



POLICY NO. 2.3.19

POLICY STATEMENT: TREES AND URBAN CANOPY

PURPOSE: To clearly 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, streets and river reserves.
3. The City's annual budget will include an appropriate allocation for the planting of additional trees in public places.
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 on its website in relation to the number of trees it plants and removes, by suburb, on an annual basis.
7. The City will encourage developers to retain trees in public and private spaces through the implementation of appropriate development controls.
8. The City will publish State Government data on the estimated urban canopy over public land on its website with the data updated annually in order to track changes over time.



GOVERNANCE REFERENCES

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

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Directorate		Officer Title		Contact:	
Infrastructure		Manager Environmental Services		9397 3000	
Risk Rating	Low	Review Cycle	Triennial	Next Due:	2025

Version	Decision Reference	Synopsis
1.	OCM 70/12/04/2022	Adoption of new policy.
2.		
3.		