

# AlburyCity Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan





# Contents

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<b>Caring for Country</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
Emission reduction targets and pledges	5
Purpose	7
City Context	7
Governance Context	
Relevant to the Sustainability Framework	7
<b>The Sustainability Framework Process for Albury</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Stakeholder Engagement in Albury</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Environmental Baseline</b>	<b>14</b>
Existing Plans and Projects	18
<b>Sustainability Actions for Albury</b>	<b>21</b>
Vision	21
Empowering Our Community	26
Leading a sustainable organisation	32
Delivering a sustainable transport network	41
Planning a sustainable city	46
Innovating our resource use and management of waste	53
Building a water sensitive city	57
<b>Implementing the Sustainability Framework</b>	<b>61</b>
Data Limitations	61



# Caring for Country

AlburyCity acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians of the land in which we live and work, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, culture, tradition and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contribute to our community.



*Yindyamarra Sculpture Trail 2022. Artwork – The Guguburras, by artist – Peter Ingram'. Photo credit: Jeremy Weihrauch*

# Executive Summary

Australia's climate is undergoing significant change. This forecast national change, coupled with AlburyCity's continued regional leadership role in local environmental challenges, sought the development of an Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan.

This Framework was developed to also support numerous AlburyCity strategies and motions including:

- *Towards Albury 2050: Community Strategic Plan 2022 – 2050 (Chapter 2 Natural Environment)*
- *Corporate Success Pillar: An Enhanced Environment*
- *Cities Power Partnership Pledges*
- *Climate Emergency Declaration*

Development of the Sustainability Framework commenced with a detailed mapping exercise to identify relevant stakeholders. This exercise led to seven workshops being conducted with a total of 77 participants across the AlburyCity community. Participants developed a vision for a sustainable future for Albury and environmental challenges were ranked on severity of impact and the ability of AlburyCity to influence outcomes. Participants also rated potential actions for ease of implementation and effectiveness in improving sustainability outcomes. Two staff surveys were conducted to identify AlburyCity's current environmental challenges, priorities, and sustainability practices.

The Framework establishes an environmental baseline of Albury across air quality, soil quality, water quality, greenhouse gas emissions, green and open public spaces, biodiversity and ecosystems, and climate adaptation and disaster risk. This baseline was then utilised to identify Priority Sustainability Challenges (PSC) of Albury. Some PSC are being addressed or partly addressed by specific AlburyCity strategies, such as the Integrated Transport Strategy (MOVE), Local Housing Strategy, Open Space Strategy, Urban Forestry Strategy and the Regional Natural Environment Strategy.

This Framework collaborates with these strategies whilst identifying additional actions. Actions were categorised into six themes and identified as either:

1. Implemented and Ongoing AlburyCity actions, or
2. Proposed AlburyCity Actions.

## The Frameworks themes are:

- Empowering our **community**
- Leading a **sustainable organisation**
- Delivering a **sustainable transport network**
- Planning a **sustainable city**
- Innovating our **resource use and management**
- Building a **water sensitive city**

Ten actions were identified as Implemented and Ongoing AlburyCity actions and twenty-one actions were identified as Proposed AlburyCity actions. The proposed actions provide a renewed focus with nine of twenty-one actions incorporating behavioural change, training and knowledge sharing. Of the Implemented and Ongoing AlburyCity actions, eight (of the ten) included a component type of behavioural or training and knowledge sharing. All actions are listed with a timeframe and cost indicator.

Implementation of the actions in this Sustainability Framework will assist AlburyCity and Our Community to achieve environment sustainability outcomes and targets established under Towards Albury 2050, Corporate Success Pillar: An Enhanced Environment and City Power Partnership pledges. Goals include achieving net zero carbon corporate and community emissions, adaptation to climate change, enhancement of our urban forestry, eliminating single-use plastic, integrating water-sensitive urban design, and resource efficiency and recovery. Goals are also included around biodiversity and ecological resilience, and environmentally sustainable development.

This Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan captures a range of sustainability initiatives that have already been implemented over the past decade, and identifies the next steps AlburyCity and Our Community will take on its environmental sustainability journey. Implementation of the Sustainability Framework will further enhance AlburyCity's culture where sustainable and environmental practices are everyday (or normalised) practice across all aspects of AlburyCity operations.



# Introduction

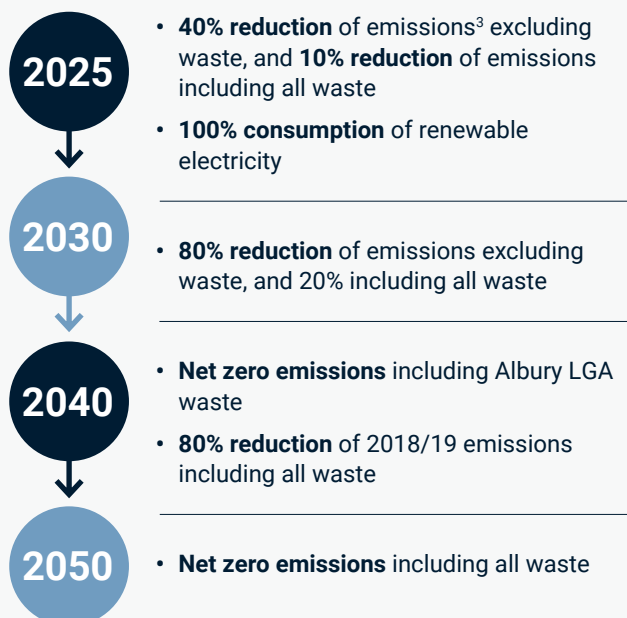
Australia's climate is changing. Australia's climate has warmed, on average, by 1.44°C since national records began in 1910. Since the 1950s there has been an increase in extreme fire weather and the duration of the fire season. In southern Australia, declines in streamflow have been observed across the majority of rivers since 1975. Further, in the past three decades, the south-east of Australia has seen a 12% decline in cool-season rainfall.<sup>1</sup>

The current and future effects of climate change will have significant impacts on urban areas within Albury. Coupled with this, these areas are major contributors to climate change, accounting for over 70% of carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>2</sup> Like many other urban and regional cities, Albury faces the ongoing challenge of protecting and enhancing the natural environment whilst supporting a growing population. To ensure the wellbeing of our residents is maximised, whilst reducing our ecological footprint, cities must be part of the solution.

AlburyCity and Our Community, through the Towards Albury 2050 Community Strategic Plan 2022 – 2050 (Towards Albury 2050) seeks to be a leader within the region and beyond in tackling climate change and demonstrating practical solutions for a more sustainable world. In March 2022, a climate emergency was declared by Albury City AlburyCity. Part of the declaration was to develop a Climate Action Plan, to be contained within the Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan. This document sets out how AlburyCity will achieve the emissions targets and support Our Community to achieve their emissions targets.

## Emission reduction targets and pledges

Albury City AlburyCity's ambitious but achievable corporate emission reduction targets relative to 2018/19 are:



In addition, Towards Albury 2050 has set 2030 targets that include no organic materials to landfill, an 80% increase in total recycling on site and households, and an 80% recovery rate for the Albury Waste Management Centre (AWMC).

AlburyCity have also endorsed the following pledges under the City Power Partnership (CPP) initiative to ensure AlburyCity and Our Community can work together to create a sustainable city for the future:

- Implement an education and behavioural change program to drive the shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport
- Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across all AlburyCity buildings and support community facilities to adopt these measures
- Power AlburyCity operations by renewables, directly or by purchasing Green Power. Set targets to increase the level of renewable power for AlburyCity operations over time
- Support community energy projects for investment in renewable energy
- Encourage sustainable transport use through AlburyCity transport planning and design

The CPP target 'Power AlburyCity operations by renewables, directly or by purchasing Green Power' was fulfilled in January 2023 through a Power Purchase Agreement and the purchase of 100% Green Power. This step followed the installation of 575kW of solar panels installed across 18 AlburyCity buildings and facilities, as well as a Public Private Partnership at the Albury Waste Management Centre that has installed a 1.1MW biogas generator and 1.5MW solar system.

1. CSIRO & Bureau of Meteorology. 2020. State of the Climate 2020. Australian Government. Accessed 19 Oct 2022.  
 2. UN Habitat. n.d. Climate Change. Accessed 21 Oct 2022.  
 3. Compared with 2018/19 levels.



The remaining CPP pledges continue to be a focus in reducing corporate and community carbon emissions. Transport is also a major source of emissions and air pollution. For this reason, a plan is in place to transition AlburyCity's fleet of cars, trucks and equipment to zero emission alternatives. Whilst many aspects of public transport are controlled by the State Government, AlburyCity is committed to advocating for improvements to the city's public transport system and is currently developing an Integrated Transport Strategy (MOVE) which will assist in delivering improved walking and cycling infrastructure for both commuting to work and recreation.

The Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan (Sustainability Framework) (this document) builds upon these existing commitments and actions. This document has six themes and 19 proposed actions, outlining both short and long-term measures to support AlburyCity to become a sustainable and resilient city. Key measures include emission reduction and supporting the growth of a circular economy. Urban planning, waste and water management are further important tools for improving the sustainability performance of our city.

The Sustainability Framework will work in conjunction with our Urban Forest Strategy (under development) to mitigate the urban heat island (UHI) effect, maintain biodiversity and harness the power of water-sensitive urban design to deliver environmental and social outcomes. The Asset Management Strategy (draft) supports the Sustainability Framework in highlighting the challenges of climate change, natural assets and sustainability. The Albury City AlburyCity Waste Management Strategy (final draft) will also feed into the Sustainability Framework by identifying resource recovery services and infrastructure, highlighting opportunities for efficiencies and defining goals and targets in waste management practices.

Real progress to reduce Albury's carbon emissions and improve our natural environment will require a coordinated and continual effort involving AlburyCity, residents, community groups, businesses and other government agencies. Our evidence-based approach has identified practical yet ambitious measures to enable positive and lasting change.





## Purpose

Over the past few years, AlburyCity has taken significant action towards improving its sustainability. Building on existing work, AlburyCity aims to take a more systemic approach to addressing its existing and emerging priority sustainability challenges. The Sustainability Framework has been conceptualised due to a motion adopted by AlburyCity at its meeting on 25 May 2020. In this, AlburyCity recognises that climate change is one of the most significant issues that will impact the social, cultural, economic, and environmental health and well-being of the Albury Local Government Area (LGA) and will act accordingly with all policies and programs of the AlburyCity. During the development of this document, AlburyCity went further at its meeting on 28 March 2022, declaring that we are in a state of climate emergency requiring urgent action by all levels of government to mitigate against the adverse effects of climate change. These two commitments set AlburyCity on a path of promoting the reduction of carbon emissions, supporting the Albury LGA to be climate ready and facilitating practices of regeneration, stewardship, and sustainability for the city. AlburyCity is committed to promoting environmentally sound development amid a growing urban landscape, supporting the integration of environmental, social and economic considerations in decision-making.

In declaring AlburyCity's commitment to be climate-ready and facilitate sustainability across the city, a range of activities have been undertaken. These activities focussed on a goal of providing the Sustainability Framework so that sustainable and environmental practices are embedded across AlburyCity. This document assists us to achieve targets established under the Corporate Success Pillar: An Enhanced Environment. Goals include: achieving net zero carbon corporate emissions; adaptation to climate change; enhancement of urban forestry; phase-out of single-use plastic; integration of water-sensitive urban design, and; resource efficiency and recovery. Biodiversity and ecological resilience, environmentally sustainable development were also established within the AlburyCity's themes (Towards Albury 2050), confirming community values, and guiding future planning. Therefore, the Sustainability Framework provides a mechanism for sustainably addressing environmental issues while highlighting links to economic and social outcomes.

AlburyCity strives to become a local leader implementing long-term understanding and a culture of sustainability across its various operations. By fostering this vision, AlburyCity aims to ensure environmental practices become routine.

This will be achieved through the fulfilment of Towards Albury 2050 guiding Strategic Themes; A Growing Sustainable Economy, An Enhanced Natural Environment, A Caring Community, and A Leading Community.

In strengthening AlburyCity's outcomes in this initiative, the Sustainability Framework considers key aims and priorities as improving environmental outcomes, reducing our ecological footprint, increasing sustainability/ environmental issue awareness, and developing and promoting community leadership and education through best practice. Delivering an adaptable approach allows the Sustainability Framework to stand the test of time, adapting to Albury's changing environment, economy and society.

## City Context

Albury is home to the Wiradjuri people, as the traditional custodians of the land. Albury is a major regional city with a population of approximately 57,000 people, with a similar proportion of young and working-aged individuals to the state average. It is located in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range on the northern side of the Murray River. Situated on the Hume Highway, Albury is a major transit point for interstate commerce being located centrally between Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. The city is home to two university campuses, a large regional contemporary museum and art gallery and an expansive botanical garden. Lake Hume, the Murray River and the Wonga Wetlands form the backbone for recreational activities. The region has experienced significant population growth, with urban expansion occurring primarily towards the north and east in the suburbs of Lavington and Thurgoona. Health care and social assistance is the primary sector of employment within Albury, followed by retail trade, construction, and education and training.

