



# THEME FOUR **CLEAN AND SUSTAINABLE**

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2019–2020

BENTLEIGH • BENTLEIGH EAST • BRIGHTON EAST • CARNEGIE • CAULFIELD • ELSTERNWICK  
GARDENVALE • GLEN HUNTLY • MCKINNON • MURRUMBEENA • ORMOND • ST KILDA EAST



GLEN EIRA  
CITY COUNCIL

# THEME FOUR

## CLEAN AND SUSTAINABLE

Long-term community goal:

**An attractive and sustainable environment for future generations.**

We are committed to providing a City that will be attractive and environmentally sustainable. We will protect the diversity of plants and animals, and provide for a healthy environment that supports our community to live healthy and happy lives.

**In 2019–2020 we:**

- continued to invest in solar energy generation and installed solar panels at 19 of our facilities across Glen Eira. The new solar panels allow us to generate clean energy onsite, cut our carbon footprint and protect against rising energy costs;
- completed the detailed design of a new park in Aileen Avenue, Caulfield South. The park will provide a range of recreation opportunities for the local community, including passive seating areas, open lawn and a play space focussing on nature play with a variety of natural materials. A range of landscape materials including rocks and logs and both native and exotic vegetation will be used in the design which will provide a focus for local residents to meet and to play; and
- conducted annual waste bin audits and sampled waste from all three kerbside streams of 250 homes across Glen Eira. The audit was completed in November 2019 and measured an 11 per cent increase of food waste recycled in Council's green bin, compared to the 2018 audit. We recycle 903 tonnes of food waste annually in Glen Eira which decreases emissions by 1,715 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year.

## **THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THIS LONG-TERM COMMUNITY GOAL ARE:**

### **1. KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN AND ATTRACTIVE.**

#### **WE WILL:**

- Continually improve our maintenance activities to keep the City clean, including looking for ways to incorporate new technologies such as mobile reporting and solar litter bin compaction.
- Progressively renew and revitalise our streetscapes.

### **2. PRESERVE AND DEVELOP OUR OPEN SPACE TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS.**

#### **WE WILL:**

- Improve and upgrade our open spaces for passive and active recreation through our capital works program.
- Continue to explore opportunities to increase the amount of open space for recreation purposes, including access to schools, as well as state and federal government owned land.
- Protect and enhance biodiversity on Council land.

### **3. INCREASE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PREPARE FOR THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.**

#### **WE WILL:**

- Help our community members to reduce their impact on the environment through education and support programs.
- Show leadership in sustainability in our waste, water and energy usage practices.
- Demonstrate a clear focus on energy sustainability in our capital projects, in design, construction and operations.
- Work towards zero net carbon emissions from Council operations by 2030 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by a further 25 per cent from Council buildings, waste and outdoor lighting by 2021.
- Work towards zero net carbon emissions from the community by 2050 by supporting the Glen Eira community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- We will consult the community on the implementation of a Classified Tree Register.

#### **ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY, COUNCIL WILL ADVOCATE FOR:**

- New generation waste disposal and recycling facilities for the future.
- The protection of vegetation in major development projects in the City, including level crossing removals and on state and federal government owned land.
- Better immediate community access to Caulfield Racecourse Reserve for sporting and recreation purposes and full implementation of the recommendations of the ministerially appointed Bi-Partisan Working Group within five years.
- Improved state and federal government policy on environmental sustainability initiatives.

## HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

STRATEGIC INDICATOR	RESULT
<p><b>We will see a five per cent increase in the recycling rate at Council buildings.</b></p>	<p>An audit of the garbage stream was undertaken in November 2019 which showed a 4.73 per cent improvement in the recovery of recycled material at Town Hall, but a 16.23 per cent decrease in recovery at the Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre.</p> <p>An audit of the garbage stream was undertaken in 2017 and 2018, which showed a 15 per cent improvement in the recovery of recycled material at Town Hall and a three per cent improvement at Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre.</p>
<p><b>Greenhouse gas emissions will be a further 25 per cent lower from Council buildings, waste and outdoor lighting by 2021.</b></p>	<p>Our 2019–20 carbon footprint decreased by 10 per cent to 8,399 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) compared to 9,287 tonnes in the previous financial year. This decrease was the result of upgrading 1,315 street lights to energy-efficient LEDs and the installation of new solar photovoltaic systems at 19 Council facilities. We've reduced our emissions by 27 per cent since our baseline year of 2014–15.</p> <p>Our 2018–19 carbon footprint decreased by 6.8 per cent to 9,287 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e compared to 9,961 tonnes on 2017–18. This decrease was due primarily to an 18 per cent increase in solar power generation, energy efficiency and lighting upgrades at a range of Council sites. Electricity use at our smaller buildings decreased by 25 per cent and by 37 per cent at our Works Depot. In July 2019 we completed an upgrade of street lights on major Council roads with energy efficient lighting, it is expected that this will lead to a 20 per cent decrease in emissions from street lights in 2019–20.</p> <p>Our 2017–18 carbon footprint decreased by eight per cent to 9,961 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e compared to 10,837 tonnes in 2016–17. The biggest decreases in electricity use were achieved at Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre (nine per cent), Glen Eira Town Hall (six per cent) and Council's nursing home — Spurway Community (three per cent). The decrease in electricity use is due to solar panel installations, energy efficiency upgrades and lighting upgrades at a range of Council sites.</p>
<p><b>There will be an increase in open space in areas of the City identified in our Open Space Strategy as lacking green space.</b></p>	<p>Further opportunities to expand and connect the open space network are identified in the <i>Open Space Strategy</i> which was refreshed in 2020. Key projects over the 2020 year included: finalising a road closure to create a new park in Aileen Avenue, Caulfield South; identifying potential new open spaces adjacent to the Caulfield to Dandenong rail corridor; and advocacy with the Caulfield Reserve Racecourse Trust for improved access and recreational activity on Crown Land within the reserve.</p>

## HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL? (continued)

STRATEGIC INDICATOR	RESULT
<p><b>The level of satisfaction with open space in the <i>Community Satisfaction Survey</i>, will be consistent with, or better than, industry benchmarks.</b></p>	<p>In the <i>2020 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey</i>, Glen Eira residents rated their level of satisfaction with the appearance of public areas an index score of 78. The state-wide average is 72. Residents rated their level of satisfaction with recreational facilities an index score of 80. Additionally, residents were asked: 'What is the one best things about Glen Eira City Council?' The top mention was parks and gardens — 22 per cent and recreational/sporting facilities — 13 per cent.</p>
<p><b>Traders' associations will report an increased level of satisfaction with the cleanliness and amenity of our activity centres.</b></p>	<p>Traders' associations reported a 33 per cent increase in satisfaction with the cleanliness of the activity centres with 33 per cent stating no change and 33 percent stating a decrease in cleanliness. One hundred per cent of respondents stated there was no change in the amenity of the centres.</p>
<p><b>New generation garbage disposal facilities will be well progressed toward opening.</b></p>	<p>Council partnered with 16 councils in the south east region of Melbourne and the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG) to tender for an advanced waste processing alternative to landfill. On 29 June 2020 MWRRG announced three shortlisted tenderers for the new waste management infrastructure. Contracts are to be awarded in 2022 with construction expected to begin in 2023.</p>
<p><b>New buildings and facilities will be recognised as leading examples of highly efficient and sustainable design.</b></p>	<p>All our major projects, including Murrumbeena Pavilion and Carnegie Swim Centre have five per cent of their budget allocated to sustainability initiatives. Concepts for future projects, such as the Carnegie food market, will be developed with a focus on sustainable design.</p>

