

Review of Environmental Factors (REF)

Assessment under Part 5 of the Environmental
Planning and Assessment Act, 1979

Reviewed September 2022

Ramsay Road, Pennant Hills - Proposed shared path

5 February 2024

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Introduction

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, requires that an environmental assessment is carried out prior to the commencement of any development, work or activity. The assessment is usually in the form of a development application which is required for land uses that require development consent (Part 4 of the Act).

Part 5 of the Act requires an environmental assessment (or review of environmental factors) to occur for any work or activity that does not require development consent. Appendix A includes extracts from Part 5 of the Act.

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is a document which identifies and evaluates the impacts of an activity to decide if the impacts are likely to significantly affect the environment. A REF is designed to provide enough information to make an informed decision as to the likely significance of the impact of the activity on the environmental, social and economic aspects (including critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats). If the impacts are considered to be significant, then an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared and considered prior to a determining authority deciding if an activity is likely to proceed. REFs that relate to an issue that is controversial or will significantly affect the public may be placed on public exhibition. The proponent of the activity (e.g. Council) is responsible for completing the REF.

This template has been prepared to assist Council officers in assessing the potential impacts of activities and works and thereby fulfilling Council's responsibilities under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

The steps in the process are:

- 1 Prepare a description of the proposed project including a discussion on alternative proposals considered.
- 2 Determine whether the proposal can be assessed under Part 5 of the Act (an REF) or requires the preparation of a Development Application and determine key planning issues by identifying what SEPPs/HLEP/HDCP parts and clauses are relevant to the permissibility and assessment of the proposal.
- 3 Have the Planning Issues section of this REF "signed off" by the Manager, Assessments.
- 4 Prepare the REF in consultation with relevant public authorities, other Branches of Council and consultants, if required.
- 5 Have the REF approved by their Branch Manager.
- 6 Commence the activity and ensure that any environmental safeguards are installed and maintained for the duration of the job in accordance with this REF and approval plans.

Some examples of environmental law to be considered through this process would include;

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979).
- Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Forestry Act 1916
- Heritage Act 1977
- Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- Roads Act 1993
- Rural Fires Act 1997
- Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995
- Water Management Act 2000
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

Can the proposal be assessed under Part 5?

The first step is to determine whether the proposal can be assessed under Part 5, through an REF, or is a development application and assessment under Part 4 of the Act required. There are a number of environmental planning instruments that may need to be reviewed to determine this, including:

- State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021;
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021;
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021; and
- Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013.

Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013

The Hornsby Local Environmental Plan (HLEP) 2013 is the principal governing environmental planning instrument that guides whether proposals can be assessed under Part 4 or 5. The Land Use Zones under Part 2 of the Plan specify development that is “permitted without consent” (i.e. activities), “permitted with consent” and “prohibited.” Development “permitted without consent” requires an REF.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (ISEPP)

ISEPP must also be reviewed to determine if the development or work under Part 2, Division 12 is classified as development “permitted without consent.”

Development “permitted without consent” requires an REF. The Divisions of the ISEPP are listed below.

Any of the following development may be carried out by or on behalf of a council without consent on a public reserve under the control of or vested in the council:

- Development for any of the following purposes:
 - Roads, pedestrian pathways, cycleways, single storey car parks, ticketing facilities, viewing platforms and pedestrian bridges,
 - Recreation areas and recreation facilities (outdoor), but not including grandstands,
 - Visitor information centres, information boards and other information facilities,
 - Lighting, if light spill and artificial sky glow is minimised in accordance with the Lighting for Roads and Public Spaces Standard,
 - Landscaping, including landscape structures or features (such as artwork) and irrigation systems,
 - Amenities for people using the reserve, including toilets and change rooms,
 - Food preparation and related facilities for people using the reserve,
 - Maintenance depots,
 - Portable lifeguard towers,
 - Environmental management works,
 - Demolition of buildings (other than any building that is, or is part of, a State or local heritage item or is within a heritage conservation area).

Other Relevant State Environmental Planning Policies

Other listed SEPPs may also need to be reviewed (where relevant) to determine if the development or work is classified as development “permitted without consent”, thereby requiring an REF.

Preparation of REF/Assessment

The REF should address the key issues as fully as practicable. However, the level of analysis should reflect the level of significance of the impacts and their importance for the proposal. Lesser attention should be given to those issues which have a lesser significance. Some issues may not be applicable and do not need to be addressed.

Section 1 Proposed Project

1. Title of Proposal

Ramsay Road, Pennant Hills - Proposed shared path.

2. Planning

2.1. Location (Lot and DP and/or GIS Coordinates), Name of Reserve (if appropriate)

Ramsay Road, Pennant Hills (Bellamy Street to Pennant Hills Community Centre).

2.2. Description of proposal

Construction of 2.5m wide shared path including installation of appropriate signage and line/pavement markings.