## Governance Context Relevant to the Sustainability Framework

Management of environmental assets (air quality, water use and quality, green space, biodiversity, greenhouse gas and climate change risk) and sectors (transport, buildings, water cycle management, industry, energy, solid waste and land use) that place pressure upon the assets are regulated by a wide range of stakeholders. Understanding the relative role and priorities of these stakeholders has a bearing on the scope of the Sustainability Framework and the stakeholders involved in its successful implementation. The following table provides an overview of AlburyCity's responsibilities, while the subsequent table outlines the key state and national ministries relevant to the Sustainability Framework.



## AlburyCity Responsibilities

Resource Recovery	<p>The Assets, Sustainability and Environment cluster manages the waste portfolio. AlburyCity, in consortium with several other AlburyCitys, is engaged in an external collection contract for Kerbside Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) (ie. waste, recycling and food/garden organics) for homes and small businesses, that is disposed of at the AWMC. External contracts also pertain to the collection and recycling of mattresses and soft furnishings, mobile phone and accessories, and food waste processing for commercial and hospitality businesses.</p> <p>The Resource Recovery and Customer Experience teams also have a role in resource recovery, including when new services are introduced, responding to customer queries, addressing illegal waste dumping, and through partnerships with surrounding AlburyCitys for consortium service delivery. Halve Waste is part of the Resource Recovery team. Their role is to implement local solutions to reduce all waste to landfill. The Strategy and Performance cluster also has a role in waste through their procurement and contracts, the KPIs and content of resource recovery contracts and influence over what materials the AlburyCity 'consumes'.</p>
Water	<p>The Water and Wastewater cluster is responsible for the delivery of all water and wastewater services to the community. Potable water services are additionally supplied to the neighbouring Greater Hume Shire, whilst untreated (raw) water is provided to a number of large businesses and recreational facilities. AlburyCity's water and wastewater activities include the operations of two water treatment plants, four wastewater treatment plants, Wonga Wetlands, a NATA accredited laboratory and all associated pumping, storage, conveyance and control infrastructure. The Water and Wastewater cluster is also responsible for managing contaminants in the wastewater stream. The Engagement Service cluster has a role in communicating objectives and actions for water-use efficiency and monitoring the performance of decentralised, privately owned on-site treatment systems.</p>
Energy	<p>The Assets, Sustainability and Environment cluster has responsibility over energy and asset management. A Power Purchase Agreement has been procured for all large consumption sites and streetlights from the start of 2023. In addition, a contract for the remaining small market meters is supplied by 100% GreenPower. AlburyCity has a Public Private Partnership at the AWMC for electricity to be generated from captured biogas and a solar farm located on a capped landfill cell.</p>
Materials	<p>The City Projects cluster is responsible for project delivery, design services, traffic and transport, and civil services. These activities, such as road construction and maintenance, require significant material consumption in addition to significant associated embodied energy, and water footprints.</p> <p>The Assets, Sustainability and Environment cluster has a role through asset management, property and buildings, particularly surrounding maintenance work and new builds, which has significance in material usage. The Strategy and Performance cluster can also influence material usage through their procurement, and contract and finance roles, particularly surrounding material cost profiles.</p>
Environment	<p>Within AlburyCity, the environment sector crosses a number of service units. The Assets, Sustainability and Environment cluster has responsibility for environmental planning and urban forestry, in addition to energy and sustainability, environmental management, and resource recovery. The City Landscapes cluster has responsibility for on ground management of AlburyCity's environment and open space assets. This includes environmentally significant reserves and roadsides, parks and recreation, landscape services, streetscapes, Wagirra (sculpture trail) and the botanical gardens. The Water and Wastewater cluster has responsibility for the Wonga Wetlands which is a significant recreation, tourism and environmental site. The Strategy &amp; Performance cluster has a role in climate risk as the owners of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. Further, the People and Culture cluster, through their insurance and liability responsibility, have an indirect role in how climate risk to assets is assessed and managed.</p>
Land-use and Buildings	<p>The City Development cluster is responsible for Integrated City Planning, Building Surveying, Development Assessment and Development Engineering. This cluster has responsibility for assessing and determining development applications, plumbing work within Delegations, reporting to AlburyCity on applications requiring AlburyCity determination and advising AlburyCity of applications that require determination by the Southern Regional Planning Panel.</p>

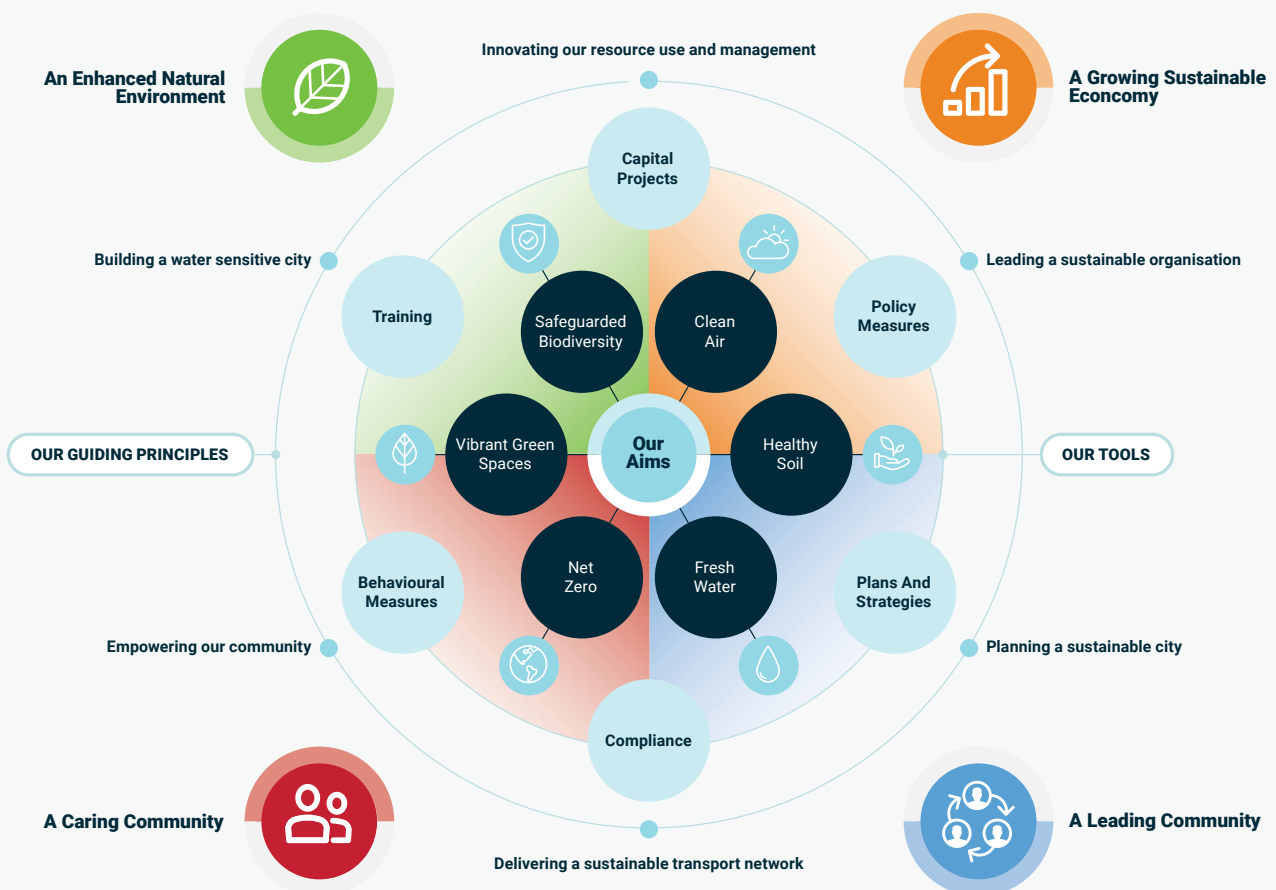


## Key State and National Ministries relevant to the Sustainability Framework

Relevant Department	Role
<b>State</b>	
<b>NSW EPA</b>	<b>Oversight of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Licences for AlburyCity's Wastewater Treatment Plants, Water Filtration Plant and the AWMC;</li> <li>• Licensing and compliance for industries or businesses which are the subject of an Environment Protection Licence; and</li> <li>• Enforcing the Plastic Reduction and Circular Economy Act.</li> </ul>
<b>NSW Department of Planning and Environment</b>	<b>Oversight and support of AlburyCity in a range of roles including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributing to the content, format and provisions of Local Environmental Plans and Infrastructure/Development Contribution Plans the delivery of water supply and sewerage services and local water utility performance monitoring framework;</li> <li>• State Significant Development (SSD) and State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) projects;</li> <li>• Reaching net zero emissions; and</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing biodiversity through the Biodiversity Conservation Act and Local Land Services Act 2013.</li> </ul>
<b>Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)</b>	<p>Significant role in Albury's water sector due to the presence of the Hume Reservoir, as the main operating storage of the Murray River System.</p> <p>Preparation and implementation of the Basin Plan, which determines the timing and volume of releases of water from the Hume Dam. This has significant influence on the quality of the Murray River environment.</p>
<b>WaterNSW</b>	Operates the dam at the direction of the Murray Darling Basin Authority.
<b>NSW Land and Housing Corporation</b>	Owners of almost 1,000 social housing dwellings in the Albury LGA.
<b>National</b>	
<b>Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water</b>	Responsible for assessing and approving actions which may have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), such as listed ecological communities, or threatened species, via the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
<b>Defence Housing Australia</b>	Manage/influence a significant number of dwellings within the region servicing the Bandiana base in Wodonga, Victoria. This involves facilitating the construction of new dwellings before they are sold into private ownership with lease-back arrangements in the order of 10 years.



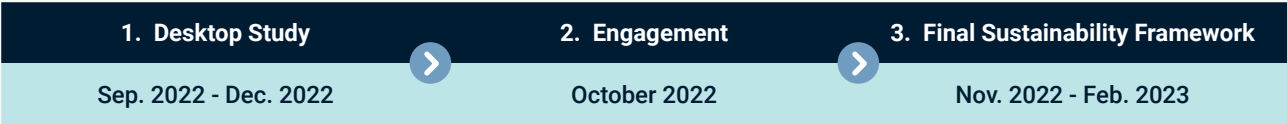
The Sustainability Framework is split into two distinct parts, Part A (sections 3 and 4) focusing on the methodology and engagement activities and Part B (sections 5 to 8) detailing the environmental challenges and the subsequent actions to tackle those challenges.





# The Sustainability Framework Process for Albury

The Sustainability Framework was developed through three clear steps:



A desktop study was conducted to assess the sustainability of AlburyCity against industry best practice. This desktop study included reviewing existing AlburyCity and community actions, industry best practice, local, state and federal policies, and what gaps and opportunities were present in existing documents. In particular, the research mapped the current state, pressures and responses across seven sectors: Air Quality, Soil Quality, Water Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Green and Open Public Spaces, Biodiversity and Ecosystems, and Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk.

The engagement process included a detailed stakeholder mapping exercise to feed into the Sustainability Framework to identify the relevant stakeholders and their relationships. Stakeholders were explored both internal and external to AlburyCity, including national and local government departments, publicly owned companies, non-government organisations, civil society organisations, and academic/research groups. Following this exercise, workshops were undertaken to help codesign and validate desktop findings.

Following the data and insight developed in the Desktop Study and Engagement, the final Sustainability Framework was produced documenting clear options for consideration. The Sustainability Framework will be developed into a public facing document and presented to the Sustainability Advisory Committee and to AlburyCity.



# Stakeholder Engagement in Albury

Stakeholder input has been an important feature of the Sustainability Framework process in Albury. Stakeholders were identified through a mapping exercise at the start of the Sustainability Framework process, and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan was developed.



## Workshops

**7 workshops** were conducted in total, with a total of 77 participants from the Environment Team, Sustainability Advisory Committee, AlburyCitylors, Youth AlburyCity, Executive Leaders, Service Leaders and Team Leaders. The workshops featured three components.

1. A visioning exercise where participants were asked to describe their vision for a sustainable future for Albury.
2. A validation and prioritisation exercise where participants were asked to rate environmental challenges based on the severity of impact and the ability of AlburyCity to influence. Participants identified additional environmental challenges not previously identified.
3. A prioritisation exercise where participants rated potential actions based on the ability of AlburyCity to implement them, and the effectiveness of the measure in improving sustainability outcomes. Participants were also asked to nominate additional actions which had not already been canvassed.



