Policy W18 – Unkept Verge Management

1. Policy Intention

Street verges have traditionally been described as that area of land situated between Council's road kerb and the adjoining private property.

To ensure that unkept street verges within the Shire of Murray are maintained to a minimum standard.

2. Definitions

In this Policy, the following definitions apply:

'Unkept Verge' for the purposes of this policy, unkept street verges are defined as any verge that:

- has not had irrigation installed between the road kerb and the adjoining property boundary;
- has not been improved by way of landscaping (excluding the street tree), garden beds, paving, gravel, mulch or other similar materials; and/or
- is covered with grass that has attained a height to an average uniformity coefficient greater than two hundred millimetres in every direction across the area, at the time a service is due.

3. Policy

3.1 Residential Zoning

(a) Unkept verges adjacent to land zoned "Residential" and unkept land within road reserves located in areas zoned residential may be mown:

- at a maximum of four times per annum;
- only upon receipt of a request or complaint from the public; and
- only upon receipt of a separate additional request or complaint for each and every occasion a cut is desired.

(b) The Standard of service shall be in accordance with the Shire of Murray's Levels of Service for the Mowing of Unkept Verges adjacent to land zoned Residential.

3.2 Development, Commercial and Rural Zoning

(a) Unkept verges adjacent to land zoned 'Development, Commercial, Industrial and Rural', shall be mown at a maximum of twice per annum, once during spring or summer and once during autumn or winter, depending on seasonal requirements.

(b) The standard service shall be in accordance with the Shire of Murray's Levels of Service for the Mowing of Unkept Verges adjacent to land zoned Development, Commercial, Industrial and Rural.

3.3 Arterial Roads

(a) Unkept verges of selected arterial roads shall be mown a minimum of two and

a maximum of six services per year, depending on the priority in which they have been categorised.

(b) The standard of service shall be in accordance with the Shire of Murray's Levels of Service for the Mowing of Arterial Road Reserves Priority One and Shire of Murray's Technical Specification for the Mowing of Arterial Road Reserves Priority Two.

3.4 Land under the Care and Control of Other Authorities.

(a) Unkept verges adjacent to land under the care and control of other authorities shall be assessed on an individual basis. The frequency and standard of mowing shall be determined on site by site basis.

Policy Detail		
Responsible Directorate	Infrastructure Services	
Responsible Department	Operations	
Responsible Officer	Manager Operations	
Next Policy Review / Schedule	2025 (3-yearly)	
Council Adoption	**Date / Resolution**	27 March 2002 (OCM02/072)
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		26 June 2014 (OCM14/077)