

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

CITY OF BELMONT  
**Environment and  
Sustainability Strategy  
2023-2033 V.0**

xx/xx/2023

**City of Belmont**

215 Wright Street, Cloverdale Western Australia 6105

Locked Bag 379, Cloverdale Western Australia 6985

Open 8:30am - 4:45pm, Monday - Friday

9477 7222

[belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au](mailto:belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au)

9477 7224 (A/H)

[belmont.wa.gov.au](http://belmont.wa.gov.au)



## Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Environmental Management in the City of Belmont .....                            | 3  |
| Knowledge, Partnerships and Environmental Governance – Informing this Strategy . | 5  |
| Urban Ecosystem Services - Ecology and Biodiversity .....                        | 10 |
| Water Resource Management and Protection .....                                   | 14 |
| Sustainably Built Environments.....  | 18 |
| Climate Resilient Energy and Transport.....                                      | 21 |
| Waste and Resource Recovery.....   | 24 |
| Implementation, Review and Monitoring of this Strategy.....                      | 27 |

The City of Belmont acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of this land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

We further acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs, connection, and relationship with this land which continues today.

We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living within the City of Belmont.



# Environmental Management in the City of Belmont

This Strategy is an integral component of the City of Belmont's Environmental Management System, which was first developed in 2006 under the standard of AS/NZS *ISO 14001 – environmental management systems*. The City has maintained its certification through implementing best practice environment and sustainability initiatives, setting environmental performance objectives, and fulfilling our compliance obligations. Our commitment to natural areas management, water management and sustainability is demonstrated by our high-quality natural areas, accolades, awards, and continued performance.

This Strategy and associated Plans adopt a life cycle perspective and continuous improvement, to ensure that the City strives for a better environment and manages the environmental aspects of the City's activities, products, and services.<sup>1</sup>

To assist in continuously improving the City's environmental management endeavours, the Environment and Sustainability Strategy will:

- Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations
- Allow us to set and achieve Environmental Objectives and
- Enhance our environmental performance.

This will contribute to the City's long-established Environment and Sustainability Policy commitments of:

- Setting objectives, targets, and indicators to monitor environmental performance
- Incorporating a continuous improvement philosophy that protects and enhances the natural environment, including remnant bushlands, wetlands, river foreshores and waterways
- Engaging with the community to promote and encourage involvement in environmental initiatives current and emerging and
- Continuing to integrate environmental management into the culture of our organisation with the commitment being demonstrated through leadership and the actions of our staff in the prevention of air, land, or water pollution.<sup>2</sup>

To achieve this, the City has reviewed all of its environmental aspects, strategic alignment and emerging opportunities to place it at the forefront of environmental thinking.

---

<sup>1</sup> Technical Committee ISO/TC 207/SC 1 Environmental management systems, iso.org.

<sup>2</sup> City of Belmont. 2023. *Environment and Sustainability Policy*

The City’s mix of amazing natural assets, well-established history in addressing environmental impacts, and emerging sustainability opportunities means the Strategy will focus on:

1. Knowledge, Partnerships and Environmental Governance
2. Urban Ecosystem Services - Ecology and Biodiversity
3. Water Resource Management and Protection
4. Sustainably Built Environments
5. Climate Resilient Energy and Transport
6. Waste and Resource Recovery

**FLOODED GUM, GARVEY PARK**



# Knowledge, Partnerships and Environmental Governance – Informing this Strategy

The City will engage with its community and stakeholders to inform its environmental management and good environmental governance. A key component of the ISO14001 standard is to monitor stakeholder needs, expectations and satisfaction.<sup>3</sup> By doing this, we ensure our environmental management system and associated plans achieve the required outcomes appropriate to the City’s services, environmental conditions, and geographic location.

The City will also take a key role in empowering its community to make greater contributions to the natural environment and sustainability initiatives. Where the City cannot directly contribute to the enhancement or resolution of environmental issues, it will work to influence those who can. In addition, to demonstrate the City’s commitment to the natural environment, it will maintain its own environmental credentials.

## Our Knowledge and Partnership performance

The City has maintained its ISO14001 certification since 2006, demonstrating our commitment to continual environmental improvement. The Environmental Management System sits within the City’s Integrated Management System which provides a framework for the City to control the impact that its activities, products, and services may have on the natural environment. To achieve this successfully the City commits to:

- Protecting the environment
- Mitigating adverse environment impacts
- Complying with its environmental obligations
- Enhancing its environmental performance and
- Communicating environmental information to relevant interested parties.<sup>4</sup>

The key documents of the Environmental Management System include the City’s Environment and Sustainability Policy, Environmental Purchasing Policy, and this Strategy, with overall guidance from the Strategic Community Plan. To achieve the City’s environmental objectives, commitments, and obligations, the City implements various plans, work processes and tasks which reflect our 14001 requirements (**Figure 1**).

---

<sup>3</sup> AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use* 4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties

<sup>4</sup> Ibid 0.2 Aim of an environmental management system.



Figure 1 Components within the City's Environmental Management System. \*Proposed to be developed.

## Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City must comply with environmental legislation pertinent to the City's operations, many of which are documented within this Strategy and are referred to as Compliance Obligations.<sup>5</sup> These become the City's "legal obligations" and any breach is deemed a major non-conformity to the City's management system. However, the City can make commitments to other voluntary environmental obligations, such as those targets and goals noted in the Strategic Community Plan, the Environment and Sustainability Policy and this Strategy.

In addition, the Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 specifies that the City will "Encourage and educate the community to embrace sustainable and healthy lifestyles", "Support and collaborate with local schools and businesses" and "Support collaboration and partnerships to deliver key outcomes for our City" respectively.

To inform compliance and environmental objectives within the management system, the City will engage with its interested parties at various opportunities and apply the below framework:

- Determine and have access to the Compliance Obligations related to its environmental aspects
- Determine how these Compliance Obligations apply to the organisation
- Take these Compliance Obligations into account when establishing, implementing, maintaining, and continually improving its environmental management system.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 3.2.9 *Compliance Obligations* – legal requirements that an organisation must comply with and other requirements that an organisation has to or chooses to comply with, for example regulations, organisational and industry standards, contractual arrangements, agreements with community groups.

<sup>6</sup> AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 6.1.3 Compliance Obligations, 9.

To ensure we remain compliant with environmental legislation, the City has implemented the following:

- Compliance Accountability Listing and Compliance Calendar.<sup>7</sup>
- Continuous monitoring of environmental legislation, with applicable changes being reported to our leadership teams
- Compliance alerts and calendars are maintained within our central information system
- Annual Maintenance Plan – Environment.

## **Set and achieve Environmental Objectives and Strategies**

The City shall establish Environmental Objectives relevant to our significant environmental aspects and Compliance Obligations. In this, we will also consider our risks and opportunities to maximise environmental benefit.

The Environmental Objectives shall be:

- Consistent with the City’s Environment and Sustainability Policy
- Measurable (where practicable)
- Monitored as per the implementation plan
- Communicated to our organisation and stakeholders and
- Updated as appropriate and documented.<sup>8</sup>

Therefore, all Environmental Objectives contained within this Strategy must be consistent with the above and the City’s Environment and Sustainability Policy, which states that the City is committed to:

1. Undertake continual improvement of the Environmental Management System to enhance environmental performance of City operations.
2. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity values within the City of Belmont, including remnant bushland, wetlands, river foreshore and waterways.
3. Prevention of pollution to air, land or water, or damage to flora or fauna, minimising harm, and degradation to the natural environment.
4. Efficient use of energy, water, paper, and other resources, improving resource recovery and reducing waste to landfill and implementing renewable energy technologies to minimise the City’s corporate carbon footprint.
5. Considering life cycle impacts and minimising single use disposable plastics.

---

<sup>7</sup> As per Compliance Management Plan and associated process maps.

<sup>8</sup> AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 6.2.1 Environmental Objectives, 10.

6. Planning for and implementing measures to ‘future proof’ City operations against the predicted impacts of climate change.
7. Compliance with relevant environmental legislation and other obligations.<sup>9</sup>

To maintain working knowledge, our stakeholder partnerships and to ensure good environmental governance, the City will achieve the following objectives.

**1.1. Develop, implement, and regularly review an organisation-wide Environment and Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan.**

- 1.1.1. Draft and implement the implementation plan for the Environment and Sustainability Strategy 2023-2033.
- 1.1.2. Set objectives, targets, and indicators to monitor environmental performance and review and report on outcomes.

**1.2. Strategic actions to achieve objectives are identified and responsibilities, timeframes and budget requirements are assigned with progress monitored.**

- 1.2.1. Develop annual implementation plans and maintenance plans.
- 1.2.2. Maintain processes and procedures.

**1.3. Consider environmental aspects and implications in project and event management, procurement, decision-making and development of strategies and plans.**

- 1.3.1. Continue to implement risk assessments in contracts and tenders.
- 1.3.2. Identify environmental aspects relating to City operations through divisional structure and activities.
- 1.3.3. Environment and sustainability objectives, goals and targets are considered in all City Strategies, Plans, Policies, and procedures.

**1.4. Maintain awareness of current and emerging environmental issues relevant to the City of Belmont.**

- 1.4.1. Participate in regional initiatives which identify and work towards addressing regional environment and sustainability issues (i.e. Waterwise Council).

**1.5. Manage potential environmental aspects associated with City operations and predicted impacts of climate change as specified under City of Belmont Policy Risk Management.**

- 1.5.1. Review all new projects, operations, and services to identify risks and opportunities.
- 1.5.2. Maintain risk register of environment risks.

---

<sup>9</sup> City of Belmont. 2023. *Environment and Sustainability Policy*

- 1.5.3. Review all process maps and work instructions to identify environmental risks and opportunities.
- 1.5.4. Develop and maintain accurate mapping of environmental assets, management areas and other geospatial information relevant to the City's environmental objectives.

