

# Sustainability and Environmental Strategy

2023 - 2028

## Our Commitments

**Vision:** The City is a leader in sustainability and empowers the community to live in an environmentally sustainable way.

### This strategy works towards these Sustainable Development Goals:



### Goals:

- Achieve sustainable outcomes to meet the needs of current and future generations.
- Align the City with Australia's commitment to limit global temperature rise to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels as part of the Paris Agreement and contribute to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

### Desired Outcomes:

#### Governance:

- The City of Bunbury is a leader in sustainability and considers the environment, community, culture and economy in all decision-making processes.

#### Energy and Emissions:

- Increased energy efficiency and renewable energy used by the City's operations and the community, resulting in reduced fossil fuel derived energy.
- Significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from energy used by the City's operations.
- The community is supported to implement energy efficiency measures and adopt renewable energy technologies.

#### Sustainable Water:

- Improved efficient use of scheme water and groundwater used by the City's operations and the community.
- Increased use of alternative (fit-for-purpose) water sources.
- Increased water sensitive urban designs.

#### Circular Economy and Waste:

- A sustainable low waste, circular economy.
- Reduced waste generated and increased resource recovery.
- Reduced landfill and greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.
- Reduced litter and dumping.

### Sustainable Transport and Urban Infrastructure:

- Increased use of active and public transport systems.
- Increased use of renewable energy powered vehicles.
- Increased access to electric vehicle charging stations.

### Greening and Biodiversity:

- A natural environment that is cared for, preserved and enhanced.
- Increased tree canopy on public and private land.
- Improved biodiversity rehabilitation and protection.
- Improved public open space and park amenity.
- Biosecurity threats are minimised, identified and managed.

### Climate Resilience:

- An aware and resilient City and community equipped to respond to natural disasters and emergencies.

### Community, Culture and Wellbeing:

- Improved employee and community satisfaction and engagement in sustainability initiatives.
- Higher quality of life.
- More inclusive and equitable communities.

### A few key targets:

#### Corporate:

- Meet corporate net zero emissions by 2040 and aspire for 2035.
- Transition City-owned buildings to 100% renewable energy by 2035 and aspire to transition by 2030.
- Phase out natural gas in City-owned buildings by 2040 and aspire to transition by 2035.
- Meet targets identified through achieving Waterwise Council endorsement by 2025/26 and Gold Council Status by 2030.
- 100% of City operations and projects consider circular economy principles and promote sustainable outcomes by 2023.
- Transition to zero emissions passenger vehicle fleet by 2035 and low and zero emissions fleet by 2040.
- Increase urban canopy cover (from the 2020 baseline) by 5% by 2028, 10% by 2040 and aspire to increase by 20% by 2040.
- Increase the Community Scorecard Performance Index Score on the objectives under the core performance area of Planet to above 70 by 2027.

#### Community:

- 40% of dwellings have small-scale PV systems installed in Bunbury by 2028.
- Reduce community scheme water use in Bunbury (from 2020/21 levels) by 8% per person by 2028.
- Aspire to align with WA's Waste Strategy 2030 targets.
- 2% of Bunbury residents commute via cycling, 4% walking and 4% public transport by 2028.
- Reduce rate of canopy loss on private land by 2025 and increase canopy cover on private land (from the 2020 baseline) by 2% by 2030 and 5% by 2040.

**Vision:** The City is a leader in sustainability and empowers the community to live in an environmentally sustainable way.

## Objectives:

### 1. Governance:

- 1.1 Ensure the City's governance practices support improved sustainability outcomes.
- 1.2 Improve the sustainability outcomes of the City's procurement process and supply chain.
- 1.3 Ensure sustainability is considered for all new City projects and policies.
- 1.4 Communicate, monitor and evaluate the City's progress in sustainability performance.
- 1.5 Seek opportunities to knowledge build and collaborate on sustainability outcomes with key stakeholders, local government networks and working groups.
- 1.6 Advocate on behalf of the community on areas that are outside of the City's control.

