# Somers & Hervey

# **Housing Design Guidelines**



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# 1 Welcome to Somers & Hervey



# Open the door to your brand-new home and experience the difference thoughtful housing design can make to your lifestyle.

Somers & Hervey is a contemporary master-planned community spanning 80 hectares, offering up to 850 homesites and made special by the natural attractions of its location. Connected to the very best on offer within Townsville's south-west, residents will be nestled among passive open space, environmental habitat corridors, active sport facilities, and education and recreational nodes. Enjoy an environment enhanced by modern housing with a strong tropical architectural appeal.

To ensure the unique character of Somers & Hervey is enhanced and that quality housing is constructed, comprehensive Housing Design Guidelines have been developed to ensure that a high standard of housing and landscaping is achieved.

These design guidelines provide a comprehensive set of design principles and standards for you and your builder to follow, ensuring a high standard of building and landscaping that aims to secure and enhance your investment.

These design guidelines form a legally binding part of your contract. Please refer to the contract and make your own enquiries to satisfy yourself about your lot, the design standards which apply to development of your lot, and any other aspects which are of particular importance to you.

We want you to have a positive experience with these design guidelines. If you need any advice or guidance, reach out to our friendly project team or contact the Somers & Hervey Design Review Team (SHDRT) via email: designreview@ somersandhervey.com.au.

#### 1.1 Design principles

The vision for Somers & Hervey is to achieve a contemporary community set in a natural environment, with large open spaces, and design that embraces the Townsville lifestyle.

The design of housing in Somers & Hervey should respond to the prevailing breezes and the daily and seasonal movements of the sun. Keeping your home at a comfortable temperature almost all year round without the need for heating or cooling will help you to save money, minimise environmental impacts and enjoy our tropical lifestyle.

These comprehensive housing design guidelines have been developed to ensure that housing and landscaping at Somers & Hervey is constructed to a high quality.

The following principles should be incorporated into your home design:

- · A neighbourhood that is relaxed laid back, open and
- Embracing the Townsville lifestyle.
- · A welcoming and shady front façade.
- An attractive façade using a variety of materials, colours, and architectural detail.
- A roof that shades the walls and windows.
- Outdoor rooms for entertaining.

These Guidelines are of two types: Desired Outcomes and Recommended actions.

Desired Outcomes are those matters where compliance is expected. These are found in Sections 2 to 4.

Recommended actions are suggestions for lot owners to consider in the design and development of their properties. They can improve your lifestyle, provide convenience, and conserve energy and water. They are found in Section 5.

When your plans are assessed as complying with the Desired Outcomes set out in these Guidelines, they will obtain 'Covenant Endorsement'. You will then be able to seek a Development Permit for Building Works (Building Approval) from your preferred Building Certifier.

#### 1.2 How to use this document

These Somers & Hervey design guidelines have been prepared to:

- help you choose a home that fits your allotment and your lifestyle.
- help you design a home that is comfortable and appropriate for the tropical climate.

- enhance the value of your home and community in both the short and long term.
- assist with the approval process with your designer or builder.
- inform you on how to submit your application via the online builder portal.

All the requirements set out in this document need to be satisfied for your application to be approved.

To streamline the process and make it as time efficient as possible, we've established the Somers & Hervey Home Design Assessment Portal.

Here, you'll find helpful documents to assist you in preparing a great application, including a customised checklist of all the design standards that will apply to your lot.

You have the flexibility to either view the documents directly online or print them as necessary.

Whether you prefer to manage the process personally, or share it with your builder or designer, the portal is designed to empower you in expediting your home design approval, ensuring a smooth and timely experience.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Townsville Planning Scheme, the Queensland Development Code (QDC), and the provisions of the Building Code of Australia.

FOR INITIAL ENQUIRIES PRIOR TO SUBMITTING VIA THE PORTAL, YOU CAN CONTACT SOMERS & HERVEY DESIGN REVIEW TEAM USING THE DETAILS BELOW.

> designreview@somersandhervey.com.au 07 4750 7077 or 03 9650 2081

> > www.somersandhervey.com.au

YOU CAN ACCESS THE PORTAL USING ANY OF THE **FOLLOWING OPTIONS:** 

**CLICK HERE** 

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

ACCESS VIA <u>www.somersandhervey.com.au/building</u>



# 1.3 The design approval process



Above: The process between buying your lot and starting building.

The plans for development on you lot will be assessed by the Somers & Hervey Design Review Team. You will then be emailed an approval, or comments, suggesting revisions to achieve compliance. When approved the applicant may then proceed to detailed design for the proposed dwelling and have the completed design drawings and other documents prepared for building approval by your preferred building certifier and in accordance with Townsville City Council development provisions.

The drawings and associated documents noted in the checklist at the end of this document are also available on the portal.

Approved plans by the developer in no way constitute a Development or Building Approval, nor imply compliance with statutory requirements. Plans should only be lodged with the Local Authority or Building Certifier after the drawings of the proposed house have been endorsed by the Somers & Hervey Design Review Team.

The Developer may approve a house design that does not fully comply with the Housing Design Guidelines if it determines if complies with their intent.

To avoid potential delays, it is recommended that noncomplying designs be discussed with the Developer early in the Assessment process.

Please note that in the event of any discrepancy between these guidelines and the requirements of the relevant Development Approval, then the requirements of the relevant Development Approval take precedence.

It is important to consider how the features of your allotment might influence the location and layout of its design in order to improve the lifestyle for you and your family, as well as improving the overall amenity of the neighbourhood.

Factors worth considering include:

- the orientation of the allotment;
- · the building envelope and setbacks;
- architectural style;
- the location of existing and future houses on adjoining lots;
- · design of the roof, walls, doors and windows;
- · motor vehicle storage;
- materials and the colour used on the outside of the house; and
- · ancillary service equipment.

These design guidelines give you tips on how to design for these and other factors.



# 1.4 Development timing

In assisting to create a vibrant community, purchasers are expected to meet the following:

A1	Construction commencement	The lot owner must commence building works on the allotment within 18 months of the settlement date, using plans endorsed by the SHDRT as complying with these guidelines.
A2	Construction completion	The lot owner must complete construction of the dwelling and driveway within 18 months of construction commencement.
A3	Landscaping and fencing	The lot owner must complete landscaping and fencing of the allotment within 3 months of construction completion.

# 2 Orienting and placing your home

# 2.1 Orientation

Your home should be positioned on the site and oriented to ensure the maximum possible benefit for passive solar gain, to improve energy efficiency and create a more pleasant living environment. Orientation of homes to provide an outlook to the street and areas of private open space is also important.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

B1	Orientation	Where possible, orientate
		internal and external living
		areas to the north-east,
		to capture breezes and
		maximise ventilation.

# 2.2 The building envelope and setbacks

The setback of your house is an important part of achieving the desired streetscape character.

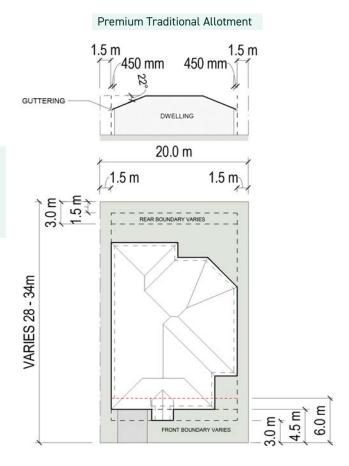
The Access and Building Envelope Plan specifies minimum setbacks, site cover, and site development requirements for every lot.

