

# Public Notification

**Item 11.1**

**Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday, 30 May 2024**

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## Related Report/Additional Information

Meeting:	Ordinary Meeting	Date:	30 May 2024
Item:	11.1 - Strategic Land Acquisition – Ilkley		
Circulation	25 July 2024		
Officer (title):	Coordinator, Biodiversity & Waterways Policy	Approving GE (title):	Group Executive Liveability & Natural Assets Group
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In response to Council Resolution (OM24/41) Ordinary Meeting 30 May 2024,

**That Council:**

- a) **delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into negotiations, execute all documentation and finalise the acquisition of the identified strategic land parcel, Ilkley and**
- b) **authorise the Chief Executive Officer to publicly release details relating to the site location and contract price for the identified strategic land parcel once the negotiations have been finalised and the transfer of ownership of land has been registered with the Titles Registry.**

### Minute Action:

In delivering on the strategic directions of the Sunshine Coast *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017*, Council has acquired Lot 1 on 311 Wilsons Road, Ilkley (1SP263994) for the contract price of \$850,000 with settlement on 28 June 2024 as per Council resolution.

The acquisition of this land assists in the delivery of the *Environment and Liveability Strategy's* Transformational Actions including:

*Transformational Action 6 – Connecting nature and people - Connecting our valued habitat areas to support our native flora and fauna and providing the community with opportunities to participate in conservation and to experience the natural environment.*

This property adjoins the existing 141.4 hectares of Council conservation estate that includes Tall Gums Environment Reserve and Maroochy Bushland Botanic Gardens in Ilkley.

### Environmental values

The property is relatively steep and dominated by tall open eucalypt forest on a sandstone ridge, with moderate to steep moist gullies leading into Tall Gums Environment Reserve. There is a small, cleared ridgetop with a medium-sized shed and some fruit trees. The eucalypt species include preferred koala feed trees and some large hollow-bearing species that provide potential roosting and nesting habitat for threatened species known to occur along the Mooloolah Range and the floodplains of the Mooloolah River National Park to the east.

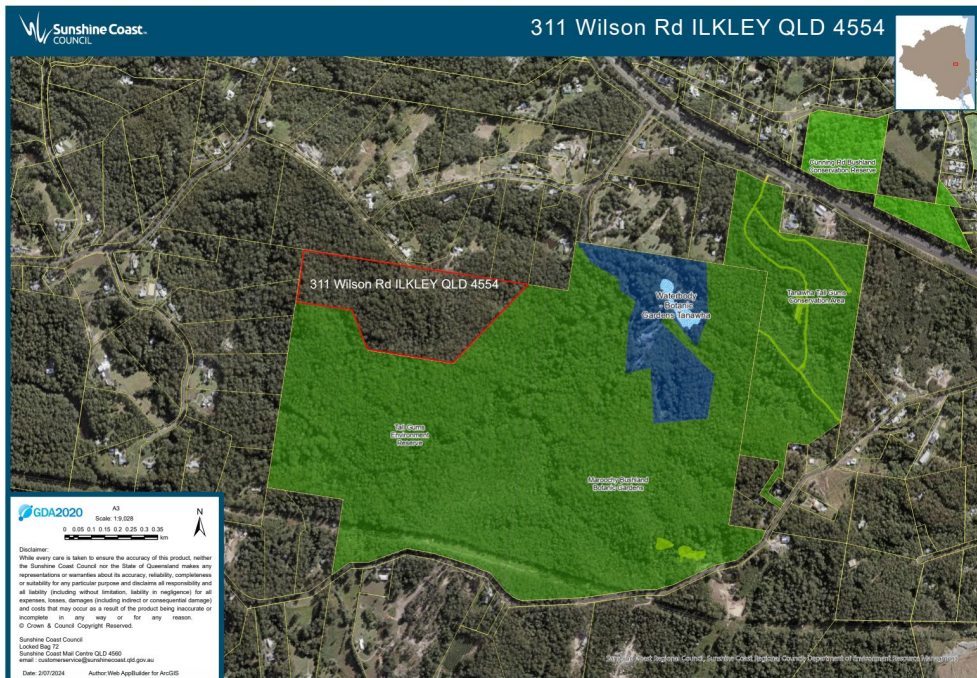


This property is a priority for acquisition due to the good quality conservation and biodiversity values. The acquisition of this property would:

- assist to expand and connect the conservation network by linking two current environmental reserves
- assist to consolidate the broader core habitat area and environment reserve network
- protect State identified Core Koala Habitat
- contribute to the protection and ecological functionality of an ELS identified Strategic Biodiversity Corridors
- protect High Value Ecosystem Functions (EFs).

**Management**

- This future reserve would be categorised as ‘Bushland Reserve’, a category used for the protection and enhancement of habitats.
- The acquisition of this land presents opportunities to improve access into the adjacent environment reserves for council’s management purposes and potentially for the development of recreational trails, subject to planning and investigations.
- The vegetation condition within the property is very good to excellent, therefore ongoing weed management activities are considered to be low. Open areas on the ridgetop would naturally regenerate well with an intact native canopy present.
- The property has an interface with a number of rural residential properties and fire management will need to be considered as part of the broader natural area management plan.



**Figure 1. Recent acquisition at 311 Wilson Rd ILKLEY QLD 4554**