

Actions

URBAN FOREST IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Objective	Action	Timing
1. Increase tree canopy on public land	1.1 Review and continue to implement the Street Tree Planting Strategy.	Short
	1.2 Identify innovative opportunities for increased tree planting and green space in streets including such as kerb outstands, median, roundabout and nature strips.	Short
	1.3 Continue to work and negotiate closely with VicRoads and other authorities to explore tree planting opportunities in non Council infrastructure projects.	Short
	1.4 Develop tree planting plans for all major open spaces, that complements active recreation including locations suitable for large canopy trees.	Medium
	1.5 Implement boulevard planting plans as outlined in the Street Tree Planting Strategy in collaboration with VicRoads.	Medium
2. Adapt to climate change and maximise environmental outcomes	2.1 Develop an integrated water management plan to encourage the use of water sensitive urban design as appropriate incorporate use of stormwater for passive irrigation in streets and open spaces wherever possible.	Medium
	2.3 Develop a biodiversity / habitat connectivity plan to guide revegetation efforts in areas along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek corridors	Medium
	2.2 Reduce paved/hard surface areas in streets and Council carparks and explore innovative materials paving to reduce heat island effect. E.g. narrower road lanes, larger vegetated areas, new medians or permeable paving where possible	Ongoing
	2.4 Maintain a diversity of tree species throughout Maribyrnong's streets, parks and reserves including both native and exotic species in alignment with other Council strategic priorities	Ongoing
	2.5 Investigate and trial tree species tolerant of predicted change in local climate and innovative planting typologies in alignment with other Council strategic priorities	Ongoing
3. Raise awareness and improve advocacy	3.1 Coordinate promotional activities including free trees for residents at seasonal events	Short
	3.2 Undertake community engagement on street reconstruction projects to maximise greening opportunities in local streets	Short
	3.3 Increase communications and media coverage about Maribyrnong's urban forest	Short
	3.4 Develop Precinct Planting Plans through consultation, to inform the Street Tree Planting Strategy	Medium
	3.5 Provide plant species selection guidelines for residents e.g. 'What to plant in your backyard'	Medium
	3.6 Lead conversations around desired neighbourhood amenity and character and the benefits of trees	Ongoing
	3.7 Participate in the Greening the West program with neighbouring Council's , VicRoads and City West Water	Ongoing
	3.8 Continue to engage with and support local tree planting community groups such as 'Friends' groups	Ongoing

4. Improve planning processes for trees	4.1 Update landscape guidelines for planning applications to guide tree planting in private development for best practice outcomes.	Short
	4.2 Progress a Significant Tree Register to protect existing canopy trees in the private realm from removal or damage and explore appropriate planning or local law mechanism for ongoing protection.	Medium
	4.3 Prepare an Urban Forest Strategy Technical Report to analyse and support the preparation of appropriate planning scheme changes or suitable guidelines or other mechanisms to implement the design and tree protection measures of the Urban Forest Strategy, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tree planting guidelines for best practice outcomes • tree protection to minimise crossovers on nature strips • minimum tree planting requirements for new development • minimum rear garden requirements in private development • appropriate mechanisms to implement the Significant Tree Register • green roofs and green facades 	Medium
	4.4 Continue to monitor and enforce conditions on planning permits to ensure landscape plans are implemented.	Ongoing
	4.5 Continue to use dollar bonds to protect public trees during development works and explore further the use of bonds to protect vegetation in open space adjoining development works.	Ongoing
	4.6 Investigate the inclusion of public trees within the Street Protection Bond process.	Ongoing
	4.7 Continue to enforce the protection of identified public and private trees during construction works using tree management plans, tree protection zones and regular inspections.	Ongoing
	4.8 Explore non-regulatory mechanisms to encourage planting of canopy trees in new developments e.g. incentives, educations, supporting innovative developers	Ongoing
	4.9 Align annual street tree planting program with future development sites to minimise loss of newly planted trees	Ongoing
5. Maximise community health and wellbeing outcomes	5.1 Prioritise canopy tree planting in activity centres, along pedestrian routes within socially vulnerable areas and known heat spots.	Short
	5.2 Work with schools and community groups to encourage shade tree planting programs.	Medium
6. Streamline Council's processes and monitor progress	6.1 Measure canopy cover every two years to understand change.	Medium
	6.2 Measure public street and park tree species diversity every two years.	Medium
	6.3 Implement the operational recommendations contained in Council's Urban Tree Renewal Plan and adopt best practice tree management procedures.	Ongoing
	6.4 Integrate Urban Forest objectives into Council's infrastructure and capital work programs.	Ongoing