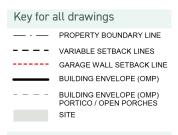
This plan is part of the land sales contract and must be adhered to. See the plan in Appendix 1.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**



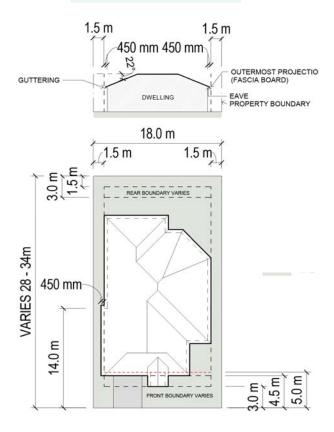
Examples of a typical building envelopes for each product types are demonstrated as follows.



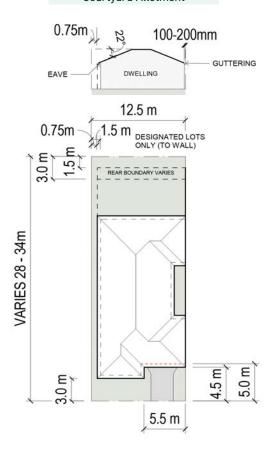




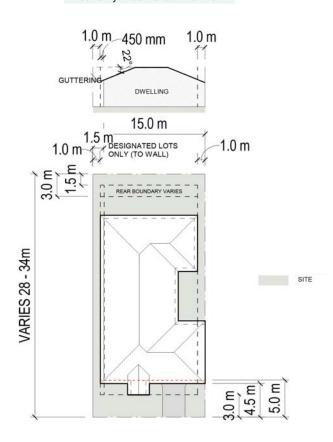
#### Traditional Allotment



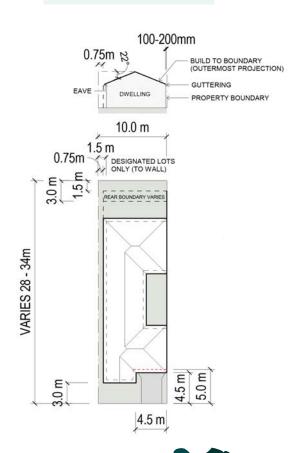
#### Courtyard Allotment



#### **Economy Traditional Allotment**



#### Villa Allotment



#### Build-to-boundary requirements

As it is possible to build to the boundary line of nominated allotments, generally identified as Villa, Courtyard, and Economy Traditional allotment types, it is important to consider your building design. Having a build-to-boundary allotment gives you the option of building on the boundary but is not a requirement.

Only non-habitable rooms, as defined by the QBC, may be built on a build-to-boundary lot boundary. These are typically the garage, laundry and storerooms. Habitable rooms, as defined by the QDC, must be set back as per the lot's Access & Building Envelope Plan. Alternatively, they may comply with section A2 of MP1.1 and MP1.2 of the QDC.

B7	Boundary fencing	Boundary fencing is prohibited adjacent to a build to boundary wall. The fence should return to that section of the wall which abuts the boundary.
B8	Siting of services	If a wall is less than 1.2m from a lot boundary, services must not be fixed to it. These include, but are not limited to, air-conditioning units, fixed clothes lines, hot water systems, gas cylinders and fuel storage systems.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

B3	Build-to-boundary setback	A build-to-boundary wall must be set back at least 200 mm from the lot boundary to provide space for fascias, guttering and downpipes. Eaves are not required over a build-to-boundary wall.
B4	Build-to-boundary length	The total length of build-to-boundary walls of Villa & Courtyard Allotments must not exceed 40% of the total length of the lot boundary. The length of any single wall section must not exceed 9 metres. On an Economy Traditional Allotment, only the garage wall may be built on the boundary.
B5	Build-to-boundary wall height	A build-to-boundary wall must be no higher than 3.5 m above natural ground level. Two (2) storey structures on all allotments must comply with QDC building setbacks.
B6	Parapet wall	A parapet wall may be approved by the SHDRT on architectural merit, except on a build-to-boundary lot boundary. Eaves are not required over a parapet wall.

## Close-to-boundary requirements

As it is possible to build close to the boundary line on some nominated Traditional Allotments, it is important to consider your building design.

B9	Close-to-boundary line	On a Traditional Allotment, the garage wall may be built to the close-to-boundary setback of 1.5 m shown on the allotment's Access & Building Envelope Plan.
B10	Close-to-boundary wall length	A single section of the close- to-boundary wall must be no longer than 9 metres and must be a garage wall.
B11	Close-to-boundary eave	A close-to-boundary garage wall must include an eave at least 450 mm deep.



# 3 Designing your home

# 3.1 Your house's appearance

The front of your house presents you to the world and contributes to the character of your street. To achieve an interesting, attractive, and distinctive façade, articulate the façade with architectural elements such as verandahs, porches, pergolas, balconies, sunshades, and eaves.

## Architectural style

The style of homes at Somers & Hervey is expected to exemplify fresh, contemporary tropical architecture that responds to Townsville's climate.

Below: Examples of fresh contemporary tropical architecture





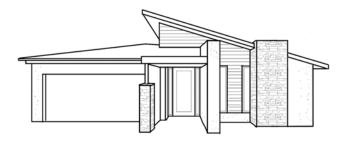


Above: The front of your house should have a contemporary tropical design that contributes to the character of the street.

#### Your home's front facade and entrance

Where possible, visually emphasise the home's entry area, especially the front door, while downplaying the garage door.

For your house to be as welcoming as possible to you, your family, and guests, please emphasise the front door. Also, to be hospitable, give those people waiting at the door shelter from the sun and the rain. Architecturally emphasising the front door also plays down the garage door.

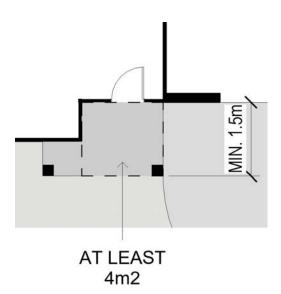


Above: The front door must be prominent and visible from the street.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

C1	Visual interest	The front façade of the house must have at least a moderate level of visual interest. This may be achieved by using such techniques as multiple materials, horizontal and vertical steps, and other articulating elements.
C2	Front entrance	The house's front entrance must be obvious from the street, whether set in the front façade or in a side façade.
C3	Weather protection to front door	The house must include a roofed structure immediately in front of the front door, such as a porch, verandah, or portico, that extends forward of the main roofline. The structure must have an area of at least 4.0 m², a depth of at least 1.5 m, and be open on at least two sides.
C4	Cladding of posts	Any material used on posts or pillars must be used on all their sides.

Below: Minimum dimensions for the weather protection structure in front of the front door



# Adding visual interest

Visual interest can be added with roof and wall articulation, the addition of decks, patios, pergolas and verandahs, patterning to the walls, garden beds and garden features. Use at least two materials and matching colours. Articulate the front façade of your house. Large eaves, deep verandahs, pergolas, and sunshades work well in Townsville's tropical climate.

C5	Two materials	The front facade must include at least two different wall materials or finishes.
C6	Primary material	The primary material of the front façade must cover less than 70% of its wall area, excluding openings such as windows and doors, and any gables.
C7	Second material	A second material of the front façade must cover at least 10% of its wall area, excluding openings and gables.



Above: The large eaves and sunshades over the windows help keep this house cool.



