



Bluestone Policy- Kerbs, Channels and Laneways 2010

City of Boroondara

Responsible Directorate:	Environment & Infrastructure
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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose

Boroondara's urban character will be maintained by ensuring bluestone kerb, channel and laneway assets are maintained for future generations.

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- Preserve the integrity, character and appearance of the City of Boroondara through the continued use of bluestone for kerbs, channels and laneways where bluestone currently exists.
- Ensure that reconstruction and repair of bluestone kerbs, channels and laneways is carried out so that the outcome reflects the heritage nature or character of the area.

1.2. Scope

This policy is for existing bluestone assets that are located in road and laneway reserves.

2. Background

Boroondara is made up of a number of areas with distinctive urban character. Part of this character is due to the housing mix, but much of this character can be attributed to the infrastructure assets and street trees within the road and laneway reserves maintained by Council. Council is committed to efficient maintenance of road related assets to maintain this urban character.

2.1. Methodology

The community and Council have identified that bluestone kerbs, channels and laneways contribute to the heritage value and unique character of the City of Boroondara. This Policy will guide Council's operations in relation to the management of bluestone kerbs, channels and laneways throughout the City of Boroondara.

2.2. Context

The Policy provides overarching principles and goals, objectives and strategic initiatives intended to guide future actions related to the efficient reconstruction and maintenance of bluestone kerb, channel and laneway assets. The Policy applies to existing bluestone kerbs, channels and laneways throughout the City of Boroondara.

2.3. Consultation

The application of this Policy will include engagement with abutting residents.

2.4. Corporate framework

The Policy supports Council's Mission and Vision. The Council Plan 2009-2014 highlights Key Directions of "Responsibly Managing Resources" and "Liveability and Amenity". Key strategic activities are "Provision of new and renewed community assets" and "Preservation of neighbourhood character".

3. Policy statement

General Bluestone Policy

Where reconstruction, replacement or repair of bluestone kerb, channels and laneways is proposed, it is policy that:

- Works will be undertaken to maintain the visual character of the bluestone asset. If in a Heritage Overlay, a planning permit may be required for any reconstruction works. Routine maintenance works and repair works do not require a Planning Permit.
- Where small sections of bluestone are being replaced or reconstructed as part of routine maintenance activities, work will be done to match the surrounding bluestones so that the repair is visually seamless.
- Bluestone kerbs, channels and laneways will be maintained free from weeds and/or root intrusion.
- A condition of any permit, contract or tender for bluestone work will require the work to be carried out in accordance with this Policy.

- Prior to reconstruction works on bluestone kerb, channels and laneways, Council will inform the abutting community of the proposed works and inform them that the works are in accordance with this Policy.
- Replacement of bluestones will have regard for any abutting trees. If the replacement of bluestones will have a detrimental impact on the abutting tree, an alternative treatment may be required for the extent of the tree involvement.
- Replacement of bluestones will have regard for accessibility requirements of the area. In some shopping centre areas, sawn bluestone may be utilised, in preference to bluestone pitchers, to minimise risks in the pedestrian environment.

Bluestone Kerb and Channel

Where works on bluestone kerb and channels is proposed, it is policy that:

- Following routine maintenance and reactive maintenance activities, the bluestone kerb and channel will appear as it did prior to the works.
- As part of the road reconstruction and kerb replacement program, bluestone kerb and channels will be replaced with a bluestone pitcher kerb and a single bluestone pitcher channel to maintain the visual character of the area. In areas covered by a Heritage Overlay, works may require a Planning Permit, and generally the reconstructed asset will conform to the pre-existing condition.
- Where open bluestone channels exist, the bluestone arrangement will generally be maintained where practical.
- Where new driveways and vehicle crossings are proposed along roads where bluestone kerb and channels exists, new driveways will be required to be constructed in concrete and will maintain the bluestone channel where practical.

Bluestone Laneway

Where reconstruction, replacement or repairs of bluestone laneways are proposed, it is policy that:

- Bluestone laneways are replaced like for like, so that the reconstruction, repair or replacement of a bluestone laneway will appear as it did, prior to the works.
- If bluestone is required to be removed or altered to allow surface modifications of a laneway, the laneway will be reconstructed to match as closely as possible the original appearance.

Bluestone at Vehicular Crossings

Where reconstruction, replacement or repairs of bluestone kerb and channel in association with vehicular crossings are proposed, the guidelines are that:

- At an isolated crossing site where the bluestone kerb is removed and the channel if required is replaced then the construction should be on a like for like basis, so that the reconstruction, repair or replacement of bluestone pitchers will appear as they did, prior to the works. Standard drawings have been developed for concrete and asphalt vehicular crossings.
- For full refurbishment of a roadway, bluestone kerb and channel at vehicle crossings is required to be removed and replaced in accordance with the project construction plans that will generally be based on the standard drawings for vehicular crossings.

4. Implementation and monitoring

4.1. Accountabilities

For all queries or feedback regarding this policy document, please contact the responsible department below.

Contact	Contact number	Contact e-mail
Projects & Strategy	9278 4444	boroondara@boroondara.vic.gov.au

The responsible officer coordinates the implementation, maintenance and review of this policy; ensuring stakeholders are aware of their accountabilities.

4.2. Financial implications

The Policy reflects current practices. The current budget and resources are structured accordingly.

5. References

5.1. Related documents

There are no related documents.