3. The Activity

3.1. Description of the activity/methods of construction

The project involves construction of a shared path, installation of new pedestrian safety fencing, new drainage pit, removing and replanting trees and installation of appropriate signage.

The construction methods will involve:

- * ensuring site is secure at all times and access is restricted;
- * setup of appropriate traffic and pedestrian control/diversions;
- * compliance with Work Health and Safety requirements.

3.2. Objectives of the activity and justification

To improve pedestrian, cyclist and traffic safety, public amenity as well as meet Council's adopted walking and cycling strategy.

3.3. Major elements

There will be minor noise generation and disruption to vehicular traffic during the construction period, but this is not considered significant. Activities will be restricted to the hours between 7:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Saturday. Erosion and sediment control facilities will be in place during the construction process.

3.4. Other developments associated with the activity e.g. infrastructure, services

NA

3.5. Time frame/hours of operation

The project is expected to commence in 2024/2025 financial year and take approximately 10 weeks to complete, weather permitting. No work on Sundays or Public Holidays unless approved by Council.

4. Alternative Proposals

Alternative proposals considered/assessment of alternative proposals e.g. alternative locations, alternative technologies

This is considered the best proposal available.

4.1. Justification of preferred option

The construction of the shared path will be in accordance with Council's adopted walking and cycling strategy to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety as well as road user safety.

4.2. Consequences of not carrying out the activity

Continued poor pedestrian and cyclist safety in the area.

Section 2 Planning Issues

This section is to be completed by a Team Leader or Manager, Assessments and referred back to the Project Officer.

1. Consideration of relevant State Plans and policies

State Environmental Planning Policies

Are any of the following SEPPs relevant to the activity? If yes, what is the relevant clause(s) that the REF needs to evaluate?

- [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Transport and Infrastructure\) 2021](#)
- [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Biodiversity and Conservation\) 2021 Chapters 2 and 6](#)

2. Consideration of Hornsby Shire Council Plans and Policies

2.1. Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013

Are there any of the following parts of the HLEP 2013 relevant to the activity? If yes, what is the relevant clause(s) that the REF needs to evaluate?

The REF needs to evaluate the following Clauses of the HLEP:

[Clause 1.2\(2\)\(a\),\(h\) and \(i\)](#)

[Clause 1.9.](#)

2.2. Hornsby Development Control Plan 2013

Are any of the following parts of the HDCP 2013 relevant to the activity? If yes, what is the relevant clause(s) that the REF needs to evaluate?

The REF needs to consider the following sections of the HDCP:

[Part 1B.6 Tree and Vegetation Preservation](#)

[Part 1C.1 and Part 1C.1.1](#)

3. The following comments are made regarding the permissibility of the activity described in this REF.

The proposed development is “permitted without consent” under State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 and therefore an assessment under Part 5 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 is required.

The proposed development is 'permitted without consent' under Section 2.109 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 and therefore an assesment under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 is required.

4. The following comments are made regarding the parts of the relevant legislation and Council Policies that the REF needs to evaluate.

The REF needs to evaluate in detail Part 1B.6 Tree and Vegetation Preservation of the HDCP if trees are to be removed.

Matthew Miles



7/02/2024

Assessment Planner Name

Signature

Date

The signed off section of the REF should be forwarded to the Project Officer responsible for the activity and placed (TRIMmed) on the appropriate file in accordance with Council's policies and procedures.

Section 3 Assessment

This section is to be completed by the Project Officer and is to be signed off by their Branch Manager.

The following headings are a guide to what should be addressed in a REF. Any other relevant information may be added.

Select Yes or No from the drop-down menu. If you select yes and the section does apply to the proposed activity fill out the field provided in as much detail as possible.

1. Permissibility/Compliance

1.1. Zoning of land under the HLEP 2013

R2 Low density residential

1.2. Permissibility

Council's Team Manager Assessments has made the following comments regarding permissibility of the activity with relevant legislation. The use/activity can be described as [minor improvement](#) which does not require development consent by virtue of being development "permitted without consent" under the [R2](#) zone of the HLEP 2013/ [Low Density Residential](#) Division of the ISEPP and therefore an assessment under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 is required.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

1.3. Compliance

Council's Team Manager Assessments has made the following comments regarding the parts of relevant legislation and Council Policies that the REF needs to evaluate.

2. The Existing Environment

Describe the existing environment prior to the proposed activity occurring

[Two way paved public road with nature strips and footpaths on both sides.](#)

2.1. Site description/current land use

[The site is a public road.](#)

2.2. National/State/Regional/Local Conservation significance

No

Does the site have conservation significance or impact on an area of conservation significance?

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3. The Natural Environment

2.3.1. Geology, geomorphology and geological sites No

Are there any other significant geological features on the site?

If yes, list them.

2.3.2. Soil type(s) No

What is the soil type? Is it a significant factor in the activity?