## Survey

**2 AlburyCity Staff Surveys** were prepared, receiving a total of 26 responses to help in the project's understanding of the priorities, capacities and current sustainability practices for managing climate risks, resilient infrastructure and sustainable development.

The first was to identify datasets which could inform the pressure-state-response assessment of environmental challenges. Staff were asked to provide any relevant datasets held by AlburyCity and to detail their awareness of any externally held datasets, such as those held by State agencies, the private sector, non-government or community organisations.

### The second survey sought information on the following topics:

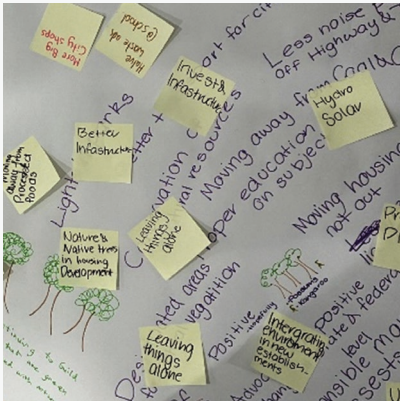
- their team's role in implementing sustainability practices in Albury;
- any current initiatives their team was delivering to improve the state of the environment;
- their respective teams' main priorities over the next five years;
- what the biggest legacy environmental issues Albury was facing and why;
- the main sustainability and environmental objectives AlburyCity should be working towards;
- suggestions for future sustainability projects;
- knowledge of existing community-led sustainability initiatives;
- level of staff education on delivering sustainability measures; and
- level of indigenous practices incorporated into AlburyCity practices.



## Data Gathering

**12 follow up emails** and data collection with key stakeholders also informed the Sustainability Framework.



Youth Group  
WorkshopSustainability Advisory  
CommitteeAlburyCitylor CEO  
Workshop

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#### Main sustainability and environment priorities as identified through stakeholder engagement and the framework's associated actions

Priorities		Associated Actions
Implement or <b>enhance sustainability and emission reduction actions</b> in AlburyCity services.	➤	LS02.1, LS02.3, PSC2.4, WM2.2
Improving AlburyCity's ability to <b>obtain maximum benefit of resources</b> .	➤	LS02.2, LS02.3, PSC2.4,
Reviewing, developing, and implementing current and proposed <b>strategic plans and strategies</b> .	➤	LS02.2, STN2.1, STN2.3
Improving AlburyCity's <b>project and program delivery</b> , and implementing new plans in alignment with Towards Albury 2050.	➤	LS02.2, STN2.1, WM2.2, WSC2.1
Add to the <b>economic, social, and cultural vitality</b> of Albury.	➤	LS02.5, STN2.1, WSC2.2
<b>Greenhouse gas emissions</b> reduction/establishment of a net zero target by AlburyCity.	➤	EOC2.1, EOC2.4, PSC2.4, PSC2.5, RUM2.2
<b>Circular economy</b> , waste recycling, utilisation of green waste.	➤	LS02.5, RUM2.1, RUM2.2
Reduction in <b>water use</b> and enhanced water management.	➤	WSC2.1, WSC2.2
Education to embed a ' <b>green/sustainability</b> ' culture within AlburyCity and the Albury community.	➤	EOC2.1, EOC2.4, LS02.1, LS02.3, STN2.2, PSC2.1, PSC2.3, PSC2.4, WM2.1, WSC2.1
Increasing the <b>urban forest/tree canopy cover</b> and more greenbelt areas.	➤	LS02.1, WSC2.1, WSC2.2
<b>Climate change resilience</b> development.	➤	EOC2.2, PSC2.1, PSC2.2, PSC2.3, PSC2.4, PSC2.5
Increase in <b>renewable energy and energy efficiency</b> .	➤	EOC2.2, EOC2.3, EOC2.4

# Environmental Baseline

Establishing the environmental baseline for the Albury LGA is a critical element to justify improvements to current conditions and sets the foundation to measure ongoing targets. This focuses on the seven state indicators of air quality, biodiversity and ecosystems, greenhouse gases, climate adaptation and disaster risk, green and public open spaces, soil quality, and water quality and availability.

Indicators	Major Sector Influencers	Summary	Priority Sustainable Challenges (PSC)
Air Quality	Transport	Transport is a significant contributor to the air quality in Albury. This is reflected in several key metrics including age and type of vehicles (NSW data), and choice of transport mode for commuting. Albury's population growth has come with a resultant rise in private vehicle ownership. This translates to increased road traffic (including exhaust from vehicles and road dust), reducing air quality.	Ⓢ <b>PSC1</b> - Managing fossil fuel related air pollution through better management of urban transport, urban planning, and energy sources.
	Land Use	Mixed land use and proximity of industrial facilities to urban areas contributes to local air quality issues, for example, by introducing exposure to areas with poor air quality. Land use also drives transport behaviour, for example, work and housing not being in proximity of each other promotes longer commute distances.	
Soil Quality	Land use	Albury has been expanding over the last decade, including greenfield development in the planned growth area of Thurgoona Wirlinga. Construction can disturb topsoil and impact soil stability through erosion. In addition to construction, increasing agricultural pressures can reduce overall soil integrity (as land uses change). This can also result in soil nutrient imbalances, erosion and contamination.	Ⓢ <b>PSC2</b> - Establish comprehensive foundation of soil quality data across the city to understand the severity of the problem.
	Solid waste	Landfill waste is a large GHG producer and traps heat in the atmosphere. AlburyCity is to maintain an effective methane capture system for the duration of the facility whilst organic waste is being buried. Continue to use legislative methods to develop new cells and rehabilitate old cells to minimise external impacts to the environment.	Ⓢ <b>PSC3</b> - Continue to review and update planning documents to align with sustainability principles.
	Water Supply and Treatment	Flooding, as a result of poor storm water and wastewater management, has potential to detrimentally impact soil quality. Altered rainfall patterns, alongside increasing temperatures due to climate change, will influence water availability across Albury's landscape. Altered water availability may result in soil health decline, potentially leading to water logging or lower permeability. This may result in erosion and vegetation loss. Polluted waterways or soils can also influence one another through flood or high-rainfall events, causing ecosystem and human health issues.	Ⓢ <b>PSC4</b> - Improve waste-related environmental quality (eg. soil, water, biodiversity impacts) by decreasing waste generation and optimising resource management practices.



Indicators	Major Sector Influencers	Summary	Priority Sustainable Challenges (PSC)
Water Quality and Availability	Buildings	<p>During construction erosion is a potential issue, contributing to the degradation of waterway health. In established properties, use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers contributes to the contaminant load into waterways where erosion is present.</p> <p>Whilst the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) requires the installation of rainwater tanks, it is unknown whether these are being maintained to continue providing the water savings.</p>	<p>⊕ <b>PSC5</b> - Move towards more sustainable water cycle management to reduce impacts of water</p>
	Land use	<p>The conversion of land from deep-rooted trees and other vegetation to grasses and agricultural lands leads to increased water infiltration, raising the water table and mobilising stored salt to root zone and soil surface.<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Further, destabilisation of root systems from loss of vegetation along with excess water in the soil profile may contribute to erosion.<sup>5</sup> Conversely where vegetation is removed and replaced with impermeable surfaces, run-off is increased which collects pollutants as it flows.<sup>6</sup></p>	
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Transport	<p>Transport emissions are responsible for a large proportion of the total greenhouse gas emissions in Albury LGA (17%).<sup>7</sup> In 2021, 96% of transport emissions in Albury and Wodonga were estimated to be from motor vehicle use including local passenger and light vehicles. Heavy and commercial vehicle through traffic is also responsible for generating a large proportion of transport emissions.</p> <p>Transport mode share data for the city indicates that trips to work by car for Albury residents are steadily increasing, indicating that these emissions are likely to continue to rise (post-2020 impact of the pandemic on transport patterns to be determined). Uptake of public and active transport mode options is low outside of the primary Albury CBD. This is partially due to the travel distances between regional areas of Albury and workplaces. However, 86.4% of the trips to work that were under 5km, were conducted using private vehicles. A comparison of travel options revealed the proportion of trips to work by bus was low in Albury, despite 65% of residents living within 400m of a bus stop. Bus trips took three times as long as a car and cross border bus travel was costly. Although active transport was free of charge, the uptake was minimal, indicating that travel time and the quality/safety of active transport routes was also an issue.<sup>8</sup></p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from aviation are responsible for the second highest proportion of transport related emissions for Albury(4%).<sup>9</sup></p> <p>Projected growth of the Albury Airport may also result in aviation emissions being higher than previous years without alternative connections to major destinations and public transport to reach the airport.<sup>10</sup> Aviation emissions are often difficult to address as suitable aviation fuel alternatives are not yet readily available and electric aircraft are still early in development.</p>	<p>⊕ <b>PSC6</b> - Improve mobility options to provide alternative low-carbon mass transit and active mobility.</p> <p>⊕ <b>PSC7</b> - Support community-wide transition away from gas-fuelled appliances towards high-efficiency electrified alternatives.</p>

Indicators	Major Sector Influencers	Summary	Priority Sustainable Challenges (PSC)
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<b>Buildings</b>	<p>AlburyCity has done well to address carbon emissions from owned and operated buildings. There are opportunities to investigate broader municipal emissions from the residential, commercial and industrial buildings. These buildings make up a much greater proportion of the city's emissions and have not seen a reduction as substantial.<sup>11</sup></p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity consumption for each of these sectors have decreased slightly, which is likely attributed to the broader uptake of residential and commercial solar PV systems and the addition of renewable energy into the grid at a state level. However, in order to deliver on the 'community net-zero by 2040 target', localised, targeted initiatives will be required for emission reductions in homes and local businesses across Albury.<sup>12</sup></p> <p>The industrial sector has been able to achieve significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from electricity consumption in spite of any targeted policy. As such, while trending downwards, industrial emissions remain a major emission source and a key consideration moving forward.</p> <p>Additionally, greenhouse gas emissions related to gas consumption across residential and commercial buildings have remained fairly steady since 2017. This indicates that targeted degasification initiatives will also be required in order to facilitate the 'community net-zero by 2040 target'. AlburyCity can support this by advocating for targets, whilst providing educational opportunities for actions to achieve targets to increase understanding and uptake.</p>	<p>☉ <b>PSC8 -</b></p> <p>Incorporate ESD considerations into planning schemes aligned with net-zero frameworks and objectives to manage increased emissions related to population growth.</p>
	<b>Energy supply and generation</b>	<p>There is very limited data on energy supply and generation for Albury, and how it impacts the City's greenhouse gas emissions profile. This will be highly dependent on the local grid emissions intensity. Many AlburyCity-owned buildings and facilities already have solar PV systems installed in order to generate and use renewable energy. AlburyCity has 18 building and facilities with 575kW of solar; these systems are designed for maximum onsite consumption. The primary concern moving forward will be energy supply and generation to that beyond AlburyCity control, including residential and commercial sectors of the city.</p> <p>AlburyCity has endorsed a 'community net-zero by 2040' target and currently provides education and incentives to the community to encourage the uptake of renewable energy through Towards Albury 2050 Community Strategic Plan which was developed by the community.<sup>13</sup> The AlburyCity website directs residents and businesses to the Clean Energy AlburyCity for advice on the installation of solar PV systems.<sup>14</sup></p> <p>Albury's Renewable Energy Hub generates enough renewable energy to power approximately 1,900 homes each year, however additional initiatives will be required to procure and generate renewable energy to achieve further greenhouse gas emission reductions in homes and businesses. Albury's population is forecast to grow by 18.5% by 2036 and as such, increased energy consumption is likely to result.<sup>15</sup></p>	



Indicators	Major Sector Influencers	Summary	Priority Sustainable Challenges (PSC)
Green and Open Public Spaces	Buildings	<p>The building sector is having an effect on the lot scale, with housing sizes increasing, resulting in less yard space. This is further exacerbated by the trend for less cultivated gardens and more lawn-only backyards in newer subdivisions.</p> <p>The interconnected nature of the public open space in the urban growth area creates a lengthy urban-environment edge. This places pressure on the quality of the urban space due to a number of processes such as weed invasion, dumping of green waste and rubbish and illegal firewood collection.</p>	<p>⊕ <b>PSC9</b> - Delivery of high quality, accessible and biodiverse green infrastructure.</p>
Biodiversity and Ecosystems	Transport	<p>In general, roads can cause habitat fragmentation, noise pollution and oil spills. Habitat fragmentation is a significant threat, though roadside vegetation can provide noteworthy conservation benefits. Direct mortality through impact along roadways affects wildlife, particularly ground dwelling fauna and birds.</p>	<p>⊕ <b>PSC10</b> - Build within the current city limits and improve biodiversity awareness.</p>
Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk	Land Use	<p>Although land use change is contributing to climatic changes, climate change is also leading to shifts in land use and land cover. Increasing temperatures and declining rainfall will result in Albury becoming warmer and drier.<sup>16</sup></p> <p>Humidity is expected to decline over winter and spring, with increasing evaporation rates resulting in a decline in soil moisture.</p> <p>These conditions underpin harsher fire weather which will also impact ecosystems. Bushfires reduce vegetation cover and species abundance and diversity. Habitat function modifications will likely occur, with some becoming unviable. This increases disaster risk as ecosystem function is compromised. Urban developments will therefore be impacted through the heat island effect and less liveable environments.</p>	<p>⊕ <b>PSC11</b> - Management of intensifying drought and overheating risks</p> <p>⊕ <b>PSC12</b> - Strengthen the Urban Forest.</p>

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## Existing Plans and Projects

### **Towards Albury 2050 Community Strategic Plan (2022-2050)**

This Plan provides a long-term view of the future, planning for and addressing our community's four thematic priorities (based on the quadruple bottom line): a growing sustainable economy, an enhanced natural environment, a caring community, and a leading community. The community vision statement is "a nationally significant regional city that is vibrant, diverse, innovative and connected, and inspired by its culture, environment and location on the Murray River."

