



# Climate Emergency Action Plan 2023-28





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Private Bag 3, PO St Kilda, VIC 3182

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Polska	9679 9812	Other	9679 9814

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## Community Vision

# Proudly Port Phillip

A liveable and vibrant City that enhances the wellbeing of our community

## Strategic Directions



### **Inclusive Port Phillip**

A City that is a place for all members of our community, where people feel supported and comfortable being themselves and expressing their identities.



### **Liveable Port Phillip**

A City that is a great place to live, where our community has access to high quality public spaces, development and growth are well-managed, and it is safer and easy to connect and travel within.



### **Sustainable Port Phillip**

A City that has a sustainable future, where our environmentally aware and active community benefits from living in a bayside city that is greener, cooler, cleaner and climate resilient.



### **Vibrant Port Phillip**

A City that has a flourishing economy, where our community and local businesses thrive, and we maintain and enhance our reputation as one of Melbourne's cultural and creative hubs.



### **Well-Governed Port Phillip**

A City that is a leading local government authority, where our community and our organisation are in a better place as a result of our collective efforts.

# Climate Emergency Action Plan 2023-28

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## Womin djeka

Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the people of the Kulin Nations. We pay our respect to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

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Please consider the environment before printing.

# Mayor's message

I am delighted to present the **Climate Emergency Action Plan 2023–28**, our five year roadmap responding to the climate emergency underway internationally and in our very own backyard.

There are five priorities at the heart of our Action Plan:

- enhancing community resilience
- minimising greenhouse gas emissions
- enabling more sustainable transport options
- resilient and liveable public spaces
- planning for buildings and places.

This Plan follows our Council's declaration of a climate emergency in 2019. Since then, we have been responding with a range of actions embedded in 10 different strategies, plans and policies.

These include:

- improving our energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions – achieving carbon neutrality for Council operations in 2021
- sourcing 100 per cent of our electricity from renewable energy
- upgrading our stormwater drains and using water sensitive urban design to reduce flooding and reduce pollutants in our waterways and bays

- introducing a food organics and garden organics (FOGO) recycling service to help drastically cut waste going landfill
- transitioning to zero emission fleet vehicles
- replacing streetlights with energy-efficient LEDs and installing 610 kilowatts of solar panels on Council buildings
- using new methods to design our roads and buildings to make them more efficient and resilient to extreme weather.

One of the purposes of this document is to provide an easy reference point to see what actions are planned over the next five years and which strategy they belong to.

This is important as we are eager for our community to join us in responding to the challenges of climate change as we focus on public spaces and places. We have included measurable targets and practical actions as every individual, household, and business has a part to play in helping cut greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for increased extreme weather conditions, from heatwaves to flooding.

We are lucky to have wonderful environmental organisations in our City, including the Port Phillip EcoCentre, whose work may also spark your interest.

We've also included advocacy calls to the Victorian and Australian Governments as we need state, national and international action to drastically reduce warming emissions.

I invite you to dip into this Action Plan and companion documents, including our recently updated Act and Adapt Strategy 2023–28, for ideas about how you can join us in ensuring a greener, cooler, cleaner and climate resilient City.



**Councillor Heather Cunsolo**  
Mayor, City of Port Phillip



# Executive summary

City of Port Phillip Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, recognising that climate change is a global challenge and everyone must help to respond. This declaration responds to the critical climate situation and demonstrates our commitment to take action

The climate emergency impacts everyone in our community. We have joined local, state and national governments worldwide to play our part in reducing global temperature rise and responding to the climate emergency.

The year we declared the climate emergency, 2019, was Australia’s hottest and driest on record. Since then, we have had three years of storms and extreme rainfall.

Storm damage in Port Phillip in October 2021 took several weeks to repair. In March 2022, significant erosion occurred at Elwood foreshore. Then in October 2022, we again faced flash flooding in Elwood and South Melbourne, with cars stranded as people drove into flood waters.

Our community is also experiencing the heat-related impacts of the climate emergency, such as hotter urban spaces, disruption to transport and services, power outages and increased power bills.

The science is clear: climate change is already impacting plants, animals and people across the globe, and humanity has a narrow window to prevent further disastrous impacts on our planet.

Locally, both Council and our community can respond. The United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says that a liveable future for all is possible if we take urgent climate action (March 2023). The IPCC reports that there are feasible and effective options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to human-caused climate change. The solutions and technology exist for the transition to a low-carbon future.

## Purpose

This document is Council’s action plan for tackling the climate emergency. It outlines how City of Port Phillip will respond and collaborate with our community to cut emissions and prepare for the future. Council can’t address the climate emergency alone and we will work to mobilise the community to take action. The Climate Emergency Action Plan (Plan) also includes what you can do as the Port Phillip community and what we call on the Victorian and Australian Governments to do. Our Plan includes measurable targets and practical actions to respond to the climate emergency and adapt and thrive.

We recognise that planning and action are required to bring about change. This document outlines our commitment to action across the next five years.

### We are focused on five priorities:

1. Enhancing community resilience
2. Minimising greenhouse gas emissions
3. Enabling more sustainable transport options
4. Creating resilient and liveable public spaces
5. Planning for buildings and places

The Plan brings together actions from many Council strategies. It builds on our existing commitments under the following documents:

- Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
- Car Share Policy 2023–28
- Don’t Waste It! Waste Strategy 2022–25
- Fishermans Bend Water Sensitive City Strategy
- Foreshore Management Plan 2012
- Move, Connect Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28
- Places for People: Public Spaces Strategy 2022–32
- South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy 2023–27
- Greening Port Phillip Strategy.

### How to read this Plan

This Plan is divided into five priorities. Under each, we describe the priority, list our highlights so far and define our indicators, targets and actions for the next five years. Alongside each action, we detail the Council strategy it comes from. The document concludes with a table summarising all our indicators and targets.

## Our role

As a local government, we are uniquely positioned to respond to the climate emergency. Our Plan includes cutting emissions, adapting to a changing climate and increasing our community's resilience. Our transition to a low-carbon future includes ensuring our transport is sustainable and that our buildings and public spaces are climate-resilient.

We are directly influencing as much as we can. Council operations produce 0.6 per cent of the overall carbon emissions in our City. We have achieved net zero greenhouse gas emissions from our operations, continue to reduce our gross emissions and help to reduce our community's emissions. Each individual, household, business and visitor has a part to play in our joint response. We want to involve and engage everyone in Port Phillip and support our vulnerable community members to prepare for the changed climate.

Beyond City of Port Phillip, we also need state, national and international action to drastically reduce warming emissions in Australia and worldwide, so we've included advocacy positions – what we want the Victorian and Australian Governments to do.

## What we've done so far

While the climate emergency requires accelerated investment in our assets and changes to how we deliver our services, our declaration of a climate emergency comes after many years of action to reduce our impact. We've also worked with our community and partners to prepare for and adapt to climate change.

We've been improving our energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions – achieving carbon neutrality for Council operations in 2021. We source 100 per cent of our electricity from renewable energy. We are upgrading our stormwater drains and using water sensitive urban design to reduce flooding and reduce pollutants in our waterways and bays. Our new food and garden organics recycling service is part of our work to drastically cut waste to landfill. Our fleet is transitioning to zero emissions vehicles and we're switching Council buildings from gas to electricity. We've replaced streetlights with energy-efficient LEDs and installed 610 kilowatts of solar panels on Council buildings.

Using new methods to design our roads and buildings, we're making them more efficient and resilient to extreme weather. By promoting shared e-bike and e-scooter trials and extending the bike network throughout our City, we are encouraging active transport. Our urban forest is flourishing and we've planted 35,000 indigenous plants along our foreshore.

