

2020 Environmental Strategy achievements

Highlights are presented using the four key themes in Council's 2020 Environmental Strategy.



**Connected
to Nature**



**Resilient
City**



**Resource Efficient
Community**



**Leading by
Example**



Connected to Nature



Where are we now?



Tree canopy cover
increased by 18%



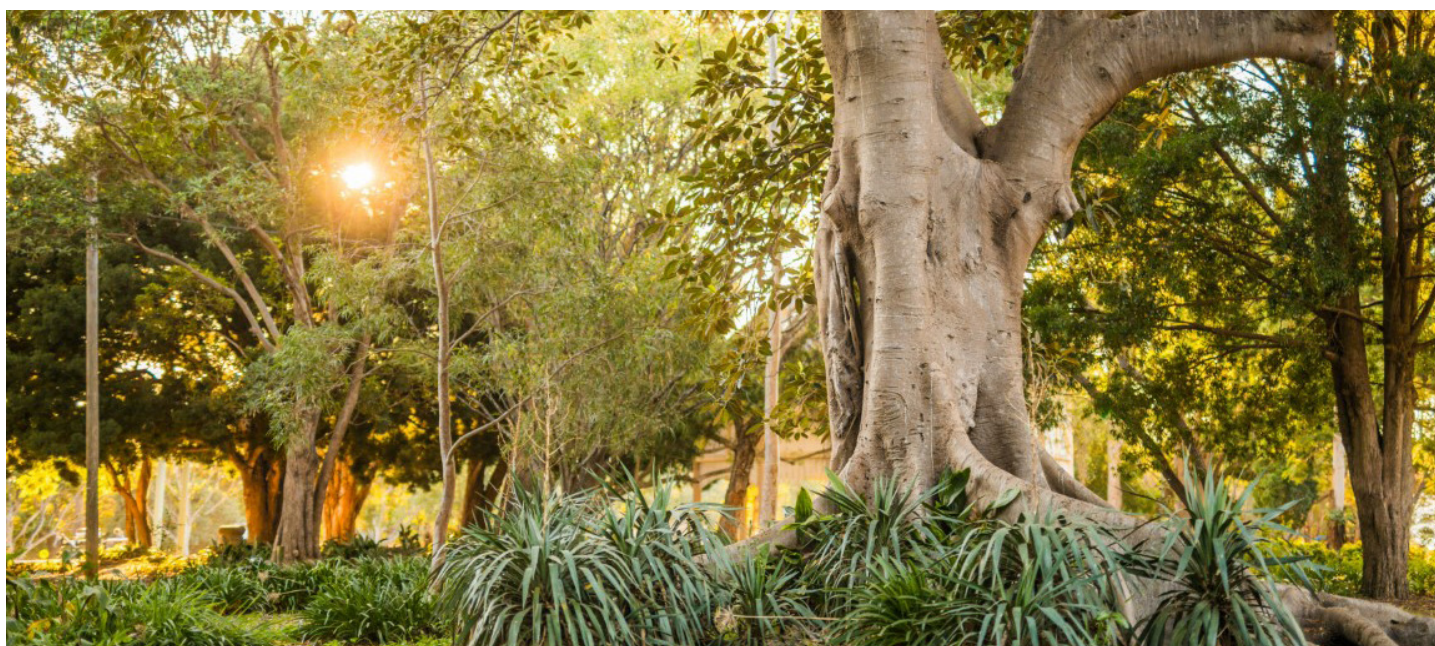
3 swim sites and 1 paddling/splash site



7% increase in fauna



70% increase in native plant species



Achievements:

Biodiversity



- Expanded Coastal Saltmarsh communities by at least 30% at two key locations.
- Strengthened collaboration with Birdlife Australia to protect migratory shorebirds, achieving 447 recorded counts by 156 residents taking part in Godwit surveys over a two-year period.
- Between 2020-2024, 5,677 native plants have been distributed at 14 giveaways to 1,395 residents and 26 schools for planting on private land.
- Completed Flora & Fauna study 2024.
- Installed the accessible Walk on Wangal Nature Trail along the green grid in Concord, featuring over 60 native plant species and over 50 educational signs and tags, creating an urban sanctuary for wildlife.

