JOSEPH PIDUTTI
CONSULTING ARBORIST
Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF Level 5)
Certificate No. AHC50510 December 2014
Certificate No. RUH50198 December 2004 -2014
ABN 19 590 337 549 BRN TO356519
3 Victoria Road Tingira Heights NSW 2290
Ph 02 49 471219 Mobile 0412 996659
E-mail: jparborist@bigpond.com Web: www.josephpiduttiarborist.com.au

FINAL ASSESSMENT OF TREE NOS. 248 & 251

Platanus x hybrida
London Plane Tree

NEWCASTLE EDUCATION CAMPUS
PARKWAY AVENUE
HAMILTON SOUTH

Prepared for

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING
SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE NSW

24th OCTOBER 2024

By
Joseph Pidutti
Diploma in Arboriculture

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to undertake a final assessment of Tree Nos. 248 & 251 in regard to the effects of recent poisoning and the viability of retention.

The trees were last inspected on the 24/09/24 as part of a monitoring process in which it was observed that no new growth had occurred.

FINAL OBSERVATIONS

A final inspection of the trees was undertaken on the 24/10/24. Upon inspection it was observed that no new growth was evident as could be expected at this time of year (late spring) particularly in comparison to Tree No. 255 that is almost in full leaf
(Photo's 1, 3 & 6).

A short drive-by to observe other *Platanus x hybrida* around the The Junction / Cooks Hill area showed all trees were in full leaf.

As no new growth was evident and bark peeling away from stems of branches and trunks was more prevalent revealing discoloration / staining / darkening of wood indicating the essential life process required for the trees to function has been irreversible damaged it is concluded that the trees are dead no prospect of recovery (Photo's 1, 2, 3 & 4).

Photo 1 – Poisoning has resulted in the death of the tree

Photo 2 – Bark peeling away from stems of branches revealing discoloration / staining / darkening of wood

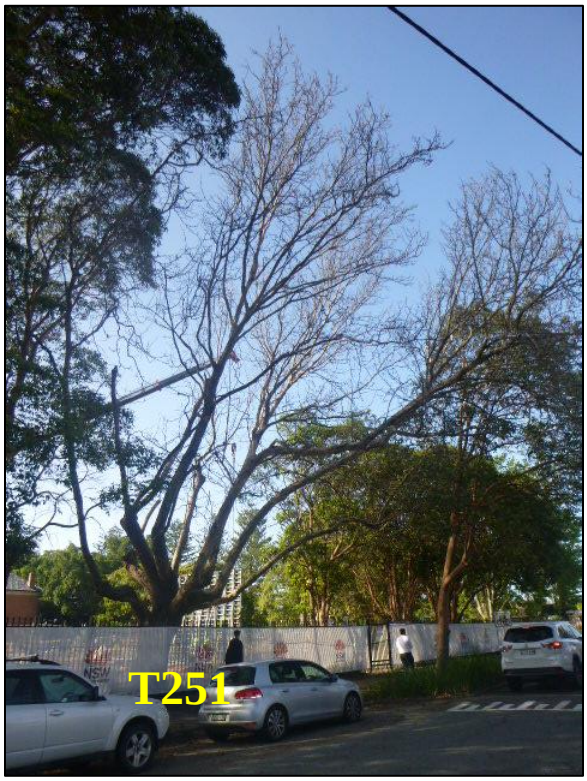

Photo 3 – Poisoning has resulted in the death of the tree

Photo 4 – Bark peeling away from stems of branches revealing discoloration / staining / darkening of wood

REPLANTING

A list of medium sized trees that would be suitable for planting within the same vicinity is provided below and have been selected as specimen or shade trees.

However, as a master landscape plan has been prepared the Landscape Architect should be consulted to ensure the trees fit in with the scheme of their design. Alternatively, trees can be selected as preferred by the Landscape Architect.

Native Trees:

- *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* - Tuckeroo
- *Melaleuca bracteata* Black Tea Tree
- *Elaeocarpus reticulates* – Blue Berry Ash
- *Syzygium paniculatum* Brush Cherry

Evergreen natives more suitable and common to the area will attract honey and nectar feeding birds and provide shade and screening.

These trees are very adaptable, can tolerate full sun or part shade. They prefer moist well-drained soils but are very adaptable to sandy or clay soils and should only reach heights up to 10 to 15 meters in cultivation.

Non-Native Trees:
Sapium sebiferum – Chinese Tallow Tree
Koelreuteria paniculata - Golden Rain Tree

- Non- native deciduous trees reaching 10-15m high in cultivation. Good autumn color in sunny position. Prefers moist well-drained loamy soils but are very adaptable to most soils.

RECOMMEDATIONS

- **Removal of Tree Nos. 248 & 251**
  Reason:
  Poisoning has resulted in the death of the trees with no prospect of recovery

- **Due to their size, location and risk of failure of dead branches the trees should be removed as soon as possible.**
  Reason:
  To eliminate the risk of branch failure and potential injury to people or damage to cars / property

- **Replant with medium size trees that will be suitable and sustainable to position for long term retention and retain a lower risk rating as they fully mature**
  Reason:
  - To comenstate for their removal and restore the visual amnity and character of the area
  - Medium size trees will retain a lower risk rating as they fully mature

Report By

Diploma of Arboriculture