

# CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE STREETSCAPE UPGRADES WILCANNIA, MENINDEE, IVANHOE & WHITE CLIFFS

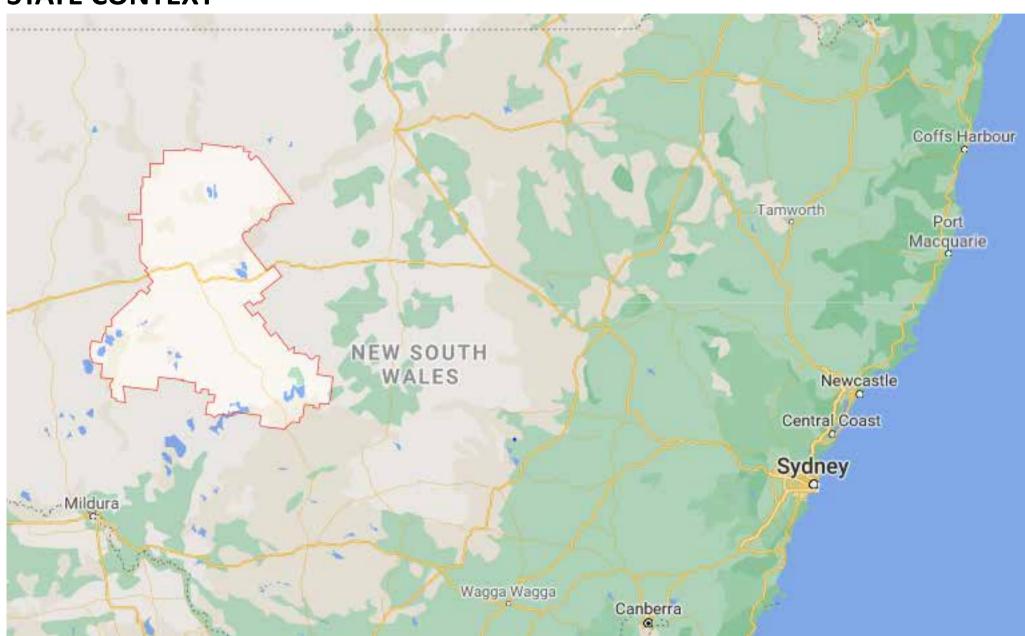


## **DOCUMENT HISTORY**

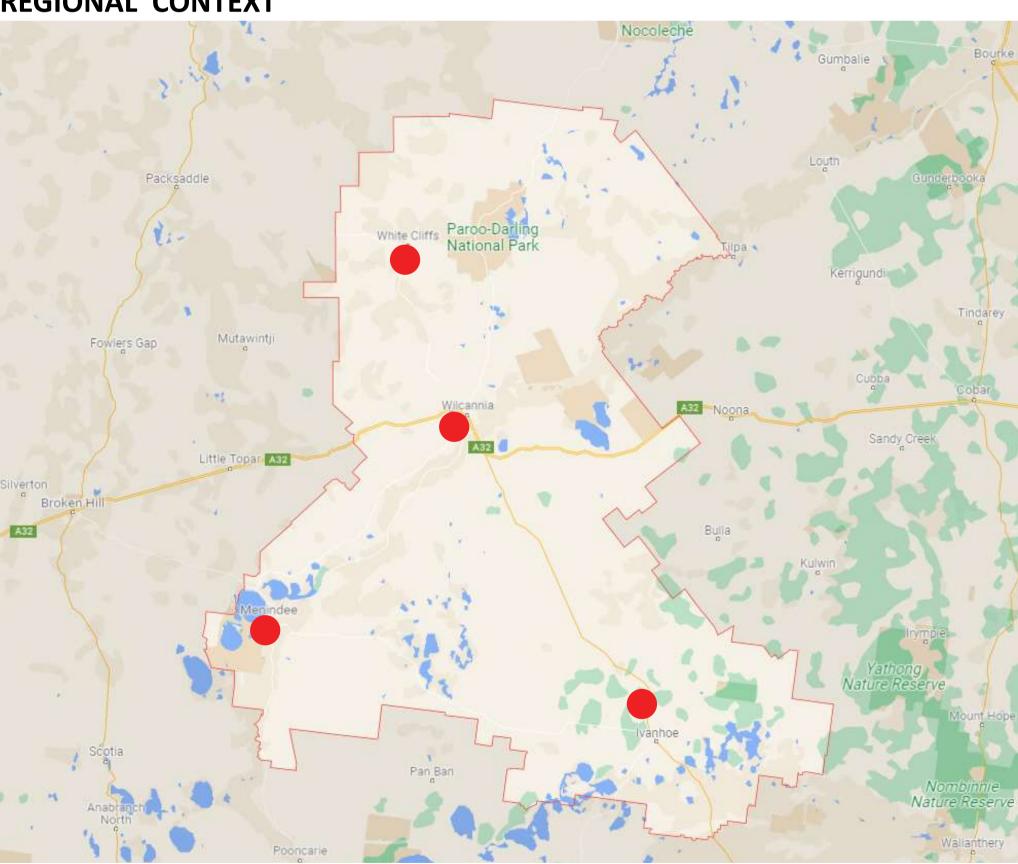
REV DATE AMENDMENT
A 14/04/2021 Draft for review
B 23/06/2021 Revised for review