**1.6. Employees are aware of environmental legislative requirements relevant to Department activities.**

- 1.6.1. Continue to implement the City's Risk Management procedures, including maintain its compliance obligations, compliance calendars and risk registers.
- 1.6.2. Undertake Environmental audits as per the City's Integrated Management System.
- 1.6.3. Communicate changes in environmental legislation as they arise and provide internal support to resolve significant impacts to the City's products and services.

**1.7. Engage with the wider Belmont residential and business community to raise awareness of environmental issues and encourage sustainable living and pollution prevention practices.**

- 1.7.1. Undertake community perception surveys.
- 1.7.2. Engage with the community through various City events and opportunities.
- 1.7.3. Promote and Communicate Environment and Sustainability initiatives and achievements to the broader community.

**Knowledge and Partnership Goals**

By 2028 the City should have

- Consulted the Community on this Strategy.
- Provided annual updates on the City's Environment and Sustainability Performance in the Annual Report.
- Continued to receive feedback from its community through perception surveys.
- Maintained its ISO 14001 certification.

# Urban Ecosystem Services - Ecology and Biodiversity

The City's natural environment is enriched with remnant bushlands, the Swan River, waterways, and wetlands. Our biological assemblages, remnant vegetation and water opportunities make the City an inviting and attractive place to live and work. This also presents the City with various opportunities to enhance the ecological and biodiversity values present within.

Currently the City maintains areas of 'Low forest, woodland or low woodland with scattered trees' of 'Jarrah, banksia or casuarina *Eucalyptus marginata*, *Banksia* spp., *Allocasuarina* species' toward the centre of the City, and woodlands of the southwest structure consisting of 'Jarrah, marri and wandoo *Eucalyptus marginata*, *Corymbia calophylla*, *E. wandoo*' towards the Swan River.<sup>10</sup> Our significant remnant bushlands include the Swan River Foreshore, Garvey Park, Tomato Lake, P.H. Dodd Reserve, Signal Hill and pockets within the Perth Airport (albeit not managed by the City). In total, the land coverage consists of approximately 117 hectares over 23 distinct natural spaces some of which contain the Threatened Ecological Community *Banksia woodlands*. These pockets of remnant vegetation provide significant refuge to migratory species protected under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) and those listed for protection under *the Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA), including Black Cockatoos, the Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) and various flora species.<sup>11</sup>

The biggest risk to the City's natural assets includes invasive weed species, unlawful clearing and impacts from the urban environment, including degradation from 'off path' use (tramping), spreading of dieback and other pathogens. To counter this, the City seeks to increase planting opportunities and safeguard natural areas.

## Our Urban Ecosystem Services performance

The City has a long-standing commitment to preserving ecological and biodiversity values through its Strategic Community Plan, Policy commitments and previous Environment Plans. The Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 Goal 3, Natural Belmont, specifies that the City will "*Protect and enhance our natural environment*" and "*Provide green spaces for recreation, relaxation and enjoyment*".

Our environmental performance in the space of ecology and biodiversity to date has included:

- Ongoing weed and pest plant management within natural areas.

---

<sup>10</sup> Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Pre-European Vegetation Dataset, 2023.

<sup>11</sup> Government of WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, January 2023 - Priority Flora, Fauna, and Threatened Ecological Communities search

## Draft – For Public Consultation

- Revegetation of our remnant bushlands to improve biodiversity and plant coverage.
- Increase of street trees and trees in reserves to uphold ecological services.
- Increased planting near to waterbodies, including implementing buffer zones.
- Continued identification and implementation of foreshore restoration projects along the Swan River.

|                                     | 2016                    | 2017                                   | 2018                                     | 2019                                | 2020             | 2021                  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Foreshore protected (lm)            | 67 m<br>Ascot foreshore | 86 m<br>Rivervale and Ascot foreshores | 47 m<br>Ascot Racecourse and Adachi Park | 56 m<br>Garvey Park and Adachi Park | 273 m<br>Various | 625 m<br>design stage |
| Native seedlings and sedges planted | 3550 seedlings          | 2115 seedlings                         | 1654 seedlings                           | 5142 seedlings                      | 6681 seedlings   | 7655 seedlings        |
|                                     | 710 sedges              | 450 sedges                             | 1100 sedges                              | 411 sedges                          | 3500 sedges      | 110 sedges            |

Figure 2 Historical achievements in Ecology and Biodiversity

### Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City has a moral and legal obligation to protect the ecological and biodiversity values within the City of Belmont. Its legal obligations include:

| Compliance Obligation  | Reference   |
|--|---|
| Prevent unlawful clearing of native trees and vegetation in City works.  | <b><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act).</i></b>   |
| Protection of priority fauna and flora and their assemblages. Protection of fauna of international significance. | <b><i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, and Planning and Development Act 2005.</i></b> |
| Protect vegetation within the Swan River Foreshore.  | <b><i>Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007.</i></b>  |
| Prevent the spread of declared weeds and invasive species.   | <b><i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007.</i></b>  |

## Set and achieve Environmental Objectives and Strategies

To achieve outcomes in the space of Urban Ecosystem Services, the City will implement the following objectives and Strategies.