### 2. Energy and Emissions:

- 2.1 Maximise energy efficiency of City owned lighting, buildings and operations.
- 2.2 Transition City owned buildings to renewable energy and electrification.
- 2.3 Support and promote energy efficiency within the community and local businesses.
- 2.4 Support and promote the transition to renewable energy and electrification within the community and local businesses.
- 2.5 Measure the City's corporate emissions profile and monitor progress in reducing emissions.
- 2.6 Seek opportunities to collaborate on emissions reduction and capture with key stakeholders and adjoining local governments.

### 3. Sustainable Water:

- 3.1 Maximise water efficiency in City owned buildings and operations.
- 3.2 Utilise alternative (fit-for-purpose) water sources for City operations and irrigation where possible.
- 3.3 Support and promote sustainable water management and efficiency within the community, local businesses and educational and health institutions.
- 3.4 Support and promote the use of alternative (fit-for-purpose) water sources within the community and local businesses.
- 3.5 Expand the City's knowledge and monitoring of water consumption, management and quality.
- 3.6 Continue to increase the amount of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) initiatives within the City.
- 3.7 Increase community education and awareness on sustainable water management.

### 4. Circular Economy and Waste:

- 4.1 Avoid and reduce waste generation from the City's projects, operations, events and owned buildings.
- 4.2 Apply a sustainability and circular economy lens to the renewal, upgrade and construction of City assets and buildings.
- 4.3 Avoid and reduce community and local business waste generation.
- 4.4 Increase resource recovery and reduce contamination within waste streams.
- 4.5 Promote and encourage sustainable low waste private developments.
- 4.6 Investigate and support the development of new alternative waste technologies.
- 4.7 Encourage and support litter prevention and clean up initiatives.

### 5. Sustainable Transport and Urban Infrastructure:

- 5.1 Transition to a low and zero emission vehicle fleet.
- 5.2 Drive and support the development of electric vehicle fast charging infrastructure in Bunbury.
- 5.3 Promote and facilitate active lifestyles and public transport use within Bunbury.

### 6. Greening and Biodiversity:

- 6.1 Improve our understanding, management and monitoring of natural areas, public open space and urban canopy.
- 6.2 Protect, promote and facilitate the enhancement of Bunbury's urban forest and biodiversity.
- 6.3 Identify and prioritise locally significant natural areas to achieve the greening and biodiversity desired outcomes and targets.
- 6.4 Apply a framework that promotes sustainability outcomes for the City's landscaping projects and natural area management.
- 6.5 Increase community education and awareness on the protection and enhancement of natural areas and systems.
- 6.6 Support and partner with key stakeholders, including Traditional Owners, Knowledge Holders and Elders, to improve the protection and rehabilitation of natural areas, marine ecosystems and local wildlife.

## Goals:

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- Align the City with Australia's commitment to limit global temperature rise to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels as part of the Paris Agreement and contribute to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

### 7. Climate Resilience:

- 7.1 Improve our understanding of climate change risks and impacts to the City's services, operations, owned buildings, the community, and local businesses.
- 7.2 Increase the resilience of the City's services, operations and owned buildings to climate change impacts.
- 7.3 Increase the resilience of our natural areas and coastline to the impacts of climate change.
- 7.4 Increase awareness and communication of climate change risks and impacts to the community and local businesses.
- 7.5 Increase the resilience of the community and local businesses to prepare, respond and recover from the impacts of climate change.
- 7.6 Seek opportunities to collaborate with key stakeholders, including Traditional Owners, Knowledge Holders and Elders, adjoining local governments and Federal and State government on climate adaptation.

### 8. Community, Culture and Wellbeing:

- 8.1 Increase community satisfaction with the City's efforts to transition to a sustainable city.
- 8.2 Improve community resilience and liveability through increasing sustainable designs and greenery.
- 8.3 Increase equitable education and showcasing of sustainability initiatives and innovation within the City.
- 8.4 Empower the community to take a shared leadership approach to sustainability challenges and opportunities.