**Economic sustainability:** we will help grow the city and businesses to support increased workforce personnel with integrated transport routes and a maintained built environment.

**Environmental sustainability:** the Murray River's health will be improved upon, with Albury leading in natural resource management and ecological conservation.

**Social sustainability:** we will support cultural and creative outlets, celebrate diversity, promote positive ageing, improve education quality, and encourage healthy lifestyles.

**Sustainable governance:** we will demonstrate strong governance and regional connections, empowering the Albury LGA to develop future leaders and promote inclusive decision-making.



### **Two Cities, One Community, Albury-Wodonga Community Action Plan (2021-2022)**

Albury and Wodonga strive to collectively achieve a partnership bettering both communities through collaboration to plan, grow, and develop the region. The plan has 10 objectives driving community aspirations, supporting cross-border decision making, strengthening the local economy, and engaging the community. Like the Towards Albury 2050 plan, this plan supports the quadruple bottom line, striving for economic, environmental, social, and governance sustainability.

### **Net Zero Fleet Transition Plan (2022)**

The Zero Emission Fleet Transition Plan assesses AlburyCity's vehicular fleet and objectives to develop a zero-emission fleet plan, a crucial step in reducing emissions. This plan accelerates our transition to EVs, as they become more mainstream. Background information and analysis are offered within the plan, identifying AlburyCity's assets and potential actions.

### **Economic Development Strategy (2023-2026) - DRAFT**

This Strategy identifies emerging economic trends, risks, and opportunities, presenting occasions for embedded sustainability across AlburyCity. The Strategy has the potential to address circular economy action items.

### **Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2021-2025)**

We recognise climate change as a significant issue impacting the social, cultural, economic, and environmental health and well-being of the Albury LGA. We have declared a climate emergency and through this strategy aim to better understand the impacts of climate change as we adapt and prepare for the future. As part of this strategy, we have performed a risk assessment, identifying potential impacts from a changing climate and related risks impacting our ability to deliver strategic operational and project objectives.

### **Albury Local Environment Plan (2010)**

Controls our city's development through land zoning. Development standards and provisions addressing local land constraints within the LGA and influence environmental systems, meaning sustainable urban development can be promoted through this Local Environment Plan.

### **Asset Management Strategy - DRAFT**

The AlburyCity Asset Management Strategy has been designed to meet the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework's requirements. A vital component of the IP&R Framework is the Resourcing Strategy. The Resourcing Strategy outlines the resources (time, money, assets, and people) required to implement the strategies in the Community Strategic Plan and the principal activities in the AlburyCity Four-Year Delivery Program.

### **Local Strategic Planning Statement**

Outlines our land use vision, planning context, planning priorities and actions to guide growth and shape our city into the future.

### **Albury Development Control Plan (2010)**

This plan provides planning/design guidelines and is read in conjunction with the Local Environmental Plan (LEP). This plan includes objectives to ensure developments are ecologically, socially, and environmentally sustainable, contributing to the quality of the natural and built environment.

### **Community Engagement Plan (2019-2023)**

We follow the principles of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2), utilising a range of engagement methods to ensure genuine collaboration and involvement, and well-informed, relevant, and consistent engagement. We have six objectives providing clear strategic direction, improving community satisfaction, encouraging community engagement based on social justice principles, utilising core IAP2 core values when developing community engagement initiatives, providing scaled opportunities to develop community engagement initiatives, and ensuring 'smart' engagement is considered.

### **Social and Sustainability Procurement Policy**

This Policy ensures AlburyCitylors and officers participating in project/goods and service procurement benefit the region, including sustainability and environmental considerations.

### **Albury Wodonga Regional Economic Development Strategy (2018-2022)**

We aim to support sustainable development alongside business development and quality of life. Key regional elements supported under this Strategy include Agribusiness and Softwoods industries, transport and logistics, tourism, and healthcare sectors, attracting and retaining skilled workers, and capitalising on the region's opportunity potential as a special economic zone.

### **Investment Policy and Procedure**

This Policy manages AlburyCity's investments and funds, with investments to financial institutions not supporting the fossil fuel industry. Local economic benefit should be considered in investment decisions, favouring environmental and socially responsible investments.

### **Single Use Plastic Policy**

AlburyCity is committed to progressively reducing single use plastic across AlburyCity operations and events on AlburyCity owned and managed land. The Halve Waste Program continues to encourage progressive reduction and recycling of plastic items across AlburyCity and the community.

### **Companion Animal Management Strategy (2021-2025)**

This Strategy identifies key themes for effective companion animal management including strategic actions addressing our natural environment and education and compliance.

### **Regional Natural Environment Strategy (2020-2032)**

We (the Albury-Wodonga region) collaboratively address goals 2.3 (leaders in natural resource management) and 2.4 (acting to ensure the sustainability of our environment) per the Two Cities One Community Plan, recognising the Murray River and natural environment of the region are a continuous ecosystem. Cross-border collaboration protects, manages, and enhances our natural environment, integrating biodiversity conservation into planning decisions.

### **AlburyCity AlburyCity Waste Management Strategy (2022 – 2027)**

The Waste Strategy's vision is "80% diversion by 2030" and is in line with the NSW Waste and Sustainable materials Strategy 2041. 54 key actions for implementation have been proposed under the key themes of new infrastructure, existing infrastructure optimisation, delivery of services and waste reduction, education and engagement. The intent is to identify resource recovery services and infrastructure, maximise efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of all waste management practices, articulate a vision for the future and set a course of goals, targets and actions to achieve that vision.

### **Urban Forest Strategy - TO BE DEVELOPED**

We are increasing our total tree canopy cover, managing the effects of urban heat islands, and ensuring selected tree species will cope with climate change to create a thriving urban forest. This will deliver benefits for our community's physical and mental well-being, landscape features, biodiversity, and overall climatic resilience.

### **Soil and Water Management Policy**

The Albury-Wodonga region ensures ecologically sustainable development and improve water quality discharge associated with urban drainage systems to ensure soil and water health are maintained. Our policy particularly manages urban construction sites and subdivision activities, ensuring construction (planning to completion) follows best management practices.



# Sustainability Actions for Albury

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## Vision

**Albury is a leader in sustainability within AlburyCity operations, community and beyond. The city’s growing population is accommodated in precincts which preserve the region’s natural assets and use clever design to achieve environmental, social and economic outcomes. As a community, the city works together to secure a vibrant and connected community which is surrounded by nature for current and future generations.**

This chapter details the actions that have, are or will be implemented to support Albury’s sustainable future. It is separated into six sub-chapters that focus on priority themes identified through stakeholder engagement.

Each sub-chapter details implemented and ongoing actions (refer to Table 1) which are identified with an action number starting with a ‘1’. Proposed actions have been identified through stakeholder engagement (refer to Table 2) and are identified with action numbers starting with a ‘2’.

Each action is set out in a table that includes the headings/sections as detailed in Table 3.



Table 1: Implemented and Ongoing AlburyCity actions

Themes	Action ID	Action Title	Type	Timeframe	Cost
Empowering Our Community (EOC)	EOC1.1	<i>AlburyCity supports community-based City Power Partnership initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital</li> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Policy Measure</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
	EOC1.2	<i>Supporting our community with their climate actions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> <li>• Capital Project</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
Leading a Sustainable Organisation (LSO)	LSO1.1	<i>Incorporating environmental consideration across AlburyCity policies, strategies and strategic documents</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy Measure</li> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$
	LSO1.2	<i>Implementing Corporate City Power Partnership initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Capital Projects</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
	LSO1.3	<i>Improving the sustainability of AlburyCity's fleet</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> <li>• Behavioural</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
	LSO1.4	<i>Improving energy efficiency and increasing renewable energy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital Project</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
Delivering a Sustainable Transport Network (STN)	STN1.1	<i>Transitioning to zero emissions transport systems</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Capital Projects</li> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
Planning a Sustainable City (PSC)	PSC1.1	<i>Land use planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
Innovating our Resource Use and Management (RUM)	RUM1.1	<i>Embracing a circular economy and resource recovery</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural</li> <li>• Capital Projects</li> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$
Building a Water Sensitive City (WSC)	WSC1.1	<i>Delivery of initiatives to enhance the climate resilience of essential services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans &amp; Strategies</li> <li>• Capital Projects</li> <li>• Behavioural</li> </ul>	Ongoing	\$ - \$\$\$




Table 2: Proposed Albury action

Themes	Action ID	Action Title	Type	Timeframe	Cost
Empowering Our Community (EOC)	EOC2.1.	Identify low-emissions technology champions and upskill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavioural</li> <li>Enforcement</li> </ul>	Short	\$\$
	EOC 2.2.	Educate and support the community in energy efficiency and generating renewable energy to enable community net-zero targets to be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavioural</li> <li>Training &amp; Knowledge Share</li> </ul>	Short	\$\$
	EOC 2.3.	Empower the Albury community to collaborate to achieve net-zero 2040 target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavioural</li> </ul>	Short	\$\$
Leading a Sustainable Organisation (LSO)	LSO2.1.	Review ambitious sustainability targets and report progress publicly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy Measures</li> </ul>	Medium	\$
	LSO2.2	Embed sustainability and circular economy objectives into the Economic Development Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Short	\$\$
	LSO 2.3.	Align AlburyCity procurement with sustainable objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Medium	\$\$
	LSO 2.4.	AlburyCity's fleet is electric by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans &amp; Strategies</li> <li>Training &amp; Knowledge Share</li> </ul>	Long	\$\$\$
Delivering a Sustainable Transport Network (STN)	STN2.1.	Improve walking and cycling connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital Projects</li> </ul>	Medium	\$\$\$
	STN2.2	Develop and implement a behaviour change campaign to promote active transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavioural</li> </ul>	Long	\$\$
	STN2.3.	Align AlburyCity policies and programs with low emission transport goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans &amp; Strategies</li> <li>Enforcement</li> </ul>	Medium	\$\$
Planning a Sustainable City (PSC)	PSC2.1.	Investigate establishing a Design Advisory Panel for large subdivisions and medium-high density developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement</li> <li>Plans &amp; Strategies</li> </ul>	Short	\$\$\$
	PSC2.2	Investigate options to incentivise sustainable design which exceeds the minimum code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement</li> </ul>	Medium	\$

Themes	Action ID	Action Title	Type	Timeframe	Cost
Planning a Sustainable City (PSC)	PSC2.3	<i>Develop Sustainable Design Guidelines for AlburyCity buildings</i>	• Policy Measure	Short	\$\$\$
	PSC2.4	<i>Develop ways to mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect (UHIE)</i>	• Policy Measures • Capital Works	Medium	\$\$\$
	PSC2.5	<i>Educate all levels within AlburyCity on carbon mitigation and adaptation to ensure everyone acts accordingly within all policies and programs</i>	• Policy Measure	Medium-Long	\$\$\$
Innovating our Resource Use and Management (RUM)	RUM2.1.	<i>Shift approach from waste management to resource recovery</i>	• Behavioural • Training & Knowledge Share	Long	\$\$\$
	RUM2.2	<i>Develop a regional road map to meet net zero waste emissions</i>	• Plans & Strategies	Long	\$\$
Building a Water Sensitive City (WSC)	WSC2.1	<i>Allocate Responsibility for water sensitive urban design</i>	• Enforcement • Behavioural	Medium	\$\$
	WSC2.2	<i>Pilot sensitive urban design implementation on a large-scale water sensitive project</i>	• Capital Projects	Long	\$\$\$



Table 3: Outline of table and headings used for each action

<b>Action Title</b>	The name of the action and the Action ID. The action id is made up of three letters from the theme's heading and two numbers. The first number indicates if it is an exiting or implemented action (number starts with a '1') or if it is a proposed action (number starts with a '2').		
<b>Type of Project</b>		<b>Capital projects</b>	Infrastructure investments that the city will undertake.
		<b>Policy Measures</b>	New legislation or policy enacted to drive more environmentally friendly activities.
		<b>Plans &amp; Strategies</b>	Provide a more detailed roadmap for improving performance in a specific sector or area.
		<b>Enforcement</b>	Measures seeking to improve compliance with policies and regulations, typically through monitoring and potential penalties.
		<b>Behavioural</b>	Measures specifically seeking to shift behaviour of specific groups in a targeted direction.
		<b>Training</b>	Actions seeking to increase capacity through knowledge exchange.
<b>Timeframe</b>	Short (1-2 years)		
<b>Estimated Cost</b>	Medium (2-4 years)		
<b>Priority Sustainability Challenge</b>	Long (more than 4 years)		
<b>Action Timeline</b>	\$ (less than \$10,000)		
<b>Description and Rationale</b>	\$\$ (\$10,000 to \$100,000)		
<b>Steps for Implementation</b>	\$\$\$ (over \$100,000)		
<b>Action Owner and Stakeholders</b>	The Priority Sustainability Challenge (PSC) that the action will help to address.		
<b>Benefit to Sustainability</b>	The period over which the action will be implemented.		