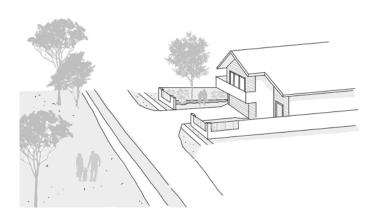
Above: The front façade must include at least two different wall materials

#### Frontages to secondary streets and parks

Your house should present attractive facades on all frontages facing streets and parks. This can be achieved by seamlessly articulating windows and wall breaks, and by integrating a variety of materials and colours to avoid large blank facades. A facade facing a secondary street or a park must have a similar level of visual interest and composition as the front façade.



Above: Secondary Street Presentation - The façade facing a secondary street must have a similar level of visual interest and composition as the front façade.



Above: Park Frontage Presentation – An interesting facade with a balcony and an outdoor living area can provide casual surveillance of the park, while fencing and planting provide for both privacy and an outlook to the park.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

C8	Views out	Every facade facing the public realm must include at least one habitable room window per storey with eye-level views to the public realm.
C9	Public facades	Any facade facing the public realm must have a similar level of visual interest and material composition as the front façade.

C10 Park facades

A façade facing a park must provide a level of visual interest equivalent to that of the front façade. Verandahs, decks, and patios are appropriate articulating elements.

#### Individual designs

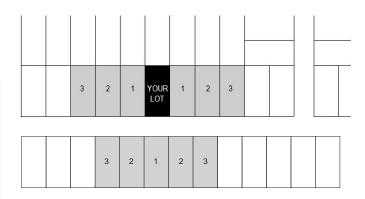
To create distinctive and attractive streets, each house should add visual interest by being in harmony with the character of its neighbours yet adopting designs with individual appeal.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

C11 Similar facades

The front facade of the house must not be identical or very similar to a façade on the same street on the nearest three lots adjacent to and on the other side of the street from the lot. This includes buildings constructed, under construction and in applications already received by the SHDRT.

(Usually, changing materials and colours will provide sufficient difference. In rare cases, the building's form may need to change.)

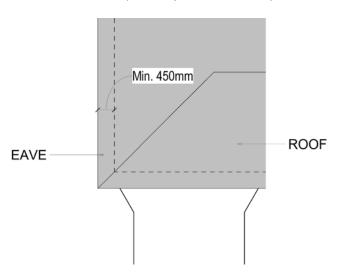


Above: The front façade of your house must be different from those of the houses within three lots on either side of the street.



#### 3.2 The roof

At Somers & Hervey, the roof of the house should create visual interest while also shading the house and shedding the rain. It should complement the architectural intent of the home and contribute positively to the streetscape.

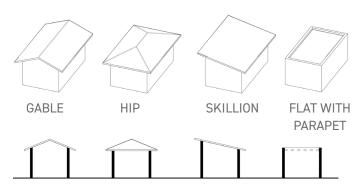


Above: Eaves at least 450 mm deep must be provided over all facades of the house.



Above: Use varied roof forms with contemporary style, incorporating eaves for shading windows and outdoor living areas.

D1	Roof form	One of the following main roof forms must be used: skillion; gable; Dutch gable; or hipped. A parapet roof form may be approved by the SHDRT on architectural merit.
D2	Roof pitch	A gable, Dutch gable or hipped roof must have at least two roof planes, each with a pitch of at least 22°.
D3	Skillion pitch	A skillion roof must have at least two roof planes, each with a pitch between 10° and 15°.
D4	Building height	A building's height must be no more than 8.5 metres above natural ground level.
D5	Eaves	Eaves at least 450 mm deep must be provided over all facades, including garages, except for build-to-boundary walls and parapet walls. 300 mm eaves over gables may be approved by the SHDRT.
D6	Under-eave extensions	An under-eave extension must be less than 4.8 m long and 900 mm deep, and only be used for non-habitable spaces such as pantries and wardrobes.



#### Some potential roof forms



# **Skillion**







**Dutch Gable** 

Hipped



#### 3.3 Roof runoff

In Townsville's tropical climate, a robust stormwater drainage system is vital to ensure your home remains unaffected by heavy rain and to prevent runoff damage to your lot and your neighbours'.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

D7	Runoff collection	Runoff from all roof planes must be collected in gutters leading to downpipes.
D8	Built-to-boundary downpipes	All downpipes on the built- to-boundary side of your lot must be connected to underground stormwater drains that discharge to the street.
D9	Erodible surfaces	Where rainwater falls from gutters and downpipes, the ground below must be treated to minimise scour and erosion. Suitable surfaces include pebbles and turf.

#### Walls, doors and windows 3.4

Walls, doors, and windows provide much of the character of your home. The doors and windows of the front façade add visual interest and connect the interior to the street, allowing both breezes and a sense of

openness. Windows may be tinted or clear. Louvers may be aluminium rather than glass. Security screens can offer ventilation and views while keeping insects at bay.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

E1	Wall length	If a facade faces a street or a park, any one wall plane must be no longer than 8m.
E2	Wall height	An exterior wall in a single plane must be no higher than 6.5 metres above natural ground level. The wall area under a gable roof may be higher.

E3	Security screens	A security screen must be Diamond Grille, Ali View, Stainless View, Crimsafe, or a similar pattern and appearance.
E4	Security bars	Security bars on doors and windows are prohibited.
E5	Roller shutters	A roller shutter over a window is prohibited if either the header box or the retracted shutter is visible from the public realm.

#### 3.5 Motor vehicle storage

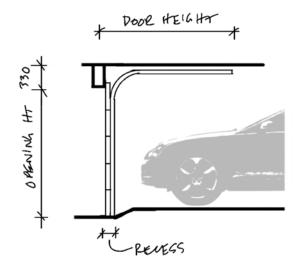
A well-designed garage or carport not only protects your motor vehicles, it also makes your home more attractive when viewed from the street. By minimising the visual impact of

garage doors, your home's front façade becomes more appealing, contributing to the street's overall charm.

F1	Under main roof	A garage or carport must be under the main roof of the house. However, a well-designed freestanding structure within the lot's building envelope may be approved by the SHDRT.
F2	Garage setback, most lots	If the lot is a Villa, Courtyard, or Economy Traditional Allotment, the garage door must be set back from the front of the lot at least 5.0 m.
F3	Garage setback, Premium lot	If the lot is a Premium Traditional Allotment, the garage door must be set back from the front of the lot at least 6.0 m.

F4	Garage opening, single storey house on Villa and Courtyard lots	If the lot is a Villa or Courtyard Allotment and the house is single storey, the garage door must be set at least 1.5 m behind the main building line with an eave over it at least 450 mm deep
F5	Garage opening, two storey house	If the house is two storeys, the garage opening must be set at least:  (a) 1.0 m behind the front façade of the house, or  (b) 1.0 m under an upper-
		level balcony that spans the entire opening.
F6	Setback from front facade	The garage or carport must be set behind the front façade of the house at least 500 mm.
F7	Shade sails	Shade sails must only be installed behind the front façade of the house.
F8	Third space	An opening to a third garage space must be set back from the other garage openings at least 1 m.
F9	Panel lift door	The garage or carport door facing the driveway must be a panel lift type.
F10	Garage opening width	The garage opening must be no more than 6 m wide.
F11	Car parking number, most lots	If the lot is a Courtyard, Economy Traditional, Traditional or Premium Traditional Allotment, at least two undercover car parking spaces must be provided on the lot. The opening of the garage or carport must be no wider than 5.4m.
F12	Car parking number, Villa Allotments	If the lot is a Villa Allotment, at least two undercover car parking spaces must be provided on the lot, of which one may be tandem.