#### **STATE CONTEXT**



#### **REGIONAL CONTEXT**



#### **BACKGROUND**

Central Darling Shire is the largest Shire in NSW, however has the smallest population. This, combined with its remote location and the distances between town centres creates a number of challenges. The administrative centre of the Shire, Wilcannia is located on the Darling River, 560km west of Dubbo and 714km north east of Adelaide. Menindee, with the largest population in the Shire is located 150km south west of Wilcannia, and Ivanhoe on the Cobb Highway is located 182km south east of Wilcannia. White Cliffs is around 255 km northeast of Broken Hill, and 93 km north of Wilcannia.

Aboriginal occupation by the Barkindji Tribe within the region can be traced back a long way, with significant sites at Lake Mungo to the south of Wilcannia and Mutawintji to the north-west. Archaeological finds within in the dry sand dunes around Menindee Lakes have provided some of the earliest remnants of human existence anywhere in the world.

Opal was first discovered in White Cliffs in the late 19th century. The town boomed through to 1900 with numerous businesses and services in town. Other towns within the region sprung up during the early 20th century functioning as stops on the extensive paddle steamer trade rout along the Darling River, and later the rail line. Wilcannia was the third largest inland port in the country during its 70 year peak form 1880. With rail and river trade ceased, towns and populations with in the region have declined and employment opportunities have changed and reduced. Today agriculture is the primary source of income for a number of residents, whilst opal mining continues in White Cliffs, with tourism also playing an important role.

Central Darling Shire Council is looking to revitalise town centres within the region by carrying out streetscape works to improve the atmosphere of key streets and create a more appealing environment for residents and visitors. As a starting point for discussions with local communities this preliminary streetscape masterplan has been developed to identify existing site features and opportunities for improvement. This document is a working document, which will evolve as community consultation is undertaken and Council planning policies developed.

Site visits to three of the town centres within the Shire were undertaken in November 2020, with arborist assessment of street trees carried out in January 2021. A further site inspection was undertaken in June 2021.

## **KEY GOALS**

The following key goals have been developed for street scape upgrade works:

- Identify opportunities for greening and increased shade coverage
- Select drought resistant species for planting
- Improve appearance of selected key streets
- Carry out footpath restoration works to improve safety and make town centres more pedestrian friendly
- Create a holistic look for each town that suits local conditions
- Develop a consistent palette of materials and street furniture that suits the character of the area
- Improve tourist appeal and encourage visitors to stop in town centres



WHITE CLIFFS TOWN CENTRE - SITE ANALYSIS

Not to scale

Locations of site features and existing trees indicative.

### **BUILDINGS AND FEATURES**















**EXISTING STREET FURNITURE & FEATURES** 



White Cliffs Public School























**LEGEND** 

Extent of study area

National Park Visitor Centre

**Public Toilets** 

Town Hall

Anzac Memorial

White Cliffs Health Services

**Opal Pioneers Reserve** 

7 Public Swimming Pool

White Cliffs Opal Pioneer Caravan Park

White Cliffs Public School

**Country Womens Association** 

White Cliffs General Store & petrol

White Cliffs Hotel

14 Petrol point

Existing grass / gravel verge, no kerb

**---** Concrete edge to Hotel acting as kerb

Existing signage blister in road

R Existing rubbish bin

Existing bench seat

B Existing bollards

Existing pay phone

Existing wheel stops

Existing historical signage





WHITE CLIFFS TOWN CENTRE - STREET TREES

#### TREE ASSESSMENT

Electrical poles and overhead wires are located on the north side of Keraro Road and on the western side of Johnston Street. In both cases the road reserve/verge is wide, with no formal kerb and gutter system. Similarly footpaths are not formalised in the town.