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## Empowering Our Community

To empower our community AlburyCity will integrate climate-conscious community focused projects. Such empowerment is imperative because climate change is a cross-cutting challenge that is already being felt and will continue to impact cities. In Albury, climate change will have bearing on the water cycle, the urban heat island effect and intensity of storms (Adapt NSW). Individuals, communities and community groups have an important role to play in the collective effort to reduce emissions, protect the environment and live more sustainably. AlburyCity can provide leadership, facilitate and incentivise practical actions that will assist individuals and the community to lessen their environmental footprint and contribute to positive change.





### EOC.1.1 AlburyCity supports community-based city power partnership initiatives

⦿ PSC6 ⦿ PSC7

Timeframe: Short-long term

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



#### Description:

AlburyCity has been implementing carbon mitigation and climate resilience projects to assist the community reduce their emissions across a range of emission sources. Four of AlburyCity's five Cities Power Partnership pledges relate to minimising community emissions covering education, energy efficiency, transport, and community projects.

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across all AlburyCity buildings, and support community facilities to adopt these measures.   | Ongoing      |
| 2. Encourage sustainable transport use (public transport, walking and cycling) through AlburyCity transport planning and design. Substantial savings in transport energy use can be achieved by designing more compact cities with access to high quality public and active transport services and facilities. | Ongoing      |
| 3. Implement an education and behaviour change program to influence the behaviour of AlburyCity officers, local residents and businesses within the municipality to drive the shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.  | Ongoing      |
| 4. Implement an education and behaviour change program to influence the behaviour of AlburyCity officers, local residents and businesses within the municipality to drive the shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.  | Ongoing      |
| 5. Support community energy projects (with location and planning support) so that residents (such as renters) can band together and invest in community renewable energy projects, eg. Thurgoona Renewable Energy Forum.   | As requested |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Engagement, Business and Lifestyle.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Annual community carbon emissions dwarf AlburyCity's corporate emissions; hence supporting Our Community through a variety of CPP initiatives to reduce their carbon emissions has the potential to lead to a greater mitigation of carbon emissions in our LGA.
- Transitioning to net zero requires action at all levels from governments, business and industry, to the community and individuals.

## EOC.1.2 Supporting Our Community With Their Climate Actions

☉ PSC6 ☉ PSC7

Timeframe: Short-long term

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

*The Albury region (per Snapshot) generated 825,000t CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21 from waste, transport, gas, electricity, agriculture and land use change. This data highlights the priority areas to reduce community emissions as electricity, gas and transport. AlburyCity has been and continues to implement carbon mitigation and resilience projects to assist the community reduce their emissions across a range of emission sources and adapt to climate change.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. AlburyCity undertakes a wide variety of education and awareness with the business and household communities, eg. Albury Wodonga Sustainable Living Festival, Seniors Festival, Albury Business newsletter.  | Ongoing |
| 2. AlburyCity promotes and actively works with external Government stakeholders to promote programs, grants and rebates, eg. Home Power Saving Program, Appliance Replacement Offer, Household Energy Savings Upgrades and Energy and Water Ombudsman. | Ongoing |
| 3. AlburyCity supports leaseholders of its buildings and facilities to implement energy efficiency upgrades and/or installation of a solar system, eg. Community Energy Fund.  | Ongoing |
| 4. AlburyCity supports the community to implement energy efficiency upgrades and/or install solar systems, eg. Community Sustainability Rebate Program.  | Ongoing |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Engagement and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Transitioning to net zero requires action at all levels from governments, to the community and individuals.



## EOC 2.1 Identify Low-Emissions Technology Champions and Upskill

### ☉ PSC1

**Timeframe:** Short term

**Cost:** \$-\$\$\$



#### Description:

*Program which will identify and supply education and upskilling for key stakeholders in a multi-disciplinary space, as leaders to champion low-emission technologies. This may include plumbers, builders and large retailers.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1. High-level analysis to identify key stakeholders in positions to utilise technology in every-day applications.             | June 2024      |
| 2. Develop multi-step program which considers focus group with aim to upskill on alternative technologies in specific fields: | September 2023 |
| a. introduce new and emerging technology and showcase benefits;   |                |
| b. provide information on cost comparison and user satisfaction (if trialled);  |                |
| c. provide upskilling on implementation and use of technology for installers and users; and                                   |                |
| d. provide educational material to leaders/champions to disseminate to connections.   |                |
| 3. Seek stakeholder interest and commitment to participate in program.  | March 2025     |
| 4. Run pilot with focus group and adapt program with lessons learnt.  | December 2025  |
| 5. Roll-out on a broader scale  |                |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Engagement, Business and Lifestyle.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- By sharing knowledge and collaborating with residents, organisations and businesses, the energy efficiency of appliances and buildings can be improved.
- By targeting low-income and rental households, AlburyCity can assist in promoting equity in the energy transition.

## EOC 2.2. Educate and Support Community In Energy Efficiency and Generating Renewable Energy To Enable Community Net-Zero Targets To Be Achieved

### 🕒 PSC1

Timeframe: Short term

Cost: \$\$



#### Description:

*AlburyCity will build on their existing energy and sustainability programs. A particular focus will be on low income and rental households. A community engagement campaign will improve the visibility and uptake of emission reduction and energy efficient measures.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Advocate the State Government to increase environmentally sustainable design, including the phase out of gas infrastructure and connections in new developments (with an initial focus on housing).  | Ongoing   |
| 2. Review programs offered by other AlburyCitys for energy and water efficiency measures, with a particular focus on those targeting low income households (eg. Sydney Water's WaterFix Residential Scheme).  | June 2024 |
| 3. Continue to identify and promote external grant funding or rebates applicable for residential, community and business entities.  | Ongoing   |
| 4. Explore options to provide specific AlburyCity funding which targets low-income or rental households.  | June 2024 |
| 5. Develop a community engagement campaign focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conversion of gas-appliances to all electric;</li> <li>• retrofitting options to improve energy efficiency (insulation, drought proofing, external shading);</li> <li>• external funding and rebate opportunities;</li> <li>• AlburyCity funds and rebates; and</li> <li>• information on net-zero homes and net-zero new development.</li> </ul> | July 2025 |
| 6. Host a workshop for local tradespersons (plumbers, builders, large retailers) showcasing energy efficient appliances and retrofitting options so they can champion energy efficiency with their customers.   | July 2025 |
| 7. Build on Community Energy Fund and Community Sustainability Rebate to target low-income households (noting Federal Government have announced these endeavours, and any further action will build on this work).  | June 2024 |
| 8. Continue to share knowledge and collaborate with residents and businesses with the aims of above.  | Ongoing   |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Engagement.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- By sharing knowledge and collaborating with residents, organisations and businesses, the energy efficiency of appliances and buildings can be improved.
- By targeting low-income and rental households, AlburyCity can assist in promoting equity in the energy transition.

### EOC 2.3. Empower Albury Community To Collaborate To Achieve Net-Zero 2040 Target

#### © PSC1

Timeframe: Short term

Cost: \$\$



#### Description:

*AlburyCity will research existing community-based net-zero models to identify options and potential mentors, drawing in part on the NSW State Government JONZA (Joint Organisation Net Zero Acceleration) network. AlburyCity will then host a forum to bring together information on these models and community members passionate in taking climate action. AlburyCity's role will be to facilitate, bring together and support the establishment of a net-zero aligned community group.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Identify existing community-based net-zero models across NSW and interstate (eg. Z-net energy town, Totally Renewable Yackandandah, Repower Shoalhaven and Zero Emissions Byron)   | December 2024 |
| 2. Evaluate these models for their suitability for the Albury LGA.  | Mar 2024      |
| 3. Identify potential mentors from these community models.  | June 2024     |
| 4. Identify potential net-zero community champions and leaders in the Albury LGA across community, business and environmental stakeholders through the Sustainability Advisory Committee, Albury Business Chamber, First Nations, CALD and disability groups. | October 2024  |
| 5. Invite potential champions and members of the community to an event with speakers and presentations related to community-based net-zero models.  | March 2024    |
| 6. Canvas support for the establishment of a community working group.   | June 2024     |
| 7. Identify in-kind support which AlburyCity could provide to catalyse, promote and support a community-led group.  | June 2024     |
| 8. Commission a Community Net-Zero Action Plan to provide a road map for the municipality to meet the Community 2030 and 2040 carbon targets, focussing on transport, electricity, waste and mains gas.   | December 2024 |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Sustainability Advisory Committee.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Transitioning to net-zero requires action at all levels from governments, to the community and individuals.
- Many community-based net-zero models exist and were initiated by local Councils providing a venue and forum for like-minded individuals to meet, network and develop a shared vision for the future.
- Community-based models bring co-benefits, strengthening the cohesion and resilience of the community



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## Leading a sustainable organisation

AlburyCity has a key role to play in ensuring a sustainable future for the LGA. AlburyCity will do this by demonstrating leadership on behalf of the local community, making sure decisions are evidence-based and procurement is used to drive higher standards.



## LSO 1.1 Incorporating Environmental Consideration Across AlburyCity Policies, Strategies and Strategic Documents

**Timeframe:** Short term

**Cost:** \$\$



### Description:

*Incorporates environmental considerations in strategic documents to balance financial, economic and environmental considerations.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Council motion recognised that climate change is one of the most significant issues that will impact the social, cultural, economic and environmental health and well-being of our community, and will act accordingly with all policies and programs of this AlburyCity                            | Implementation |
| 2. AlburyCity reports now incorporate an 'Environmental Risk' section. Information on carbon emissions is included in this section.  | Complete       |
| 3. AlburyCity's Investment Policy incorporates a section on when AlburyCity can select divestment opportunities.   | Complete       |
| 4. AlburyCity's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy incorporates sustainability and carbon emission considerations.  | Implementation |
| 5. AlburyCity is participating in the NSW Government's consultative program for the development of a Net-Zero Pathway tool. The intention of the tool is to assist AlburyCitys in identifying projects that can reduce emissions as well as track and report emission savings to the State Government. | Ongoing        |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Strategy and Performance, Assets, Sustainability and Environment .

Support – All Clusters, Sustainability Advisory Committee.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Minimising corporate and scope 3 carbon emissions.

## LSO 1.2 Implementing Corporate City Power Partnership Initiatives

☉ PSC1 ☉ PSC6

Timeframe: Ongoing

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity is an inaugural member of the City Power Partnership program. AlburyCity endorsed five pledges following consultation across AlburyCity's operations and AlburyCity's Sustainability Advisory Committee. Four of AlburyCity's five pledges relate to minimising corporate emissions.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across all AlburyCity buildings, and support community facilities to adopt these measures  | Ongoing        |
| 2. Power AlburyCity operations by renewables, directly (with solar PV or wind), or by purchasing green power (from electricity retailers).   | Complete       |
| 3. Encourage sustainable transport use (public transport, walking and cycling) through AlburyCity transport planning and design. Substantial savings in transport energy use can be achieved by designing more compact cities with access to high quality public and active transport services and facilities. | Ongoing        |
| 4. Implement an education and behaviour change program to influence the behaviour of AlburyCity officers, local residents and businesses within the municipality to drive the shift to renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport.  | Implementation |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment and City Projects.

Support – Engagement, Strategy and Performance, People and Culture and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Minimising corporate carbon emissions across energy efficiency, renewable electricity, transport and educating our staff.



