

## Campbelltown Council's Climate Solutions Strategy

Campbelltown City Council has been working consistently over many years to ensure the long-term sustainability of our Community, ecosystem and lifestyle. A key turning point in our climate journey was the formal declaration of a climate emergency in November 2019. Following the declaration, the Council has made a commitment to take effective action and has since:

- Incorporated climate change as one of the key priorities in its strategic plan
- Included climate change implications in all its Council reports
- Allocated recurrent funding for climate solutions initiatives
- Employed a Climate Solutions Officer
- Formed a Section 41 Climate Solutions Advisory Committee consisting of Independent Members and Elected Council Members



In response to these challenges Council has developed a Climate Solutions Strategy incorporating three goals and further refined into seven themes.

Some of the early achievements include:

1. Holding a Sustainable Development Forum, which brought together representatives from State and Local Government and the development and sustainability sectors to explore how to facilitate or incentivise sustainable development and achieve better outcomes 'on the ground'. This prompted an action for Council to include Environmentally Sustainable Design features for all new major building projects.

2. The use of recycled materials in major projects. For example the new Max Amber Sportsfield development has incorporated 340kg of PolyRok into the concrete concourses. PolyRok is made from recycled soft plastics so this is the equivalent of 80,000 pieces of soft plastic.

3. The project at Max Amber Sportsfield also incorporated the installation of a recycled stormwater pipeline to transfer water from the Sportsfield to Thorndon Park and Steve Woodcock Sports Centre.

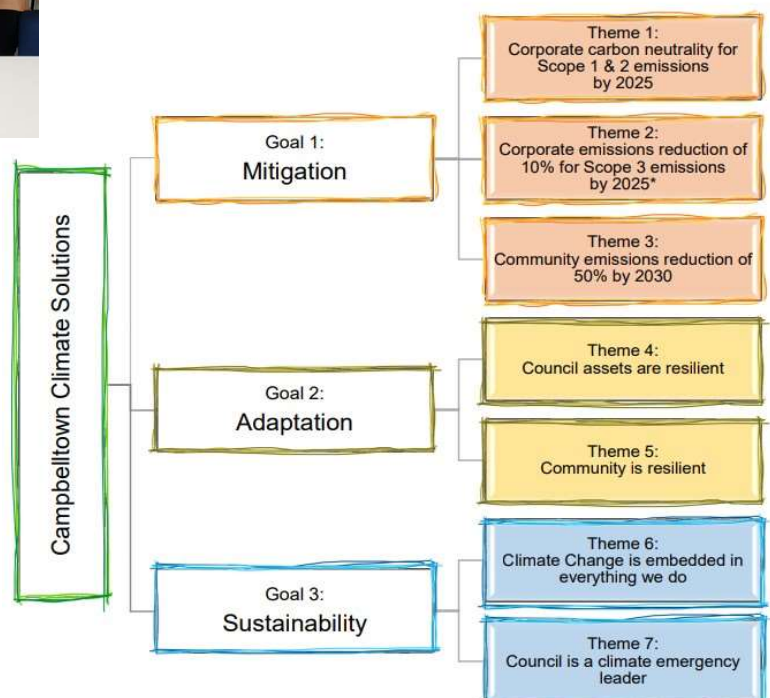
Currently, stormwater harvested at an existing MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge) bore installed near Max Amber Sportsfield is only being used to irrigate the Oval and surrounds. Through this project, the harvested stormwater can be shared with Thorndon Park and Steve Woodcock Sports Centre.

This project will significantly reduce the use of potable water for irrigation purposes.

4. A demonstration day for electric vehicles. See flyer on the last page!

To view the full strategy please download it from our web site at:

[www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0027/1084482/Campbelltown-Climate-Solutions-Strategy.pdf](http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/1084482/Campbelltown-Climate-Solutions-Strategy.pdf)



## Fourth Creek Erosion control trial

Creeks within the urban environment face tough conditions which include:

- greater exposure to weed invasion from gardens
- increased water volumes and intensity of flows due to the higher proportion of hard surfaces and therefore runoff, and
- corridor constraints which removes the ability of the stream to re-align with changes in where soil deposits.

All these conditions cause increased erosion, in both deepening of the bed and damage to the banks, and lead to loss of biodiversity.

The common response from councils is to use engineering solutions such as concreting of the streambed, use of rocks and gabion walls on the banks or sending the water underground through drains. These do help control erosion but do not help improve water quality and can reduce the usefulness of the habitat for biodiversity.

In 2021 Council received a grant from the Federal Government's Communities Environment Program for a trial of a more environmentally friendly solution for managing erosion in our creek lines.

The section of Fourth creek chosen for the trial showed many of the issues faced by urban creeks;

- Heavy weed load
- Lower bank erosion
- Constrained corridor
- Minimal native vegetation

Some of our local environmental volunteers were invited to be involved, along with Council staff, to help give them the skills to use these techniques along further stretches of this creek and in other waterways in Campbelltown.

A workshop conducted by a hydrological and environmental expert presented information which allowed participants to work through the issues and come up with potential solutions.

The resulting plan was then implemented which included;

- Initial control of invasive grasses
- Constructing mini swales on the banks parallel to creek flow to capture bank runoff
- Planting of local indigenous species to stabilise banks and reduce weed growth
- Placement of sandbags planted with sedges at the toe of the bank, where the highest erosive forces are experienced, to allow the plants to establish during high flows



Six months on, the project appears to be achieving what we had hoped.