Urban forest canopy



- Planted more than 4,800 trees to enhance urban biodiversity and improve air quality in the last five years.
- Mapping of all public trees in streets and parks was completed.

Caring for our waterways



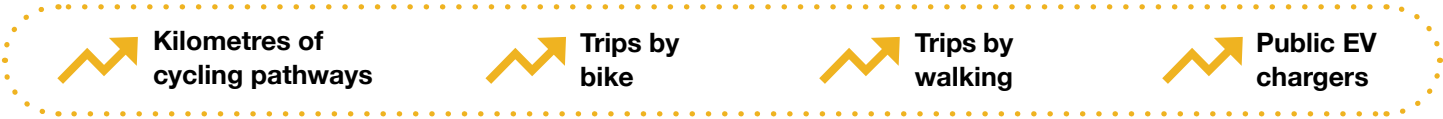
- New swim site opened at Bayview Park, Concord, and splash site at Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes.
- Council hosted the Parramatta River Catchment Group until June 2024 and supported the delivery of the Parramatta River Masterplan through several key events.
- Lighting standards implemented to minimise lighting pollution impact on wildlife and foreshore areas.

Education and behaviour change



- 19 active Love Your Place volunteer groups cleaned up areas, including creeks and foreshores, throughout the City of Canada Bay.
- Bushcare volunteers contributed over 7,400 hours to regenerate bushland across 17 sites in the last five years.
- 1,486 volunteers took part across 164 clean-up sites in Clean Up Australia Day and Spring Clean activities across 164 clean-up sites over the last five years.
- 1,278 people were engaged by Council at 55 biodiversity workshops and events.
- Produced 17 videos on trees and biodiversity, garnering over 27,380 views.
- 200 community members completed the pilot Tree Trail from Queen Elizabeth Park to Yaralla in Concord.
- Achieved a 35% reduction in off-leash dogs at two migratory shorebird sites when measured during the project period between 2020-2023.
- 447 recorded counts by 156 residents taking part in Bar-tailed Godwits surveys over a two-year period.
- Urban tree canopy and tree vandalism campaigns reached over 54,000 people through published articles and over 43,000 people through social media.

Resilient City



Key:  Trending up  Same  Trending down

Where are we now?



Climate Resilience Framework adopted in 2024



39km on and off road cycle routes



6 public EV chargers in Canada Bay



Achievements:

Climate resilience



- Council adopted a Climate Resilience Framework in 2024. It outlines key risks and opportunities and accountabilities for Council in adapting to climate change.
- Council supported annual Neighbour Day and Emergency Ready Week through campaigns on Council's social media channels.

Infrastructure resilience



- A Flood Committee was created and Flood Management Studies prepared for the Powell's Creek catchment, North Strathfield and Concord West, and the Exile Bay catchment in Concord.
- Seawalls were upgraded at Armitage Reserve, Chiswick Wharf and Blackwall Point, and McIlwaine Park in Rhodes. Where possible, upgrades included bank naturalisation and living seawalls that provide an environmental habitat for flora and fauna.
- One kilometre of seawall next to the Bay Run was upgraded including revegetation of 570 square metres of coastal saltmarsh species.
- Naturalisation of Armitage Reserve Seawall, Chiswick was completed.

Transport resilience



- In September 2023, Council adopted a new Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EV) Policy. Council also requested proposals from electric vehicle charge point operators to install charging services on selected Council properties under a lease agreement which is cost neutral to Council.
- Delivered multiple projects which improve walking and cycling infrastructure including along Lyons Road West in Five Dock, and a shared path through Uhrs Point Reserve, connecting the east and west sides of Concord Road, Rhodes. Footpaths were upgraded along Hospital Road, in Concord West, and a new footpath was constructed in Adams Street at Breakfast Point.
- Regional cycleway planning and delivery continued with a new pedestrian and cyclist crossing built on Broughton Street, Concord.
- The community was consulted on the early delivery segments of the Parramatta to Sydney Foreshore Link.
- Bike education events continued with bike tune-ups, safe riding workshops.