There are no existing street trees in White Cliffs. Peppercorn trees planted on Keraro Road and Eucalyptus and Acacia trees within the CWA property boundary and adjoining the old post office building provide amenity and contribute to the streetscape.

Given the wide streets and lack of infrastructure opportunities exist on both sides of the street to introduce tree planting in blisters within the road shoulder. As per other town centres it is recommended that trees be protected by wheel stops.

#### **EXISTING TREES**



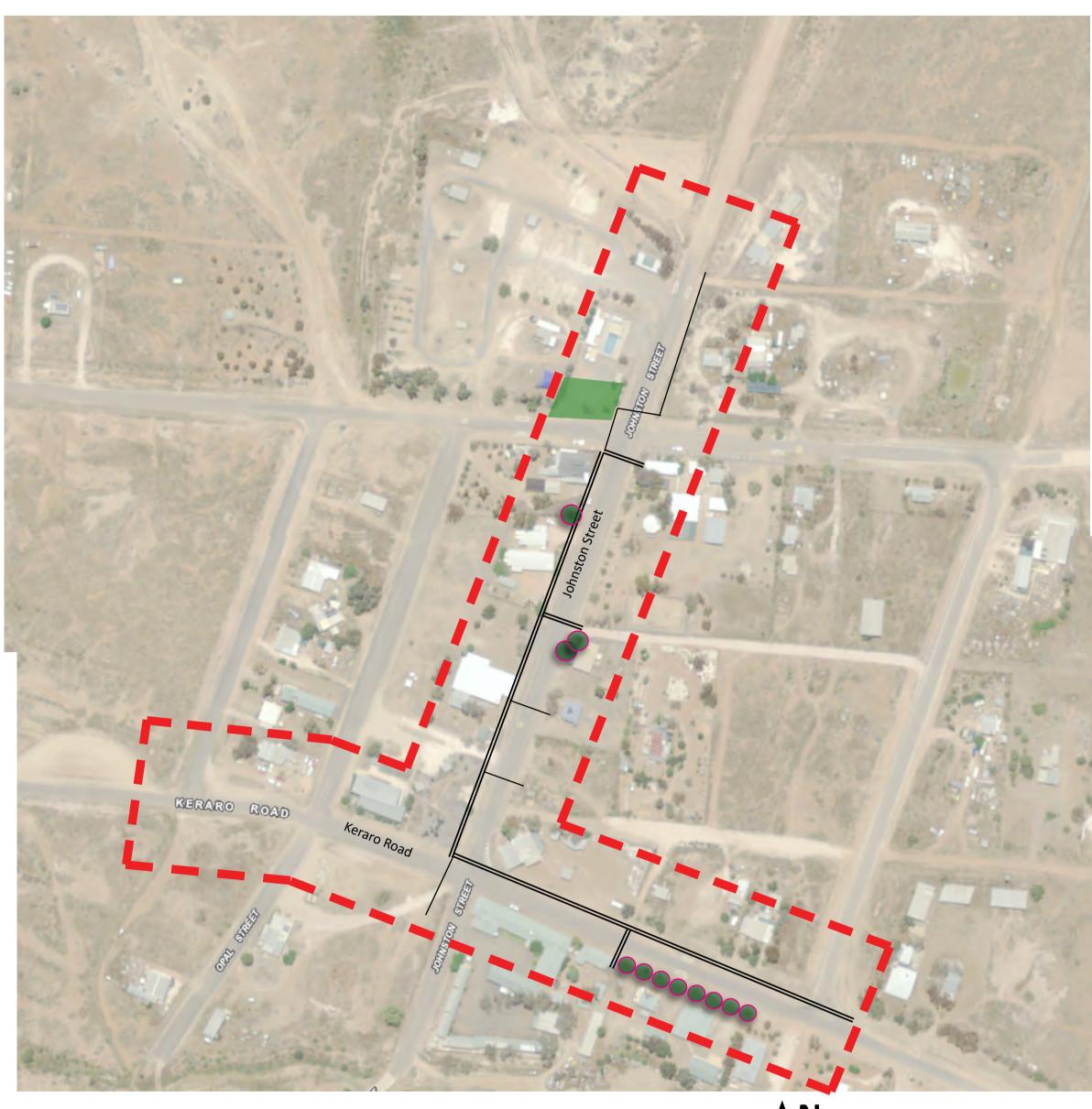
inus molle - Peppercorn Tree



Acacia sp.



