

## **Policy Goals**

The purpose of the Latrobe City Council Half Cost Fencing Policy is to set out clear responsibilities for the construction, maintenance or replacement of boundary fencing abutting Council owned property, and to comply with the requirements of the Fences Act 1968.

## **Relationship to Council Plan & Latrobe 2021**

This policy relates to the following Strategic Objectives contained within the Council Plan and outlined in Latrobe 2021: The Vision for Latrobe Valley:-

### **Sustainability**

***To promote the responsible and sustainable care of our diverse built and natural environment for the use and enjoyment of the people who make up the vibrant community of Latrobe Valley. To provide leadership and to facilitate a well connected, interactive economic environment in which to do business.***

*Built Environment: "By developing clear directions and strategies through consultation with the community ensuring sustainable and balanced development."*

- Develop and implement asset management strategies for Latrobe City infrastructure including whole-of-life maintenance requirements.
- Ensure public infrastructure is maintained to meet community aspirations.

### **Liveability**

***To promote and support social, recreational, cultural and community life by providing both essential and innovative amenities, services and facilities within the municipality.***

*Recreational Liveability: "By enriching the vibrancy and diversity of the community life through promoting and supporting recreational services and facilities in the municipality."*

- Align open space requirements of the community with useable public open space.

### **Governance**

***To ensure governance and leadership through a strong commitment and adherence to democratic processes and legislative requirements.***

*Legislative Governance: "By ensuring adherence to legislative requirements."*

- Ensure compliance with other relevant legislation.

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## Policy Implementation

### The Council's Responsibility

Latrobe City will contribute half of the cost of the construction, replacement or maintenance of a standard fence abutting a Council owned property. Latrobe City will contribute half of the cost of a standard fence where a property owner wishes to construct an approved non standard fence of greater value.

The Council is not responsible for contributing to the cost of the construction, maintenance or replacement of a fence abutting a "road" as defined by the Road Management Act, Clause 9 of the Latrobe City Council Local Law No. 2 or as shown on a Plan of Subdivision.

### Fencing Standards

Latrobe City Council has defined the following as standard fences for urban and rural areas:

#### Urban Standard Fence:-

1650mm High paling fence with concrete posts at 2700mm centres; hardwood rails at the top and bottom and a 75mm x 38mm hardwood rails at the centre; a 150mm x 38mm concrete plinth; and 12mm thick by 1500mm long hardwood palings with tops sawn to line.

#### Rural Standard Fence:-

1200mm high post and wire fence with 5 no barbed wires and fence 100mm diameter treated pine posts at 3000mm centres.

### The Property Owner's Responsibility

The property owner must obtain and submit to Latrobe City three (3) written quotations from reputable and recognised fencing contractors or builders along with a Notice to Fence pursuant to the Fences Act 1968. In addition it is the property owners responsibility:-

- To obtain approval from Latrobe City to construct a non standard fence abutting a Council owned property prior to construction.
- To obtain prior approval from Latrobe City to construct a gate at a boundary fence to access a Council Reserve and to pay all costs associated with the construction, maintenance or replacement of the gate.
- To pay all costs associated with the repair or replacement of any damaged section of a boundary fence abutting a Council owned property where damage has occurred through the action or neglect of the property owner or occupier.
- To comply with the procedures developed and implemented by Latrobe City in respect of fencing construction requirements.

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### **Gates at Recreation Reserves**

Latrobe City will not grant approval to any property owner to construct a pedestrian or vehicle access gate at a boundary fence to access a Council recreation reserve.

Property owners will remove an existing pedestrian or vehicle access gate at a boundary fence that accesses a Council recreation reserve when the boundary fence is being replaced.

This policy has been reviewed after giving proper consideration to all the rights contained within the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*; and any reasonable limitation to human rights can be demonstrably justified.

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Date : 20 / 05 / 2009.