### LSO 1.3 Improving The Sustainability Of AlburyCity's Fleet

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC6

Timeframe: Ongoing

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



#### Description:

*The third highest source of AlburyCity's corporate carbon emissions results from fuel consumption across our fleet. AlburyCity has been transitioning to vehicles with lower emissions since 2008.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Fuel efficiency standards are applied when selecting AlburyCity fleet.  | Complete       |
| 2. Investigating new technology surrounding low emissions (eg. hydrogen diesel and biofuels).  | Ongoing        |
| 3. Stringent maintenance programs for optimal efficiency of engines.   | Ongoing        |
| 4. Fleet replacement program ensures safety and efficiency of vehicles.  | Ongoing        |
| 5. New fleet purchases evaluate hybrid and electric options. Fleet has incorporated hybrid light vehicles since 2008 and hybrid trucks since 2019.   | Ongoing        |
| 6. Selection of battery powered minor plant has been implemented into the fleet.   | Ongoing        |
| 7. A Zero Emissions Transition Plan has been developed to enable AlburyCity to have a structured approach to transitioning to a zero-emission fleet. AlburyCity is currently working through the plan's 25 actions across the four themes of Foundations, Own Fleet, Public Activity, and Link and Advocate. | Implementation |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Projects

Support – Engagement, Strategy and Performance, People and Culture and Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Minimising carbon emissions from fleet and plant through fuel efficiency, operations and transitioning to cleaner fuels.

## LSO 1.4 Improving Energy Efficiency and Increasing Renewable Energy.

☉ PSC1 ☉ PSC7

Timeframe: Ongoing

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

*Since 2008, AlburyCity has undertaken a range of actions to increase its amount of renewable electricity and improve the energy efficiency of our building and facilities.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

1. Energy Audits continue to be conducted across buildings and facilities, including but not limited to variable speed drives and degasification	Ongoing
2. Power Factor Correction equipment is installed across applicable buildings and facilities.	Ongoing
3. 575kW of solar have been installed across 18 buildings and facilities	Ongoing
4. Lights across AlburyCity buildings and facilities, carparks and unmetered streetlights continue to be upgraded to LED lights.	Ongoing
5. Energy consumption is monitored, including monthly consumption reports of AlburyCity's large market electricity sites are provided to building and facility managers. Managers also have access to half-hour consumption and demand data.	Ongoing
6. A Power Purchase Agreement came into effect on 1 January 2023, which provides 100% renewable electricity to our large market and streetlighting contracts for ten years.	Complete
7. AlburyCity's small market contract has been supplied by 100% GreenPower since 1 January 2023.	Complete

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment, City Projects.

Support – Engagement, Strategy and Performance and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Minimising corporate carbon emissions.

## LSO 2.1 Review Ambitious Sustainability Targets And Report Progress Publicly

⊗ PSC1 ⊗ PSC3 ⊗ PSC4 ⊗ PSC7 ⊗ PSC10

Timeframe: Medium term

Cost: \$



### Description:

*A series of targets will be set that are achievable, financially viable, measurable and within the scope of the AlburyCity.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

1. Develop an Environmental Policy outlining AlburyCity's environmental and sustainability commitments.	December 2024
2. Review sustainability targets inside the corporate success targets.	December 2024
3. Consider using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to provide a robust framework for our sustainability targets.	December 2024
4. Continue with the SMART principles to construct specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound targets.	December 2024
5. Where relevant, review or set clear metrics or benchmarks for access to public open space, active transport, retail, green space provision and incorporate into all new and existing strategic plans..	December 2024
6. Report on targets publicly.	Annually

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Strategy and Performance.

Support – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Setting goals will guide our focus, create a shared vision for the future and sustain momentum in our plan.
- Targets and benchmarks will embed sustainability across our policy and governance framework so that it becomes business-as-usual



## LSO 2.2 Embed Sustainability and Circular Economy Objectives Into The Economic Development Strategy

⦿ PSC4 ⦿ PSC8 ⦿ PSC11 ⦿ PSC12

Timeframe: Short term

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity will incorporate sustainability and circular economy objectives into the Economic Development Strategy under development.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Include sustainability and circular economy actions within the Economic Development Strategy.                   | June 2024 |
| 2. Identify circular economy targets, measures and incentives for inclusion in the Economic Development Strategy.  | June 2024 |
| 3. Review existing staff capabilities to assess our ability to support circular economy outcomes in Albury's LGA.  | Ongoing   |
| 4. Continue to host an external circular economy information session to promote knowledge sharing and collaborate. | Ongoing   |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Business and Lifestyle.

Support –Engagement and Strategy and Performance.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- The circular economy seeks to reduce the use of non-renewable resources, lower carbon emissions, aim for zero waste, regenerate natural systems and create value for communities and businesses.
- Albury's geographical location means it is well placed to build on existing circular economy businesses and become a circular economy industrial hub.

### LSO 2.3 Align AlburyCity's Procurement with Sustainable Objectives

☉ PSC4 ☉ PSC8

Timeframe: Medium term

Cost: \$



#### Description:

*Identify and implement opportunities to seek more sustainable materials through our procurement and tendering processes. AlburyCity will use their purchasing power to influence the supply chain.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Communicate our sustainability targets with our supply chain via AlburyCity's website and Request For Quote/ Tender documents.   | December 2023 |
| 2. Update our onboarding program for suppliers to include sustainable procurement awareness.  | December 2023 |
| 3. Investigate and, where feasible, develop processes for suppliers to transparently report their sustainability measures.  | June 2025     |
| 4. Where practical, update the Social and Sustainability Procurement procedures to ensure goods and services purchased meet criteria for environmental, social and governance responsibility. | March 2024    |
| 5. Determine an internal price on carbon; this price is to be used when comparing whole of life costs for equipment and fleet alternatives.   | June 2025     |
| 6. Investigate and where feasible, assign evaluation criteria/sustainability weighting in tender evaluations to encourage the procurement of sustainable goods and services.                  | March 2024    |
| 7. Investigate opportunities to use low embodied energy, reusable and recycled materials such as glass, aggregate and concrete for AlburyCity's construction works.                           | December 2025 |
| 8. Share our sustainable procurement activities via our website and social media to encourage similar activities within the community.  | Ongoing       |
| 9. Investigate obtaining carbon offsets from actions taken in our Urban Forest Strategy.  | December 2026 |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Strategy and Performance

Support – City Projects, People and Culture, Engagement, and Asset, Sustainability and Environment.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Introducing 'sustainability as standard' in procurement processes allows for incremental improvements to be made to AlburyCity's material consumption, and internal stakeholders are aware of the environmental and social impact of purchasing decisions.
- AlburyCity can use their purchasing power to create demand for more sustainable materials and services, and influence suppliers and the supply chain to innovate and improve their practices.

## LSO 2.4 AlburyCity's Fleet is Net-Zero by 2030

☉ PSC1 ☉ PSC6 ☉ PSC7

**Timeframe:** Medium-long term

**Cost:** \$\$\$



### Description:

*Consumption of fuel across AlburyCity's fleet results in AlburyCity's third highest source of carbon emissions. Transitioning to an electric fleet will eliminate these emissions when powered by 100% renewable electricity.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Review AlburyCity's policies and procedures to ensure they are supportive of the transition to a net-zero fleet.   | December 2024 |
| 2. Identify a team to pilot being net-zero to drive change within AlburyCity.   | June 2023     |
| 3. All fleet purchases are to undertake a Total Cost of Ownership comparison with a fit for purpose battery electric alternative. If no battery alternative is available, comparison should occur with a hybrid or other low emission alternative. Total cost of ownership is to include fuel, lubricants and maintenance, etc. | June 2023     |
| 4. Heavy vehicle purchases, where not electric, are to meet the latest applicable European emission standard.   | Ongoing       |
| 5. Equipment purchases, including small powered items, are to be electric where a fit for purpose option exists.  | June 2023     |
| 6. Keep abreast and utilise, where applicable, any Federal and State legislation and/or programs available.   | Ongoing       |
| 7. Undertake staff education, including EV induction programs.  | Ongoing       |
| 8. Develop a Communications Plan for AlburyCity's EV transition (consider signage for vehicles, website, social media).   | December 2024 |
| 9. Engage with Essential Energy to plan for AlburyCity's expected growth in electric vehicles, focusing on the provision of necessary electricity infrastructure requirements.  | December 2024 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Projects.

Support – Assets, Sustainability and Environment, Engagement.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles emit particulates and nitrous oxides which increase air pollution and have adverse impacts on health. Replacing ICE vehicles with electric vehicles eliminates these tailpipe emissions.
- Battery electric vehicles charged with 100% renewable electricity represents the easiest path to fleet CO<sub>2</sub> abatement.
- Leadership opportunity for residents and fleet owners within the region.



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## Delivering a sustainable transport network

AlburyCity will deliver a sustainable active transport network to encourage people walking and cycling. It will do this by improving the amenity and provision of footpaths, bike paths and on-road bike lanes. Mobility is key to healthy, vibrant and inclusive urban space. It provides access to jobs, services, recreation, as well as family and friends. AlburyCity will continue to advocate for frequent, connected and reliable transport.



## STN1.1 Transitioning to Zero Emissions Transport Systems

🕒 PSC1 🕒 PSC6

Timeframe: Ongoing

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity has been implementing carbon mitigation projects to assist the community to reduce their emissions across a range of emission sources. AlburyCity promotes active and public transport across the city.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Albury and Wodonga AlburyCitys are developing MOVE: The Albury Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy covering key themes of enabling sustainable transport choices (walking, cycling, public transport), functionality and safety, and building a people centred city. | Ongoing        |
| 2. Over 50km of interlinked on and off-road trails offer people walking and riding safe and enjoyable access to our natural environment and places of interest. These paths are extended each year.   | Ongoing        |
| 3. Transport for NSW introduced an additional 300 new weekly bus services in Albury in January 2023, covering a wider network and operating seven days a week, including weekends and public holidays.  | Complete       |
| 4. Construct five new pedestrian priority zebra crossings in the Lavington CBD through the Get NSW Active funding stream.   | Ongoing        |
| 5. Construct the Albury CBD Bike Loop (protected on-road cycle lanes) to promote and encourage active transport through the city, through the Get NSW Active Funding Stream.  | Ongoing        |
| 6. The CBD Parking Strategy includes a recommendation to consider additional electric vehicle charging stations and use of solar panels for shade and power generation.   | Implementation |
| 7. Support and install electric vehicle charging stations.  | Ongoing        |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Projects.

Support – Assets, Sustainability and Environment, and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Reduced car dependency leads to reduced carbon emissions and improvements to community health and wellbeing.



## STN2.1 Improve Walking and Cycling Connections

⊗ PSC1 ⊗ PSC3 ⊗ PSC6 ⊗ PSC7 ⊗ PSC9

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

Identify and address gaps in the amenity, safety and provision of walking and cycling infrastructure. Use targets and data to drive continual improvements over the long-term.

### Implementation steps:

1. Audit existing cycling paths for levels of shade, lighting, end-of-trip facilities and way-finding signage.	June 2027
2. Identify connectivity gaps in the existing walking and cycling shared pathway network.	Complete: ITS Walking Network Map
3. Develop a prioritised four year rolling construction and maintenance program for footpaths, bike paths, on-road bike lanes shared pathways and on-road facilities (including lighting, shading and end-of-trip facilities) and progressively implement.	Ongoing
4. Prioritise accessibility and inclusion for people of all levels of ability when preparing plans for pathways.	Ongoing
5. Identify and secure funding.	June 2024
6. Identify key performance metrics through the Integrated Transport Strategy.	December 2023
7. Develop database to track KPIs long-term.	Conquest, complete
8. Conduct walking and cycling shared pathway surveys every four years, to track satisfaction and identify safety and amenity issues.	June 2027

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Projects.

Support – Engagement.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Improving the amenity and safety of active transport modes (walking and cycling) will assist in shifting people movement away from emission intensive modes.
- Providing additional shading will achieve co-benefits of increasing the urban canopy and mitigating the urban heat island effect.
- Obtaining robust data will allow progress to be tracked over time.



## STN2.2 Develop and Implement a Behaviour Change Campaign to Promote Active Transport

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC6 ⦿ PSC7

Timeframe: Long

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity will develop a behavioural change campaign to influence the travel choices our community and staff make for school, work, recreation, shopping and business.*

### Implementation steps:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Establish a project team with representatives from the Engagement, Traffic and Transport and Community Development teams.   | July 2025     |
| 2. Identify promotional events such as Ride to Work Day, Bike Week and existing community events which could support active transport use.                                       | June 2024     |
| 3. Investigate options to collaborate with schools on cycle to school education and skills courses and events.   | December 2030 |
| 4. Develop and implement a Safe Streets program in line with Movement and Place Framework to work with neighbourhoods to create safe, active and attractive residential streets. | December 2030 |
| 5. Identify messaging to promote health and environmental benefits of active transport.  | December 2030 |
| 6. Review AlburyCity tendering and travel authorisation documents to prioritise the use of electronic meeting alternatives in-lieu of travel and face-to-face meetings.          | December 2025 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Projects.