Eucalyptus sp.



## Not to scale

Locations of site features and existing trees indicative.

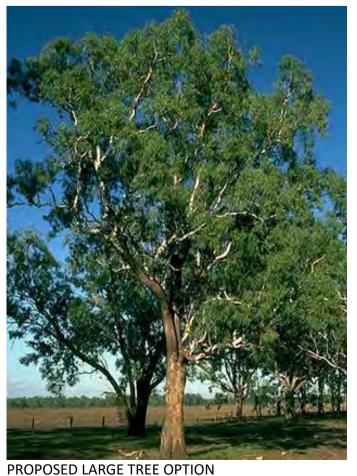
#### PROPOSED STREET TREE PALETTE



PROPOSED LARGE TREE OPTION

Eucalyptus populnea

Bimble Box



PROPOSED LARGE TREE OPTION

Eucalyptus coolabah

Coolabah



PROPOSED SMALL TREE OPTION

Eucalyptus erythrocorys

Red Capped Gum



PROPOSED SMALL TREE OPTION

Acacia aneura

Mulga



**LEGEND** 

Existing trees contributing to streetscape

ndicative location of multiple overhead

Indicative location of single overhead

Indicative location of water supply



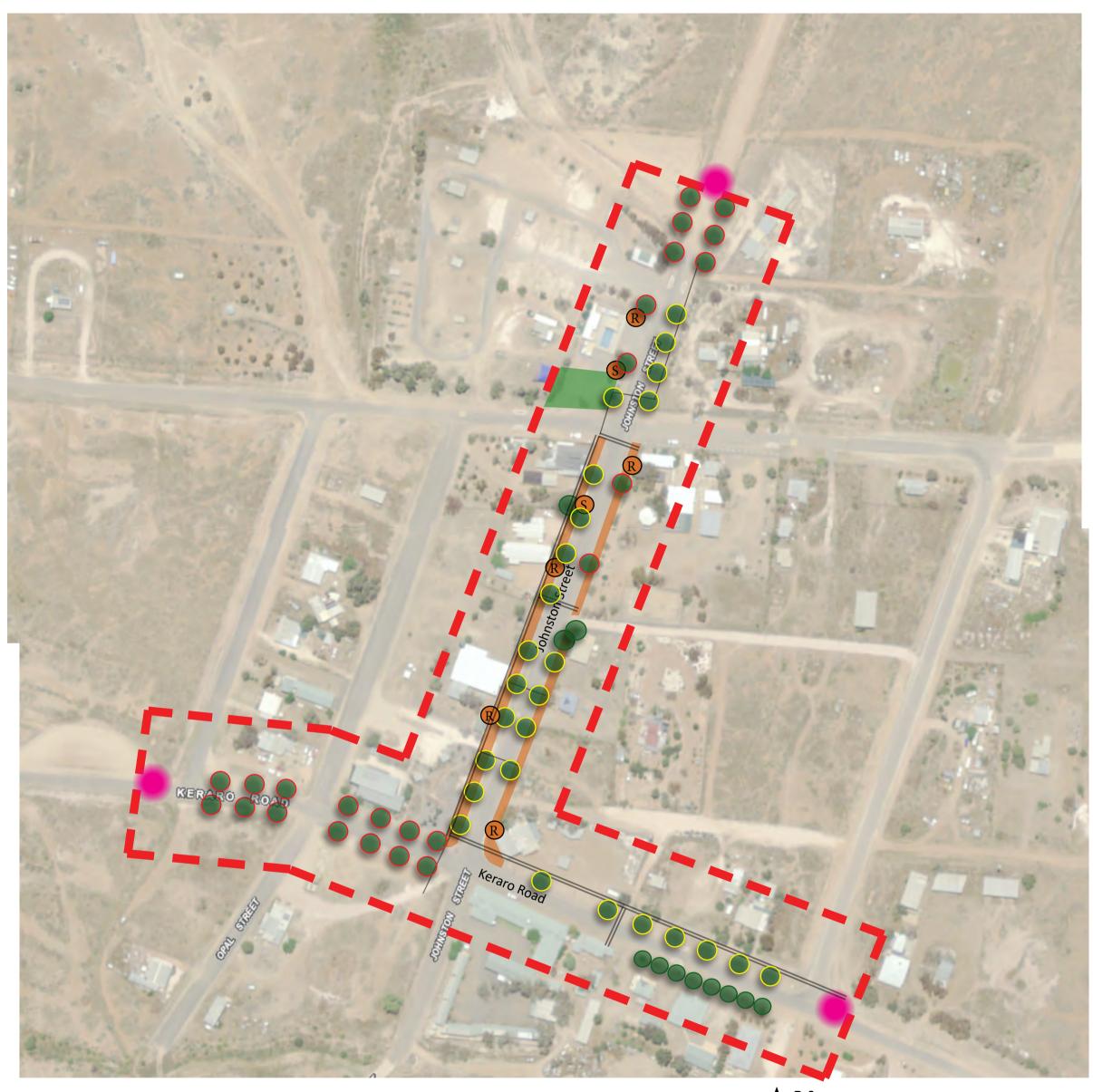
## WHITE CLIFFS TOWN CENTRE - OPPORTUNITIES & CONSTRAINTS

