



# Course Outline – August 2024

## Course Overview

The **City of Port Phillip Environmental Leadership Course** is a 10-week evening course aimed at assisting people in the following primary areas.

- To develop personal skills and awareness.
- To increase knowledge and understanding.
- To meet other like-minded people in the community.
- To connect with the wider environmental movement locally.
- To increase local government understanding and awareness.
- To undertake a small but personally challenging project either individually or in a group.
- To develop relationship with both Council and Community.
- To learn what others are doing in the community.

The training course is 'in person' only and is not recorded or accessible via the internet.

## Feedback from April 2024 Participants

The following feedback was gathered from participant on the most recent course ending in April 2024.

- *“A great program that helps you connect with the local community, initiatives and teaches amazing fundamentals on leadership and getting involved in environmental and sustainability projects whether one you do yourself or joining in with amazing ones that are out there already. Would absolutely recommend to anyone interested in making a difference and getting involved in the port Phillip community.”*
- *“Thank you for this life changing opportunity. I am feeling inspired and empowered to live more sustainably and will connect with like-minded people.”*
- *“The facilitator’s care and dedication to the program was invaluable. One of the most transformational experiences of my time in Port Phillip.”*
- *“Awesome course! Very useful indeed. Learnt so much. The main facilitator is so knowledgeable and willing to help with anything and everything at any stage. Has given me so much confidence to get my project off the ground. Can’t thank the facilitators and my fellow participants enough!”*
- *“This course was wonderful. The main facilitator was so inspiring and really made me believe in myself and my abilities. I would recommend this course to everyone.”*
- *“This course is the start of my journey. Thanks to the facilitators for your passion and Council.”*
- *“Loved the course.”*
- *“The training exceeded my expectations and has been life changing. Thank you for providing it.”*
- *“The main facilitator was amazing! Absolutely great initiative. Thank you.”*



- “Awesome course! Thank you so much for accepting me into the course and to the main facilitator for teaching us all so much.”

## Course Dates & Locations

The training course is delivered over 10 consecutive weeks on a Tuesday evening running for 2.5 hours starting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 and concluding on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2024. Please note that 8 of the sessions are in Middle Park and 2 are in St. Kilda.

Date	Event Time	Venue
Tuesday, 13 August 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday, 20 August 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday, 27 August 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday, 3 September 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday, 10 September 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday, 17 September 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
<b>Tuesday, 24 September 2024</b>	<b>6:30pm - 9:00pm</b>	<b>Council Chamber St Kilda Town Hall</b>
Tuesday, 1 October 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room
<b>Tuesday, 8 October 2024</b>	<b>6:30pm - 9:00pm</b>	<b>St Kilda Town Hall Main Auditorium</b>
Tuesday, 15 October 2024	6:30pm - 9:00pm	Middle Park Community Centre Multi-Purpose Room

## History

The **City of Port Phillip** has been running the current environmental leadership course since 2018/19. A total of 9 courses have been run to date which have accepted 248 applicants. This course was commenced as part of the Sustainable City Community Action Plan (SCCAP) and was called the Community Leaders program. This program was described as follows, “a program that supports community members to become leaders and deliver their own sustainability projects. The program will involve training and mentoring to provide the community with the tools they need to improve environmental sustainability.” Since the end of SCCAP, this program currently runs more generally under the Act & Adapt Sustainable Environment Strategy 2023-2028.

No	Fin Year	Date	Total
9	2023/24	Apr-24	19
8	2023/24	Oct-23	21
7	2022/23	Jun-23	18
6	2022/23	Oct-22	14
5	2021/22	Apr-22	38
4	2021/22	Nov-21	31
3	2020/21	Jun-21	37
2	2019/20	Oct-19	35
1	2018/19	Jun-19	35
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>248</b>

A similar environmental leadership course was delivered by Council for several years circa 2010-2012.



## What we mean by “Environmental” & “Leadership.”

This section is for community members wondering what we mean when we say that this is an Environmental Leadership course. Perhaps, more accurately it could be called a community connection course to enhance skills throughout the municipality that promote and deliver enhanced community “sustainability.” Sustainability, for the purposes of this course, has a wide and deep definition, primarily focussed on a range of actions that connect community members in ways that allow the achievement of environmentally related objectives.

Although the course is focussed on environmental sustainability, this relies on a strong purposeful community with engaged and active citizenry. Regardless of whether you want to be a leader, a guardian, a custodian, a steward, a good person or just a humble community member wishing to take some action, this might be the course for you.

## Course Format

The training course is facilitated by City of Port Phillip council staff. Each week follows a similar format to allow participants to become comfortable with the routine of a Tuesday evening. The course is “in person” and is not accessible via the internet and not recorded. The course is centred around the following 4 phases.

- Initiation.
- Consolidation.
- Transcendence.
- Transformation.