List the soil type.

Colluvial: Wianamatta Group shale, deep soil, rolling to steep side slopes.

Is the site affected by acid sulphate soils? (See HLEP 2013 – Acid Sulphate Soils Map.) No

If yes, how are the acid sulphate soils being dealt with?

2.3.3. Plants (including presence of threatened species/ populations communities/ habitats. Will the proposal disturb vegetation? See also sections 6.5 to 6.8.) No

What is the vegetation present?

Are there any threatened species / populations / communities / critical habitats / ROTAP species or species / vegetation communities of National, State and regional significance? (See HLEP 2013 - Terrestrial Biodiversity Map.) No

Are there any significant wetland areas? (See SREP 20 Wetland Area Maps.) No

If yes, what are the mitigation measures applied to protect them?

2.3.4. Animals (including presence of threatened species / populations / communities / habitats). No

What are the fauna species present and will the proposal disturb fauna habitat? No

If yes, what the mitigation measures?

Are there any threatened fauna species / populations / communities / critical habitats or fauna species of conservation significance? No

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

Are there any priority oyster area leases? (See SEPP 62 Priority Oyster Area Maps.) No

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3.5. Water Catchments/Water Quality No

Are there any water quality or catchment issues to consider on the site? (See SREP 20 and SREP 54 Catchment Maps and provisions.)

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

Is the site within a coastal zone identified by State Environmental Planning Policy No. 71 – Coastal Protection? (See SEPP 71 Coastal Zone Maps and Provisions.) No

If yes, supply the name of the coastal zone.

2.3.6. Exotic Species – presence and extent No

Are there any weeds or feral animals on the site? If so what?

2.3.7. Fire – history hazards No

Is there any fire history or hazards applicable for the site? (See Bushfire Prone Land Map.)

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3.8. Flood – history hazards No

Is there any flood history or hazards applicable for the site? (See Flood Control Lot Maps.)

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3.9. Areas sensitive because of physical / biological factors No

Are there any sensitive features of the site which require consideration?

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3.10. Land Contamination No

Is the site affected by land contamination?

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.3.11. Other (specify any other environmental factors)

2.4. The Built Environment

2.4.1. Description of land use strategy No

What is the land use zoning / are there any considerations necessary? (See HLEP 2013 Land Zoning & Additional Permit Uses Maps and Provisions.)

2.5. The Cultural Environment

Are there any known or potential Aboriginal sites / places of cultural significance to the Aboriginal community? Check with AHIMS. Basic searches are free. No

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

2.5.1. Are there any Aboriginal heritage considerations? No

(The Heritage Planner can be consulted with regard to known Aboriginal sites and the procedures for archaeological surveys and consulting the Metropolitan Land Council.)

If yes, what are they?

2.5.2. Known and potential historic places or relics. No

Are there any European heritage considerations?

(Heritage items and Heritage Conservation Areas are listed in Schedule 5 – Environmental Heritage of the HLEP 2013 and identified on the HLEP 2013 – Heritage Map. Details of the significance of the item or area are contained on the Heritage Register located on Council's Intranet. Consultation should occur with the Heritage Planner if the proposal may affect a heritage item or is within a heritage conservation area.)

If yes, what are they?

2.5.3.	Collective values of landscape Are there any cultural or historic features of the landscape?	No
2.5.4.	Description of built environment What is the built environment/are there any considerations necessary?	No
2.5.5.	Other (please specify any other cultural factors) Describe, if any, the mitigation measures to be applied.	
2.6. <u>The Social Environment – current usage and impacts</u>		
2.6.1.	Recreation Are there currently recreational aspects to consider? If yes, what are they?	No
2.6.2.	Scenic/Visual Are there currently scenic/visual aspects to consider? (See SREP 20 Scenic Significance Maps.) If yes, what are they?	No
2.6.3.	Education Are there any current educational uses to consider? If yes, what are they?	No
2.6.4.	Scientific Sites Are there currently scientific uses on the site to consider? If yes, what are they?	No

2.6.5. Other (please specify any other social uses on the site)

Describe, if any, the mitigation measures to be applied.

3. Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Activity

Answer Yes or No indicating if the proposed activity will have an impact on the environment. If the answer is yes, qualify the level of impact and add information on the type and extent of the impact. Indicate if the impact will be beneficial or harmful to the environment. Include whether the impact will be temporary, long term, or cumulative in nature.