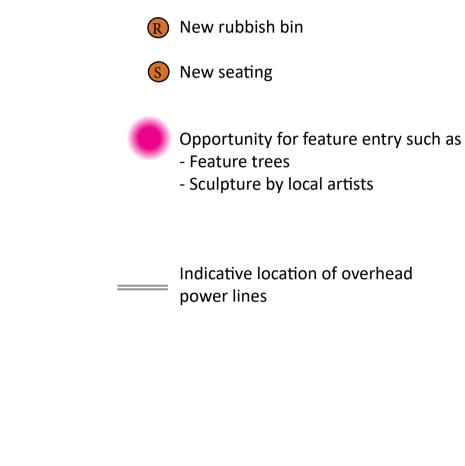
#### **ISSUES & CONSTRAINTS**

- Summer temperatures are extreme limiting use of outdoor facilities
- No existing street trees to provide shade during temperature extremes
- Limited water supply for town may limit watering opportunities
- Locations of overhead power lines restrict proposed locations for street trees and/or limit size of trees to be planted
- Dry and hot conditions limit the types of suitable street tree species
- Lack of street infrastructure such as driveway cross overs, footpaths, kerbs and gutters
- Street furniture in poor condition
- Wheel stops within town in poor condition and unsightly
- Works to be carried out progressively, prioritised list of proposed works to be developed

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Wide road reserves allow for additional street tree plantings
- Plant smaller tree species under existing power lines
- Plant larger tree species in the road shoulder / grass verges
- Install pavement to Johnson Street frontages from Keraro Road to the Public School, consider dish drain to kerb edge
- Remove existing wheel stops and assess requirement for kerb or updated wheel stop solution
- Formalise driveway crossovers and limit bollard usage to a consistent type where required
- Introduce consistent street furniture pallet
- Identify opportunities for additional street furniture in shade
- Consolidated and update informative signage design across town / shire and consider digital access
- Engage with local community to implement street art / public art strategy
- Create sense of arrival via additional entry features at gateway points to town such as feature trees or sculpture





**LEGEND** 

New small tree under / near wires

Existing tree to be retained

New paved footpath

New large tree planting in road shoulder





## PROPOSED STREET FURNITURE PALETTE & PAVING



Proposed street bench and seat options - Draffin Street Furniture Hobart / Hamilton Range Corten / weathering steel frame





Central Darling Shire Bin Enclosures Stainless steel frame, Corten / weathering steel panels



Water fountain - Street Furniture Australia Arqua Fountain - Stainless steel



Proposed Table Setting - Draffin Street Furniture Brisbane Table Setting Stainless Steel

Timber or timber look aluminium battens



Tree planting to road shoulder Concrete kerb protection



Tree Guards - Draffin Street Furniture Corten / weathering steel

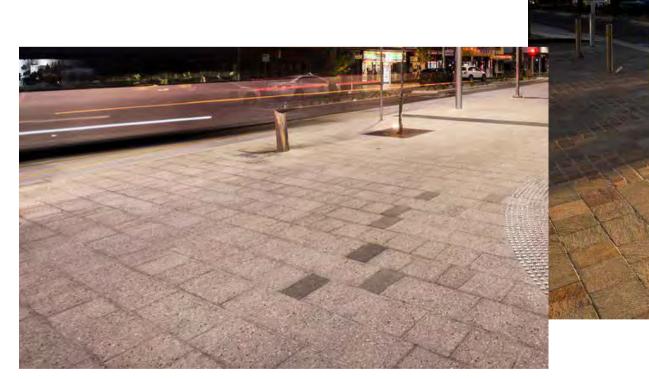


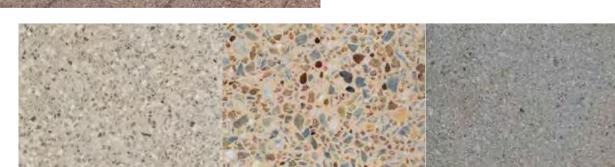
Tree Surround option - Tree grates Stainless Steel