We are five years into our Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy (Strategy), first published in 2018 and updated in 2023. The Strategy establishes a pathway to transition Port Phillip into a greener, cooler, more liveable City where we all reduce our environmental impact and are more resilient to climate change.



# Listening to our community

We are proud to have an engaged and committed community who are passionate about sustainability. We need to work collaboratively with the community to meet our sustainability challenges head-on, so we need your help.

We engaged with our community during the development of the Plan. We held workshops and received formal submissions from our engaged community and advisory groups. We ran three community face-to-face pop-up events, received 30 responses through Have Your Say and received 615 responses to our sustainability survey.

What you told us:

- Focus on what Council can do to support the community to make a difference.
- Focus on increasing access to active transport.
- Focus on increasing greening and the amount of open space within the municipality.
- Provide more detail about Council's initiatives.

We've listened to what you said and combined it with international best practice, current research and what we've already learned, to shape and inform a Plan that will guide us all to achieve our vision together.

## Background

### What is the climate emergency?

Climate change is already impacting ecosystems and human systems across the globe. We are seeing higher temperatures, increased flooding, rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and more extreme storms. We'll feel even more severe impacts if we fail to mitigate our emissions and adapt as a matter of urgency.

The IPCC released the Synthesis report on the state of the global climate in March 2023. The IPCC states that it is unequivocal that human activities have warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land. Global temperatures are now 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels.

City of Port Phillip's Climate Emergency resolution, adopted on 18 September 2019, states that Council:

1. Declares that climate change, including sea level rise and mass species extinction, poses serious risks to the people of Port Phillip and Australia and should be treated as an emergency.
2. Updates all relevant Council strategies and policies to incorporate and embed this declaration.
3. Requests that the CEO considers the impact of the climate emergency as part of organisational decision-making and planning.
4. Notes City of Port Phillip's commitment to the following strategies: Move, Connect Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28; Don't Waste It! Waste Management Strategy 2018–28; and Act and Adapt: Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2018–28.
5. Notes that City of Port Phillip, through its Act and Adapt Strategy, has a focus on reducing emissions, reducing contamination of land and water, restoring biodiversity, and adaptation to climate change, including reduction of the heat island effect and other health issues related to a warming climate.
6. Notes City of Port Phillip's membership of the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project and its commitment to generating renewable energy through solar on council assets.
7. Requests that regular reporting on the organisation-wide response to the climate emergency be included as a permanent item in the CEO report.
8. Advocates to the Victorian and Australian Governments and parliaments to declare a climate emergency and take action to drastically reduce warming emissions in Australia and across the world.

## What impacts are we seeing in Port Phillip and globally?

### IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

#### Port Phillip is already experiencing the impacts of climate change

##### Since 1910 globally<sup>1</sup>

 Temperature increase  
↑ 1.2°C


 Rainfall decrease  
↓

##### Since 1966 in Melbourne

 Sea level rise  
↑ 10 cm

##### In 2019

 Australia's hottest year on record  
↑ 1.52°C  
Above the long-term average

 Australia's driest year on record  
↓ 40%  
Less rain than the long-term average

#### Looking ahead: climate change projections

##### By the 2050s<sup>1</sup>

 Temperature increase  
↑ Up to 2.4°C

Temperature increase and double the number of hot days. This may lead to health impacts, fire risks and heat-related deaths.

 Extreme weather

More extreme storms and intense downpours with declining winter rainfall. This may lead to property and infrastructure damage, biodiversity loss, water shortages, disruption to services and safety issues.

 Sea level rise  
↑ 24 cm



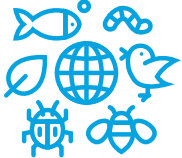

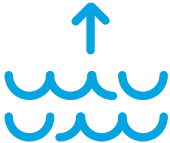

Rising seas may lead to property damage, erosion, loss of open space and safety issues.

<sup>1</sup> Victoria's Climate Science Report 2019.



# IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The impacts between 1.5°C world and 2°C world will be significantly different.

IMPACTS	1.5°C WORLD	2°C WORLD
 <p><b>Extreme heat</b></p>	<p>13%</p> <p>of global population affected</p>	<p>37%</p> <p>of global population affected</p>
 <p><b>Drought</b></p>	<p>350 million</p> <p>people affected by water scarcity</p>	<p>411 million</p> <p>people affected by water scarcity</p>
 <p><b>Biodiversity loss</b></p>	<p>4-8%</p> <p>global biodiversity will be lost</p>	<p>8-18%</p> <p>global biodiversity will be lost</p>
 <p><b>Ecosystem shifting</b></p>	<p>7%</p> <p>of global ecosystem shifting to a new environment</p>	<p>13%</p> <p>of global ecosystem shifting to a new environment</p>
 <p><b>Rise of sea level</b></p>	<p>31-69 million</p> <p>people affected by flooding</p>	<p>31-80 million</p> <p>people affected by flooding</p>
 <p><b>Coral reefs</b></p>	<p>70%</p> <p>minimum of coral reefs are gone</p>	<p>99%</p> <p>of coral reefs are gone</p>

Source: [ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-3/](https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-3/)

# Our priorities



## 1. Enhancing community resilience

Port Phillip is already experiencing the impacts of climate change, including higher temperatures and sea levels and less rainfall but more severe flooding. Since 1910, Victoria's temperatures have increased by 1.2 degrees, rainfall has decreased and sea levels have risen. If global emissions continue to increase, by 2050 Victoria may experience average annual temperature increases of 2.4 degrees.

Temperature increases will cause heat-related health issues, death, fire risk, power outages and increased power bills. In addition, flooding and intense downpours will result in property and infrastructure damage, service disruption and safety issues.

Our legislated role includes reducing the risk to our community from climate change impacts. We know that heatwaves, floods and storms disproportionality impact our vulnerable community members already experiencing social, economic or health inequity. To enhance our community's resilience, we are investing in our assets to ensure they are climate-resilient and changing how we deliver our services. Preparation is well underway for a future where extreme weather and drought are more prevalent. Our priority is to support the community by protecting the essential systems and services they rely on daily.

We are improving community preparedness through practical actions, toolkits, education and resources. By mobilising businesses and residents to reduce their emissions and adapt, we are preparing for a changing climate together.

### Highlights to date

- Delivering the Environmental Leaders Course for 208 participants and supporting 9,945 participants in our sustainability and school travel programs in 2020/21.
- Developing the Building Business Resilience Toolkit with the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance.
- Collaborating with Melbourne Water on a self-help guide to retrofitting your home to prepare for flooding.
- Installing a flash flood sensor light at Foam and Wave Streets in Elwood to minimise the risk of vehicles driving into flood waters.

