

Ycanopy Proposal 2023

The following project has been drafted by the City of Bunbury's Youth Advisory Council (YAC), and relates to an increase in canopy cover on the City's recreation spaces. The purpose of this draft project is to demonstrate to the 2023-2025 cohort of YAC a potential project which could be implemented over their time on YAC.

The 2021-2023 cohort of YAC determined that advocacy work would be a key focus of their group. Within this, environment, sustainability and biodiversity were key things that YAC wanted to address. In the later stages of the cohort, the 2021-2023 YAC drafted the Ycanopy project at the Youth Leadership Workshop in May 2023.

The project aims to meet the outcomes of the City's Community Strategic Plan, Sustainability and Environment Strategy and Bunbury's Greening Plan.

Ycanopy will improve the connection between young people and existing community groups that undertake activities in the community. The benefit of this layout is that it can be pivoted to meet the interests of the 2023-2025 cohort of YAC. The following information is skewed toward the project achieving environmental outcomes.

Ycanopy aims to improve the canopy cover in the City of Bunbury's public recreation spaces. Outcomes expected from this project include: improved community connectedness, improved community resilience to climate changes (greater proportion of shade in public areas), increased biodiversity, decreased water use in public spaces, and improved amenity in the Bunbury area.

Potential layout for project:

The Ycanopy project is potentially double-pronged.

1. Ycanopy can serve as a connection point between young people and existing community groups. This would be able to pivot to the interests of individual young people and the needs of the community.
2. Develop and implement a project to improve the canopy cover in Bunbury
 - a. Garner interest among young people, school groups & community groups for further support for planting native species endemic to local niche habitats.
 - b. Liaise with Elders group to identify key areas to rehabilitate & undertake story capture where required.
 - c. Liaise with the City of Bunbury's Environmental Officer to determine upcoming areas for revegetation.
 - d. Undertake reveg work alongside participating community group(s).
 - e. Rinse and repeat steps c & d.

Key contacts made in relation to this project include:

Greater Bunbury Elders Group	Contact via Aunty Karen Jetta at the City of Bunbury	Elders meeting has been attended & Elders are generally supportive of our idea. They're keen to see more biodiversity (incl insects & birds) closer to the Bunbury city centre.
City of Bunbury Environmental Officer	Ben Howell (bhowell@bunbury.wa.gov.au)	Ben's been met with and is supportive. YAC would be able to support initiatives he's involved with in the community.
City of Bunbury Landscape Architect	Carol cmarter@bunbury.wa.gov.au	YAC's met with Carol and she's also supportive. Carol suggested we also meet with the City's tree officer (I'm unsure of their name)
Community member	Amanda Yip (cr.yip@council.bunbury.wa.gov.au)	Clr Amanda Yip is a great community contact to have. She's involved in existing planting groups and is interested in more planting happening around Bunbury. Her email address may need to be updated soon.
Community member	Ben Andrew (cr.andrew@council.bunbury.wa.gov.au)	Clr Ben Andrew is interested in this project and is an asset in terms of community connections. I'd recommend catching up with him to soundboard ideas.
Community member	Demi (young person) 0411 709 605	Demi's super passionate about native plants, particularly the super localised ones. She's can be a little shy at first, so I'd (MK) would be happy to introduce her to a new contact so she's more comfortable :)
ECU (haven't made contact yet)	Robyn Paice (r.paice@ecu.edu.au)	Robyn is an ECU contact I've been given but haven't made contact with at this point.
ECU (haven't made contact yet)	Sora Estrella (s.marin-estrella@ecu.edu.au)	Sora is an ECU contact I've been given but haven't made contact with at this point.
Manea	Michele Watson (michele.watson@education.wa.edu.au)	Michele is incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about innovative solutions to real-world problems. She'd be good to chat with to gauge ideas and garner assistance.
City of Bunbury 'Friends of' groups	Contact via CoB	Connection groups that can help get the whole thing off the ground. Ultimately, the more people who are involved the more sustainable the project will be (many hands make light work, etc).