Physical or Pollution Impacts

3.1. Air Impacts

3.1.1.	Air Quality	Yes	Low
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.1.2.	Greenhouse or ozone considerations	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.1.3.	Any other air impacts	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		

3.2. Water Impacts

3.2.1.	Impacts from changes in surface or groundwater quality.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		

3.2.2.	Impacts from use of water	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.2.3.	Impacts from changes to natural water bodies, wetlands or runoff patterns.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.2.4.	Impacts from changes to flooding or tidal regimes.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.2.5.	Impacts from changes in water quality with economic, ecosystem health or amenity considerations e.g. salinity, colour, odour, turbidity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, pH factors or pollutants (intentional or unintentional releases of oil, fuels, toxins – including heavy metals and anti-foulants, spoil, sewage or other waste).	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.2.6.	Impacts from waste water generation and sewage services.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.2.7.	Other	No	N/A
	Are there any other possible impacts to water as a result of the activity?		
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.3.	<u>Soil and stability impacts</u>		

3.3.1.	Degradation of soil quality including contamination (intentional or unintentional). If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.2.	Salinisation of acidification impacts. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.3.	Loss of soil from wind or water erosion. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.4.	Loss of structural integrity of the soil. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.5.	Increased land instability with risks from landslides or subsidence. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.6.	Impacts from on-site waste water disposal. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.3.7.	Other soil issues. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures? Appropriate erosion and sediment control procedures will be implemented prior to construction.	Yes	Low
3.4.	<u>Noise and vibration impacts</u>		

- | | | | |
|--------|--|-----|-----|
| 3.4.1. | Results in increased noise or vibrations to unacceptable levels for the surrounding communities. | Yes | Low |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | There will be minor noise generation during the construction phase, but this is not considered significant and work will only be undertaken within approved hours. | | |
| | | | |
| 3.4.2. | Affects sensitive properties (educational, hospitals, residential, heritage). | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.4.3. | Other noise issues. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |

Biological Impacts

3.5. Fauna Impacts

- | | | | |
|--------|---|----|-----|
| 3.5.1. | Any impacts upon or displacement of fauna species (including mammals, birds, frogs, reptiles, insects, fish or crustaceans.) | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.5.2. | Any reduction of/or critical habitat of any unique, threatened or endangered fauna (within the meaning of the NP&W Act 1974). | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.5.3. | Impacts which create significant barriers to fauna movement. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |

3.5.4.	Any other impacts	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.6.	<u>Flora Impacts</u>		
3.6.1.	Any impact on flora species (including trees, shrubs, grasses, herbs or aquatic plants.)	Yes	Low
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
	New trees are to be planted to replace the ones that will be removed plus additional trees, this is in consultation with Council's Tree Management Group.		
3.6.2.	Impacts from the clearing or modifying of extensive areas of relatively undisturbed native vegetation or wetlands.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.6.3.	Any other impacts.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.7.	<u>Ecological Impacts</u>		
3.7.1.	Any threat to the biological diversity or ecological integrity of species or communities.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.7.2.	Any barrier to the normal replenishment or revegetation of existing species following disturbance.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		

3.7.3.	Impacts from the introduction of noxious weeds, vermin, feral species or diseases or releases of genetically modified organisms. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.7.4.	Impacts from the uses of pesticides, herbicides, fertilisers or other chemicals which may build up residues in the environment. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.7.5.	Bushfire risk impacts If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.7.6.	Any other impacts to ecological systems. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.8.	<u>Threatened Species Considerations</u>		

- 3.8.1. Is the activity likely to affect any threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats? If so the following Assessment of Significance under Section 5A of the EP&A act is required. Yes or
No

Section 5A subsection 1 states that each of the factors in subsection 2 must be taken into account in deciding whether there is likely to be a significant effect on threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, and any assessment guidelines. Threatened species assessment guidelines – the assessment of significance, can be found at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/threatenedspecies/tsaguide07393.pdf>

If 'YES' and threatened species are likely to occur on the site: Consult the Natural Resources Branch for advice and a list of appropriate flora and fauna consultants.

(Note: A Species Impact Statement (SIS) is required if an activity is on land that is, or is part of critical habitat; or there is likely to be a significant effect as determined under s.5A of the EP&A Act, the seven part assessment of significance.)

Critical habitat: the whole or any part or parts of the area or areas of land comprising the habitat of an endangered species, population or ecological community that is critical to the survival of the species, population or ecological community.

Significant impact: if the Assessment of Significance determines that there will be a significant effect on threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, an SIS will be required.

Assessment guidelines means assessment guidelines issued and in force under section 94A of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or, subject to section 5C, section 220ZZA of the Fisheries Management Act 1994.

Key threatening process means a threatening process specified in Schedule 3 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or, subject to section 5C, Part 7A of the Fisheries Management Act 1994.