## Indicators and targets

Council indicators		
Indicator	Baseline 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of asset management plans that include details of identified climate risks and measurable actions to increase the climate resilience of the asset class	35%	100%
By 2028, Council has a fit-for-purpose risk management, reporting and decision-making framework to manage climate-related risk to service delivery, assets and finances	No framework	Framework complete

Community indicators		
Indicator	Baseline 2021/22	Advocacy position
Percentage of community members who have sufficient information to make informed decisions about how to protect themselves and respond in the event of extreme weather (heatwaves, storms or flooding)	62%	No advocacy position to be set because this is a lag indicator, which will be measured to inform community support and programs



## Actions

### What we are doing

Action	Description	Source
<b>Cool spaces strategy</b>	Develop a cool spaces strategy with community health and emergency services providers that will identify and create safe locations for the community to access during times of extreme heat.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Flood risk</b>	Undertake a targeted campaign based on up-to-date flood modelling to ensure residents know of existing and future flood risks and understand the implications for insurance and measures to reduce impacts.  Explore partnerships to deliver infrastructure and design approaches to protect against flooding and sea level rise.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Community climate resilience</b>	Assess opportunities to support community resilience to climate change impacts.  Establish partnerships to improve opportunities for community resilience and adaptation.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Healthy food</b>	Improve access to healthy food through community gardens and nature strip gardening guidelines and better walking and cycling routes to shops.	Community Gardens Assessment Guidelines Nature Strip and Street Gardening Guidelines Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28
<b>Library sustainability initiative</b>	Build and maintain library sustainability programs that provide the community with books, interactive displays and a seed library, and sustainability and gardening tools and devices.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28

**Working with our community and partners**

Action	Description	Source	Partners
<b>Port Phillip EcoCentre</b>	Support Port Phillip EcoCentre to promote environmental sustainability and community action.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Port Phillip EcoCentre
<b>Resilient communities program</b>	Deliver the Resilient Communities Program with the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	South East Councils Climate Change Alliance
<b>Back2Bikes</b>	Continue to support Back2Bikes social enterprise volunteers to repair and rehome bicycles.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018-28	Back2Bikes
<b>Understanding community climate impacts</b>	Build on current work to develop and collate data to understand climate impacts on the community.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	South East Councils Climate Change Alliance
<b>Community-led climate action plans</b>	Support the community to lead, build and implement action plans to respond to flooding, heatwaves and other climate impacts.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Community

## Advocacy positions

We call on the Victorian and Australian Governments to:

- declare a climate emergency, recognising that climate change is a global challenge and poses a serious risk to the Australian population
- commit to urgent action to reduce the impacts of climate change and maintain a safe environment for current and future generations
- increase support to reduce utility bills and heat stress impacting vulnerable people, including investing in top-rated energy efficient public housing and aged care facilities
- increase funding for health and emergency services, habitat restoration and infrastructure to respond to heatwaves, droughts, bushfires and floods
- legislate climate-resilient buildings through the Victorian planning scheme.

## City of Port Phillip will work to mobilise the community to take action. Some actions you can take include:

- Connect with your community through our Environmental Leadership course and Port Phillip EcoCentre.
- Prepare for climate change impacts such as floods and heat waves with your household and neighbours by having conversations and supporting each other.
- Check if you are in a flood zone. When you prepare a flood emergency plan, share it with your family and speak with your insurer to check if you are covered.
- Join local environment groups such as Beach Patrol, Love Our Street, Port Phillip Emergency Climate Action Network, Port Phillip Bicycle Users' Group and others.
- Take part in Council's sustainability programs – see our list of programs for more information.
- Work with your friends, neighbours and community to bring about change together.
- Take action as an individual – join a community garden, compost, plant a tree or create a garden, veggie patch or balcony garden.



### Case study: Port Phillip EcoCentre

The Port Phillip EcoCentre in the St Kilda Botanic Gardens is a hub for community-led action to address climate change.

City of Port Phillip is proud of our long-term funding partnership with the EcoCentre to promote environmental sustainability and community action.

The EcoCentre educates and empowers students, residents and visitors to care for land, water, wildlife and wellbeing. It works with 153 schools and early learning centres and over 3,000 students, and trains volunteers to care for our coast through the Beachkeepers program. Community volunteers also conduct citizen science, manage the community garden, run the St Kilda Repair Café and protect local wildlife through habitat programs.

The EcoCentre is being redeveloped into a new green building to support the delivery of sustainability programs. Successful advocacy led to a 50 per cent funding contribution from the Victorian

Government to redevelop the EcoCentre. The \$6.7 million project will see scientists, educators and volunteers together under one roof. Designed to operate as net zero energy building with minimal portable water usage, the EcoCentre will join an exclusive club of only 500 buildings worldwide that produce more clean energy than it consumes, offsetting all carbon used during construction. The new EcoCentre will open in late 2024.



### More information

- [Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–2028](#)
- [Climate action update – February 2022](#)
- [Building Business Resilience Project: Final Report](#)
- [Prepare for flooding – Melbourne Water](#)
- [Port Phillip EcoCentre](#)
- [Local environmental groups](#)
- [Environmental Leadership course](#)
- [Enabling climate justice](#)
- [South East Councils Climate Change Alliance](#)



## 2. Minimising greenhouse gas emissions

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is one of the most significant challenges we face in Port Phillip, across Australia and globally. Transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy is critical to tackling the climate emergency.

The IPCC states that global temperatures are now 1.1 degrees above pre-industrial levels and they're likely to reach 1.5 degrees in the early 2030s (IPCC Synthesis Report, March 2023).

We are committed to real action and playing our part in keeping global temperature rise to under 1.5 degrees. We have achieved zero carbon emissions from our operations and are helping to reduce our community's emissions. However, everyone must play their part and we are committed to working with partners, residents and businesses to achieve a low emissions future.

Responding to the climate emergency is possible and humanity knows what to do. The IPCC says that urgent climate action can secure a liveable future for all. Multiple feasible and effective options exist to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to human-caused climate change.

By 2040 our most significant remaining community emissions will lie in gas use and on-road transport, so we need to focus on residential gas use and sustainable transport. Switching Council-owned buildings from gas to electricity and powering our operations with 100 per cent renewable energy has significantly reduced emissions. In the coming years, we will deliver programs focused on increasing the community's ability to reduce energy consumption and purchase renewable energy.

### Highlights to date

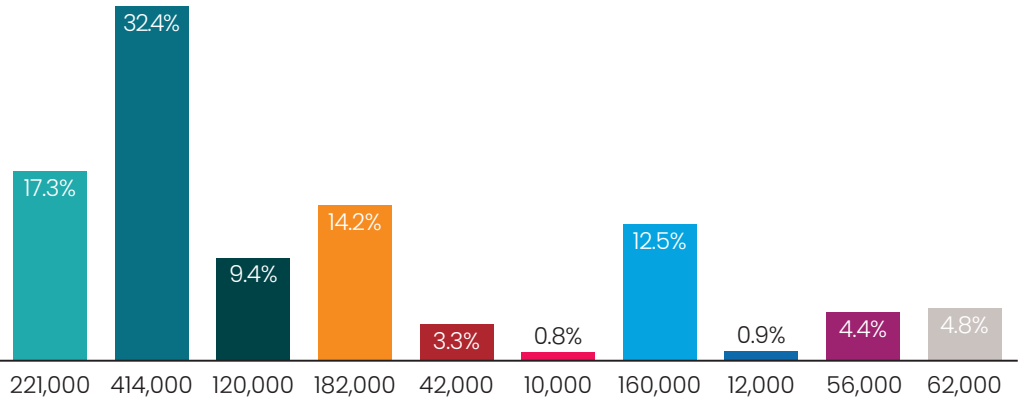
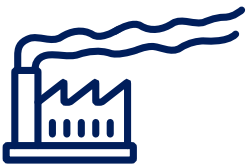
- Achieving a 25 per cent reduction in our gross carbon emissions between 2016 and 2021.
- Powering our operations with 100 per cent renewable energy through the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project.
- Achieving net zero emissions for Council operations in 2021, through a mix of emissions reduction, renewable energy and offset purchases.
- Replacing 1,500 streetlights with energy-efficient LEDs.
- Installing 610kW of solar panels installed on Council buildings.
- Switching 11 Council-owned buildings from gas to electricity.
- Implementing the South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy, designed to generate 280,000 kWh solar power, avoiding 900 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e and diverting 150,000 coffee cups from landfill.
- Involving nearly 10,000 participants in our sustainability programs, including school travel programs, in 2020/21.
- Facilitating the Victorian Government's 'Small Business Energy Saver' program with South East Councils Climate Change Alliance to help over 140 small businesses access funding to upgrade equipment to reduce emissions and save money.

# COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS OVER TIME

As we all make changes to respond to the climate emergency, the emissions produced from each sector of the community from residential to commercial, transport, gas and waste are expected to change.

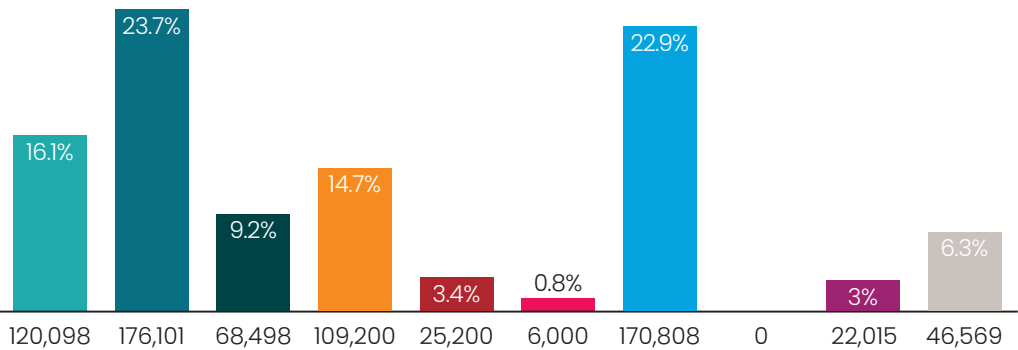
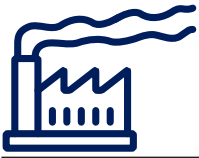
## 2020/21

A total of  
**1,279,000**  
t CO<sub>2</sub>-e



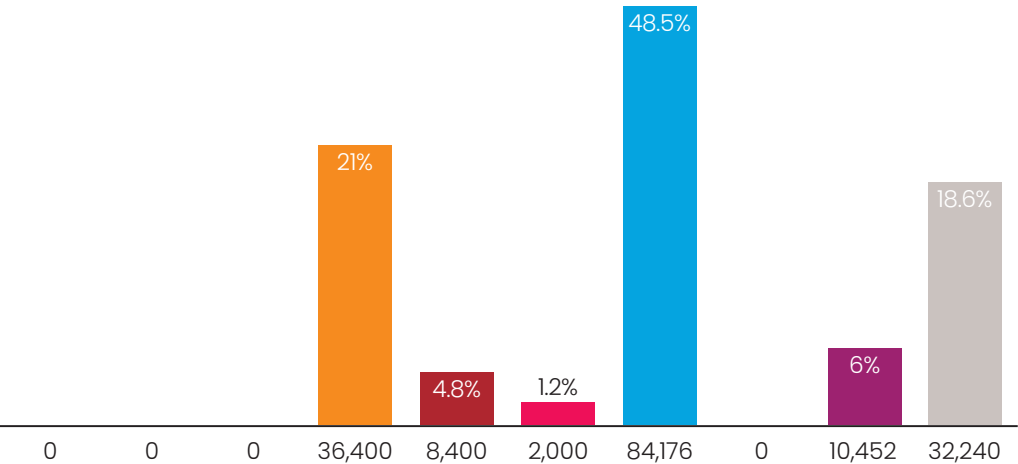
## 2030

A total of  
**744,489**  
t CO<sub>2</sub>-e



## 2040

A total of  
**173,668**  
t CO<sub>2</sub>-e



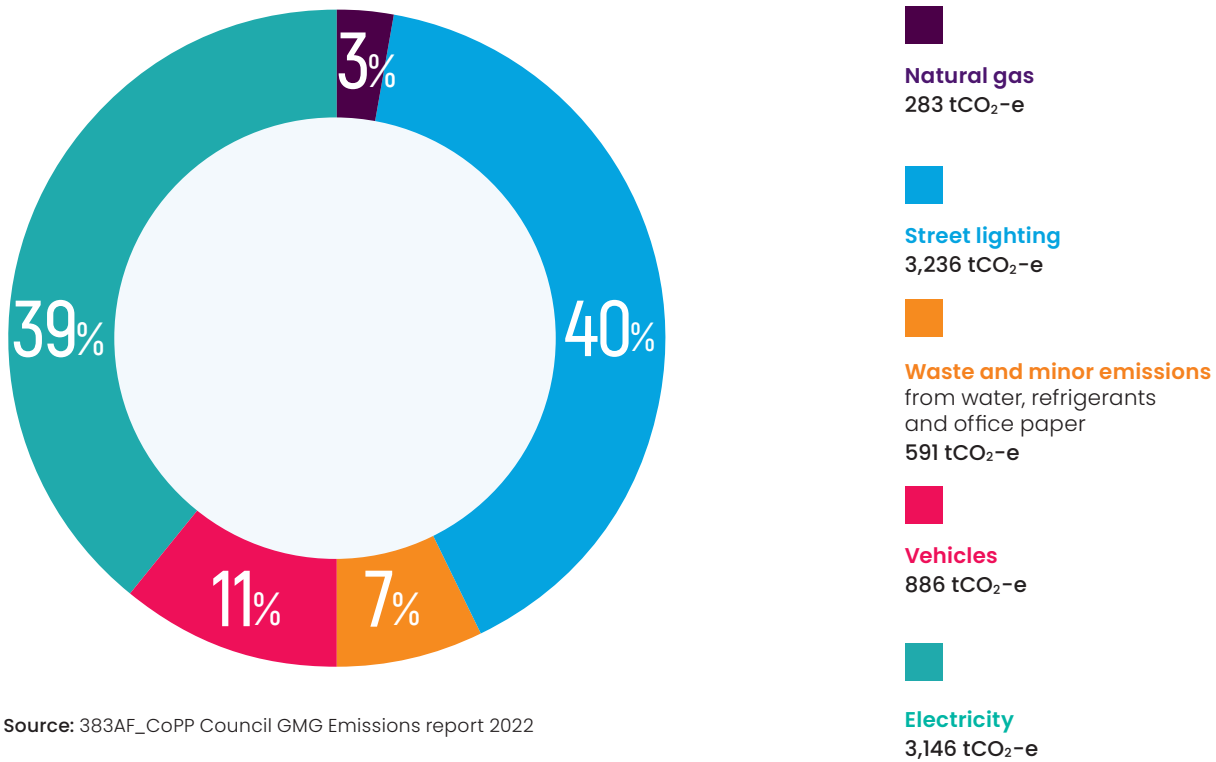
- Electricity - residential
  - Electricity - commercial
  - Electricity - industrial
  - Gas - residential
  - Gas - commercial
  - Gas - industrial
  - Transport - on road
  - Transport - rail
  - Waste
  - Industrial Processes Refrigerants
- All numbers are in tonnes of carbon emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e).

Source: Adapted from DCCEEW 2022, Australia's emissions projections 2022, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Canberra, December. CC BY 4.0. by H.v.H



## COUNCIL'S GROSS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR 2021/2022

Here is a snapshot of the greenhouse gas emissions for City of Port Phillip's own operations.