### **2.1. Protect, enhance, and expand natural areas and increase habitat connectivity and quality.**

- 2.1.1. Consolidate species and planting lists for natural areas with a view to increase biodiversity, climate resilience and tree coverage.
- 2.1.2. Implement planting programs and revegetation plans to increase the quality of our natural areas.
- 2.1.3. Develop a local Bushland Protection Plan for natural areas.<sup>12</sup>
- 2.1.4. Develop a Foreshore Management Plan to continue foreshore restoration programs with a view to increase habitat, connectivity, and parkland amenity.

### **2.2. Integrate biodiversity values, ecosystem services and ecosystem connectivity into the design, upgrade and maintenance of streetscapes, parks, wetlands, waterways, and other open spaces.**

- 2.2.1. Incorporate native plantings in streetscapes.
- 2.2.2. Identify priority wetlands, waterways, and drainage basins for enhancement.
- 2.2.3. Improve community stewardship and capacity for planting native trees and shrubs on residential lands.

### **2.3. Manage significant environmental weeds, pests and plant diseases located on land and in water bodies managed by the City.**

- 2.3.1. Identify weed management plans for environmental areas.
- 2.3.2. Implement biosecurity protocols at natural areas to prevent the spreading plant pathogens.
- 2.3.3. Continue to work with State agencies and landowners in the prevention of invasive species.

---

<sup>12</sup> As per SPP2.8 Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region

## Ecology and Biodiversity Goals

By 2028 the City should have

- Planted at least 4500 native shrub and tree seedlings per annum.
- Planted at least 1100 sedges and sedge strips per annum.
- Increased the quality of our natural spaces by eliminating 'Degraded' vegetation and enhancing them too 'Excellent.'<sup>13</sup>
- Had no breaches of environmental legislation relating to the clearing of native vegetation.
- Undertaken at least three major revegetation programs per year in remnant bushlands, the Swan River Foreshore and priority wetlands.
- Involved the community in over 25 community workshops and engagement programs.
- Developed a Foreshore Management Plan.
- Developed a Bushland Protection Plan for natural areas.



PRAYING MANTIS ON AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS TREE, TOMATO LAKE

---

<sup>13</sup> As per Keighery Condition Scale (1994) where 'Degraded' means the vegetations structure is severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. 'Excellent' means vegetation structure intact, disturbance affecting individual species and weeds are non-aggressive species.

# Water Resource Management and Protection

Water and waterways are essential to the health, wellbeing, and connectedness of people, communities and to our living environment. Water Resource Management and Protection includes the responsible consumption of all water resources (e.g., scheme water for drinking and groundwater for irrigation) and ensuring our urban fabric does not negatively impact on those resources (Water Sensitive Urban Design).

The City recognises the environmental, social, and cultural importance of water and is committed to protecting and enhancing established water-adjacent land that we manage. In addition, the City will explore opportunities to improve the environmental value of highly modified wetlands and waterways. The City will also take a key role in ensuring its community is more empowered to improve water management at home and in their garden. Our own operations will remain water efficient and safeguard water resources, especially through preventing pollution events and reducing the impact our operations may have.

## **Our Water Resource Management and Protection performance**

Over the last decade, the City has demonstrated a significant achievement in water resource management and protection. The City has worked to reduce its dependency on scheme water resources whilst recognising the need water has in a built environment. We've excelled in our parks and open spaces by implementing hydrozoning and we've been a Waterwise Council since 2011.

The Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 Goal 3, Natural Belmont, specifies that the City will “*Protect and enhance our natural environment*” and “*improve our river and waterways*”. Our environmental performance in the space of Water Resource Management and Protection to date has included:

- Ongoing monitoring of water quality within the stormwater network, including drains, lakes, and wetlands.
- Continued retrofits within City facilities to ensure WELS rated fixtures are used.
- Light industrial land uses are assessed and, where required, businesses are supported in reducing their water impacts.
- The City achieved Waterwise Council Gold in 2021.
- Our community has maintained water consumption below Water Corporations target for the last six years.
- Reduced fertiliser dependency on irrigated areas near wetlands.

## Draft – For Public Consultation

|   | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      | 2019      | 2020      | 2021                         |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Potable Scheme Water in Facilities.                           | 74,217 kL | 78,378 kL | 79,903 kL | 79,903 kL | 75,692 kL | 74,077 kL                    |
| Communities' Potable Water Consumption <sup>14</sup>          | 85 kL     | 85 kL     | 84 kL     | 82 kL     | 87 kL     | 84 kL                        |
| Groundwater is below the licenced allocation.                 | Achieved  |           |           |           |           |                              |
| Businesses supported by our Environmental Assessment Project. | 38 visits | 39 visits | 56 visits | 36 visits | 39 visits | 9 visits<br>*COVID reduction |

### Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City will continue to comply with water related legislation and policies to maximise the value of water and prevent resource contamination and waste. Our legal obligations include:

| Compliance Obligation   | Reference  |
|---|--|
| The City's groundwater use does not exceed its Licence to take groundwater.   | <b><i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (WA).</i></b>  |
| Significant spills, discharges or environmental incidents are promptly cleaned up and reported to the Department of Water and Regulation.       | <b><i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003 (WA).</i></b><br><b><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA).</i></b> |
| Vegetation within the Swan River is protected with ecological and community benefits and amenity maintained.                                    | <b><i>Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007.</i></b>                                       |
| Development approvals are given in accordance with the relevant environmental protection controls.  | <b><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i></b>   |
| The City assists local businesses in remaining environmentally responsible and compliant through the Business Environmental Assessment Project. | <b><i>The Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004.</i></b>                   |

