



# Newport Residents Association Inc.

PO Box 1180  
Newport Beach NSW 2106  
President - Gavin Butler (gebutler@aapt.net.au) 0409 395 102  
Vice-President - Kyle Hill 0412 221 962  
Hon. Secretary - (wendydunnet@gmail.com) 0418 161 074  
Hon. Treasurer - Bill Thomson 0437 405 442  
[www.newport.org.au](http://www.newport.org.au)

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15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

The Chief Executive Officer  
Northern Beaches Council  
PO Box 82,  
Manly, NSW 1655

Dear Sir,

## Re NBC Draft Urban Tree Canopy Plan 2018

Firstly we would like to congratulate council on the decision to develop and publish a plan to protect the tree canopy of the northern beaches. We agree with the overall objectives of;

- Protecting existing urban trees
- Maintaining existing urban tree canopy cover
- Improving tree diversity and health
- Motivate, inspire and support community to protect and enhance our urban trees.

We do feel that the specifics of the draft are far too generalised and unless the objectives include how council will actually achieve, manage and police them, little will get achieved.

Specific matters we wish to draw your attention to are as follows;

### 1. Wildlife Corridors

There is almost nothing in the draft other than a vague mention. All wildlife corridors in the northern beaches area need to be specifically noted on a register with appropriate maps. This will enable anyone contemplating development near them to identify and take account of the specific wildlife corridor that could be affected from a planning proposal. Additionally a proper register will help the community identify and understand the significance of each corridor.

### 2. Tree Plantings on Public Land

This area should be given the greatest priority as it is the easiest for council to manage and control

### 3. Tree Plantings on Private Land

We acknowledge this area is the hardest and most costliest to control, however we believe a tree register that covers all significant canopy plantings required under a

planning consent should be maintained and that an owner needs to seek approval to later vary such approved consent.

4. Street Plantings

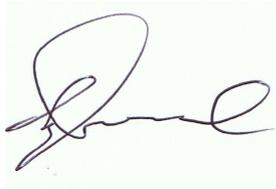
This area should also be one of the easier for council to manage however there are too many examples of the wrong trees being planted (electricity wires, water & drainage locations etc) and lost trees not being replaced.

5. Erosion of set-backs and the impact on lost canopy cover

We believe that council needs to be a lot stricter on the site-coverage rules as allowing significant site coverage creep, as has been happening, has adversely impacted tree canopy cover on private land.

Again we congratulate council on taking the initiative to develop an Urban Tree Canopy Plan.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light green rectangular background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Gavin Butler'.

Gavin Butler  
President