Source: 383AF\_CoPP Council GMG Emissions report 2022

Indicators and targets

Council indicators			
Indicator	Baseline 2016/17	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Gross greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations	10,954 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	8,142 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	37% reduction 6,918 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
Net greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations	6,464 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Zero	Zero
Percentage of Council electricity use from renewable sources	293 kWh	100%	100%
Percentage of waste diverted from Council operations	New target	37.6% waste diversion rate	<b>Target 2025</b> 33 to 50% increase in waste diversion rate 50.1 to 56.4% waste diversion rate

Community indicators			
Indicator	Baseline 2016/17	Progress 2021/22	Advocacy position
Greenhouse gas emissions in the municipality	1,700,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	1,279,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>Zero by 2045</b> 75 to 80% reduction by 2035 Aligned with Victorian Government target, awaiting legislation
Percentage of kerbside waste diverted from landfill	31%	32%	<b>Target 2025</b> 54 to 56%*

\* Target from Don't Waste it! Waste Management Strategy 2022-25

## Actions

### What we are doing

Action	Description	Source
<b>Net zero</b>	Achieve carbon neutrality for Council operations.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Landfill diversion</b>	Divert at least 50 per cent of the City’s waste from landfill and roll out the food and organics service.	Don’t Waste it! Waste Management Strategy 2022–25
<b>Emissions reductions from Council operations</b>	Undertake an environmental performance audit and reduce energy use in key Council buildings by investing in renewable energy, energy efficiency and water efficiency initiatives and changing our behaviour in a targeted way.  Progressively electrify existing Council buildings where feasible.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy</b>	Implement the South Melbourne Market Sustainability Strategy, focusing on reducing waste, transitioning towards zero-carbon operations and reducing water use and impact on waterways.	South Melbourne Market Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2023–27
<b>Carbon offsets</b>	Develop a carbon offset policy to guide Council’s purchase of offsets to achieve carbon neutrality, including exploring regional opportunities for carbon offsets.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Community renewable energy</b>	Understand community needs and barriers and deliver a program to support community renewable energy uptake.  Provide support to the community to enhance transition from the use of fossil fuels such as gas.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Street lighting upgrades</b>	Deliver an energy-efficient street lighting upgrade of 1,500 lights for major roads and continue to explore further street light upgrade opportunities.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28

**Working with our community and partners**

Action	Description	Source	Partners
<b>Port Phillip EcoCentre development</b>	Partner with the Victorian Government and Port Phillip EcoCentre to co-fund a new carbon neutral facility.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28	Port Phillip EcoCentre Victorian Government
<b>Community emission reductions</b>	Expand delivery of sustainability programs for community benefit.  Target communications and resources to help key audiences reduce their carbon emissions and prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28  Don't Waste It, Waste Management Strategy 2022–25  Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28  Car Share Policy 2023–28	Port Phillip EcoCentre  Various partners including community
<b>Community renewable energy</b>	Seek partnerships to drive sustainable solutions for apartment buildings, including supporting Owners Corporations to undertake sustainability retrofits and giving residents access to renewable electricity and energy-sharing platforms.  Provide support to the community to enhance transition from the use of fossil fuels such as gas.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28	Inner Metro Partnership
<b>Environmental upgrade agreements</b>	Work with partners to drive the uptake of environmental upgrade agreements for commercial and residential buildings – legislation pending.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28	Better Building Finance

## Advocacy positions

We call on the Victorian and Australian Governments to:

- commit to science-based emissions reduction targets consistent with keeping warming to 1.5 degrees and fund and deliver a plan to meet these targets
- provide funding, incentives and support to Victorian businesses and residents to reduce energy, water and waste
- phase out gas and develop an electricity network upgrade plan to transition to distributed renewable energy
- create a circular economy, increase demand for recycled content and drive innovation by providing industry incentives
- require zero emission buildings through the Victorian planning scheme.

## City of Port Phillip will work to mobilise the community to take action. Some actions you can take include:

- Set goals to act, connect with like-minded people and follow our online list of powerful ways to take climate action.
- Become politically active – advocate for change with your local members at all levels of government.
- Convert gas appliances – hot water, heating and cooking – with electric substitutes such as heat pumps and induction cooktops.
- Advocate to your superannuation fund to divest from financial institutions that invest in fossil fuel.
- Switch your electricity to certified GreenPower or zero emissions electricity using offsets or install solar panels.
- Grow food, join a community garden, eat less resource-intensive foods such as red meat and visit your local bulk buy stores and farmers’ markets.
- Use sustainable and active forms of transport, such as walking, riding or public transport, instead of driving a car.
- Buy second hand, repair existing items and visit the EcoCentre’s repair workshops.
- Reduce waste to landfill by recycling when waste can’t be avoided or reused.

## More information

- [Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28](#)
- [Don’t Waste It! Waste Management Strategy 2022–25](#)
- [Climate action update – February 2022](#)
- [Take climate action – City of Port Phillip](#)
- [AR6 Synthesis report Climate Change 2023](#)
- [Victoria’s changing climate](#)





### 3. Enabling more sustainable transport options

Increasing sustainable transport use is one of the most significant opportunities to reduce emissions. Port Phillip's road network is at capacity and cannot expand. Private vehicles already account for 14 per cent of emissions. With current travel patterns, by 2040 on-road travel will make up nearly 50 per cent of community emissions in our City.

We have a long-term plan to tackle the challenges associated with increased congestion. Our Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28 prioritises safe and reliable access to transport options. To reduce pressure on our road network, we are creating safe walking routes, working with the Victorian Government on the shared e-bike and e-scooter trials and supporting car share programs. We are also transitioning our Council fleet to zero emissions.

We will deliver separated bike lanes and paths, plans for bike parking facilities at train and tram hubs and community bike confidence courses to encourage bike riding. Our aim is that everyone has access to convenient public and active transport options. Our targets include significantly increasing the number of daily walking, public transport and bike riding trips in our City.

#### Highlights to date

- Transport emissions reduced by 15 per cent across our City from 189,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e in 2018 to 160,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e in 2021.
- Car share memberships in our City tripled between 2016 and 2022, from less than 3,000 to over 9,000.
- People travelled a combined distance of 1.5 million kilometres using shared e-scooters and e-bikes in our City in the year to February 2023.

Indicators and targets

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Increase walking trips per day	152,000	N/A*	36% 207,000
Increase bike riding trips per day	17,000	N/A*	151% 44,000
Increase public transport trips per day	42,000	N/A*	35% 56,000
Increase number of residents over 18 who are car share members	4.9% 2,500	8.3% 7,586 Impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns (now over 10,000)	12% 13,500
Increase use of share bikes and scooters (docked and dockless) – trips/day/device	NA	NA	3 trips per day

\* Based on data that is not readily available.  
 Source: Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018-28. Updated 28/03/2024

## Actions

### What we are doing

Action	Description	Source
<b>Public electric vehicle charging</b>	Support the uptake of electric vehicles in the community by facilitating the installation of public charging stations, private charging infrastructure and removing barriers to charging infrastructure in new developments and existing buildings.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Bike riding</b>	Support all our schools to increase active travel through Ride2School Day, rebates for events and matched grants to plan designated safe routes and provide bicycle education and facilities.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28
<b>Zero emissions Council fleet</b>	Undertake a review of the fleet with specialist advice to identify cost effective options to accelerate emissions reductions, which could include electrification, transition away from diesel, and extending the life of existing vehicles.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28

**Working with our community and partners**

Action	Description	Source	Partners
<b>Shared transport services</b>	Advocate to the Victorian Government to regulate shared transport services and participate in the shared e-bike and e-scooter trials.	E-scooter trial	Victorian Government
<b>Fishermans Bend – public transport</b>	Advocate to the Victorian Government for the delivery of connections to public transport, public space and bike lanes in Fishermans Bend.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28	Victorian Government
<b>Safe walking routes</b>	Create safe walking routes and advocate to the Victorian Government to reduce barriers to crossing major roads.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28	Victorian Government
<b>Bike parking facilities</b>	Work with the Victorian Government to design high quality bike parking facilities at train and tram hubs.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28	Victorian Government
<b>Anzac Station sustainable transport</b>	Advocate to the Victorian Government for support for walking, bike riding and public transport improvements around Anzac Station and along St Kilda Road.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28	Victorian Government
<b>Tram infrastructure upgrades</b>	Advocate to Yarra Trams and the Victorian Government for a pipeline of tram infrastructure upgrades.	Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28	Victorian Government Yarra Trams

### Advocacy positions

We call on the Victorian Government to:

- increase the reliability and frequency of tram and bus services
- improve public transport links including trains and trams to Fishermans Bend.

