

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.