Support – Community Development and Engagement.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Internal combustion vehicles emit particulates and nitrous oxides which increase air pollution and have adverse impacts on health. Replacing ICE vehicles with electric vehicles eliminates these tailpipe emissions.
- Battery electric vehicles have lower carbon emissions than an ICE vehicle. When powered with 100% renewable electricity (which will be possible for AlburyCity-owned vehicles with their power purchase agreement), this represents the easiest path to fleet CO2 abatement.
- AlburyCity has already taken multiple steps along the journey to a zero emissions fleet, and promoting their efforts, demonstrates to the Community our commitment to eliminating emissions.
- An early transition to electric vehicles and associated infrastructure provides AlburyCity with a leadership opportunity setting an example for residents and fleet owners within the region.

### STN2.3 Align AlburyCity Policy and Programs with Low Emission Transport Goals.

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC3 ⦿ PSC6 ⦿ PSC7 ⦿ PSC8

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$



#### Description:

*A review of planning documents to adjust elements which currently favour or entrench car dependency and incorporate mechanisms which support the transition to low-emission transport options.*

#### Implementation steps:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Establish a multi-disciplinary team with representatives from Integrated City Planning, Traffic and Transport and Streetscapes.   | Complete, Development Control Unit |
| 2. Identify low-emission transport goals to be included in all planning documents. For example:  | Ongoing                            |
| + prioritise planning for pathway infrastructure within a 2km (5km for bicycles) catchment of town centres, as well as around schools, the university and key activity areas.  |                                    |
| 3. Assess the feasibility of reducing minimum parking space requirements for new developments.   | June 2024                          |
| 4. Implement a program of continuous improvement (through staff training) to ensure internal policy and planning documents better align with guidance produced by the NSW Government including NSW Movement and Place Framework and Safe Systems Approach. | Ongoing                            |
| 5. Conduct internal review to identify adjustments which align with low emission transport goals.  | December 2024                      |
| 6. Develop an EV Charing Policy relating to publicly available privately or publicly owned chargers on AlburyCity owned land (Draft MOVE Strategy ID 1.1).   | December 2024                      |

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Development.

Support – City Projects.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Planning mechanisms can either support the transition to low-emission transport options or further entrench car dependency.
- Reallocating space away from roads and parking will support changes in the spatial form of the municipality to favour people cycling and walking.



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## Planning a sustainable city

AlburyCity will use sustainable planning approaches to maximise green infrastructure. This will mitigate a host of environmental challenges, support biodiversity and serve to better regulate the urban microclimate whilst providing an attractive setting for recreation. Land use planning provides the foundation upon which the patterns of urban life are laid. It dictates access to opportunities and services, how easily people can get from place to place, and contributes to the health of ecosystem services, all of which contribute to the wellbeing of the city's residents.





## PSC1.1 Land Use Planning

### ⦿ PSC1

**Timeframe:** Short-long term

**Cost:** \$-\$\$\$



#### Description:

*Continue comprehensive land use-planning adapting to the impacts of urban and natural hazards and climate change.*

#### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

1. Reviewed planning provisions relating to tree and vegetation protection (Part 5 – Albury Development Control Plan).	Complete
2. Preparing an Urban Forest Strategy that establishes an urban tree canopy target with the aim of increasing resilience of the urban forest to overcome the challenges of climate change, urban expansion and an ageing tree population.	Ongoing
3. Regularly reviewing our Flood Study and Flood Prone Land Maps.	Ongoing
4. Regularly reviewing our Bush Fire Prone Land Maps, incorporating the best available hazard information.	Ongoing
5. Conservation Zoned Lands Review – proposing changes to Conservation Zones to better align zoning with land of significant environmental value, with a resultant increase in quantity and quality of land zoned conservation.	Current
6. Maintain flexible planning controls that support infill development that is close to existing services and facilities. ONGOING.	Ongoing
7. Comprehensive Biodiversity Assessments across the key growth areas of Thurgoona Wirlinga and the Regional Jobs Precinct (NEXUS).	Current
8. Conducting biodiversity assessments in established urban and growth areas to identify existing habitat to avoid and minimise habitat destruction/removal.	Ongoing
9. Ongoing land use planning and review (as necessary), existing planning provisions and objectives relating to natural and urban hazards and climate change.	Ongoing

#### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Development, and Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Landscapes, City Projects and Engagement.

#### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Protect and enhance natural assets to support local biodiversity including local threatened species.

## PSC2.1 Investigate Establishing a Design Advisory Panel for Large Subdivisions and Medium-High Density Developments

⦿ PSC2 ⦿ PSC3 ⦿ PSC10

Timeframe: Short

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

*Investigate the suitability of establishing a Design Advisory Panel which would incorporate sustainable design review. The Panel would review planning applications and provide high-level, independent, expert advice on urban design, architecture, landscape architecture and sustainability for significant applications and planning proposals.*

### Implementation steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Review the operation of existing Design and Sustainability Advisory Panels in NSW/interstate and the Local Government Design Panel Manual. <sup>17</sup> | December 2026 |
| 2. Determine criteria for which development proposals would benefit from a review by an Advisory Panel and estimate proposal numbers per year.              | December 2026 |
| 3. Consider establishing a shared regional Design Review Panel to assist with challenges associated with recruiting, cost and resource.                     | December 2026 |
| 4. If warranted, establish an Advisory Panel in alignment with the Local Government Design Panel Manual.  | December 2026 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – City Development.

Support – City Projects, and Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Design review is recognised as an effective way to raise the design quality of the built environment and offers the opportunity for peer review of development proposals by independent design professionals, with the aim of achieving housing developments which deliver best practice sustainability principles and a vibrant built environment.
- Panel members draw on real world experience and current industry best practice to share their knowledge on iterative design improvements.
- Whilst such a Panel would not have any powers or authority it would assist in building capacity amongst developers to deliver projects which result in high quality, sustainable, built environments.

17. [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Manuals-and-guides/Assess-and-Regulate/Development-Assessment/Local-Government-Design-Review-Panel-Manual.pdf?la=en](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Manuals-and-guides/Assess-and-Regulate/Development-Assessment/Local-Government-Design-Review-Panel-Manual.pdf?la=en)

## PSC2.2 Investigate Options to Incentivize Sustainable Design which Exceeds the Minimum Code

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC3 ⦿ PSC4 ⦿ PSC6 ⦿ PSC8 ⦿ PSC9 ⦿ PSC10 ⦿ PSC11

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

The NSW State Government has released a new Sustainable Building State Environment Planning Policy. This Policy provides minimum standards for non-residential buildings, including that certain developments are to be all electric by 2035. For residential buildings, incentive mechanisms may provide a suitable pathway to encourage designs which exceed the building standards.

### Implementation steps:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Evaluate the feasibility of introducing more stringent standards for non-residential buildings in the Albury DCP 2010.  | December 2027 |
| 2. Investigate mechanisms, to incentivise residential development applications achieving above-minimum sustainable design metrics.   | December 2027 |
| 3. Review local planning controls in Albury DCP 2010, to prepare a Sustainable Design Technical Guideline that will support the Albury DCP 2010 if greater clarity or design guidance is required.   | December 2027 |
| 4. Review the Environment Risks section of AlburyCity reports to consider including impact/alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This may require the development of a standardised set of assessment metrics, guidance notes, and training. | December 2027 |
| 5. Provide advice and communicate expectations with external stakeholders (including our development community, property owners, planners, architects, drafts people, certifiers, developers and builders).  | December 2027 |
| 6. Consider establishing a multi-disciplinary team to identify key development types, conditions and land uses that present a high risk of adverse environmental outcomes and identify continuous improvement processes to address these risks.                | December 2027 |
| 7. Review current staffing levels to ensure sufficient resources exist to meet performance targets.  | December 2027 |
| 8. Conduct a 'lessons learnt' process at the 6-month and 12-month milestones to capture learnings and improve the approach.  | December 2028 |
| 9. Implement feasible standards and mechanism identified in steps above.   | December 2028 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Development.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- The operation of the built environment currently accounts for approximately a quarter of Australia's emissions.
- Buildings are large, long-lasting investments. Poorly designed buildings with low thermal efficiency lock their occupants into high levels of energy consumption for decades. In comparison, better quality design can lead to significant reductions in energy consumption, improved air quality and occupant comfort.



PSC2.3 Develop Sustainable Design Guidelines for AlburyCity Buildings.

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC3 ⦿ PSC4 ⦿ PSC7 ⦿ PSC9 ⦿ PSC11

Timeframe: Short

Cost: \$\$\$



Description:

*AlburyCity will lead by example by considering sustainability in the design and construction of all new buildings and renewal, replacement and upgrade projects. It will aim to minimise environmental impacts and resources used in the construction, operation and maintenance of community buildings.*

Implementation steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Comparative analysis of existing Sustainable Design Guidelines adopted by other local governments.   | December 2024 |
| 2. Internal assessment of whether these existing guidelines can be adapted to the Albury context and if not, commission the development of Sustainable Design Guidelines. | October 2025  |

Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.  
Support – City Projects.

Benefit to Sustainability:

- Reduce the environmental impact of renewing, replacing and maintaining AlburyCity buildings.
- Reduce the reliance on energy and operational costs associated with AlburyCity buildings and facilities.
- Provide a healthy indoor environment for those who work in or utilise AlburyCity facilities.

## PSC2.4 Develop Ways to Mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect (Uhie).

⊙ PSC1 ⊙ PSC3 ⊙ PSC6 ⊙ PSC8 ⊙ PSC9 ⊙ PSC10  
⊙ PSC11 ⊙ PSC12

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

AlburyCity will mitigate the Urban Heat Island Effect (UHIE) associated with absorption of heat by hard surfaces within the built environment. It will consider UHIE in the design and construction of all new roads and road replacement/renewal and upgrade projects. It will aim to minimise environmental impacts and resource use in the construction and maintenance of roads. Urban design and design solutions that mitigate urban heat within the urban environment will be preferred and adopted.

### Implementation steps:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Develop an Urban Forestry Strategy setting ambitious but achievable targets to increase Albury's resilience to climate change.   | June 2024     |
| 2. Highlight and prioritise green space with greater environmental connectivity throughout the urban landscape.   | Ongoing       |
| 3. Investigate options and transition land use away from hard impermeable surface towards natural permeable vegetated areas.  | December 2024 |
| 4. Set a permeable surface target within the urban environment and increase permeable surface area and landscaping.   | July 2026     |
| 5. Review current and future road projects with emphasis on a) minimising the asphalt/concrete area; and b) narrowing road pavements while increasing verge widths to allow planting of large trees and construction of footpaths to promote walking. | July 2025     |
| 6. Conduct community asphalt audit to allow consideration for removal of unnecessary impervious surfaces.   | December 2027 |
| 7. Incorporate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into urban landscapes to support the establishment of green spaces, thereby reducing UHIE and flood risk.  | December 2030 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Projects, City Landscapes, City Development.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Provide a cooler urban environment that will facilitate greater community resilience to rising temperatures.
- Minimise asphalt coverage to reduce the UHIE as well as resource use and maintenance costs associated with road construction and repair.
- Provide shady roads and paths to encourage walking and cycling as viable modes of transport even in hotter months.
- Help mitigate flood risk with less water directed along impenetrable surfaces and into storm water system.
- Provide opportunities to develop, connect, benefit and assist native flora and fauna through Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD).

## PSC2.5 Educate All Levels Within AlburyCity on Carbon Mitigation and Adaptation to Ensure it Acts Accordingly Within All Policies and Programs.

⦿ PSC1 ⦿ PSC3 ⦿ PSC6 ⦿ PSC8

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

*A whole of organisation response is required to meet Corporate Carbon Targets.*

*From 1 January 2023, AlburyCity operated building, facilities and street lights will consume either 100% renewable or GreenPower, reducing emissions by approximately 12,545 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e every year. This step achieves the 2025 target of 40% below 2018/19 levels (excluding waste). The implementation steps below are to progress towards achieving the 2030, 2040 and 2050 targets.*

### Implementation steps:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Use the Sustainable Design Guidelines (developed as part of action PSC2.3) to ensure all new buildings and renovations are designed and built to maximise energy efficiency and renewable energy at the site. | December 2024 |
| 2. AlburyCity will lead by example by ensuring that the procurement of equipment considers efficiency and whole of life costs upfront.   | December 2024 |
| 3. Investigate opportunities and develop a transition plan to electrify AlburyCity's assets (transition plan to incorporate specific dates and report the cost savings achieved).                                | June 2026     |
| 4. Consider alternatives to grid connection for new assets that are greater than 30 metres from the electricity grid.  | December 2024 |
| 5. Implement recommendations from the Net Zero Fleet Implementation Plan.  | December 2028 |
| 6. Investigate need and potential cost for use of Carbon Offsets to meet medium and long term carbon targets.  | June 2026     |
| 7. Cross reference AlburyCity's Climate Risk Assessment to other relevant actions within the Sustainability Framework.   | June 2026     |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Projects.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Reduce the environmental impact of establishing, renewing, replacing and maintaining AlburyCity buildings.
- Reduce the reliance on energy and operational costs associated with AlburyCity buildings and facilities.
- Provide a healthy indoor environment for those who work in or utilise AlburyCity facilities.