We call on the Victorian and Australian Governments to:

- increase investment in pedestrian and bike riding improvements and zero emissions vehicles.

### City of Port Phillip will work to mobilise the community to take action. Some actions you can take include:

- Walk, ride, scoot or carpool for short trips to work, the shops and school.
- Champion bike riding, public and shared transport in your neighbourhood.
- Consider a car share membership instead of buying a car.
- Join the Port Phillip Bicycle Users Group.

### Case study: Sustainable transport – Garden City bike corridor connection

Across Port Phillip, we are improving bike paths and lanes, making it easier and safer for people to move around. We are also developing links that connect our bike trails and open spaces.

We opened the Garden City bike corridor connection in early 2022, linking Garden City Reserve to the Sandridge and Bay Trail shared path networks in Port Melbourne. The 1.2-kilometre upgrade means Port Melbourne residents and visitors now have increased access to Garden City Reserve and can also enjoy the views of the 26-metre-high white lighthouse along their bike journey.

Adding an off-road, separated bike path along Beacon Road and Swallow Street has made these areas safer for all users. As part of the upgrade, we improved lighting along the Garden City Reserve shared path and installed additional signage and line marking.

The project has improved cycling access for recreational and local bike riders. By making it safer and more attractive to travel by bike, we're encouraging the community to shift toward more sustainable forms of transport. The new corridor is an action in our Integrated Transport Strategy.



### More information

- [Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28](#)
- [Active schools – City of Port Phillip](#)
- [Bike riding – City of Port Phillip](#)
- [Victorian Government advocacy priorities – City of Port Phillip](#)
- [Draft Car Share Policy – Have Your Say Port Phillip](#)





## 4. Resilient and liveable public spaces

Open public space is essential to physical and mental health and wellbeing. Beaches, the foreshore, parks, footpaths, nature strips, urban plazas, gardens and sports fields all count towards our enviable public space network. These areas are for everyone to enjoy and where people gather to exercise, play sports and relax.

We want to maintain climate-resilient public spaces so future generations can enjoy them, but the climate emergency poses a significant risk.

Climate change is leading to higher temperatures, rising sea levels, more extreme storms and intense rainfall events. Located at the bottom of the Elster Creek and Yarra River catchments, much of Port Phillip is less than three metres above sea level and we are already prone to flooding. These impacts threaten wildlife habitats, biodiversity, roads, transport, beaches, parks and buildings.

The latest science projects a reduction in overall rainfall. Combined with population growth, this will put significant pressure on water supply security and make it harder to maintain our green spaces. In addition, rising groundwater levels will heighten the risk of soil salinity.

Despite these challenges, our response is well underway to maintain resilient and liveable public spaces. We are committed to minimising the impact of the heat island effect by increasing the number of trees and overall canopy cover in our City. Within our urban environment, we are enhancing wildlife habitat, strengthening wildlife corridors and increasing biodiversity.

### Highlights to date

- Trialling the first woody meadow in 2021 as a cost-effective way to manage open space that requires little maintenance or watering.
- Managing 46,000 trees and enhancing their ability to cope with climate change, including through implementing diverse tree stock and water sensitive urban design principles.
- Identifying initiatives such as greening and water misters to keep streets cool through the Cooling South Melbourne Study.
- Working in partnership to reduce the impact of flooding in Fishermans Bend, clean stormwater before it enters the bay and provide a more resilient water supply.
- Completing the first stormwater harvesting project in Alma Park, with feasibility work underway on two further stormwater harvesting projects to provide water to our parks and gardens.

Target and indicators

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of street canopy cover	19% (Baseline 2015/16)	Currently being measured	20.9% 10% increase on baseline Revised targets to be developed through Council's new Urban Forest Strategy
Council's potable water use for irrigation Note: replaces the previous indicator	169 ML/y	149 ML/y 12% reduction	97 ML/y 43% reduction
Total nitrogen	15,009 kg/y	13,563 kg/y 10% reduction	12,669 kg/y 16% reduction
Total suspended solids	717,035 kg/y	627,395 kg/y 13% reduction	590,125 kg/y 18% reduction
Total phosphorus	1,880 kg/y	1,699 kg/y 10% reduction	1,599 kg/y 15% reduction
Community potable water use	178 L/p/day	182 L/p/day	150 L/p/day

**Water sensitive urban design** is an approach to land planning and engineering design that considers water management holistically. Its aim is to reduce environmental impacts and enhance community amenity. Common examples of water sensitive infrastructure include streetscape raingardens, constructed wetlands, sediment ponds, swales and tree pits.

Guiding principles include:

- reduce potable water consumption
- maximise water reuse
- reduce wastewater discharge
- minimise stormwater pollution before it enters the environment
- maximise groundwater protection.

## Actions

### What we are doing

Action	Description	Source
<b>Water sensitive urban design projects</b>	Refresh and implement City of Port Phillip’s Water Sensitive City Plan, including investigating existing, new and emerging technologies and approaches to help Council use water more efficiently, including efficient and effective irrigation.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28
<b>Foreshore resilience</b>	<p>Make our foreshore resilient to climate change by expanding fenced areas to allow regeneration of dune plants that act to stabilise the sand.</p> <p>Update our Foreshore Management Plan and develop a Coastal Adaptation Plan.</p>	<p>Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28</p> <p>Foreshore Management Plan 2012</p>
<b>Urban forest</b>	Develop and deliver a new Urban Forest Strategy including supporting guidelines and plans.	<p>Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022-32</p> <p>Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28</p> <p>Urban Forest Strategy 2040</p>
<b>Public green spaces</b>	Create more public green space by transforming road space into green space at the Palais forecourt, Moubray Street Pocket Park, Cobden Street Pocket Park and Glen Eira Reserve in Ripponlea.	Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022-32
<b>Urban heat island effect</b>	Reduce the urban heat island effect by trialling heat reducing materials in footpaths and laneways and planting broad spreading canopy trees to provide shade and capture carbon.	<p>Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022-32</p> <p>Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28</p> <p>Urban Forest Strategy 2040</p>
<b>Permeability</b>	<p>Develop methods and tools to easily quantify permeability.</p> <p>Use mapping and analysis to understand potential future changes in permeability across the municipality.</p> <p>Implement permeability initiatives such as de-paving, increasing green space and building green infrastructure.</p>	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28
<b>Stormwater harvesting</b>	Continue to investigate stormwater harvesting opportunities and implement where feasible.	<p>Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28</p> <p>Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022-32</p>

Working with our community and partners

Action	Description	Source	Partners
<b>Fishermans Bend – urban forest</b>	Co-create functional and vibrant public spaces and a biodiverse urban forest in Fishermans Bend with the community, Victorian Government and developers.	Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022–32	Victorian Government Developers
<b>Fishermans Bend – flood management</b>	Work with Melbourne Water and the Fishermans Bend Taskforce to implement flood mitigation options.	Fishermans Bend Water Sensitive City Strategy	Melbourne Water Fishermans Bend Taskforce
<b>Port Phillip EcoCentre funding</b>	Support the EcoCentre’s biodiversity programs and volunteering initiatives to restore native vegetation and habitats.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28	Port Phillip EcoCentre
<b>Anzac Station – canopy cover</b>	Support the Victorian Government’s target to double canopy cover by 2040 around the new Anzac train station and help to maximise tree retention in the Metro Tunnel works.	Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan	Victorian Government
<b>Foreshore resilience</b>	Work with the Victorian Government and coastal land managers to understand and develop ideas to reduce foreshore climate change impacts such as inundation.	Foreshore Management Plan 2012	Victorian Government Coastal land managers

**Advocacy positions**

We call on the Victorian Government to:

- improve pedestrian connectivity between public spaces in Fishermans Bend, South Melbourne and Port Melbourne
- improve tree canopy cover and regular tree maintenance, and biodiverse understory planting on state government roads
- improve vegetation maintenance and introduce greater floral biodiversity along rail corridors.