F13	Tandem spaces	If the two undercover car parking spaces are provided in tandem, the garage opening must be no wider than 3.0 m.
F14	Vehicle storage	Any van, truck, boat, caravan, or other recreational vehicle must be parked or stored so it is not visible from the adjacent street or park.



Above: The garage door must be a panel lift type door.

#### 3.6 Materials

It is intended housing and associated structures should use a diversity of quality finishes, materials and colours to create an attractive neighbourhood character with a modern tropical style. A wide range of

materials can be used on the walls and roofs of houses at Somers & Hervey. These have been selected to help achieve visual harmony between houses, and to create attractive streets.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

DESINED	001001120	
G1	Roof materials	The house roof, must be clad in one of the following materials: factory-coated corrugated metal sheeting (e.g. Colourbond <sup>©</sup> ); low-profile glazed concrete roof tiles, including shingles; or another material, if approved by the SHDRT.
G2	Front façade materials	The following materials are recommended for use on the front façade: Colorbond©; fibre cement cladding with frequent shadow lines. (Note: plain sheets are prohibited.); rendered blockwork; finished timber feature panels and posts; aluminium feature panels and posts; feature tiles and stonework; clay brick and brick veneer; other materials, if approved by the SHDRT.
G3	Painted surfaces	All wall surfaces that need painting or coating must be finished prior to the house being occupied.
G4	Metal elements	Any metal elements on the exterior of the house, such as the guttering, fascias, and garage door, must be made of factory-coated sheet metal, such as Colorbond <sup>©</sup> .

G5 Prohibited materials

The following materials are prohibited for use on walls: plain fibre-cement sheets; metal roof sheeting, of any profile, if used as the primary wall material.

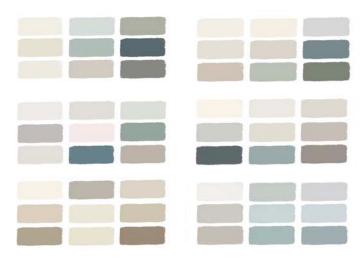


Above: Recommended materials for the front wall of the house: corrugated metal sheets, such as by Colorbond<sup>©</sup>; fibre cement weatherboards, such as Scyon Linea or Primeline Weatherboard; fibre cement horizontal boards, such as Scyon Stria; fibre cement vertical boards, such as Scyon Axon or Hardie Oblique; face brickwork and brick veneer; rendered blockwork.

#### 3.7 The colour scheme

The colour scheme you choose for your house should reflect the contemporary character of Somers & Hervey. For the primary and accent colours, please select light and neutral tones. These will help create an attractive and tranquil neighbourhood and reduce the heat load on your house.

The colours of your roof, gutter and fascia should also reflect the contemporary character of your house. The colours of these elements may complement or contrast with the house's wall and roof colours.



Above: Examples of colour palettes suitable for use on exterior walls at Somers & Hervey.

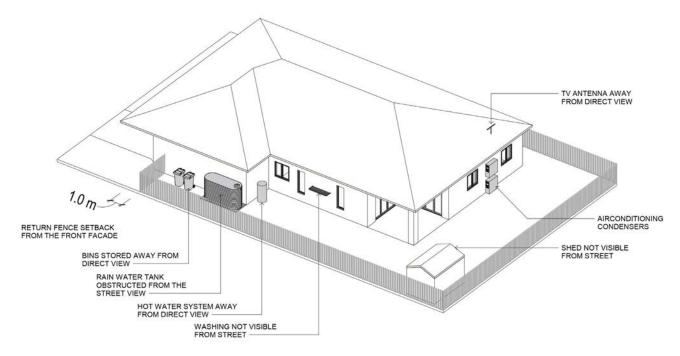


Above: Suitable Colorbond® colours for roofs, fascias and gutters

G6	Wall colour	The colours used on the exterior walls must match or be similar to the example colour palettes shown in this document. Other colours may be approved by the SHDRT if matching the contemporary tropical character of Somers & Hervey.
G7	Roof colour	The colours used on roofs, fascias and gutters must be chosen from the shown in this document as suitable for this purpose. (The colours shown have Colorbond® names. Equivalent colours from other factory-coated sheet metal manufacturers are also acceptable.)
G8	Garage door colour	The garage door should also be a light and neutral colour to make it less prominent. A lighter tone of the main wall colour is preferred.

#### **Ancillary equipment** 3.8

Ancillary equipment includes air conditioning units, hot water systems, solar panels, gas cylinders, antennas, satellite dishes, clothes lines and rubbish bins. Ancillary equipment should not be visible from streets or parks and should not be significantly detrimental to the amenity of neighbouring lots



Above: Ancillary equipment and structures should be positioned out of public view.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

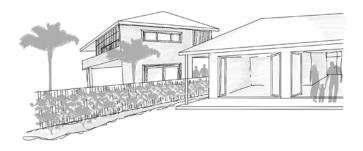
H1	Items not visible to the public	All ancillary items, including air conditioning units, rubbish bins, clothes lines, hot water systems and gas cylinders, must be positioned	H4	AC position	Air conditioning units must not be mounted on the front façade of the house or on the roof.
		where they are not visible from the street or must be fully screened within an enclosure.	H5	Letterbox	A letterbox must be installed at the front boundary of the lot and must complement the style and colour of the
H2	Meter box colour	The colour of the electricity meter box must be the same or very similar to the colour			dwelling. Typical materials are metal, timber, brick and rendered masonry.
НЗ	Antennas	of the wall it is mounted on.  Antennas & data services must not be placed on the house's front roof plane or generally on the front half of the roof.			

#### **Privacy** 3.9

Privacy between neighbours is important. Views and outlook should be maintained and concentrated toward the public realm and not over neighbouring properties.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

living area, or from a balcony	Н6	Screened views	the window of a bedroom or living area or private open
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Above: Views from an upper level to a neighbour's private open space must be screened.

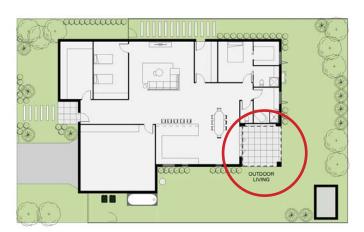
# The outside

#### 4.1 **Outdoor living areas**

In Townsville's climate, covered outdoor living areas offer comfort, shade, and a dry space usable throughout the year. This allows for a practical alternative to a second indoor living room, providing a fantastic outdoor retreat. For optimal functionality, create an outdoor living space in your backyard and ensure direct accessibility from your indoor living areas to your covered outdoor space.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

11	Outdoor living	The outdoor living space
	space	must have a minimum area of
		16 m2, and a minimum width
		of 4.0 m.





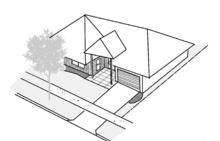
Above: An outdoor living room can be in the back yard or fully integrated with the layout of the house.

#### Driveways, paths and 4.2

The crossover is the part of the driveway between the front of your lot and the kerb. The Access and Building Envelope Plans prepared for Somers & Hervey show the councilapproved crossover location for your allotment. As the crossover is on public land, its construction remains subject to approval by Townsville City Council.

