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SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO2.**

LITTLE STRINGYBARK CREEK CATCHMENT

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

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The Little Stringybark Creek catchment has been selected by Melbourne Water as a pilot restoration project. The aim of the project is to restore the ecological function and health of the creek to a level consistent with a natural stream. This will be achieved by managing the quantity, timing and quality of stormwater runoff entering the creek through the use of water sensitive urban design (water cycle management) in all new development and works in the catchment.

The Little Stringybark Creek is a tributary to the larger Stringybark Creek which flows into the Yarra River. The creek is located 37 kilometres from Melbourne and has an urban catchment of approximately 300 hectares at its headwaters, and a total catchment of approximately 800 hectares at its confluence with the Stringybark Creek. Development in the catchment is a mix of urban and semi-rural. Part of the suburb of Mount Evelyn is located in the upper catchment, while the lower catchment is rural and primarily used for grazing. The lower catchment, in particular, has sections of very good riparian vegetation where the creek flows in a natural curving channel form.

Protecting the natural flow regime of the Little Stringybark Creek and ensuring good water quality are critical to maintaining the biodiversity and ecological processes of this Creek as well as downstream waterways including Port Phillip Bay. Further development, in particular drainage from impervious surfaces (roofs, roads and paving), is a threat to the health of the creek.

In 2012, the University of Melbourne prepared *Ensuring Protection of the Little Stringybark Creek, Evidence for a Proposed Design Standard for New Developments - Technical Background Report*, which identified incremental urban development as a key threat to the health of the stream and proposed new standards to protect water quality in the catchment. The report demonstrates impervious surfaces which are directly connected to streams by stormwater pipes; degrade the stream in the following ways:

- A far greater volume of run-off is delivered more frequently, causing erosion and channel enlargement and destroying physical habitat.
- Unfiltered runoff is typically of poor quality with high levels of nutrients, sediment and toxicants.
- Hard surfaces prevent infiltration, potentially starving streams of vital dry weather flows (baseflow).

The ecological protection objectives contained in this schedule have been developed specifically for the Little Stringybark Creek catchment.

2.0 Environmental objectives to be achieved

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- To return the ecological function and health of the Little Stringybark Creek to a level consistent with a natural stream.
- To ensure stormwater run-off and water quality entering the Little Stringybark Creek from new development maintains:
  - natural frequency of surface run-off
  - natural volumes of run-off
  - natural infiltration rates and volumes of run-off and
  - natural concentrations of pollutants.

- To protect the Little Stringybark Creek from impacts associated with new development which increases impervious surfaces.
- To implement water sensitive urban design across the urban catchment to better manage the quantity, timing and quality of stormwater run-off entering the Little Stringybark Creek.
- To ensure the ecological function and health of the Little Stringybark Creek by requiring all new development to meet minimum stormwater standards (stormwater retention score) outlined in this schedule.
- To promote the use of best practice water sensitive urban design, including stormwater re-use.
- To mitigate the detrimental effect of new development on downstream waterways, through the application of best practice stormwater management using water sensitive urban design.
- To ensure a new development achieves a minimum Stormwater Retention Score (SRS) of 6 as shown in the development standards in Table 1 of this schedule.

Table 1- Standard Treatment Systems Deemed to Satisfy Stormwater Retention Score of 6

Impervious area (m²)	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7
	3kl tank to toilet overflow to raingarden	3kl tank to toilet & washing overflow to raingarden	3kl tank to toilet overflow to trench	3kl tank to toilet & washing overflow trench	Raingarden only (m²)	Infiltration trench only (m)	Permeable pavement (m²) (impervious surface must drain into pervious paver)
	Raingarden m²		Infiltration trench (m)				
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
50	1	1	2	1	2	3.5	3
100	1	1	4	2	4	7	6
150	2	1	9	3	5	11	7
200	3	1	13	5	5	15	9
250	4	2	17	7	6	19	12
300	5	2	22	9	7	21	15
350	6	3	29	13	9	25	18
400	7	4	35	19	11	29	21
450	8	5	41	25	13	33	24

Note: A Stormwater Retention Score of 6 indicates that 60% of stormwater run-off can be effectively mitigated through water sensitive urban design as outlined in Table 1.

3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is not required to:

- Construct a building or construct or carry out works that create impervious surfaces less than 10 square metres.
- Subdivide land.
- Remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation.

4.0 Decision guidelines

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The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the Scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority.

- Whether a new development achieves a minimum Stormwater Retention Score (SRS) of 6 as shown in the development standards in Table 1 of this schedule.

In the event that an application does not achieve a minimum SRS score of 6, the responsible authority should consider the following:

- Any comments from the relevant water management authority (Melbourne Water).
- The extent to which the development meets the objectives and requirements of this policy.
- The water sensitive urban design response.
- Opportunities for water conservation and reuse that influence the use of water sensitive urban design.
- Whether the development incorporates works to improve the quality and quantity of stormwater exiting the site.
- Whether the proposal will significantly add to the stormwater discharge or adversely affect water quality entering the catchment.
- The level of ongoing management required to achieve and maintain the desired stormwater quality measures that will be used during the construction phase to prevent a loss of stormwater quality as a result of building activities, such as silt traps.
- The requirements and provisions of any relevant catchment management plan.
- The capability of the land to absorb and retain runoff.
- The significance of any remnant vegetation which may be affected in meeting the objectives of this schedule.

This schedule ceases to have effect after 12 March 2019.