London Dry Pressed Paver





Wilcannia Paver Option - UrbanStone 200 x 300 /200 x 200 /Cobble Western Cream **River Topaz** Silver Grey **Engineered Stone Paver** 





White Cliffs

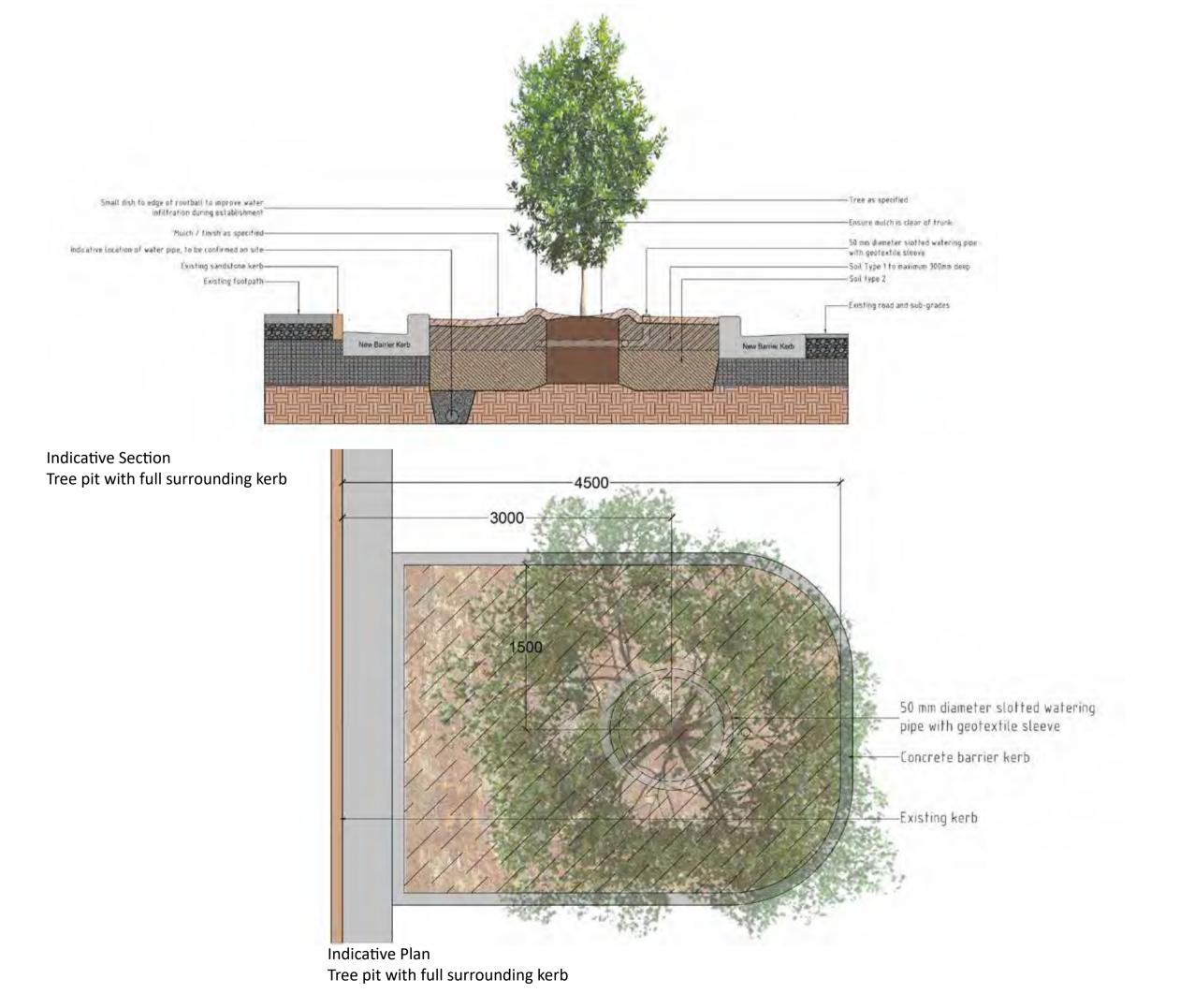