#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

12	One driveway	Only one driveway per lot may be constructed between the garage or carport and the kerb.
13	Driveway width	The driveway must be no more than 300 mm wider than the garage opening and must match the width of the crossover at the front of the lot.
4	Driveway set back from boundary	The driveway must be set back from the nearest lot side boundary at least 300 mm, and the gap must be turfed or used as a garden bed.
15	Driveway materials	Driveways and parking areas must be constructed of attractive and durable materials. Suitable materials (subject to endorsement) include: exposed aggregate finishes; coloured pattern paved concrete; and clay or concrete pavers. Plain concrete driveways are prohibited.
16	Footpath	Where a footpath is provided, the footpath must be retained as part of the construction of the driveway and crossover.



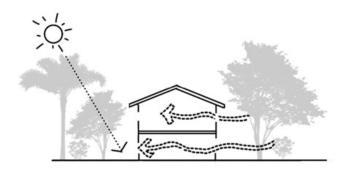
Left: An existing footpath must be retained when constructing a driveway and crossover.

# 4.3 Landscaping

At Somers & Hervey, landscaping is integral to shaping an appealing green and leafy neighbourhood. Your front yard (the area between the front of your lot and the front façade of your home), should feature a variety of, native and introduced tropical plants, of varying size (including trees, shrubs and ground covers) to complement your home.

When selecting plants, prioritise species that offer colourful flowers and intriguing foliage to create a visually captivating environment that becomes an extension of the streetscape.

Above: Trees can shade the house and allow breezes through to cool the house.



#### **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

J1	Garden beds	At least 25% of the front yard, excluding the driveway, must comprise edged and mulched garden beds, planted with a variety of plants of different sizes and types, including shrubs and ground covers.
J2	Turf	Turf must be installed to cover all parts of the front yard and the verge (the area between the front of the lot and the kerb) that are not paved or mulched.
J3	Plant density	A garden bed must be planted to a density of at least one plant per 1 m <sup>2</sup> .

J4	Trees or shrubs	At least two (2) trees or shrubs must be planted in the front yard. This includes at least one (1) shade tree with a mature height of at least 4 m and a pot size on planting of at least 600 mm, and at least one (1) shrub with a mature height of at least 3 m and a height on planting of at least 300 mm.
J5	Irrigation	An automatic irrigation system must be installed to ensure full coverage of landscaped and turfed areas of your front yard.

# **Secondary structures**

Secondary structures refer to minor buildings in the rear and side yards. These include sheds, pergolas, workshops, gazebos, change rooms and aviaries.

Construction of secondary structures remains subject to the approval of a building certifier and the provisions of the local authority.

	se no	The total area of all secondary structures must not exceed the dimensions shown in the table below.		
			Lot size	Maximum area
		<	< 400 m <sup>2</sup>	3m x 3m
		4	400-500 m <sup>2</sup>	5m x 3m
		Ę	500-650 m <sup>2</sup>	6m x 4m
		;	>650 m <sup>2</sup>	8m x 6m

K2	Height of structures	All walls of secondary structures must be no higher than 2.7 m above natural ground level, and the top of the structure must be no higher than 3.0 m. The SHDRT may approve higher pergolas.
K3	Position	The secondary structure must be set back from all lot boundaries at least 600 mm.
K4	Corner lots	If the lot is a corner lot, a shed or workshop must be set back from the secondary street at least 4 m or set back at least 1 m more than the house is set back from the secondary street, whichever is further.
K5	Effect on neighbours	The secondary structure must not overshadow or block light from the windows of any adjacent houses.
K6	Materials	Sheds and workshops must be made from factory-coated sheet metal matching the roofing colour of the house.
K7	Not prominent	Sheds and workshops must not be prominent in views from adjacent streets or parks.

# 4.5 Front yard fencing

Fencing of the front yard marks the division between public and private areas.

Where a front fence is present, it should maintain clear visibility over front garden to the street, and to the front of the dwelling from the street.

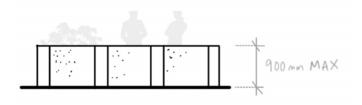
This 'passive surveillance' keeps the community safer. Garden beds and hedges should be used in conjunction with the front fence.

DESIRED	OUTCOMES		
L1	Fence material and height		nce around the front yard e must be made from:
		(a)	solid masonry, such as face brick, stone, or rendered blockwork, no higher than 900 mm.
		(b)	pool fencing panels, or painted or stained timber palings with expressed posts, no higher than 1200 mm.
		(c)	A pier and plinth masonry fence with open style infill panels, no higher than 1200 mm, with a masonry plinth no higher than 600 mm.
			es made of sheet metal prohibited.
L2	Front fence colour	to be	t fences are encouraged e painted in colours that complementary and add acter to the home.
L3	Transition fence	side leng The	ont fence may rise to t the height of a higher boundary fence over a th of no more than 2 m. rise must begin behind alignment of the front de of the house.

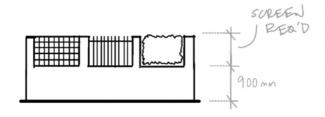
# L4 Front fence on a corner lot

On a corner lot:

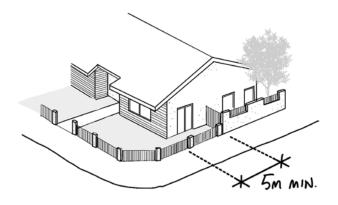
- (a) the front fence must continue along the boundary beside the secondary street, meeting the higher privacy side fence at least 5 m behind the front façade alignment.
- (b) the fence must be constructed to a minimum standard comprising exposed posts; butted palings, and capping rail in accordance with the bottom image.



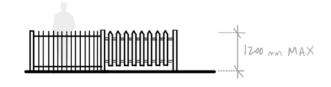
Above: Front fences may be solid up to 900mm high.



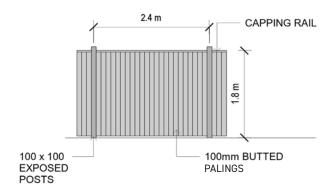
Above: Any part of the fence higher than 1.2 m must be at least 50% see-through.

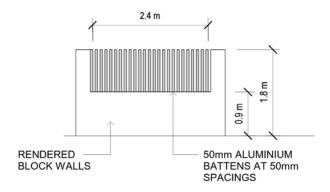


Above: A privacy fence along the boundary of a secondary street must be set back at least 5m from the nearest corner of the house.



Above: Front fences made of pickets must be no higher than 1.2 m.





Above: A 1.8m high secondary frontage privacy fence, made from timber palings with expressed posts and a top rail must be constructed as the minimum standard. Higher quality standard fences such as rendered block and aluminium battens are encouraged.



# 4.6 Privacy fencing

Fencing between allotments provides privacy. Fencing of allotments adjacent to parks or where acoustic treatment is required will be provided by the Developer to ensure consistency of appearance.

Front fences on a corner lot should extend around the corner and behind the main building line, with attractive high fencing to the secondary frontage to provide privacy to the private open space.

L5	Fence design	Privacy fencing must be made from timber pickets with a gap between pickets of no more than 10 mm and be no higher than 1.8m above natural ground level. Sheetmetal is prohibited.
L6	Fence position	A privacy fence must be set back at least 1 m from the nearest front corner of the house.
L7	Return fence	A return fence and any gate in it must be made from the same design, materials, height, colour, and finish as the side fence it is attached to.
L8	Developer- installed fencing	Developer-installed fences must not be altered, removed, damaged, or modified in any way without prior written approval from the SHDRT. It is the responsibility of the lot owner to keep the entire fence in good order and condition.
L9	Retaining wall height & materials	If visible from a street or park, any single retaining wall must be no higher than 1 m, and must be constructed of masonry, in-situ concrete, or stone. Masonry must be rendered, painted, bagged, face brickwork or stonework. Timber, concrete sleepers and unrendered concrete blockwork are prohibited.