Achieved =  Not achieved =  Not achieved due to COVID-19 pandemic = 

2019–20 COMMITMENT	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	RESULT
<p>We will invest in solar energy generation on Council buildings and support the community to implement initiatives that contribute to our sustainability objectives.</p>	<p>Additional solar generation to be installed at kindergartens. (four sites)</p> <p><b>This is also a major initiative of the 2019–20 Annual Budget.</b></p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The solar installation works at five Kindergarten sites have been completed. These included the Glen Eira Kindergarten Association facilities at: McKinnon Road, McKinnon; Brady Road, Bentleigh East; Higgins Road, Bentleigh; Orrong Road, Elsternwick; and Patterson Road, Bentleigh.</p>		
	<p>Additional solar generation to be installed at Centenary Park Pavilion.</p> <p><b>This is also a major initiative of the 2019–20 Annual Budget.</b></p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The solar installation works at Centenary Park Pavilion, Bentleigh have been completed. We also installed a solar system at East Caulfield Pavilion.</p>		
	<p>Additional solar generation to be installed at Council independent living units. (six units)</p> <p><b>This is also a major initiative of the 2019–20 Annual Budget.</b></p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The solar installation works at 11 independent living units in Jasper Road, Bentleigh have been completed.</p>		
	<p>Additional solar generation to be installed at Godfrey Street Community House.</p> <p><b>This is also a major initiative of the 2019–20 Annual Budget.</b></p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The solar installation works at Godfrey Street Community House, Bentleigh have been completed.</p>		
<p>We will implement our updated <i>Open Space Strategy 2019–2031</i> priority actions, including design and construction of open space projects.</p>	<p>Complete detailed design of a new park in Aileen Avenue, Caulfield South.</p> <p><b>This is also a major initiative of the 2019–20 Annual Budget.</b></p>	<p></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> Detailed design of the new park is now complete. The tendering process and construction of the new park and associated drainage works will begin in August 2020.</p>		

2019–20 COMMITMENT	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	RESULT
<p><b>We will implement our updated <i>Open Space Strategy 2019–2031</i> priority actions, including design and construction of open space projects.</b> (continued)</p>	<p>Invest \$900,000 in improvements under the <i>Outer Circle Railway Management Plan</i>.</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> \$805,000 has been spent on improvements under the <i>Outer Circle Railway Management Plan</i>. Melbourne Water handed the land back to Council for reinstatement and development in March 2020 causing a three-month delay. Final landscaping work will be completed in August 2020.</p>		
<p><b>We will commence the implementation of actions from the <i>Tennis Strategy</i>.</b></p>	<p>Install Tennis Australia’s Book a Court system in four locations across the municipality.</p>	<p><b>CX</b></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> Expressions of interest were sought from all tennis clubs that wished to be considered for installation of the Book a Court system to allow casual access to tennis courts. Pre-installation electrical works have been undertaken at five tennis facilities. Completion of this project is awaiting installation of the hardware and activation of software by Tennis Victoria which was delayed due to COVID-19. This project is now due for completion in August 2020.</p>		
<p><b>Five per cent of the capital budget for all new and large refurbishment building projects will be allocated sustainability measures, over and above the minimum required standards.</b></p>	<p>Five per cent of <a href="#">Carnegie Swim Centre redevelopment</a> budget allocated to sustainable initiatives and separately reflected in cost plan.</p>	<p><b>✓</b></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The project team ensured this requirement was incorporated into the design and the current cost plan.</p>		
	<p>Five per cent of <a href="#">Murrumbeena Pavilion</a> budget allocated to sustainable initiatives and separately reflected in cost plan.</p>	<p><b>✓</b></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The project team ensured this requirement was incorporated into the design and the current cost plan.</p>		
<p><b>We will update and refresh a minimum of two key Council community infrastructure strategies relating to recreation, open space and facilities.</b></p>	<p>Council endorsement of a <i>Playground Strategy</i>.</p>	<p><b>CX</b></p>
<p><b>Comment:</b> The <i>Playground Strategy</i> was deferred to allow for the community consultation phase to be undertaken when COVID-19 social distancing restrictions are lifted. This will allow for valuable community input to inform the <i>Strategy</i> and to ensure it reflects community needs.</p>		

2019–20 COMMITMENT	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	RESULT
<p><b>We will update and refresh a minimum of two key Council community infrastructure strategies relating to recreation, open space and facilities.</b> (continued)</p>	<p>Dog off-leash areas reviewed and community consultation undertaken.</p>	
<p><b>Comment:</b> A review of the dog off-leash areas was undertaken and the report endorsed by Council on 5 May 2020. The report included the data and information collected during the community consultation period throughout 2019. Further to this, Council also endorsed an amended Order of the <i>Domestic Animals Act</i> to commence implementation of the new off-leash areas.</p>		
<p><b>We will see an increase in food waste recycling in the municipality.</b></p>	<p>Ten per cent increase in <a href="#">food waste recycling</a> measured through annual waste bin audit.</p>	
<p><b>Comment:</b> The annual waste bin audit completed in November 2019 measured an 11 per cent increase in food waste recycled in Council's green bin, compared to an audit completed during a similar period in 2018.</p>		