

Regional Arborist

Position Description

Directorate	Operations	Department	Asset Maintenance - Operations - Parks - Trees
Reports To	Coordinator Parks	Direct Reports	Yes
Queensland Local Government Industry Award - State 2017 -Stream	Stream A - Division 2, Section 1 - Administrative, clerical, technical, professional, community service, supervisory and managerial services	City of Moreton Bay Certified Agreement 2025 EBA6 Wage Level	Schedule 1, Level 7

Position Purpose

The Regional Arborist provides strategic and specialist arboricultural expertise, technical reports, and high-level advice to support the effective management of Council's tree assets across the City of Moreton Bay. The role is responsible for researching, developing, and implementing best-practice tree management strategies and contributing to the development of policies, standards, and programs that promote a safe, healthy, sustainable, and resilient urban forest.

Working collaboratively across Council, the Regional Arborist provides expert guidance on tree-related matters associated with operational activities, development applications, infrastructure projects, environmental management, and long-term asset planning, including the preparation of technical reports, impact assessments, and tree schedules. The position plays a key role in influencing and supporting sound decision-making to ensure Council's tree assets are managed in accordance with legislative requirements, industry best practice, community expectations, and Council objectives.

The Regional Arborist leads the development and continuous improvement of proactive tree asset management programs, including tree inspections, defect identification and recording, significant tree assessments, tree health initiatives, and the maintenance of Council's tree asset database. The role identifies opportunities to improve service delivery through proactive management approaches, operational efficiency, risk reduction, and the long-term sustainability of Council's tree population.

The position works closely with the Tree Maintenance Team Leader and other Council departments to develop and implement strategic and cost-effective approaches to tree management. While the role does not hold direct authority over other Council departments, it is recognised as a key subject matter expert and fosters strong collaborative relationships across the organisation to promote consistent, safe, and sustainable tree management practices.

The Regional Arborist provides leadership and supervision to a team currently comprising a Senior Arborist and three Tree Asset Inspectors. Reporting structures may vary over time to meet changing business needs, service demands, organisational growth, and future service delivery requirements.

Key Responsibilities and Outcomes

As a Regional Arborist and member of the Council tree division you will:

- Provide specialist Arboricultural advice, technical assessments, professional reports, and evidence-based recommendations to support Council, developers, consultants, contractors, stakeholders, the community, Executive Leadership, Councillors, and Council meetings in the effective management of trees and the resolution of complex tree-related matters, including those involving significant community interest.
- Contribute to the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of tree management strategies, policies, standards, programs, procedures, and governance frameworks that support a safe, healthy, sustainable, and resilient urban forest.
- Review and assess development, infrastructure, operational, and capital works projects to identify potential impacts on tree assets and provide Arboricultural advice throughout planning, design, approval, and delivery phases. Collaborate with project teams and stakeholders to achieve practical outcomes that balance project objectives with tree protection and retention.
- Lead Council's Arboricultural involvement in infrastructure and development projects, including site meetings, root investigations, tree protection planning, construction activities near retained trees, and the provision of Arboricultural supervision to minimise impacts on tree assets.
- Manage and continuously improve proactive tree asset management programs, including tree inspections, defect identification, risk assessment, significant tree management, tree health initiatives, tree asset data collection, and maintenance of Council's tree asset database.
- Identify and implement opportunities to improve service delivery, operational efficiency, risk management, urban forest outcomes, and asset management practices through innovation, technology, data analysis, and industry best practice.
- Build and maintain effective relationships across Council and with external stakeholders, providing guidance and support to promote consistent, practical, and sustainable tree management outcomes.
- Lead, mentor, and develop the Technical Arboricultural team through technical support, coaching, training, and succession planning while fostering a culture of safety, accountability, collaboration, and continuous improvement. Document Meeting attendance and safety talks within Councils recording systems.
- Prepare and review technical reports, specifications, management plans, tree schedules, business cases, briefing notes, and other documentation to support operational, strategic, and project-related decision-making.
- Monitor emerging legislation, Australian Standards, industry research, and best practice, and ensure all activities are undertaken in accordance with relevant legislative, environmental, and workplace health and safety requirements.
- Where work interacts with the environment, use all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm and comply with Council's environmental policies, protocols and procedures including growing Councils habitat tree forest. Report all environmental risks, hazards and incidents immediately to your leader.
- Research emerging tree species, undertake species trials and contribute to urban forest diversification and resilience initiatives through the evaluation and selection of suitable species for Council's landscape and street tree programs.

Our Values

Our values:
guiding how we
work and shaping
our future.



SEE THE PERSON.
SEE THE CITY.



OWN THE SOLUTION.
FOR TODAY AND
TOMORROW.



FALL, LEARN, RISE.
TOGETHER
WE GROW.



THINK BIGGER.
LET'S GO.

Decision Making

Budget

N/A

Delegations

Delegations under the Local Government Act 2009 and as directed and published in Council's Delegation Register

Knowledge & Experience

- High-level knowledge of arboriculture, urban forest management, tree biology, tree risk assessment, tree protection, and contemporary tree management practices, together with demonstrated experience in tree asset management, including inspections, risk assessment, data management, strategic planning, and the development of proactive maintenance and urban forest programs.
- Demonstrated experience in interpreting construction plans, engineering designs, and technical drawings, and providing specialist Arboricultural advice, technical assessments, and professional reports relating to tree management, development, infrastructure, construction projects.
- Sound knowledge and application of relevant legislation, Australian Standards, codes of practice, and industry guidelines relating to arboriculture, vegetation management, environmental management, and workplace health and safety.
- Demonstrated ability to collaboratively influence project planning, design, and construction outcomes through the practical application of Arboricultural principles, tree protection measures, and urban forest objectives.
- Demonstrated experience contributing to the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of strategic plans, policies, procedures, and operational programs that support sustainable tree management, asset stewardship, service delivery, and urban forest outcomes.
- Proven ability to lead, mentor, and develop professional and technical teams whilst demonstrating highly developed communication, stakeholder engagement, negotiation, and problem-solving skills, with the ability to influence outcomes, build effective relationships, and foster a positive workplace culture.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage competing priorities, workloads, and deadlines while maintaining high standards of accuracy and service delivery, together with proficiency in Microsoft Office applications and the ability to quickly acquire and apply knowledge of corporate information systems, including asset management, GIS, and work management platforms.
- Demonstrated experience contributing to emergency response and recovery operations involving severe weather events, tree failures, and other incidents affecting public safety and Council assets, including a willingness to participate in overtime and after-hours response activities when required.

Qualifications

Essential

- The applicant must hold a minimum of an AQF Level 5 Diploma of Arboriculture or higher qualification.
- Current “C” Class Driver’s Licence.
- Current Construction Industry White Card.

Desirable

- Current member or willing to join the Queensland Arborist Association
- Risk assessment training (QTRA, TRAQ, other)

Note: This position description reflects a summary of the key accountabilities of the position, it is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of duties, steps and tasks. Leaders may direct team members to perform other duties at their discretion.