

URBAN FOREST KPI UPDATE SUMMARY 2020

Objective 1: Green the City	
Key performance indicators:	Report
Annual net gain of 500 street trees per year	The City has achieved a net gain greater than 500 trees each year since the Urban Forest Strategy was adopted. Ongoing planting numbers are reported on in real time via the Geelong Data Exchange.
Completion of Geelong's Greenway Project	The Greenway planting has been completed.
Create tree lined entrances to Geelong	We have completed the Melbourne Road and Surf Coast Highway entrances, we are exploring opportunities along Ballarat Road, the Geelong Bacchus Marsh Highway, Colac Highway and Bellarine Highway
Objective 2: Cool the City	
Key Performance Indicators:	Report
Increase measurable canopy cover to achieve our target of 25%	There has been no measurable increase in canopy cover, which is currently 14%. This is to be expected as young trees will not provide significant canopy coverage until they mature. We expect to see changes in the canopy cover percent when our newly planted trees reach approximately 10 years old. Age and height of trees are reported in real time via the Geelong Data Exchange.
Increase passive WSUD treatments in the public realm	A Waterway Management Plan is under development. This plan will identify stormwater quality risks and prioritise Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) project. Once these are identified, planning and design work will commence.
Improve water permeability around street trees	The Stormwater Services Strategy has been adopted - the strategy connects with the Urban Forest Strategy, and identifies flagship projects which include urban forest outcomes.
Objective 3: Engage the community and build regional partnerships	
Key Performance Indicators:	Report
Increase number of community members involved in tree planting days	Community days have been put on hold due to COVID19 since 2020
Increase the demand from residents for a street tree outside their house	Numbers have consistently increased. Methods of sharing this data in real time through the Geelong Data Exchange are being explored by our Smart Cities team.
Development of multiple partner urban forest projects delivering community benefits	Parks Stewardship groups such as the Friends of Rippleside Park and Environs (St Helens Reserve planting), and various Community groups through National Tree Planting Day have been implemented.

Objective 4: Best practice urban tree management	
Key performance indicators:	Report
Technical manual completed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders	Council adopted the Tree Management Policy on September 8 2020 which guides decision making in the management of trees. This is available via the Council website.
All trees removed have been replaced 90% of the urban tree population is healthy	All trees that have been removed have been replaced where the site is suitable. The health of the tree population is reported in real time via the Geelong Data Exchange.
Appropriate diversity of tree age, species and Useful Life Expectancies	The age, top 10 species and Useful Life Expectancies of our urban forest are reported in real time via the Geelong Data Exchange.