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

- 3.8.2. Section 5A EP&A Act – Assessment of Significance Subsection 2 Yes or
No
- a) In the case of a threatened species, whether the action proposed is likely to have an adverse effect on the life cycle of the species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction,
 - b) In the case of an endangered population, whether the action proposed is likely to have an adverse effect on the life cycle of the species that constitutes the endangered population such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction,
 - c) In the case of an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community, whether the action proposed;
 - i. is likely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction, or,
 - ii. is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction?
- If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

Resource Use Impacts

3.9. Community Resources

- 3.9.1. Any significant increase in the demand for services and infrastructure resources including roads, power, water supply and drainage, waste (including sewage) management, education, medical and social services. No N/A
- If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?
- If yes, what are the mitigation measures?
-
- 3.9.2. Any significant resource recycling or reuse schemes to reduce resource usage. No N/A
- If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?
- If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

3.9.3.	Any diversion of resources to the detriment of other communities or natural systems. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.9.4.	Any degradation of infrastructure such as roads or bridges. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.9.5.	Any other impacts on community resources If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.10.	<u>Natural Resources</u>		
3.10.1.	Any disruption or destruction of natural resources (e.g. fish habitat or fish species) with impacts on industries based on these resources. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.10.2.	Any disruption of existing activities (or reduction of future options) because of the natural resource demands of the proposal. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.10.3.	Any use which results in the wasteful use of large amounts of natural resources. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A

- | | | | |
|---------|--|----|-----|
| 3.10.4. | Any use which results in the substantial depletion of natural resources. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.10.5. | Any use which results in the degradation of any area reserved for conservation purposes. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.10.6. | Any other impacts on natural resources. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |

Community Impacts

3.11. Social Factors.

- | | | | |
|---------|--|----|-----|
| 3.11.1. | Any impacts which result in a change in the community's demographic structure. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.11.2. | Any environmental impacts that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community (loss of neighbour cohesion, access to facilities, links to other communities, community identity or cultural character). | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |
| | | | |
| 3.11.3. | Any impacts which result in some individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged. | No | N/A |
| | If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? | | |
| | If yes, what are the mitigation measures? | | |

3.11.4.	Any impacts on the health, safety, security, privacy, or welfare of individuals or communities because of factors such as:	No	N/A
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air pollution or odour. Noise, vibration, blasting, electromagnetic fields or radiation. Release of disease or genetically modified organisms. Lighting, overshadowing or visual impacts. 		
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.11.5.	Any impacts that result in a change in the level of demand for community resources (e.g. facilities, services and labour force).	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.11.6.	Any other social impacts.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.12.	<u>Economic Factors</u>		
3.12.1.	Any impacts which result in a decrease to net economic welfare.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.12.2.	Any impacts that result in a direct cost to the community or individuals.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		
3.12.3.	Any impacts that result in a decrease in the community's economic stability.	No	N/A
	If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?		
	If yes, what are the mitigation measures?		

3.12.4.	Any impacts which result in a change to the public sector revenue or expenditure base. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.12.5.	Any other economic impacts. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.13.	<u>Heritage, Aesthetic, Cultural Impacts</u>		
3.13.1.	Any impacts on locality, place, building or natural landmark having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific, recreational, scenic or social significance or other special value for present or future generations. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.13.2.	Any impacts from new lighting, glare or shadows. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.13.3.	Any other heritage, aesthetic or cultural impacts. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.14.	<u>Land Use Impacts.</u>		
3.14.1.	Any major changes in land use. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A

3.14.2.	Any curtailment of other beneficial issues. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.14.3.	Any property value impacts with land use implications. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.14.4.	Any other land use impacts? If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures?	No	N/A
3.15.	<u>Transportation Impacts (during construction and operation.)</u>		
3.15.1.	Substantial impacts on existing transportation systems (rail, water, road, air or pedestrian – both public and private), altering present patterns of circulation, modal split or movement of people and/or goods. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures? The pathway will provide safer movement for both pedestrians and cyclists.	Yes	N/A
3.15.2.	Directly or indirectly encourages additional traffic.		
a)	During construction. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures? There will be some minor disruption to vehicular traffic during the construction phase, but this will be controlled by appropriate traffic management procedures.	Yes	Low
b)	During operation. If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low? If yes, what are the mitigation measures? There will be improved safety for both pedestrians and cyclists.	No	N/A

3.15.3. Increases demand for parking (off and on street including residential areas.) **No** **N/A**

If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

3.15.4. Any other impacts on transport or traffic. **No** **N/A**

If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?

If yes, what are the mitigation measures?

4. Cumulative Impacts

4.1. Any maintenance impacts through time. **No** **N/A**

If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?

If yes, what mitigation measures will be applied?

4.1.1. Any cumulative impacts through time. **No** **N/A**

E.g. Undertaking the project again and again

i.e. reclaiming the estuary to develop a car park – eventually there isn't any estuary left as it will be all car park?

i.e. Irrigating an oval with treated effluent, eventually the salt levels might accumulate in the soil and kill the grass.

If yes, will that impact be high, medium or low?

If yes, what mitigation measures will be applied?

5. Proposed Environmental Safeguards – Plans and Strategies.

Describe measures to ameliorate impacts (e.g. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) or Soils and Waste Management Plan (SWMP), and measures to protect flora and fauna.