#### 5 Maintaining your lot

In assisting to maintain a clean community, property owners are required to keep allotments clear of weeds or rubbish and generally maintained to a reasonable standard.

M1	Maintain clean lot	To maintain a clean and safe environment, lot owners must keep their lot clear of weeds and rubbish and maintained to a reasonable standard before and during construction.
M2	Costs charged	If the lot is not maintained to a reasonable standard, the lot may be slashed, mown and or cleaned up by Urbex and the cost incurred charged to the lot owner.
M3	During construction	During construction of the house, the builder must install a containment structure on the allotment for the disposal of all waste materials. This must be regularly emptied and suitably maintained.
M4	Erosion control	Until the landscaping of the lot is completed, appropriate erosion and sediment control measures must be implemented.
M5	Street trees	If the street tree in front of the allotment is damaged, dies or is removed during the construction of the house, it must be replaced at the lot owner's cost. The S&H DM may direct the lot owner to replace it and will provide the lot owner with a tree of the appropriate species. Only certain street trees species are approved by Townsville City Council.

M6	Damage to public property	If construction on the lot causes any damage to footpaths, verges, or roadways, Urbex may rectify the damage and charge the lot owner for any costs incurred. The lot owner may be able to claim this cost	
		from the builder.	

# 6 Recommended actions

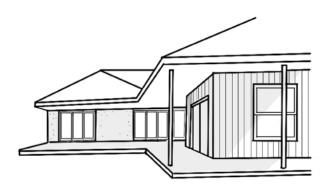
This section provides smart design ideas for your home. These actions are recommended because they can save you money, keep you comfortable, be good for the planet and help build community. Some actions may not be possible or sensible on some lot orientations.

## Climatically responsive design

By designing to suit the tropical Townsville climate, your house at Somers & Hervey can be comfortable all year round with little or no need for powered cooling and heating appliances. Just apply the three design principles detailed below: sun control; cross ventilation, and thermal control.

#### Sun control

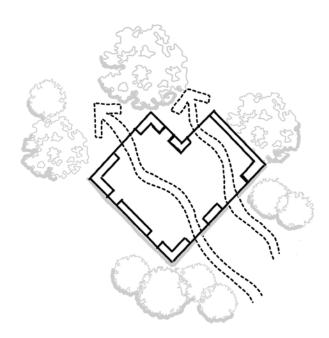
- · Avoid long, western facing walls.
- · Minimise the number and size of windows facing west.
- Provide eaves to shade all walls. Project them from the walls at least 450 mm, but 600 mm or more is even better. Projection over gables can be shorter, as there the sun is heating the roof space, not living space.
- Add canopies over all external doors and sunhoods over all windows. This protects them from direct sunlight and storm driven rain.
- Site service spaces against the west wall, such as garages, laundries and bathrooms, and avoid siting living rooms and bedrooms there.



Above: Shade windows and doors from the sun, especially in the afternoon.

#### Cross ventilation

- Site internal and external living areas to the northeast, to take advantage of the cooling breeze in summer, and morning sun in winter.
- Provide door and window openings on opposite or adjacent walls. That way, cool breezes can easily travel through the entire house to naturally ventilate it.
- Create at least one covered outdoor area where you can dine, socialise, play or dry clothes. These spaces can remain shaded and dry, and open to breezes.
- On Build-to-Boundary lots, a courtyard on the Build-to-Boundary wall allows the cross-ventilation.



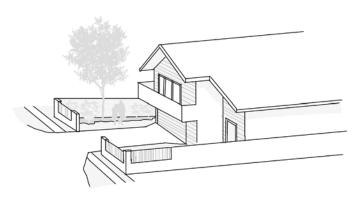
Above: Use breezes to cool your house.

#### Thermal control

- Have a door between the living spaces in your house and the bedrooms. That way you can heat or cool just part of the house, not the whole of it.
- Insulate the walls and ceiling, so you can keep the house cool.
- Ventilate the roof space well, so the heat from the roof doesn't transfer into your living spaces.

## **Creating an attractive streetscape**

- A variety of setbacks creates a more attractive street.
   Please consider setting your house further back than the minimum required.
- Site your living rooms to have an outlook to the street.
   This gives you a good outlook, makes the street safer, and helps build community.
- If your lot adjoins a park, please consider having windows that overlook it. That gives you a pleasant view and makes the park safer. Please also consider designing that side of the house as you would the front of the house, so you house presents attractively to the park.
- The front façade of your house will look more attractive if the garage or carport is not prominent.
   Techniques to downplay this includes; setting the garage door back from the balance of the façade; colouring it the same or a very similar colour to the surrounding wall; having a lot of visual interest in the balance of the façade; and shading the opening with deep eaves or a balcony over.





Above: Incorporate garages into the design of the dwelling and minimise their impact on the street by increasing setbacks and incorporating landscaping to the street

#### **Utilities**

#### Data cabling

You will be glad to know that Somers & Hervey has been developed with underground fibre optic cabling right to your lot ('Fibre to the premises', FTTP). This allows your builder to easily connect fibre-optic cabling into your house.

NBN's Full Fibre allows for a powerful and energy - efficient connection that will deliver access to NBN's fastest residential speed tiers with the ability to reach near gigabit speeds.

Learn more about the benefits of NBN Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) at:

<u>www.nbnco.com.au/learn/network-technology/fibre-to-the-premises-explained-fttp</u>

ww.nbnco.com.au/blog/the-nbn-project/ nbn-technology-101-what-is-fttp

#### Solar power

Plan for an area on your roof to place solar hot water panels and photovoltaic panels. This area should preferably be:

- · north-facing, but other aspects will work too.
- · not seen from the street in front of your house.

The ideal angle of the panel if north facing is 19 degrees. However, the efficiency lost if the angle is 15 degrees off is only roughly 1.5%. So, at Somers & Hervey, mounting directly on a flat roof or on a standard 22.5 degree roof is fine. If you want to optimise winter power, add an extra 15 degrees – so the ideal angle would be 34 degrees.

#### Rainwater collection

Adding a rainwater tank to collect run off from the roof conserves drinking water and saves you money. You can use the water on the garden and to flush the toilet. Site the tank where it is not prominent in the view from the street or from your neighbours, and where it will not obstruct movement. Tanks come in a wide range of sizes, shapes, colours, and materials. Choose one that will complement the colours and materials of your house.



