation on the land and the areas of vegetation to be removed.
- The compatibility of any buildings and works with existing vegetation proposed to be retained.