Include maps, diagrams, photographs, plans and supporting information.

A plan of the land to which the application relates must accompany the REF indicating the following, on or adjacent to the land:

- The location and design of the proposal.
- A vegetation map (if applicable.)
- Any areas of conservation significance.
- The location of any easements.
- The location and use of any existing buildings and infrastructure, and
- Any other relevant information.

Refer appendix C - Consultation Plan

6. Disposal of Waste and Surplus Material.

6.1. Description of material and quantities.

It is expected that approximately 480 tonnes of spoil will be removed from this site during construction.

6.2. Destination approved for all waste and surplus materials.

The waste material will be taken to an approved materials handling facility for sorting and hard fill recycling. Any material unsuitable for recycling will be taken to an approved landfill site.

7. Monitoring

On completion of works the site will be managed by Council's Assets Management & Maintenance Branch for routine inspection and maintenance as required.

8. Public Safety Factors.

All WHS guidelines will be observed during construction and maintenance.

9. Views/opinions/approvals of other authorities if required.

All relevant authorities have been contacted regarding potential conflict with their infrastructure or services. Consultation has also been undertaken with local community groups via the Local Traffic Committee.

10. Funding

Please identify the funding source for the works. (Special rates, grants, revenue, donations, in-kind, developer, contributions.)

Council has applied for NSW State government funding.

11. References

Council Civil Design Drawing No.510.8 (9 Sheets) - Also see Appendix C (consultation plan).

12. Consultation

Does the project require consultation with any of the following authorities or Council staff?

Authority	Consultation Required	Consultation Occurred
Agriculture NSW	No	No
Greater Sydney Local Land Services	No	No
NSW Planning & Environment	No	No
Roads and Maritime Services	No	No
Regional Development Advisory Committee	No	No
NSW Health	No	No
Fire & Rescue NSW	No	No
NSW Rural Fire Service	No	No
WorkCover NSW	No	No
Electricity Supply Authority (TansGrid, Augrid, Energy Australia, Integral Energy)	No	No
Transport for NSW	No	No
Office of Environment and Heritage	No	No
NSW Forestry Corporation	No	No
NSW Police Force	No	No
NSW Office of Finance and Services	No	No
NSW Trade and Investment	No	No
Sydney Water	No	No
Community organisations / committees	No	No
Members of Parliament	No	No
Other	No	No
Internal Referrals	Consultation Required	Consultation Occurred
Traffic & Road Safety Branch	Yes	Yes
Environmental Health & Building Surveyor	No	No
Development Engineer	No	No
Planning Branch	No	No
Landscape Team	Yes	Yes
Compliance & Certification Branch	No	No
Waste Management Branch	No	No
Natural Resources Branch	No	No
Fire Control	No	No
Other	No	No

See also Appendix B.

13. This REF/Part V Assessment was prepared by:

Katja Rom

Name and title/project officer



5/02/2024

Signature Date

14. Conclusions and recommendations

(Select)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will not have any significant impact on the environment and should proceed;
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will include mitigation measures and methods to avoid a significant impact on the environment and should proceed;
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will have a significant impact on the environment and an environment impact statement is required;
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal is on land that is, or is part of, critical habitat or is likely to have a significant impact on threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, and a species impact statement is required; or
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal will have a significant impact on the environment and should not proceed.

15. This REF/Part V Assessment is endorsed and approved by:

R. Rajca

18/04/2024

Branch Manager Name_____
Signature_____
Date

Appendix A

1. Extracts from the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulations.

1.1. Part 5 - Duty to consider environmental impact

110 Definitions

(1) In this Part:

Activity means:

- (a) the use of land, and
- (b) the subdivision of land, and
- (c) the erection of a building, and
- (d) the carrying out of a work, and
- (e) the demolition of a building or work, and
- (f) any other act, matter or thing referred to in section 26 that is prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this definition, but does not include:
- (g) any act, matter or thing for which development consent under Part 4 is required or has been obtained, or
- (h) any act matter or thing that is prohibited under an environmental planning instrument, or
- (i) exempt development, or
- (j) development carried out in compliance with an order under Division 2A of Part 6, or
- (k) any development of a class or description that is prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this definition.

Approval includes:

- (a) a consent, licence or permission or any form of authorisation, and
- (b) a provision of financial accommodation by a determining authority to another person, not being a provision of such financial accommodation, or financial accommodation of such class or description, as may be prescribed for the purposes of this definition by a determining authority so prescribed.

Determining authority means a Minister or public authority and, in relation to any activity, means the Minister or public authority by or on whose behalf the activity is or is to be carried out or any Minister or public authority whose approval is required in order to enable the activity to be carried out.

Nominated determining authority, in relation to an activity, means the determining authority nominated by the Minister in accordance with [section 110A](#) in relation to the activity.