The sandbags are breaking down but the sedges are now well established. We have a high survival rate for the other plants and have recently laid down additional mulch to further assist in soil stabilisation and moisture retention. These results give us confidence that the use of revegetation can be an environmentally friendly approach to managing areas experiencing erosion along our creek lines.



## Vibrant Verges

Council is on the verge of launching our new verge development program Vibrant Verges!

With the increase in urban infill and the subsequent loss of green space we are all looking for new opportunities to green up our neighbourhoods.

Is your verge a dry inhospitable space that could do with some greening?

As part of our new verge program Council will be allocating an annual budget to replace dolomite or compacted earth with garden loam to allow you to plant it up with local native plants or hardy ornamentals to help green and cool our streets.

Alternatively, if your verge already has reasonable soil you can apply to receive a plant pack to add to your verge planting.

There are rules around what can be done on your verge.



- Verge plantings are to be no more than 500mm high – if you don't have a street tree and would like one please contact Council. Street trees remain under the management of Council.
- Choose drought tolerant plants with a preference for indigenous species

A new booklet providing development guidelines, suitable plants and what NOT to plant will soon be available.

The program launches in early May. If you are interested please contact me at:

[sgraham@campbelltown.sa.gov.au](mailto:sgraham@campbelltown.sa.gov.au)

### Greener Neighbourhoods Grant

As part of our Vibrant Verges Program, with support from a Commonwealth government grant, we will be working with chosen streets to provide demonstration sites to show how people can green up their verge using different designs and plants.

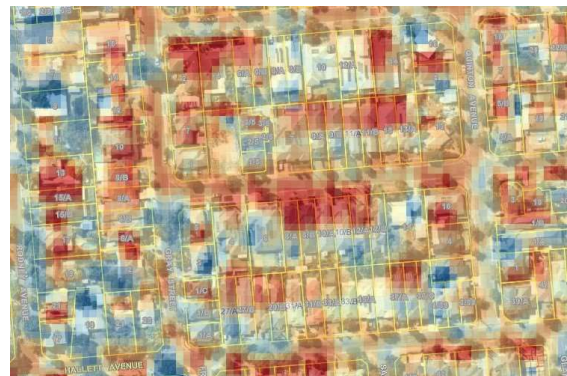


**Residents wishing to develop their verge must ensure the development does not:**

- prevent any pedestrian from walking along the verge area in preference to walking on the roadway, regardless of whether a footpath has been constructed or not;
- prevent any Service Authority or the Council from installing new services or maintaining existing services; or
- include installation of artificial turf.

**When developing a verge, keep in mind:**

- The verge must provide a trafficable area at least 1.5m wide.



Working with our Community Services team we will identify streets that are lacking in green space and that show up as hotspots on our heat mapping. We will then invite residents of those streets to work with Council on developing their verges with support including soil replacement, plants and additional street trees.

We hope to encourage neighbours to work together to green up their streets and maintain them to help green and beautify their street. These streets can then encourage others in the community to make their verges more vibrant!



# Grow it Local

Campbelltown Council has partnered with Green Adelaide and Grow It Local to connect our community backyard growers and to encourage more residents to grow some food at home.

[growitlocal.com](http://growitlocal.com)



Grow It Local is your local grow community.

A celebration of backyard, balcony, community and window-sill farmers across the country.

Why get involved?

**GROW:** get inspired by seeing who's growing locally & what's under cultivation

**SHARE:** connect with local growers to learn and share knowledge, expertise, produce, recipes and more



**EAT:** attend local food experiences that celebrate local produce, growers, chefs & like-minded businesses

## MISSION

Grow It Local is a grass roots, purpose-driven mission to get more people growing, sharing and eating locally grown foods.

## PURPOSE

- Make growing more accessible

- Increase the production & consumption of locally grown foods
- Provide a connection to nature
- Inspire positive health & wellbeing
- Help build stronger and more resilient communities
- Increase composting and reduce organic waste to landfill
- Do something delicious & have a little fun!



## WHAT CAN I DO AT GROW IT LOCAL?

- **Put your patch on the map!** Tell people a little about what you are growing. Find other growers near you and connect to share, knowledge, skills & more.
- **Get great information on growing, cooking and reducing food waste.** The blog features entries from loads of interesting character with great tips and tricks.
- **Find out about workshops you can be involved in.** Both online and in-person workshops, on all sorts of topics can be found on the web site: [www.growitlocal.com/categories/experiences-and-events](http://www.growitlocal.com/categories/experiences-and-events)



Campbelltown City Council Presents a FREE showcase all about electric transport!



## Driving Forward in *Electric Vehicles*

**Sunday 29 May 2022 | 9am – 1pm**  
**Campbelltown Memorial Oval, Darley Rd, Paradise**

Sick of rising fuel costs? Want to go electric but not sure of how?

**Come and find out why you should go electric!**

- Information on all things EVs • Demonstrations of EVs
- Electric bike test rides • Talk to and learn from EV owners
- Free sausage sizzle

Guest Speakers:



Peter Pudney  
A/Professor, UniSA



Peter Natrass  
Manager, DEM



Sally Knight  
Chairperson, AEVA



Mark Borlace  
Senior Manager, RAA



For more information and bookings visit  
[drivingforwardinelectricvehicles.eventbrite.com.au](https://drivingforwardinelectricvehicles.eventbrite.com.au)

*A safe, sustainable, vibrant Community*



As always if you have any questions or suggestions please contact me at [sgraham@campbelltown.sa.gov.au](mailto:sgraham@campbelltown.sa.gov.au)