



Council Policy

Synthetic Turf on Nature Strips Policy

Responsible Officer: Manager Parks and Open Space

Authorising Officer: Chief Executive Officer

1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines the council's position on the installation of synthetic turf on nature strips by private individuals.

2. BACKGROUND

A nature strip is the area of council land between the boundary of private property and the street kerb. Nature strips are the location for services such as telephone, gas, water and power.

Nature strips provide an open space that:

- allows open view lines for vehicle traffic, pedestrians and cyclists at intersections and curves
- provides space for the opening of car doors
- provides a location for rubbish bins for collection.

Nature strips are public land and council has a responsibility to ensure a safe environment. Community amenity Local Law No. 3 has provisions that work to protect council assets and prevent unapproved use of council assets.

Council relies on residents to maintain their nature strip.

3. CONTEXT

Synthetic turf (artificial grass) is increasingly being installed on nature strips due to sustained drought conditions. Synthetic turf has a greater number of disbenefits over benefits for the environment and is not allowable to ensure nature strips remain accessible to service authorities and minimises environmental impacts

4. SCOPE

This policy applies to all nature strips within the City of Port Phillip.

5. REFERENCES

- Port Phillip City Council Community Amenity Local Law No. 3
- City of Port Phillip Nature Strip Guidelines

6. COUNCIL POLICY

- 6.1. Synthetic turf cannot be installed on nature strips within the City of Port Phillip by private individuals.
- 6.2. If synthetic turf is installed the resident may be required to reinstate the nature strip to an approved surface. The owner would be responsible for the cost of reinstatement.

QUESTIONS?

Parks and Open Space officers are available to consult with residents wishing to change their nature strip. To access this service contact Parks and Open Space on email at OSpace@portphillip.vic.gov.au; via phone on 9209 6821 or access information on the council's website www.portphillip.vic.gov.au