<sup>14</sup> The Water Corporation goal is to maintain water consumption to below 125 kL per capita annually

## Set and achieve Environmental Objectives and Strategies

### **3.1. Incorporate best practice water efficiency and water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles in all Council operations, including the planning, design and maintenance of parks, facilities and stormwater systems managed by the City.**

- 3.1.1. Continue to review Development Applications and condition stormwater disposal appropriately.
- 3.1.2. Enhance streetscapes with Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles where achievable.
- 3.1.3. Implement Waterwise practices in parks irrigation to become climate resilient.
- 3.1.4. Continue to identify water efficiencies and retrofits in community facilities.
- 3.1.5. Maintain our Waterwise Council accreditation, achieving Platinum.

### **3.2. Take a catchment-based approach to the management of waterways and wetlands, including their foreshore areas.**

- 3.2.1. Continue to monitor surface water quality to identify priority catchments and methods of reducing nutrients.
- 3.2.2. Improve wetlands through increased biodiversity and planting.
- 3.2.3. Increased the community's awareness of water resource use and management.

### **3.3. Minimise the City's operational risk of environmental discharges of pollutants and impacts on water resources.**

- 3.3.1. Undertake to implement a Nutrient Intervention Management Plan to reduce nutrient levels in public open space management.
- 3.3.2. Continue to report environmental incidents such as chemical or hydrocarbon spills.
- 3.3.3. Continue to monitor groundwater use and allocation.

### **3.4. Respond to potential water quality issues and unauthorised emissions/discharges that could cause environmental contamination or otherwise negatively affect groundwater or surface water quality.**

- 3.4.1. Continue to work with the business community to prevent discharges to the environment.

## Water Resource Management and Protection Goals

By 2028 the City should have

- Maintained its Waterwise Council accreditation with potable consumption to within 10% of our water consumption in 2021.
- Became a Platinum Waterwise Council.
- Supported at least 200 small businesses in reducing their environmental impact.
- Had no breaches of environmental legislation relating to the taking of groundwater.
- Not caused an environmental incident through a chemical or hydrocarbon spill.
- Involved the community in over 25 community workshops and engagement programs having a water theme.
- Maintained its Green Stamp certification for the Operations Centre.

TIDE, SWAN RIVER FORESHORE



# Sustainably Built Environments

The City is committed to lead by example through the incorporation of best environmental and sustainability practices in the planning, construction and management of City facilities and infrastructure. This also extends to our Local Planning Scheme, planning controls and structure plans for the built environment. Once built, the urban fabric has the potential to influence the local environment for centuries to come. Therefore, it is critical in developing urban environments to encourage an urban fabric that supports the natural environment and is conducive to healthy communities.

The City is home to 42,078 people and this figure is expected to grow to 65,659 by 2041.<sup>15</sup> Within the City's population, 22% are families with children, 6% are older people and 22% live alone.<sup>16</sup> Ultimately, an increase in housing and supporting infrastructure will be required, as well as diversity in housing typology to support the various housing demographics. In addition, the City is home to practically every type of business, including multi-national and industrial-scale distribution centres, home-based businesses, a range of tourism, retail and hospitality venues which all contributes \$8.26 billion to Australia's Gross Regional Product as of June 2019.<sup>17</sup>

As an economic hub, a vibrant place to live and an attractive place to set up a future business, the City requires supporting built infrastructure that contributes to a greener and cleaner environment.

## **Our Sustainably Built Environment performance**

The City has a demonstrated track record in supporting economic and personal growth. We continue to actively engage with residents and business owners to ensure that the built environment is supportive to the natural environment and does not contribute or result in detrimental environmental impacts.

The Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 Goal 1 Liveable Belmont, Goal 3 Natural Belmont, Goal 4 Creative Belmont, and Goal 5 Responsible Belmont, specifies that the City will:

- *“Encourage and educate the community to embrace sustainable and healthy lifestyles”*
- *“Embrace technology, creativity and innovation to solve complex problems and improve our City”*
- *“Promote energy and water efficiency, renewable energy sources, and reduce emissions and waste”*
- *“Encourage sustainable development to guide built form”* and

---

<sup>15</sup> City of Belmont. 2023. Profile and statistics, figures sourced from the ABS ERP 2019.

<sup>16</sup> ABS Census 2016.

<sup>17</sup> Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries, 2019; .id - the population experts, 2020

- “Manage the City’s assets and financial resources in a responsible manner and provide the best possible services for the community”

Our environmental performance in the space of Sustainably Built Environments to date has included:

- The Belmont Hub being certified a 6-star Green Star building.<sup>18</sup>
- Implementing Water Sensitive Urban Design and permeable surfaces in the Epsom Ave, Faulkner Civic Precinct and Belmont Ave upgrades.
- Adoption of the Belmont Foreshore Precinct Plan, May 2018.

### Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City will continue to abide by built environment related legislation and policies to enhance the built environment and to create a sustainable City. Our legal obligations include:

| Compliance Obligation  | Reference   |
|--|---|
| Applications are reviewed by the Development Control Group (DCG) to ensure there is no detrimental impact to the environment.  | <b><i>Planning and Development Act 2005.</i></b><br><b><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i></b>  |
| Buildings and developments do not cause contamination.   | <b><i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003.</i></b>  |
| Applications within the Swan River development control area are assessed for environmental sensitivity and referred to the relevant authority.                                 | <b><i>Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006.</i></b><br><b><i>Environmental Protection (Swan and Canning Rivers) Policy 1998.</i></b>               |
| Integrate environment and natural resource management with broader land use planning and decision-making whilst protecting, conserving, and enhancing the natural environment. | <b><i>State Planning Policy 2.0 - Environment and natural resources.</i></b>  |
| Acid Sulfate soils are managed.  | <b><i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003.</i></b><br><b><i>Western Australian Planning Commission Planning Bulletin No. 64 – Acid Sulphate Soils (2004).</i></b> |
| Buildings are sustainable and contribute to healthy environments and healthy living whilst complying with design standards.  | <b><i>Building Act 2011.</i></b><br><b><i>Building Code of Australia.</i></b>   |

<sup>18</sup> Green Building Council of Australia. 2023. Green Star Number 2695. [https://www.gbca.org.au/project-directory.asp?\\_ga=2.214153559.1715737554.1592175243-217341547.1588028417](https://www.gbca.org.au/project-directory.asp?_ga=2.214153559.1715737554.1592175243-217341547.1588028417)

## Set and achieve Environmental Objectives and Strategies

### 4.1. City facilities incorporate Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) principles.

- 4.1.1. Sustainable Best Practices are incorporated in City buildings and infrastructure at time of development, renewal and in ongoing operations.

### 4.2. Integrate sustainable development principles into the City's planning framework, taking into account the WA State Planning context.

- 4.2.1. A Sustainable Development Guide is developed.
- 4.2.2. The City develops a Local Planning Policy for trees and vegetation on private property.

### 4.3. The built form and urban development within the City of Belmont is environmentally sustainable and resilient to climate change.

- 4.3.1. Encourage ESD and WSUD through the City's local planning framework.
- 4.3.2. Future climate scenarios are incorporated into the City's planning framework to safeguard development and operations.

### 4.4. Through land use planning and development control, consider the impact of future development on the environment, including potential offsite environmental impacts.

- 4.4.1. Potentially contaminating land uses (existing and proposed) are identified, and associated risks of pollution of land, air and water are minimised.
- 4.4.2. Planning applications and building applications are reviewed with a view to encourage sustainable practices.

## Sustainably Built Environment Goals

By 2028 the City should have

- Developed a Sustainable Development Guideline for developments within the City.
- Managed its contaminated sites effectively.
- Undertaken audits of its facilities to maximise sustainability initiatives.



# Climate Resilient Energy and Transport

The City acknowledges that climate change will continue to have a significant effect on the Western Australian environment, society and economy, and the Local Government sector. Human behaviours, pollution and consumption patterns have both immediate and future impacts on the climate and environment.<sup>19</sup> To ensure the City is being environmentally responsible and to safeguard it against future climate scenarios, appropriate action is required.

Whilst water resources and biodiversity have been addressed in other sections of this Strategy as they relate to climate change, the City will need to focus on climate resilient energy and transport options to support its operations and the community. Climate resilience should be regarded as being adaptive within the scope of the organisation and responsible for its potential impacts and emissions. It should also strive to remain socially responsible to the community. Efforts to reduce or limit emissions need to be implemented whilst managing the expenditure of resources in a direction which is beneficial to the City's communities; our community should be empowered to act and respond to climate change, with the City safeguarding services that support the community's wellbeing.<sup>20</sup>

## Our Climate Resilient Energy and Transport performance

Extreme heat events are predicted to impact our community, energy supply and use of our facilities.<sup>21</sup> The City therefore needs to be adaptive in maintaining its services whilst addressing these impacts. The Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 Goal 3 Natural Belmont and Goal 4 Creative Belmont specifies that the City will “*promote energy and water efficiency, renewable energy sources, and reduce emissions and waste*” and “*embrace technology, creativity and innovation to solve complex problems*”.

Since signing the WALGA Declaration on Climate Change in 2012, the City has progressed with:

- Seven contestable sites at the following locations:
  - City of Belmont Operations Centre
  - City of Belmont Civic Centre and Belmont Hub

---

<sup>19</sup> The Western Australian Local Government Declaration on Climate Change; signed by the City of Belmont 15 May 2012 and WALGA Policy Statement endorsed by State Council July 2018 - <https://walga.asn.au/policy-advocacy/our-policy-areas/environment/climate-change>.

