
LPP1 – Local Planning Policy - Retaining Walls

1. Citation

To provide guidance to applicants regarding details regarding the design of retaining walls.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the appropriate location, scale and design of retaining walls.

3. Objectives

To ensure that retaining walls are designed and constructed to be fit for purpose, longevity and are appropriate for the locality.

4. Application of this Policy

This policy applies throughout the district for proposed or unauthorised retaining walls that require approval. Development approval and a Building Permit is required for retaining walls that exceed 500mm in height.

5. Provisions

5.1 General

The retaining wall shall be located entirely within the lot boundary.

Retaining walls shall not straddle common boundaries between lots (walls and associated structure are to be constructed 25mm to 150mm from the boundary and contained fully within the allotment which is being serviced).

Retaining walls abutting existing or proposed road reserve, proposed public open space, parkland, or bushlands areas are to be contained within the proposed allotments serviced (must not straddle common boundaries).


All materials used in the construction of the retaining walls are to have a minimum design life of 100 years.

5.2 Side walls

Retaining walls between residential lots shall not exceed 2.5m in height. Where it is proposed to retain heights in excess of 2.5m, retaining walls shall be terraced and landscaped. The height of the lower-level terrace shall not exceed 1.5m to assist with access for maintenance. The height of the upper level terrace shall not exceed 2.5m. The width of the terrace shall be a minimum of 1.5m.

5.3 Front walls

Retaining walls at street boundaries shall not exceed 1.2m in height. Level differences adjacent to street boundaries exceeding 1.2m are not encouraged but may be approved where terracing and landscaping is provided. Terraces shall be separated by a minimum of 1.5m and each retaining wall shall not exceed 1.2m in height.



6. Legislative and Strategic Context

Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia / Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage *Local Government Guidelines for Subdivisional Development* October 2017 Edition 2.3

Division	Regulatory & Development Services				
Policy Number	LPP1				
Contact Officer	Coordinator Regulatory & Development Services				
Related Legislation	Planning and Development Act 2005				
Related Shire Documents	Nil				
Risk Rating	Low	Review Frequency	As required	Next Review	When required
Date Adopted	18/12/2018				OCM18/12/126

Amendments		
Date	Details of Amendment	Reference
22/06/2021	Updated as part of major review and reformatted.	OCM21/06/071
Previous Policies		
PR005 – Retaining Walls 6.6 – Retaining Walls LBP003 – Local Building Policy 003 – Retaining Walls		