## Initiation – Weeks 1-3

The initiate phase has its own energy of safety and control, for participants to be welcomed with enthusiasm and to set the tone and pattern of our sessions together, the rules of engagement, how we will walk forward and work together to get the most out of our time together. We start to understand our purpose, why we are doing this course, what we hope to achieve and what our objectives are. We take a deeper look at leadership and what type of leader we might want to be while starting to also look at our project ideas and how to frame our thinking strategically.

We also work on the theory and practice of creating our vision – the narrative of our purpose and the unifying statements that bring us all together. We are building from safety, control, and enthusiasm toward contained excitement. We can see how the theory and practice is aligned and how it directly relates to outcomes in both our personal life as well as our aspirational environmental outlook. We continue to learn more about each other through sharing, our bonds and our trust are strengthening. We look inward while incorporating that which is coming from outside of ourselves.

### What you can expect.

- **WEEK1**
  - **Our purpose and aims.**



- **How to Acknowledge Country**
- **Understanding the Program**
- **Understanding the Council**
- **Establishing the format**
- **Group Formation**
- **Project Overview**
- **Making Agreements**
- **Introductions**
- **Our view of leadership**
- **How we will work together**
- **Getting to know each other.**
- **Establishing contact**
- **Discussion & Exercises**
- **WEEK 2**
  - **Leadership**
  - **Hearing the voice of others**
  - **Challenge**
  - **The mission ahead**
  - **Making Change**
  - **Commitment**
  - **The Future**
- **WEEK 3**
  - **Vision Statements**
  - **Lots of little things equal one big thing.**
  - **Creating a destination**
  - **Building relationships**
  - **Using what you already have**
  - **Understanding assistance**
  - **Being ready**
  - **The complementary nature of things**

## Consolidation – Weeks 4-6

We are now a team, and we need some more skills to allow us to develop our ideas with more maturity and ownership. Energy moves away from nervous beginners toward a comfortable pattern, a lull before the challenge ahead which is gently introduced, and nervously awaited. Some things surprise us and others we can prepare for, our boundaries are expanding.

In the consolidate phase we are starting to understand our actions are the direct result of our vision and goals, how it is a natural progression from one place to another via a series of steps, up or down, left, or right, they are just steps. We need some tools and templates to manage this process, and these will aid our progress. We will be particularly concerned with the processes of change, project management and gathering resources. We are also making a transition from the inward focus of our first phase to the development of a more strategic focus.

**What you can expect.**

- **WEEK 4**
  - **Actions**



- **Getting Help**
- **Coaching & Mentoring**
- **Goals**
- **Objectives**
- **WEEK 5**
  - **Presence**
  - **Moments**
  - **Possibilities**
  - **Projects**
  - **Vision**
  - **Relationships**
  - **Skills**
  - **Resources**
  - **Blockages**
  - **Bringing it altogether**
- **WEEK 6**
  - **Problems**
  - **Solutions**
  - **Expectations**
  - **Action**
  - **Listening**
  - **Approach**
  - **Leadership**
  - **Reflection**
  - **Presence**
  - **Choice**

## Transcendence – Weeks 7-8

We are now entering the phase where we go beyond what we have done before, and we take our service to another level. We are seeking challenge because we understand that it is the secret to what we want in our lives and in the lives of those that we care about. We have reached a point of understanding that there is much to be done and that this is the work we have chosen to do.

We understand choice and we are more closely aligned with our work, this work – we are beginning to create something meaningful and something that feels driven by purpose, vision, and goals. We have clarity but may still lack some certainty but also understand that it is normal to be apprehensive. We may be uncomfortable with the challenges ahead, but we know we have support of our team and our supporters.

**What you can expect.**

- **WEEK 7**
  - **What success looks like.**
  - **What projects look like.**
  - **How to present.**
  - **Presentation Practice.**
- **WEEK 8**
  - **Communications**



- **Media**
- (more) **Presentation Practice**

## Transformation – Weeks 9-10

We have now reached a point where something is expected of us, something that we might not be comfortable with, something which others might judge and comment upon. We are in a stage of nervous energy with excitement building that will later be followed by sadness and disconnection as we depart the safety of the structure we have created and the bonds that we have shared.

Our work is now clear, we feel supported to step out and complete our challenges, arm in arm with our new friends and colleagues. We are leaders and we have transformed ourselves and can see now how we can transform our world, step by step toward the direction of our vision through the completion of the actions that assure the meeting of our objectives. We are ready.

**What you can expect.**

- **WEEK 9**
  - **Project Pitch Night**
- **WEEK 10**
  - **Evaluation**
  - **Celebration**
  - **Graduation**
  - **Next Steps**
  - **Ongoing Support & Connection**
  - **Leaving**

## Need more information?

If you have any questions about the City of Port Phillip after reading this course outline and perusing the course website (<https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/council-services/sustainability-and-climate-change/take-action/environmental-leadership-course>), please contact us via [enviro@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:enviro@portphillip.vic.gov.au).