

**POLICY NO. 2.3.19****POLICY STATEMENT: TREES AND URBAN CANOPY**

PURPOSE: To articulate Council's position in relation to tree planting and retention with the aim of expanding the tree canopy in the City.

POLICY

1. Council recognises the important role trees play in improving neighbourhood amenity by providing habitat for native fauna, moderating climate, improving air quality, and reducing erosion.
2. The City is committed to expanding the tree canopy on land for which it is responsible by planting more trees in public places including parks, street verges and river reserves. Council has committed to a target of 30% tree canopy target by 2040, on City owned and managed land.
3. The City's annual budget will include an appropriate allocation for the planting of additional trees in public places. The City will also continue to refine its species selection, with consideration given to maximising canopy, improving biodiversity, reducing water demand and preferencing locally native trees.
4. The City will generally only remove trees from public places where the tree is dead or in a state of decline to the extent that it is unlikely to survive, where a tree is causing significant damage to infrastructure or services, or where the tree presents a significant risk to public safety. Where a tree is removed, it will be replaced within 12 months with a new tree either in the same or a nearby location.
5. To assist residents who may wish to plant native vegetation on the verge abutting their property, the City will provide information on its website about the types of native trees and shrubs that are best suited to different areas of the City based upon varying soil types.
6. The City will publish data in relation to the number of trees it plants and removes and seek to refine and improve the way this data is presented.
7. The City will encourage developers to retain trees in public and private spaces through the implementation of appropriate development controls.
8. To track changes over time, the City will publish State Government data (when available) on the estimated urban canopy over the City of Gosnells.
9. The City will advocate for amendments to the planning system which provide greater support for trees.
10. The City will seek State and Federal Government funding, where available, to support the expansion of urban canopy on public land.



GOVERNANCE REFERENCES

Statutory Compliance	Nil
Industry Compliance	Nil
Organisational Compliance	Nil
Process Links	Nil

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Directorate		Officer Title		Contact:	
Infrastructure		Manager Parks and Environment		9397 3000	
Risk Rating	Low	Review Cycle	Triennial	Next Due:	2028

Version	Decision Reference	Synopsis
1.	OCM 70/12/04/2022	Adoption of new policy.
2.	OCM 2025/210 12/08/2025	Reviewed with amendments.
3.		