We call on the Victorian and Australian Governments to:

- partner with Melbourne Water and the Cities of Port Phillip, Bayside, Glen Eira and Kingston to help fund and deliver water management infrastructure in the Elster Creek Catchment that increases permeability (such as de-paving), reduces flooding (such as drainage upgrades), improves water quality (such as raingardens) and provides water for trees and vegetation (such as passive irrigation and non-potable water supply).

**City of Port Phillip will work to mobilise the community to take action. Some actions you can take include:**

- Plant mid-size to large canopy trees and other vegetation on your property and ensure there is space for trees to grow.
- Include rainwater tanks and water sensitive gardens that can withstand drought and capture water to allow it to seep into the soil slowly.
- Get involved in local planting programs and volunteer opportunities through Council and the Port Phillip EcoCentre's biodiversity and greening programs.
- If you're renovating or building a new house, ask your designer and builder to look at sustainable and heat resilient building materials.



### Case study: Greening projects

#### De-paving during footpath renewals

Creating a greener, cooler, more liveable Port Phillip is a priority for the Council. One way we achieve this is by de-paving footpaths and centre medians and planting trees and garden beds.

In Liardet Street, Port Melbourne, we have re-engineered sections of the centre median. We also excavated road base material to create deep root planting zones for large new canopy trees. The new deep-root planting zones provide street trees with access to water and essential nutrients creating ideal conditions for healthy structural roots. The project has been hugely successful and the new trees are thriving.



Liardet Street, Port Melbourne, in November 2017

#### Nature strip gardens

When we developed the nature strip guidelines in 2021/22, community members told us they wanted more nature strips and the ability to garden in this public space in front of their homes.

We are now looking at opportunities to include nature strips across the municipality. For example, during footpath renewal works, residents will be asked if they would prefer a nature strip to be created rather than resurfacing the entire footpath area with asphalt. Eastern Road, South Melbourne, was identified as one of these sites and most residents supported the change, resulting in new gardens in this area.



Liardet Street, Port Melbourne, in September 2022

#### More information

- [Cooling South Melbourne Study](#)
- [Greening Port Phillip](#)
- [Places for People: Public Space Strategy 2022–32](#)



## 5. Planning for buildings and places

Designing our public spaces and new buildings to withstand future climate impacts will greatly improve our community's future. By incorporating sustainable, climate-resilient design into new developments and structure plans, we can minimise maintenance and reduce emissions. This planning will ensure the community is safe, prepared and resilient.

### What is climate-resilient and sustainable design?

Climate-resilient and sustainable design involves designing a renovation or new building to withstand future climate impacts such as flooding and increased heat, and to minimise the impact on the environment both in the build and operation of the building. For example, you can prepare your property for future weather patterns by building homes of different materials and looking to remove or shade large windows and doors facing west. You can also incorporate flood-resilient building materials or allow floodable spaces and plant drought-tolerant species.

At City of Port Phillip, we have several roles in helping ensure buildings and places are designed with climate change in mind. For example, we guide how new buildings are constructed and support community members in retrofitting their homes and businesses. We also help the municipality change to become climate-resilient, by creating more walkable communities relying less on fossil fuels and places less vulnerable to flooding, extreme weather events and the urban heat island effect. Our other roles are providing upgrade finance and supporting residents and businesses to switch from gas to renewable energy.

Currently, we are helping to guide the sustainable redevelopment of the Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area, the formerly industrial area to the east of the Westgate Bridge. It is planned that the Port Phillip part of Fishermans Bend will be home to more than 68,000 people by 2050, with another 36,000 visiting daily for work. Effective flood mitigation measures and water sensitive urban design are essential to future-proofing the area.

The Victorian planning system is crucial for planning buildings and places. We are calling on the Victorian Government to review the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the Victoria Planning Provisions to embed climate change mitigation and adaptation in the planning system.

### Highlights to date

- Implementating the local environmentally sustainable design policy introduced into the Planning Scheme in 2015, requiring increased sustainability standards for new buildings.
- Council endorsing a proposed planning amendment relating to environmentally sustainable development targets and submitting this request to the Minister for Planning.
- Converting many of Council's buildings from gas to electricity and undertaking energy efficient upgrades in 26 buildings.

Target and indicators

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of Council electricity use from renewable sources	293kWh	100%	100%
Percentage of households with solar power in City of Port Phillip	NA	11% (Baseline 2021/22)	Indicator only
Number and percentage of private vehicles that are electric in City of Port Phillip	NA	20,095 cars 0.14% (Baseline 2021/22)	Indicator only

## Actions

### What we are doing

Action	Description	Source
<b>Fishermans Bend – sustainable development</b>	Adopt the Green Star – Communities Framework to help guide sustainable development in Fishermans Bend.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Council buildings audit</b>	Undertake an environmental performance audit and reduce energy use in key Council buildings by investing in renewable energy, energy efficiency and water efficiency initiatives and changing our behaviour in a targeted way.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Council buildings energy efficiency</b>	Transition Council buildings to zero gas and upgrade Council buildings to increase energy efficiency.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Port Phillip EcoCentre</b>	Build a new 6-Star GreenStar (design and as-built) EcoCentre to support community sustainability programs, citizen science and volunteering programs.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Environmentally sustainable design in Council</b>	Update Council’s Sustainable Design Strategy, which sets minimum standards for sustainability in Council buildings.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28
<b>Key asset standards</b>	Commit to setting and meeting sustainability standards for key asset types	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023–28

**Working with our community and partners**

Action	Description	Source	Partners
<b>Elevating environmentally sustainable development (ESD) targets</b>	Participating in the Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development Targets project with 23 other Councils, to facilitate best practice ESD and support zero carbon development outcomes.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment
<b>Environmental upgrade agreements</b>	Work with partners to drive the uptake of environmental upgrade agreements for commercial and residential buildings, legislation pending.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Better Building Finance
<b>Housing strategy ESD</b>	Incorporate sustainable design and climate resilience into our new Housing Strategy and South Melbourne Structure Plan.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Victorian Government
<b>Flood management</b>	Update flood management and sea level rise planning controls in partnership with Melbourne Water.	City of Port Phillip Planning Scheme	Melbourne Water
<b>Fishermans Bend – integrated water management</b>	Implement the Water Sensitive City Strategy in the Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area.	Fishermans Bend Water Sensitive City Strategy	Fishermans Bend Taskforce
<b>Neighbourhood batteries</b>	Investigate how and where neighbourhood battery energy storage might play a role to support the community’s use of renewable energy.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	Inner Melbourne Partnership
<b>Green leases</b>	Introduce green leases and tenant engagement for Council-owned buildings.	Act and Adapt: Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-28	South East Councils Climate Change Alliance



## Advocacy positions

We call on the Victorian Government to:

- incorporate the proposed Elevating ESD Targets planning controls into the Victorian planning scheme, as requested by Council and the other participating councils
- review the Planning and Environment Act to align with the *Climate Change Act 2017* and embed climate change mitigation and adaptation in Victoria’s planning system and update the Victoria Planning Provisions as required
- implement the Fishermans Bend Framework and Water Sensitive City Strategy.

