

Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants

The Ōrākei Local Board recognises trees, whether identified for protection or not, are significant contributors to the amenity and character of local neighbourhoods and town centres. The Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants Programme provides owners of notable trees within the local board area access to grants to support tree works that support the long term health of notable trees and their retention within the community.

Eligibility criteria

To be apply for an Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants

- You must be the property owner.
- No more than one application per annum per tree can be submitted

The Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants programme is open to owners of all notable trees that are either

- Scheduled in of the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan Appendix 3 Natural Heritage **or**
- Significant notable non-scheduled landscape trees able to score 15 or greater when assessed against criteria for tree scheduling below

Age and health

This scoring system should be used when assessing the age and health of a tree. It allows for trees that are old and healthy to score much more highly than trees that are either unhealthy or young. The degree of vigour and vitality for any tree is assessed given the age of the tree. Therefore, a notable tree that is over 100 years old and showing high vigour and vitality, for a tree that age, will score a 10

Vigour and vitality	High	3	5	6	8	10
		2	4	6	8	8
		2	4	6	6	7
		2	4	4	5	5
	Low	2	2	2	3	3
	Age in years	<40	41-60	61-80	81-100	>100

Character or form

This scoring system should be used when assessing the character or form of a tree. It allows for trees that are exceptional examples at two spatial scales (from local to Auckland-wide) to score more highly than trees that are regarded as normal.

Not exceptional	0
Exceptional example locally	5
Exceptional example in Auckland	10

Size

This scoring system should be used when assessing the size of a tree (including height, girth and lateral spread). It allows for trees that are larger than would be expected (on average) for a particular location to be scored more highly than trees that are at, or close to (or below), their average height.

Average size for the species in this location	0
Greater than average size (up to 25% larger)	5
Substantially greater than average size (>25% larger)	10

Visual and neighbourhood amenity contribution

This scoring system should be used when assessing the visual and neighbourhood amenity contribution of a tree. It allows for trees that act as significant locator points for the local community and are seen by more people on a daily basis either from the street, from neighbouring properties or community vantage points to score more highly than trees that are rarely seen.

Limited visibility within local community. A tree which is not visible from the road or other neighbourhood vantage points	2
Immediate neighbourhood visibility. A tree which is visible from the road and/or from properties within a 3 block radius.	5
Significant landscape tree. A tree which visible from the road and from properties within a greater than 3 block radius. A tree which acts as a navigation feature from community vantage points	10

What can you apply for?

The Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants programme is focused on ensuring tree retention and maintenance and accepted tree work is limited to that which will ensure the long term health of the tree.

1. Pruning for safety

- Reduction / thinning of extended branches with heavy end weight, poor taper and/or exhibiting weak attachments.
- Crown lifting / pruning of branches obstructing lines of sight on streets and driveways.
- Pruning to maintain clearances from dwellings and overhead private service lines.

2. Pruning for form (where these will benefit the longevity of the tree)

- Removal of dead and diseased branches.
- Removal or pruning of crossing and rubbing secondary branches.
- Removal or pruning of broken and storm damaged branches.
- Removal of stumps and stubs to encourage wound closure.
- Thinning of the crown to increase sunlight

3. Soil environment

- Measures designed to improve the tree's soil environment, such as mulching with compost, in ground vertical mulching and soil aeration where this will be of benefit to the longevity

Exclusions

Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grants will not support

- Tree work solely to improve outlook from the property or enhance property values
- Tree work solely for the protection of built structures.

Applicants can apply for 50% of the cost of tree work up to a maximum of \$2,000.

Tree work is required to be carried out by a qualified arborist and applications must be supported by quotes.

Contestable Application dates

Funding rounds	Opens	Closes	Decision made	Work to be carried out after
Funding round 1	3 October 2016	4 November 2016	December 2016	1 January 2017
Funding round 2	1 March 2017	8 April 2017	May 2017	1 June 2017

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