<sup>20</sup> Godden, Naomi Joy, Doreen Wijekoon, and Kylie Wrigley. 2022. “Social (In)Justice, Climate Change and Climate Policy in Western Australia.” *Environmental Sociology*, May 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2022.2069216>.

<sup>21</sup> Brown, Helen, Katrina Proust, Barry Newell, Jeffery Spickett, Tony Capon, and Lisa Bartholomew. 2018. “Cool Communities—Urban Density, Trees, and Health.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 15 (7): 1547. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph15071547>.

## Draft – For Public Consultation

- City of Belmont Youth and Family Services Centre
- Gerry Archer Athletic Track
- Ascot Waters Freshwater Lake
- Centenary Park
- Ascot Waters Compensating Basin

Sites using greater than 50,000 kWh pa are energised by renewable energy, offsetting 100% of their CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions since May 2022.

- Five solar photovoltaic systems have been installed on City buildings, including the Ascot Kayak Club (10kW), Operations Centre (40kW), Harman Park Community Centre (10kW), Belmont Sports and Recreation Centre (30kW), and the Belmont Hub (100kW).
- The Belmont Hub achieved 6-Star Green Star for 'Design' and 'As Built'.<sup>22</sup>
- Annual retrofits have continued, removing fluorescent and metal halide internal and external lights, and replacing them with LEDs.
- The City's light-vehicle fleet's average combined tailpipe emissions have remained below 188g CO<sub>2</sub>/km.

### Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City will continue to abide by Climate Resilient Energy and Transport related legislation and policies to create a sustainable City.

Our legal obligations include:

| Compliance Obligation  | Reference   |
|--|---|
| 43% reduction from 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050.   | <b><i>Climate Change Act 2022, WALGA's Policy Statement on Climate Change.</i></b> <sup>23</sup>                                      |
| Report on greenhouse gas emissions as required.                | <b><i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i></b> (NGER Act).   |
| Prevent the use of banned substances and gasses in operations. | <b><i>Product Emissions Standards Act 2017. Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989</i></b> (Commonwealth). |



SOLAR FEED, BELMONT HUB

## Set and achieve Environmental Objectives

### 5.1. Ensure our operations are resilient to climate change.

- 5.1.1. Develop a Future Energy Action Plan to ensure energy is sourced sustainability and used efficiently, moving towards 100% renewable energy use by 2050 and achieving emissions targets.
- 5.1.2. Monitor the progress of climate change initiatives and communicate achievements to Council and Community.

### 5.2. Our community is equipped to face climate change challenges.

- 5.2.1. Improve education and awareness, raising our community's capacity in climate change mitigation, adaptation, and impact reduction.

### 5.3. Our fleet and transport options are fit-for-purpose and sustainable.

- 5.3.1. Minimise fuel use and emissions of vehicles and plant used in connection with City operations and support initiatives aimed at reducing reliance on fossil fuels in relation to transportation.
- 5.3.2. Support "travel smart" initiatives to increase uptake of alternative forms of transport.

## Climate Resilient Energy and Transport Goals

By 2028 the City should have

- Engaged its community in support of their climate change initiatives.
- Developed a Future Energy Action Plan.
- Reviewed its carbon footprint with forecasted reduction targets to achieve net zero by 2050.
- Increased its use of renewable energy and supporting technologies by 50% with a forecast to achieve 100% by 2033.



SUMMER STRIPES, KULJAK ISLAND

# Waste and Resource Recovery

With an anticipated growing population, waste management is an important consideration. The amount of space available for landfill is limited and waste-to-landfill produces greenhouse gas emissions, contaminates the environment and will exhaust available space. In addition, valuable resources can be lost in the disposal of waste, increasing their demand. In contrast, recovery, reuse, reprocessing and recycling all avoid greenhouse gas emissions that would otherwise be generated in the manufacture and transport of new materials and items.

The City's approach to waste avoidance and minimisation are underpinned by the application of Waste Hierarchy principles, which ranks management options in order of their general environmental undesirability. In following the hierarchy, Western Australian's are asked to avoid, recover, and protect resources.<sup>24</sup>

- Avoid – 10% reduction in waste generation per capita by 2025 and 20% by 2030.
- Recover – increase material recovery to 70% by 2025, 75% by 2030.
- Protect – No more than 15% of waste generated in Perth and Peel regions is landfilled by 2030 and all waste is managed or disposed to better practice facilities.

## Our Waste and Resource Recovery performance

The City continues to follow the Waste Authority's guidance on waste disposal in Western Australia.

The Strategic Community Plan 2020-2040 Goal 3 Natural Belmont specifies that the City will "*Keep our City clean*". In addition, as an organisation, we've worked to reduce our own waste footprint:

- Committed to reducing use of single use plastics in City operations where appropriate.
- A Waste Minimisation Plan was developed for the Faulkner Civic Buildings, encompassing the Civic Centre, Belmont Hub, and former Library
- Our Council reduced printed councillor communications (sheets per councillor) by 70% between 2016 and 2019.
- The City's Civic Centre reduced disposal of recycle materials from 58.3% to 16% in its general waste in 2019.