## City of Port Phillip will work to mobilise the community to take action. Some actions you can take include:

- Contact us about an environmental upgrade agreement for your commercial property.
- Integrate sustainability and climate resilience as early as possible in the design stage of new development.
- Consider sustainable design options for buildings retrofits.
- Use our Sustainable Design Strategy to understand how to utilise and manage sustainability initiatives in your building to reduce your impact.
- Make your home more sustainable by planting trees, installing rainwater tanks or solar, insulating and draught-proofing.
- Switch from gas to electricity in your home or business.

### Case study: Fishermans Bend

Fishermans Bend is Australia’s largest urban renewal project, covering approximately 480 hectares and five precincts across City of Melbourne and Port Phillip. By 2050, Fishermans Bend is forecast to provide for 80,000 residents and 80,000 jobs. This includes 68,000 residents and 36,000 jobs in the City of Port Phillip’s Montague, Sandridge and Wirraway precincts.

City of Port Phillip is working with the Victorian Government, Melbourne Water, City of Melbourne, the community and developers to apply the world’s best practices in managing water in Fishermans Bend.

By implementing water sensitive urban design, we will help reduce the impact of flooding in Fishermans Bend and also capture and clean stormwater before it enters the bay. Fishermans Bend will include a water recycling plant, pumps and levees and a third pipe network to deliver a more resilient water supply. Raingardens, tree pits at the street level and smart rainwater tanks in individual buildings will also reduce flooding and support Green Star sustainability measures.

The project is also being designed with a biodiverse urban forest – a network of parks, green walls and green roofs will create natural environments for flora and fauna and connect people to nature.



#### More information

[portphillip.vic.gov.au/sustainability](https://portphillip.vic.gov.au/sustainability)

[Sustainable Design Strategy](#)

# Implementation and monitoring

We are committed to regular monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and will report annually on our progress. As we measure the targets and indicators we will:

- report against indicators annually (or as indicated)
- use data to evaluate progress and inform decision-making
- re-evaluate our methods for measuring and calculating greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability, water use and water quality impacts
- investigate how to make data accessible
- use data to guide internal actions as well as educate the community to make informed decisions about climate change, sustainability actions and programs.

As we implement the Plan, we will work internally and with partners to ensure that all community members have fair access to the same opportunities and resources.

## Summary table of goals, indicators, baseline, progress and targets

### Enhancing community resilience – indicators and targets

Council indicators		
Indicator	Baseline 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of asset management plans that include details of identified climate risks and measurable actions to increase the climate resilience of the asset class	35%	100%
By 2028, Council has a fit-for-purpose risk management, reporting and decision-making framework to manage climate-related risk to service delivery, assets and finances	No framework	Framework complete

Community indicators		
Indicator	Baseline 2021/22	Advocacy position
Percentage of community members who have sufficient information to make informed decisions about how to protect themselves and respond in the event of extreme weather (heatwaves, storms or flooding)	62%	No advocacy position to be set because this is a lag indicator, which will be measured to inform community support and programs

Minimising greenhouse gas emissions – indicators and targets

Council indicators			
Indicator	Baseline 2016/17	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Gross greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations	10,954 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	8,142 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	37% reduction 6,918 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
Net greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations	6,464 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Zero	Zero
Percentage of Council electricity use from renewable sources	293 kWh	100%	100%
Percentage of waste diverted from Council operations	New target	37.6% waste diversion rate	<b>Target 2025</b> 33 to 50% increase in waste diversion rate 50.1 to 56.4% waste diversion rate

Community indicators			
Indicator	Baseline 2016/17	Progress 2021/22	Advocacy position
Greenhouse gas emissions in the municipality	1,700,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	1,279,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Zero by 2045
			75 to 80% reduction by 2035
			Aligned with Victorian Government target, awaiting legislation
Percentage of kerbside waste diverted from landfill	31%	32%	<b>Target 2025</b> 54 to 56%*

Enabling more sustainable transport options – indicators and targets

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Increase walking trips per day	152,000	N/A*	36%
			207,000
Increase bike riding trips per day	17,000	N/A*	151%
			44,000
Increase public transport trips per day	42,000	N/A*	35%
			56,000
Increase the number of residents who are car share members	2,500	7,586	13,500
		Impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns (now over 10,000)	
Increase the use of shared e-share bikes	1 trip per day	1.7 trips per day	3 trips per day

\* Based on data that is not readily available. To be changed in updated Move, Connect, Live Strategy  
**Source:** Move, Connect, Live: Integrated Transport Strategy 2018–28



**Resilient and liveable public spaces – indicators and targets**

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of street canopy cover	19% (Baseline 2015/16)	Currently being measured	10% increase on baseline 20.90%  Revised targets to be developed through Council's new Urban Forest Strategy
Council's potable water use for irrigation <i>Note: replaces the previous indicator</i>	169 ML/y	149 ML/y	97 ML/y
		12% reduction	43% reduction
Total nitrogen	15,009 kg/y	13,563 kg/y	12,669 kg/y
		10% reduction	16% reduction
Total suspended solids	717,035 kg/y	627,395 kg/y	590,125 kg/y
		13% reduction	18% reduction
Total phosphorus	1,880 kg/y	1,699 kg/y	1,599 kg/y
		10% reduction	15% reduction
Community potable water use	178 L/p/day	182 L/p/day	150 L/p/day

**Planning for buildings and places – indicators and targets**

Indicator	Baseline 2018	Progress 2021/22	Target 2028
Percentage of Council electricity use from renewable sources	293kWh	100%	100%
Percentage of households with solar power in City of Port Phillip	11%  (Baseline 2021/22)	Indicator only	
Number and percentage of private vehicles that are electric in City of Port Phillip	20,095 cars 0.14% (Baseline 2021/22)	Indicator only	

## Glossary

**Asset management plans** – a means of documenting the key elements involved in managing Council’s extensive asset base. City of Port Phillip’s assets are categorised across five separate asset portfolios, each which has an individual asset management plan.

**Climate-resilient community** – a community that can successfully cope with and manage the impacts of climate change, while preventing those impacts from getting worse.

**Energy storage** – batteries capturing energy for later use.

**Environmental upgrade agreements** – a form of finance designed to fund building efficiency upgrades, also known as building upgrade finance.

**Environmentally sustainable development** – development that seeks to reduce negative impacts on the environment and on the health and comfort of building occupants, thereby improving building performance.

**Green lease** – a lease between the landlord and tenant which aims to ensure that the ongoing use and operation of the building minimises environmental impacts.

**IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** – founded in 1988, the IPCC is an intergovernmental body of the United Nations that assesses scientific knowledge about climate change.

**Lag indicator** – an indicator that involves a significant delay between when an action is taken and when a difference is measurable.

**Net zero greenhouse gas emissions** – net zero emissions involve balancing the carbon emitted into the atmosphere and the carbon removed from it.

**Permeability** – the ability of a material like concrete, asphalt, or soil to allow water or other liquids to pass through it. For example, a garden bed is more permeable than a road.

**Raingardens** – specially designed garden beds that filter stormwater runoff from surrounding areas.

**Smart rainwater tanks** – tanks connected via a network that enables data monitoring and pump-control commands to be issued to individual tanks. For example, they can be controlled to empty before storms and then used to reduce runoff during heavy rain.

**Sustainable transport** – transport that has low or zero emissions, including active transport options such as walking and cycling, using public transport and car share services, or driving an electric vehicle.

**Total suspended solids** – suspended particles that are not dissolved in a water sample. It is a parameter used to assess water quality.

**Water sensitive urban design** – a land planning and engineering design approach that integrates the urban water cycle – including stormwater, groundwater, wastewater management and water supply – into urban design to minimise environmental degradation and improve aesthetic and recreational appeal.