Growing a greener west – strategic partnerships for regional change
to enable sustainable, liveable and healthy communities through urban greening
Types and benefits of urban greening

Types of urban greening:
- Green roofs
- Vertical gardens
- Street trees
- Verge planting
- Green car parks
- Private green space
- Conservation reserves
- Green infrastructure
- Sporting fields

Benefits of urban greening:
- Stormwater mitigation and treatment: Urban greening reduces impervious surfaces and provides a low-cost alternative for stormwater treatment.
- Carbon sequestration: Urban greening can assist in capturing and storing carbon and improve air quality by reducing fine particles in the atmosphere.
- Sustainable food source: Urban orchards and community gardens offer an accessible and sustainable food source for the public and encourage social interaction.
- Reduced temperature extremes: Shade, evapotranspiration and insulation provided by greening can assist in reducing the impact of extreme temperature events.
- Encourage active lifestyle: Shades provided by street trees can encourage active transport and walkable neighbourhoods. Well-serviced parks offer opportunities for passive and active recreation.
- Biodiversity: Introducing a variety of native vegetation to the urban environment will provide habitat for our local flora and increase biodiversity.
- Increased property value: Tree-lined streets can increase property values by up to 6%.
- Increased sense of place and urban amenity: Trees can improve a community’s sense of identity and pride.
- Improved infrastructure life: Vegetation can reduce UV exposure, which in turn can increase the longevity of infrastructure such as roads and footpaths.
- Improved air quality: Leaves capture and hold pollutants preventing them from remaining in the air. These are then washed away with rain (hopefully) into rain gardens, not into our waterways.

Environmental
Financial
Wellbeing

greeningtheWest
Our agenda

- **Improve physical health** by creating opportunity for physical activity
- Mitigate against climate change & **reduce heat related illness**
- **Improve mental health** by creating healthy environments
- Provide a more **liveable environment** for all the western suburbs including the growth areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Brimbank</th>
<th>Hobsons Bay</th>
<th>Maribyrnong</th>
<th>Melton</th>
<th>Moonee Valley</th>
<th>Wyndham</th>
<th>Vic. Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People not meeting physical activity guidelines</td>
<td>31.3% (RANK 6)</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People overweight or obese</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>58.2% (RANK 9)</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with type 2 diabetes</td>
<td>6.7% (RANK 7)</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>9.3% (RANK 1)</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People not eating recommended amounts of fruit and vegetables</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>54.9% (RANK 9)</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>57.1% (RANK 4)</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-reported health fair or poor</td>
<td>25.5% (RANK 1)</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>23.4% (RANK 6)</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Part of a bigger picture
Greening the West Strategic Plan

To enable sustainable, liveable and healthy communities through urban greening

- Plan for community health and wellbeing
- Advocate for policy and institutional change
- Communicate, connect and educate
- Promote collaboration and secure commitment
## We’re aiming high

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Targets</th>
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</table>
| 1. Maximise urban greening                                            | • Double tree canopy cover in the west by 2050  
• Green space to be increased by 25% by 2030                                                                           |
| 2. Improve quality and functionality of green space                   | Ensure quality and well-designed green open space for all communities                                                               |
| 3. Increase the use and interaction of residents in green space       | • All residents to have access to quality green space within 400 – 500 metres from their home  
• Enhance the range of facilities to maximise use and participation  
• Increase tree canopy cover to improve connectivity between open spaces and create urban habitat corridors |
<p>| 4. Improve the health and social wellbeing of residents               | Improve the health indicators of the west                                                                                           |</p>
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<td>5. Showcase the economic and intrinsic value of urban green space</td>
<td>Create a business case for each green space project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Improve environmental quality</td>
<td>Create benchmark standards for stormwater quality, air quality, natural habitats and heat stress</td>
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<td>7. Advocate green spaces to all levels of government and key stakeholders</td>
<td>• Annually showcase five Greening the West projects</td>
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<td>• Increase engagement and investment from stakeholders and government bodies</td>
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<td>• Lobby all levels of government and stakeholders to maximise greening outcomes</td>
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<td>• Each council to establish a tree protection overlay</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Maximise sustainable water supplies to establish and maintain green space</td>
<td>• Identify opportunities for alternative irrigation of green space</td>
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<td>• 25% increase in supply of alternative water for green space by 2030</td>
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Planning plus action

- Existing complementary programs and strategies – street trees, parks etc
- Links to precinct wide programs – Living Brooklyn
- Pilot projects – Geelong Road, Stony Creek, Whitten Oval, schools green walls
- Supporting funding applications and leveraging support from state and federal agencies – DEPI 2 Million Trees
- Influencing new developments
- Partnering with research institutions – academics and students
- greeningthewest.org.au
Mapping priority areas

- **Urban greening as a** preventive health strategy – plan for health
- **Areas of priority** based on known indicators – IRSED, health (diabetes, obesity) hotspots
- **Strategically evaluated impactful** projects matched to our goals. Fully scoped and costed
- **Green precinct exemplars** for what a connected, green west looks like – park, connector streets, schools – delivering on the vision