Proponent, in relation to an activity, means the person proposing to carry out the activity, and includes any person taken to be the proponent of the activity by virtue of [section 110B](#).

Section 111 - Duty to consider environmental impact

- (1) For the purpose of attaining the objects of [this Act](#) relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment, a determining authority in its consideration of an activity shall, notwithstanding any other provisions of [this Act](#) or the provisions of any other Act or of any instrument made under this or any other Act, examine and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of that activity.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a determining authority shall consider the effect of an activity on:
 - (a) any conservation agreement entered into under the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#) and applying to the whole or part of the land to which the activity relates, and
 - (b) any plan of management adopted under that Act for the conservation area to which the agreement relates, and
 - (c) any joint management agreement entered into under the [Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995](#).
- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), a determining authority shall consider the effect of an activity on any wilderness area (within the meaning of the [Wilderness Act 1987](#)) in the locality in which the activity is intended to be carried on.
- (4) Without limiting subsection (1), a determining authority must consider the effect of an activity on:
 - (a) critical habitat, and
 - (b) in the case of threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and their habitats, whether there is likely to be a significant effect on those species, populations or ecological communities, or those habitats, and
 - (c) any other protected fauna or protected native plants within the meaning of the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#).

2. Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations, 1994

82 What factors must be taken into account concerning the impact of an activity on the environment?

(1) For the purposes of Part 5 of the Act, the factors to be taken into account when consideration is being given to the likely impact of an activity on the environment include:

- (a) for activities of a kind for which specific guidelines are in force under this clause, the factors referred to in those guidelines, or
- (b) for any other kind of activity:
 - (i) the factors referred to in the general guidelines in force under this clause, or
 - (ii) if no such guidelines are in force, the factors referred to subclause (2).

(2) The factors referred to in subclause (1) (b) (ii) are as follows:

- (a) any environmental impact on a community,
- (b) any transformation of a locality,
- (c) any environmental impact on the ecosystems of the locality,
- (d) any reduction of the aesthetic, recreational, scientific or other environmental quality or value of a locality,
- (e) any effect on a locality, place or building having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific or social significance or other special value for present or future generations,
- (f) any impact on the habitat of protected fauna (within the meaning of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974),
- (g) any endangering of any species of animal, plant or other form of life, whether living on land, in water or in the air,
- (h) any long-term effects on the environment,
- (i) any degradation of the quality of the environment,
- (j) any risk to the safety of the environment,
- (k) any reduction in the range of beneficial uses of the environment,
- (l) any pollution of the environment,
- (m) any environmental problems associated with the disposal of waste,
- (n) any increased demands on resources (natural or otherwise) that are, or are likely to become, in short supply,
- (o) any cumulative environmental effect with other existing or likely future activities.
- (p) any impact on coastal processes and coastal hazards, including those under projected climate change conditions.

- (3) For the purposes of this clause, the Director may establish guidelines for the factors to be taken into account when consideration is being given to the likely impact of an activity on the environment, in relation to activities generally or in relation to any particular kind of activity.
- (4) The Director may vary or revoke any guidelines in force under this clause.

Appendix B

1. Consultation

1.1. Exhibition/Notification

Part 2, Division 1, Clauses 13 to 17 of the ISEPP identifies consultation that is required to be undertaken with relevant public authorities and other branches of Council. In summary, there are consultation requirements regarding development with impacts on Council related infrastructure or services, local heritage, and flood liable land. There are also consultation requirements with public authorities (other than councils) and exceptions to the requirements to consult.

The following extract from ISEPP contains the details of the consultation requirements.

Division 1 Consultation

13 Consultation with councils—development with impacts on council-related infrastructure or services

- (1) This clause applies to development carried out by or on behalf of a public authority that this Policy provides may be carried out without consent if, in the opinion of the public authority, the development:
 - (a) will have a substantial impact on stormwater management services provided by a council, or
 - (b) is likely to generate traffic to an extent that will strain the capacity of the road system in a local government area, or
 - (c) involves connection to, and a substantial impact on the capacity of, any part of a sewerage system owned by a council, or
 - (d) involves connection to, and use of a substantial volume of water from, any part of a water supply system owned by a council, or
 - (e) involves the installation of a temporary structure on, or the enclosing of, a public place that is under a council's management or control that is likely to cause a disruption to pedestrian or vehicular traffic that is not minor or inconsequential, or
 - (f) involves excavation that is not minor or inconsequential of the surface of, or a footpath adjacent to, a road for which a council is the roads authority under the Roads Act 1993 (if the public authority that is carrying out the development, or on whose behalf it is being carried out, is not responsible for the maintenance of the road or footpath).
- (2) A public authority, or a person acting on behalf of a public authority, must not carry out development to which this clause applies unless the authority or the person has:
 - (a) given written notice of the intention to carry out the development to the council for the area in which the land is located, and
 - (b) taken into consideration any response to the notice that is received from the council within 21 days after the notice is given.