# The garden

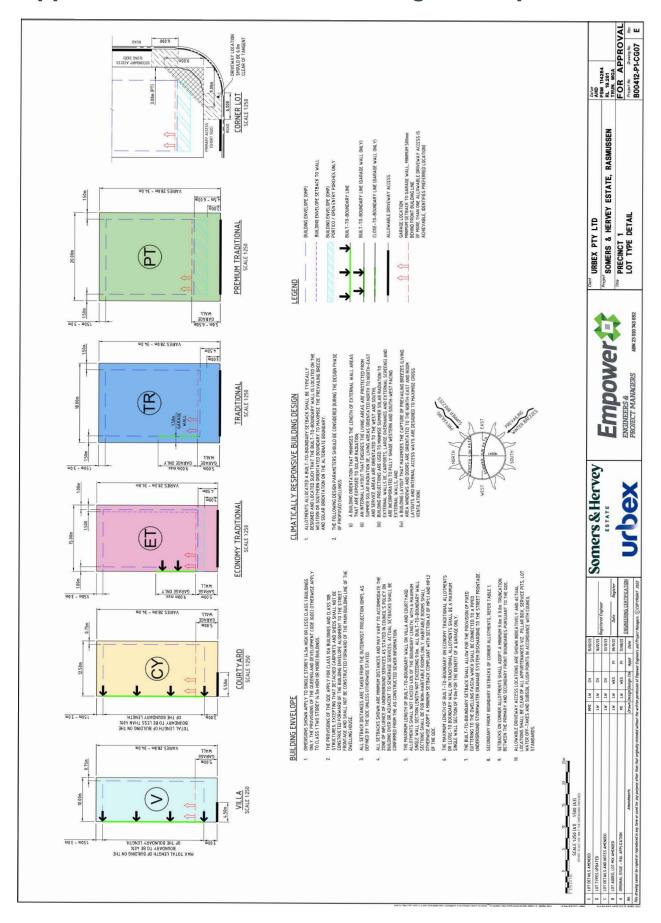
#### Plant selection

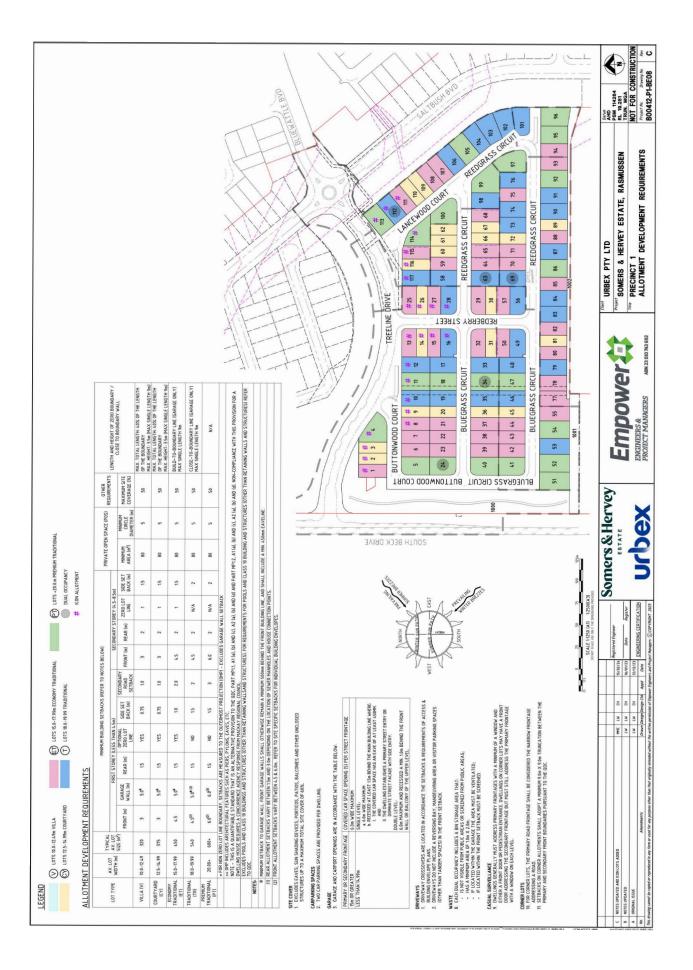
Some plants will thrive with almost no care, and others will need to be coddled almost every day. Please select plants that need little watering after establishment. Trees can shade your house and your outdoor living areas to create a more pleasant living environment and to reduce the need for mechanical cooling.

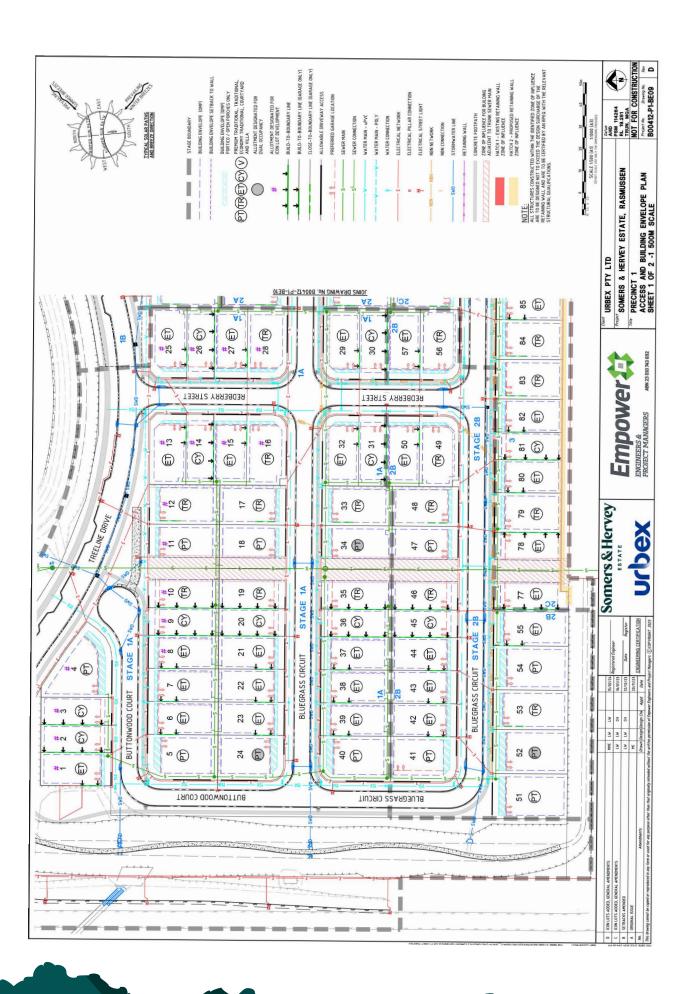
## Irrigation

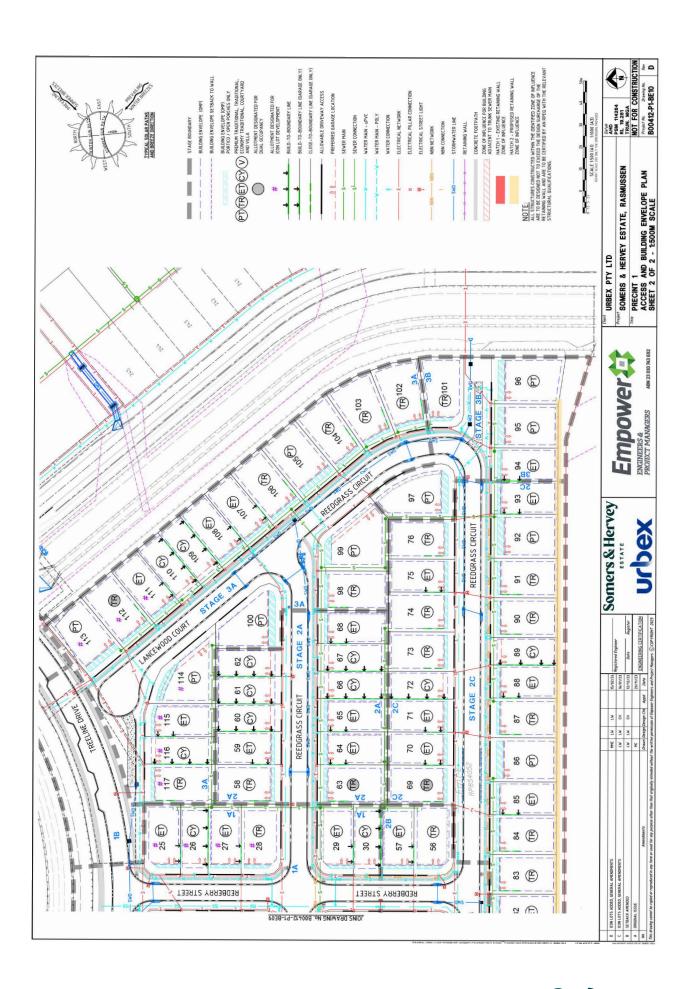
An irrigation system in your garden can save you time, money, and water. A fixed drip irrigation system is the most efficient type for water use.