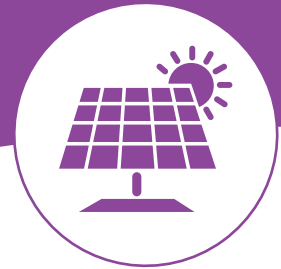
Resilient Sydney



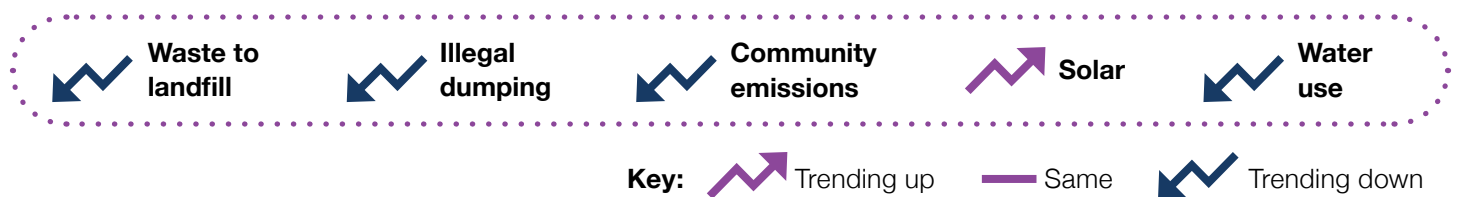
- Collaboration continued with the councils of greater Sydney through membership of the Resilient Sydney program. Council staff took part in regular Resilient Sydney workshops and contributed to designing the new Resilient Sydney Strategy.



Resource Efficient Community



Waste



Where are we now?



5% decrease
in landfill
per person



89% customer
satisfaction with waste
collection services



758 illegal
dumping
incidences



Progressing with
recycling and
food recovery at
council facilities



Average weekly
waste per household

- 9.1kg general waste
- 3.0kg co-mingled recycling
- 2.5kg garden organics
- 1.2kg bulk waste

Achievements:

Waste



- The number of illegal dumping incidents decreased by 13% in 2023-24 compared to the baseline year of 2019-20.
- The illegal dumping surveillance CCTV trailer has led to \$61,000 of illegal dumping fines being issued over four years.
- Bulk household waste collection change – Council introduced a new pre-booked Bulk Household Collection on 1 January 2025. This service change gives residents living in standalone houses or small apartment blocks access to up to 4 pre-booked services per year, an increase from the previous two scheduled services per year.
- We've given away 382 worm farms and compost bins through the Compost Capers program.
- On average, over the past four years the Community Recycling Centre has had 4,125 visitors per year, with 234,311kg of items dropped off.
- Drop-off events – average from past four years:
 - house chemical clean-out event: 15,130kgs collected from 580 visitors
 - e-waste event: 18,109kgs collected from 954 visitors.
- FOGO (food organics and garden organics) trial diverted over 134 tonnes since trial implementation in 2022.
- The Bower furniture and household services has received 82 donations, diverting over 2,000kgs from landfill.
- Since implementation in 2023, 6,253 collections equating to 70,812kgs of waste has been diverted from landfill via home recycling pick-up service, HomeCycle.
- Waste Info App had 27,396 users (between period 1 Jan 2021 – 31 Dec 2024).