14 Consultation with councils—development with impacts on local heritage

- (1) This clause applies to development carried out by or on behalf of a public authority if the development:
 - (a) is likely to have an impact that is not minor or inconsequential on a local heritage item (other than a local heritage item that is also a State heritage item) or a heritage conservation area, and
 - (b) is development that this Policy provides may be carried out without consent.
- (2) A public authority, or a person acting on behalf of a public authority, must not carry out development to which this clause applies unless the authority or the person has:
 - (a) had an assessment of the impact prepared, and
 - (b) given written notice of the intention to carry out the development, with a copy of the assessment, to the council for the area in which the heritage item or heritage conservation area (or the relevant part of such an area) is located, and
 - (c) taken into consideration any response to the notice that is received from the council within 21 days after the notice is given.

15 Consultation with councils—development with impacts on flood liable land

- (1) In this clause, **flood liable land** means land that is susceptible to flooding by the probable maximum flood event, identified in accordance with the principles set out in the manual entitled *Floodplain Development Manual: the management of flood liable land* published by the New South Wales Government and as in force from time to time.
- (2) A public authority, or a person acting on behalf of a public authority, must not carry out, on flood liable land, development that this Policy provides may be carried out without consent and that will change flood patterns other than to a minor extent unless the authority or person has:
 - (a) given written notice of the intention to carry out the development to the council for the area in which the land is located, and
 - (b) taken into consideration any response to the notice that is received from the council within 21 days after the notice is given.

16 Consultation with public authorities other than councils

- (1) A public authority, or a **person** acting on behalf of a public authority, must not carry out specified development that this Policy provides may be carried out without consent unless the authority or person has:
 - (a) given written notice of the intention to carry out the development to the specified authority in relation to the development, and
 - (b) taken into consideration any response to the notice that is received from that authority within 21 days after the notice is given.
- (2) For the purposes of subclause (1), the following development is **specified development** and the following authorities are **specified authorities** in relation to that development:
 - (a) development adjacent to land reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974—the Department of Environment and Climate Change,

- (b) development adjacent to a marine park declared under the Marine Parks Act 1997—the Marine Parks Authority,
- (c) development adjacent to an aquatic reserve declared under the Fisheries Management Act 1994—the Department of Environment and Climate Change,
- (d) development in the foreshore area within the meaning of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Act 1998—the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority,
- (e) development comprising a fixed or floating structure in or over navigable waters—the Maritime Authority of NSW,
- (f) development for the purposes of an educational establishment, health services facility, correctional centre or group home, or for residential purposes, in an area that is bush fire prone land (as defined by the Act)—the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Note. The Act defines **bush fire prone land**, in relation to an area, as land recorded for the time being as bush fire prone land on a map certified as referred to in section 146 (2) of the Act.

Note. When carrying out development of a kind referred to in paragraph (f), consideration should be given to the publication of the NSW Rural Fire Service *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006*.

- (g) (Repealed)

Note. Clause 18A (2) of State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006 requires public authorities (or persons acting on their behalf) to consult with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure before carrying out any development comprising the clearing of native vegetation on certain land within a growth centre (within the meaning of that Policy). The land concerned is land other than the subject land (within the meaning of Part 7 of Schedule 7 to the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995). The subject land is generally land to which precinct plans apply under that Policy.

17 Exceptions

- 1 Clauses 13–16 do not apply with respect to development to the extent that:
 - (a) they would require notice of the intention to carry out the development to be given to a council or public authority from whom an approval is required in order for the development to be carried out lawfully, or
 - (b) they would require notice to be given to a council or public authority with whom the public authority that is carrying out the development, or on whose behalf it is being carried out, has an agreed consultation protocol that applies to the development, or
 - (c) they would require notice to be given to a council or public authority that is carrying out the development or on whose behalf it is being carried out, or
 - (d) the development is exempt development or complying development under any environmental planning instrument (including this Policy), or
 - (e) the development comprises emergency works, or
 - (f) the development is carried out in accordance with a code of practice approved by the Minister for the purposes of this clause and published in the Gazette.

2 In this clause:

approval means any licence, permission or any form of authorisation, other than development consent, under any other law.

consultation protocol means an arrangement that:

- (a) is about when and how the parties to the arrangement will consult one another about proposed development, and
- (b) is recorded in writing, and
- (c) is approved in writing on behalf of any public authority that is a party to the arrangement by a person who is authorised to do so.

Appendix C

16. Attachments relevant to this REF.

- 1. Consultation Plan (Revision A) - November 2022**
- 2. Site Control Plan No. RAMS01082023**

RAMSAY ROAD, PENNANT HILLS PROPOSED SHARED PATHWAY