# **Appendix 1: Access and Building Envelope Plan**









# **Appendix 2: Ornamental plants to grow in the front** yard.

Species	Common Name
ALPHITONIA EXCELSA	RED ASH
BRACHYCHITON DISCOLOR	WHITE KURRAJONG
CUPANIOPSIS ANACARDIODES	TUCKER00
FLINDERSIA AUSTRALIS	CROW'S ASH
LOPHOSTEMON GRANDIFLORUS	NORTHERN SWAMP BOX
MIMUSOPS ELENGI	SPANISH CHERRY
SYZYGIUM FRANCISSI	GIANT WATER GUM
SYZYGIUM TIERNEYANUM	RIVER CHERRY
ATRACTOCARPUS FITZALANII	BROWN NATIVE-GARDENIA
ERYTHRINA VESPERTILIO	BAT'S WING CORAL TREES
HARPULLIA HILLII	TULIP WOOD
HYMENOSPORUM FLAVUM	NATIVE FRANGIPANI
MELALEUCA VIRIDIFLORA	BROAD-LEAVED PAPERBARK
MELICOPE ELLERYANA	CORKWOOD
XANTHOSTEMON CHRYSANTHUS	GOLDEN PENDA
PANDANUS COOKII	COOK'S PANDANUS
WODYETIA BIFURCATA	FOXTAIL PALM
ACMENA ALLYN MAGIC	BRONZE DWARF LILLY PILLY
CALLISTEMON 'CANDY PINK'	BOTTLEBRUSH
CALLISTEMON 'DAWSON RIVER'	DAWSON RIVER WEEPER
CALLISTEMON 'ENDEVOUR'	BOTTLEBRUSH
CALLISTEMON 'HINCHINBROOK'	BOTTLEBRUSH
CALLISTEMON 'MT. STUART'	BOTTLEBRUSH
CALLISTEMON 'WILDERNESS WHITE'	BOTTLEBRUSH
LARSENAIKIA OCHREATA	SCENTED GARDENIA BUSH

Species	Common Name
LEPTOSPERMUM 'CARDWELL'	LEPTOSPERMUM
LEPTOSPERMUM 'PACIFIC BEAUTY'	LEPTOSPERMUM
LEPTOSPERMUM 'PINK CASCADE'	LEPTOSPERMUM
LEPTOSPERMUM POLYGALIFOLIUM	TANTOON
MELALEACA LINARIFOLIA 'CLARET TOPS'	CLARET TOP
MELALEUCA CV. 'REV. GREEN'	REVOLUTION GREEN
MELALEUCA 'GOLDEN GEM'	GOLDEN GEM
MELALEUCA LINARIFOLIA	SNOW IN SUMMER
SYZYGIUM PANICULATUM 'DWARF'	DWARF LILLY PILLY
TRICHODESMA ZEYLANICUM	CAMEL BUSH
XANTHOSTEMON VERTICILLATUS	LITTLE PENDA
CAREX APPRESSA	TALL SEDGE
DIANELLA ATRAXIS	BLUE FLAX LILY
DIANELLA CAERULEA	BLUE FLAX LILY
DIANELLA 'SILVER STREAK'	SILVER STREAK
GARDENIA 'GLENNIE RIVER'	NATIVE GARDENIA
LOMANDRA HYSTRIX	MAT-RUSH
LOMANDRA LONGIFOLIA	MAT-RUSH
PENNISETUM ALOPECUROIDES "NAFRAY"	NATIVE FOUNTAIN GRASS
PHYLLANTHUS MULTIFOLIUS	WATERFALL PLANT
ALPINA CAERULEA	NATIVE GINGER
CORDYLINE AUSTRALIS	CABBAGE TREE
CORDYLINE FRUITICOSA	CORDYLINE
CORDYLINE FRUITICOSA 'RUBRA'	CORDYLINE RUBRA



# **Appendix 3: Checklist**

In the Home Assessment Design Portal, you'll discover a tailored design standards checklist specific to your lot. This checklist exclusively includes the design standards pertinent to your lot, and it's mandatory to complete it as part of your developer approval application.

Additionally, the checklist provided below comprises all design standards outlined in this document.

Please note that while some may not be applicable to your lot, this comprehensive checklist serves as a helpful tool to facilitate the preparation of a high-quality application for developer approval. It's important to understand that the more general checklist does not need to be completed.

ltem	Design Provisions	Compliant Section	Builders Assessment	<b>√</b>
Completed Application Form	Preliminary Colour and material selection     Landscape design			
Supporting Plans and Documentation	<ul><li>Preliminary Site Plan</li><li>Elevations</li><li>Fencing and Driveway details</li><li>Floor plan</li></ul>			
Orientation	<ul> <li>Capture breezes</li> <li>Street outlook</li> <li>Park outlook</li> <li>North East Living areas.</li> <li>Compliance achieved with energy ratings</li> </ul>	Section 2.1 Condition B1		
	Siting and setbacks	Sections 2.2 Condition B2		
Building Envelopes	Build to boundary	Sections 2.2 Conditions B3-B8		
	Close to boundary	Sections 2.2 Conditions B9-B11		
	Designing your home	Section 3.1 Conditions C1 -C7		
	Frontage to secondary streets and parks	Section 3.1 Conditions C8-C10		
Architectural Style	Individual designs	Section 3.1 Condition C11		
	The Roof The Roof run off	Section 3.2 & 3.3 Conditions D1 - D9		
	Walls, doors and windows	Section 3.4 Conditions E1-E5		
	Motor Vehicle Storage	Section 3.5 Conditions F1-F14		4

ltem	Design Provisions	Compliant Section	Builders Assessment	<b>✓</b>
	Materials	Section 3.6		
	Materials	Conditions G1-G5		
Architectural	Colour Scheme	Section 3.7		
Style		Conditions G6-G8		
	Ancillany Equipment	Section 3.8		
	Ancillary Equipment	Conditions H1 - H5		
D .	Privacy is important to	Section 3.9		
Privacy	maintain with the close proximity of neighbours	Condition H6		
	Outdoor living area size	Section 4.1		
		Condition I1		
	Driveways, paths and	Section 4.2		
	crossovers	Conditions I2 - I6		
	Landscaping	Section 4.3		
		Conditions J1 - J5		
The Outside	Secondary structures (sheds,	Section 4.4		
	pergolas, workshops, gazebo, change rooms, aviaries)	Conditions K1 - K7		
	Front yard fencing	Section 4.5		
		Conditions L1 - L4		
	Privacy fencing (side, rear fencing, developer fencing	Section 4.6		
	and retaining walls)	Conditions L5 - L9		
Maintaining Vous Lot	Maintain a clean community	Section 5		
Maintaining Your Lot		Conditions M1-M6		



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