---

<sup>24</sup> Waste Authority WA. 2023. Strategic Direction  
<https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/about/view/strategic-direction>

## Ensure we fulfill our Compliance Obligations

The City will continue to abide by Waste and Resource Recovery related legislation and policies to enhance the built environment and to create a sustainable City.

Our legal obligations include:

| Compliance Obligation                | Reference  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Appropriate waste management.        | <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 (WARR Act).</i>                    |
| Adhere to single use plastics ban.   | <i>Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018.</i> |
| Dispose of trade waste under permit. | <i>Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004.</i>                 |

## Set and achieve Environmental Objectives

### 6.

#### 6.1. The City applies best waste minimisation practices across all areas of operations, including in the provision of municipal waste services.

- 6.1.1. Waste Hierarchy principals are applied to City operations to minimise waste generation and disposal to landfill and achieve best reuse and recovery outcomes.
- 6.1.2. Efficient use of paper and other resources, improving resource recovery and reducing waste to landfill and implementing renewable energy technologies to minimise the City's corporate carbon footprint.

#### 6.2. Our local community contributes to Western Australia becoming a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.

- 6.2.1. Provide our residential community with best practice waste disposal options, underpinned by Waste Hierarchy principals.
- 6.2.2. Considering life cycle impacts in our procurement of goods and services.

#### 6.3. Waste does not end up in our natural areas or waterways.

- 6.3.1. Implement measures to minimise and manage littering, dumping and other inappropriate disposal or accumulation of waste on City managed land.

## **Waste and Resource Recovery Goals**

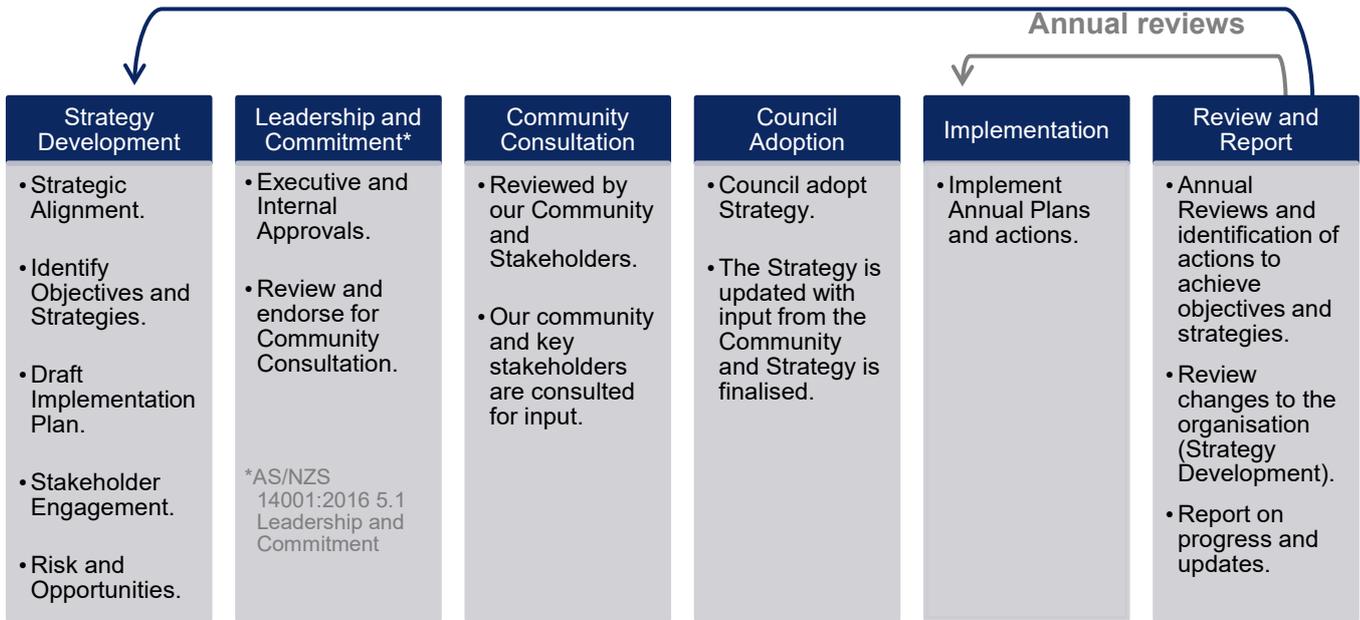
By 2028 the City should have

- Developed a Waste Management Plan including guidelines for waste minimisation throughout the City's Operations.
- Managed the impact waste has within the Community and the Environment within the City.
- Contributed to Western Australia becoming a sustainable and low waste economy mindful of the actions taken now for future generations.

# Implementation, Review and Monitoring of this Strategy

The following review structure will be adopted for the life of the Strategy.

## Major Review 2028





**City of Belmont**

215 Wright Street, Cloverdale Western Australia 6105  
Locked Bag 379, Cloverdale Western Australia 6985  
Open 8:30am - 4:45pm, Monday - Friday  
9477 7222                      [belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au](mailto:belmont@belmont.wa.gov.au)  
9477 7224 (A/H)              [belmont.wa.gov.au](http://belmont.wa.gov.au)