Education and behaviour change



- **The Buildings Network** was set up in 2023 for people living or working in apartments. The Network enables residents and stakeholders working and living in apartments to collaborate with Council on waste management challenges and other environmental topics. More than 200 people have taken part in the network including residents, strata managers, and building representatives from 4,000 households. Guest speakers covered topics including best practice waste management, the FOGO trial and solar programs. More than 100 network participants subscribed to Council's Collaborate online forum with 5,829 views, and 671 downloads of recycling guides.
- The **Waste Info App**, launched in 2021, has more than 21,000 downloads, enhancing accessibility to waste management resources.
- The **Waste Management Toolkit** digitally reached 1,383 individuals, with a further 60 hardcopies distributed in the community. More than 60 residents pledged to improve waste practices, implementing strata by-laws and taking part in the Apartment Recycling Program.
- The Apartment Recycling Program is an educational program using site visits, visual audits, and resident feedback to improve waste separation behaviours through interventions such as information signage and reusable recycling bags. This program involved 80 buildings, 900 visual bin audits, and distributed 1,000 reusable recycling bags, and reduced recycling contamination by 38%. More than 500 stickers and signage installations further supported improved waste sorting practices. In 2024, the program won Council a Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Award and earned a Highly Commended Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Award.

Community energy and emissions

Where are we now?



700,590 tonnes
CO₂ community
emissions



32,983 kW solar
capacity across
Canada Bay



2% reduction
in energy (gas
and electricity)
consumption
per resident



**1,397 electric
vehicles**
registered in
Canada Bay
(April 2025)

Achievements:

Community energy and emissions



- Carbon emissions from the City of Canada Bay community reduced by 9% in 2022-23 compared to the baseline year (2016-17).
- Across the City of Canada Bay, capacity of rooftop solar installations increased to 32,983 kW and 4,326 houses and buildings now have solar3. Solar capacity is now more than four times what it was in 2018, meaning the Canada Bay community have reached and exceeded the target to triple the amount of solar PV capacity in Canada Bay by 2025.
- As of 14 January 2025, 1,332 electric vehicles were registered in the Canada Bay local government area, making up 2% of total registered vehicles.
- 23 strata committees received Council-funded solar feasibility/energy audits on their apartment buildings. Seven buildings made improvements – two installed solar and five LED upgrades.
- 449 people took part in 14 home energy transition workshops since 2020.
- From 2022, Council partnered with Inner West Community Energy and Canada Bay Zero Carbon Community to boost renewable energy adoption.

Community potable water use

Where are we now?



178.58kL potable average water
consumption per household

Achievements:

Community potable water use



- Potable water use per household has reduced by 9% compared to the baseline year in 2017-18.

Leading by Example



Where are we now?



1,198 tonnes
CO₂ Council
emissions



10 rooftop
solar sites
on Council
facilities



100%
Greenpower
renewable
electricity at all
Council sites



93% LED
lights in
streetlighting



33% reduction
in potable water
consumption



Achievements:

Energy and emissions



- Emissions in 2023-24 were 84% lower than the 2017-18 baseline year.
- From 1 July 2022, Council buys 100% renewable grid electricity from solar farms at Nevertire, Moree and Hillston.
- 10 Council buildings now have rooftop solar generating on-site renewable electricity, reducing the cost and volume of electricity bought from the grid.
- Council continued work to phase out gas in Council operations. At Cabarita Pool, the electric heat pump and rooftop solar installed in 2022 has significantly reduced gas consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from the site. Council staff presented to forums hosted by LGNSW and Alliance to Energy Productivity on electrification of aquatic centres.
- Council partnered with Ausgrid and South Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils to retrofit all Ausgrid streetlights across the local government area with energy efficient lights, reducing energy use by 49% compared to 2019-20. 93% of the streetlights have been replaced with efficient LED lights. Ausgrid expects the bulk of the replacements to be completed by May 2025.

Water



- Potable water use was 33% lower in 2023-24 than the baseline year of 2013, better than the target of 25% below baseline. Council has achieved its target for water use being 25% or more below the baseline for the last six years.
- The Cintra stormwater harvesting scheme produced 43 million litres of recycled water for irrigation of Council golf courses and playing fields.

Fleet



- Carbon emissions from fleet reduced by 27% compared to the baseline of 888 tonnes in 2017-18.
- In line with Council's fleet vehicle replacement program, Council has seven electric vehicles, 66 hybrid vehicles and six EV plant vehicles, (three golf buggies, one EV mower, and EV sweeper).

Sustainable procurement



- Crumbed rubber tyres, crushed glass, and reclaimed asphalt materials were used in our road renewal programs.