or Vivid Bollard

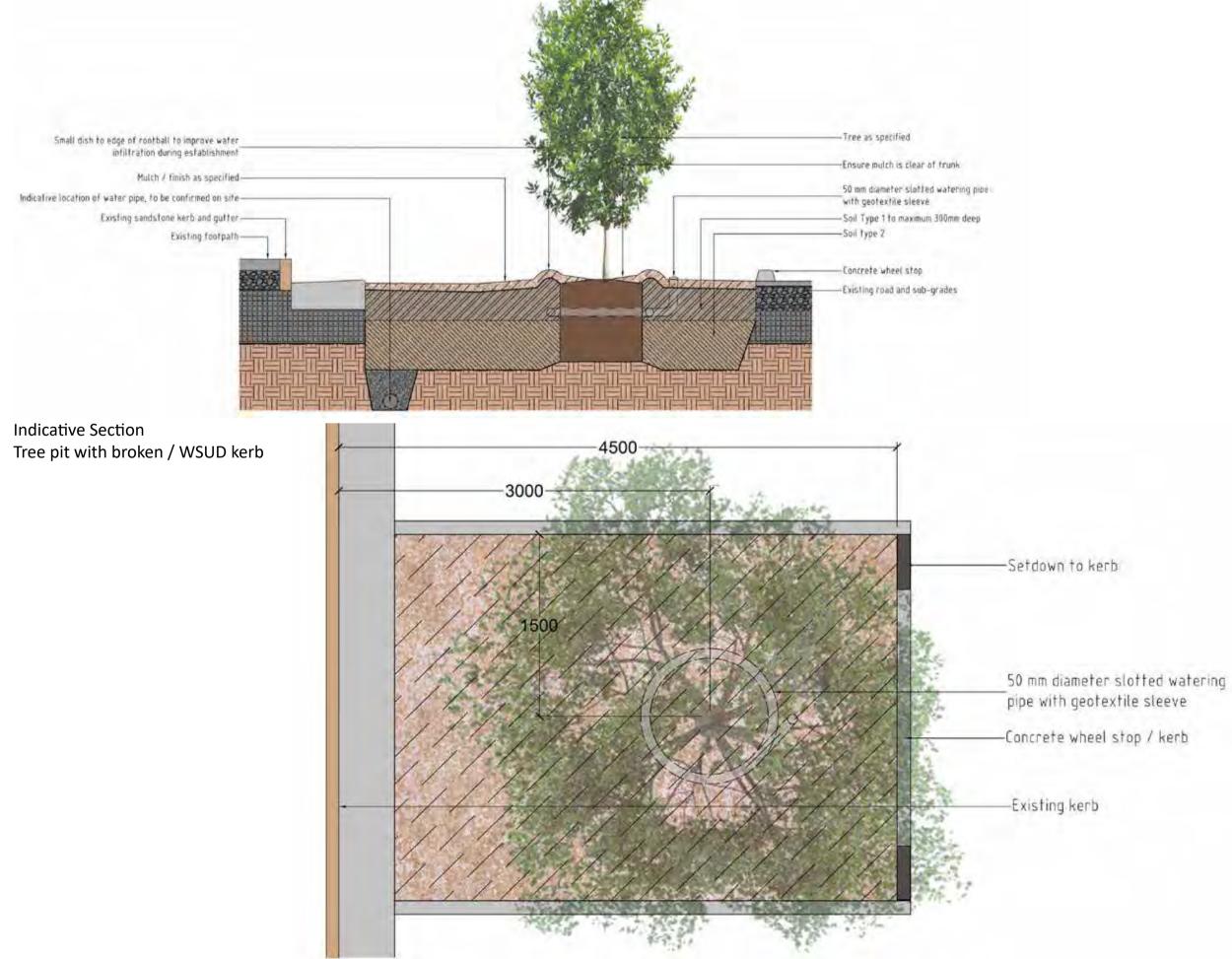
Timber bollard to match existing





Indicative Street-view - Wilcannia





Indicative Plan

Tree pit with broken / WSUD kerb