## Innovating our resource use and management of waste

Innovative, effective waste management is essential for supporting resource efficiency through waste reduction strategies, recycling and organic waste streams in AlburyCity. Urban waste management systems are a fundamental service that contribute to both human and environmental health. AlburyCity has invested heavily in the AWMC to divert a greater diversity of materials away from landfill. AlburyCity recognise that improvements can be made in the visibility and uptake of these resource recovery options across residential, commercial and construction customers. AWMC is conducting a business case to purchase land at Nexus to provide options to facilitate the operation of resource recovery businesses.

Opportunities for resource efficiency and emission reductions also exist in harnessing resource recovery from wastewater including biosolids management and use, and potential gas and electrical generation opportunities. Changing the terminology from waste management to resource recovery aligns with our goals of diverting as much material as possible from landfill back into the economy, and in changing perceptions to recognise the value of these materials.



## RUM1.1 Embracing a Circular Economy and Resource Recovery

© PSC4

Timeframe: Ongoing

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity's primary source of corporate carbon emissions is from the operation of the Albury Waste Management Centre (AWMC), specifically the burial of organic waste. Actions at the AWMC focus on encouraging a circular economy to maximise resource recovery.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. The introduction of the Kerbside Food Organic and Garden Organic service commenced in 2015, with the aim to divert tonnage annually from domestic organic waste from the landfill. This has the dual benefit of increasing the life of the landfill as well as reducing carbon emissions.                           | Complete       |
| 2. A Commercial Food Waste trial in 2022 and 2023 is using maggots and robotic technology. This trial is diverting mostly expired packaged food, along with commercial food waste sourced from large local food generators (eg. supermarkets, clubs and restaurants).  | Ongoing        |
| 3. Construction and Demolition Material Recovery Facility is under construction. This will remove 20,000-30,000 tonnes of construction and demolition material with a significant component being wood waste, which will be diverted from landfill.  | Ongoing        |
| 4. A Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO) Regional Resource Recovery Strategy 2022–2027 has been developed to work towards achieving state targets (eg. regional Councils moving to an organic service along with various measures of emission reduction type programs).                                     | Implementation |
| 5. Draft Public Place and Event Collections Guidelines for RAMJO Member AlburyCitys to utilise in the implementation of best practice associated with public place and event collections, and the potential contractual arrangements with waste collection service providers.  | Ongoing        |
| 6. Waste Management Guidelines for the Member AlburyCitys. The guidelines will be designed to assist planners and developers' factor in waste and recycling services in development applications including commercial, high-rise developments and mixed-use buildings.   | Ongoing        |
| 7. Plasterboard waste can be crushed and used as a valuable agricultural and horticultural additive. Funding has been used for a trial to partner with the building industry to support better separation of plasterboard waste on building sites. This project has now transitioned to 'everyday' practice.           | Complete       |
| 8. Halve Waste undertakes a range of education and promotional campaigns with workplaces, schools and the community. These include 'Waste to Wonder' and 'Closing the Loop on Organics', facility tours. Educational programs are run both offsite and at the Albury Waste Management Centre's SMART Education Centre. | Ongoing        |
| 9. AlburyCity has a Private Public Partnership for the capture of biogas from the landfill. This 1.1MW system generates electricity for 1,500 households. In addition a 1.5MW solar system has been installed on an old, rehabilitated landfill generating electricity for 500 households.                             | Complete       |
| 10. AlburyCity has a Private Public Partnership for the capture of biogas from the landfill. This 1.1MW system generates electricity for 1,500 households. In addition a 1.5MW solar system has been installed on an old, rehabilitated landfill generating electricity for 500 households.                            | Ongoing        |

**Action Owner and Stakeholders:**

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Engagement and City Projects.

**Benefit to Sustainability:**

- Carbon emissions from waste continue for decades after burial, diverting organic waste from landfill prevents future corporate carbon emissions. Diversion has additional sustainability benefits including extending the life of the landfill.

## RUM2.1 Shift Approach from Waste Management to Resource Recovery

☉ PSC4 ☉ PSC11

Timeframe: Long term

Cost: \$\$\$

**Description:**

*Update our marketing, website, internal documents and Albury Waste Management Centre (AWMC) signage to 'resource recovery'.*

**Implemented and Ongoing steps:**

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Rebrand the AWMC, documents and online presence to reflect the shift from 'waste management' to 'resource recovery'.            | December 2029 |
| 2. Explore opportunities for the beneficial reuse of wastewater biosolids.   | March 2024    |
| 3. Incorporate opportunities for 'behind-the-meter' energy generation and supplementation at AlburyCity wastewater facilities.     | Ongoing       |
| 4. Update our marketing materials and behavioural campaigns to improve the visibility and uptake of our resource recovery options. | Ongoing       |

**Action Owner and Stakeholders:**

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Projects and Business and Lifestyle.

**Benefit to Sustainability:**

- It is estimated that nearly half of global emissions arise from the use and management of materials and products.
- Viewing waste as a resource is the first step in moving towards a circular economy.



## RUM2.2 Develop a Regional Road Map to Meet Net Zero Waste Emissions.

© PSC4

Timeframe: Long

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

*Collaborate with our Local Government partners who utilise the Albury Waste Management Centre, the Albury City Water & Wastewater Treatment facilities and other waste generators to develop a roadmap to meet our net zero waste emission targets.*

### Implementation steps:

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Establish a baseline of waste generation by local government area, sector and material.   | Complete, Mandalay |
| 2. Determine methodology and future costs to meet corporate net-zero emissions targets related to waste.   | June 2029          |
| 3. Determine significant net zero progression opportunities within major water & wastewater infrastructure developments in coming years to be included in roadmap  | June 2026          |
| 4. Develop a Regional Roadmap to meet net zero waste emission targets which incorporates all Local Government partners that utilise the AWMC, businesses which generate organic waste material, and the construction industry. | June 2029          |
| 5. Use funding from organic waste depositors to fund implementation.   | June 2040          |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – Strategy and Performance, and City Development.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Less waste means lower emissions and less harm to the environment.
- Using resources efficiently and maximising our resource recovery will reduce our material consumption, embodied energy and the extraction of virgin materials and associated environmental impact beyond our municipality's borders.

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## Building a water sensitive city

Applying a water sensitive or circular model allows AlburyCity to deliver water services in a regenerative way which enhances our sustainability, liveability and resilience. This will build on the success of the Wonga Wetlands, where our water infrastructure is multi-functional. This will require us to move away from thinking solely of the efficiency of basic services to considering water's role to provide cultural value, public health and biodiversity. At the same time, this recognises the importance of natural systems in providing shade, cleaner air and water, visual amenity and connectivity of green spaces. For example, water sensitive design harnesses the power of natural systems to reduce sediment and nutrients in urban water and can provide additional habitat for native species such as the Sloane's Froglet. By capturing water within the landscape, it can be used to sustain vegetation during dry spells, reducing our use of potable water.



## WSC1.1 Delivery of initiatives to enhance the climate resilience of essential services

© PSC5

Timeframe: Short-long term

Cost: \$-\$\$\$



### Description:

*AlburyCity supplies water and wastewater services to the Albury community. A by-product of this is the consumption of large amounts of energy to enable the treatment and conveyance of these essential services. AlburyCity's water and wastewater treatment processes are its highest electricity consuming sites, with its wastewater treatment operations generating greenhouse gas emissions. Sites or systems supporting the largest populations or supplying the greatest industrial water consumption or treatment demands, have the greatest electricity consumption.*

### Implemented and Ongoing steps:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. Adoption of approaches that seek to avoid energy use and emission generation. These include the development of long-term strategies to support sustainability goals and the implementation of engineering solutions to eliminate unnecessary emissions.         | Ongoing |
| 2. Active engagement and communication with developers and consultants concerning energy efficient or reduced design and construction activities. This includes use of gravity-based sewer systems, rather than pressure-pumped systems when technically feasible. | Ongoing |
| 3. Replacing old infrastructure with more efficient, new technologies.   | Ongoing |
| 4. Embedding carbon emission and energy reduction considerations within the strategy and designs of an expanded Waterview WWTP scope of works, which includes specific carbon percentage reduction targets and completion dates.                                   | Ongoing |
| 5. Implementing actions arising from the conduct of efficiency audits of water and wastewater treatment and pumping stations. This includes the optimisation of processes and equipment to ensure reduced energy consumptions.                                     | Ongoing |
| 6. Investigations and installation of renewable energies (such as small-scale generation schemes), to realise opportunities for behind the meter energy consumption at selected sites.   | Ongoing |
| 7. Opportunities for the sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions (ie. through the purchase of carbon offsets, beneficial reuse of biosolids, cropping or planting of trees) is being considered within strategic planning activities.                            | Ongoing |
| 8. AlburyCity uses community education initiatives to influence community behaviours, better inform people of sustainable water use practices and leverage carbon emission outcomes within our communities more broadly.   | Ongoing |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Water and Wastewater.

Support – Engagement, City Development and Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- With our primary resource being raw water, climate variability is, and always will be, a core consideration in the delivery of safe and reliable water to the AlburyCity Community.
- To ensure the security and reliability of services to our customers and community, AlburyCity will adapt to, and mitigate against, real and potential climate change impacts. This will enhance climate change resilience within the community and our infrastructure by protecting against fire, flood, storm and heat event impacts

## WSC2.1 Allocate Responsibility for Water Sensitive Urban Design

⊙ PSC5

Timeframe: Medium

Cost: \$\$



### Description:

*The integration of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) principles into land use planning and regulation is critical. WSUD and SuDS integrate the water cycle more effectively into urban design. AlburyCity will identify and define responsibility for the development of WSUD and SuDS principles and revise related regulations and codes (eg. road maintenance) to combat flooding and promote efficient and environmentally-sound water use. This action will identify which service cluster will take the lead for water sensitive urban design. Given the multi-disciplinary nature of blue-green infrastructure, other service clusters will need to be identified, with their roles and responsibilities clearly articulated.*

### Implementation steps:

1. Compile a database of various WSUD and SuDS technologies and solutions that can be utilised.	December 2024
2. Identify the service cluster within AlburyCity who is best placed to lead WSUD.	December 2024
3. Identify supporting service clusters.	December 2024
4. Clearly define roles and responsibilities for each service cluster.	December 2024
5. Explore development of specific area WSUD controls for developments close to the Murray River.	December 2026
6. Research best practice and educate developers and community members who may buy or build a house about WSUD.	Determine at Step 4
7. Review opportunities to encourage, incentivise, recognise and promote developments that have high standards for households across the development.	Determine at Step 4

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Projects, City Landscapes, Water and Wastewater and City Development.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Water sensitive projects require a multi-disciplinary team, so it is necessary to clearly articulate which team has overall leadership and accountability.
- Allocating roles and responsibilities provides clarity as to how other teams will contribute or influence project selection, design, funding and outcomes.



## WSC2.2 Pilot Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) Implementation on a Large-Scale Water Sensitive Project

⦿ PSC5 ⦿ PSC9 ⦿ PSC11 ⦿ PSC12

Timeframe: Long

Cost: \$\$\$



### Description:

*This action will deliver a large scale, water sensitive project in the Albury LGA. The city will incorporate WSUD and SUDS principles into an existing and/or upcoming project. AlburyCity can identify suitable sites for pilot projects for WSUDs or SUDS developments as part of new municipal works and upgrades of existing publicly owned buildings. Hydrological changes are expected due to climate change, so the incorporation of WSUD or SUDS into city planning will help to reduce the impacts of flooding and droughts and help to secure a more reliable supply of water. For the planting component of the programme, WSUD and SUDS will focus on xeriscaping and drought-tolerant planting.*

### Implementation steps:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Review strategic documents for proposed projects and new builds related to active transport, urban forest, nature connectivity and public open space which would be suitable to co-locate or incorporate blue-green infrastructure. | December 2025 |
| 2. Identify suitable types of WSUD and SuDS solutions (eg. green roofs, infiltration trenches, retention and detention basins, pervious sidewalks, etc.) to support green spaces and reduce urban heat island effect and flood risk.   | December 2025 |
| 3. Develop designs and specifications and perform environmental impact analysis. With the involvement of a multi-disciplinary team identify a set of metrics to evaluate potential projects.   | December 2026 |
| 4. Secure and identify internal and/or external (grant) funding.   | December 2026 |
| 5. Design and deliver the project and conduct a lesson learnt process.   | December 2028 |
| 6. Monitor runoff from existing properties before and after WSUD and SuDS implementation to verify its impact and develop a case for securing more funding in the future for scaling up successful solutions.                          | December 2030 |

### Action Owner and Stakeholders:

Lead – Assets, Sustainability and Environment.

Support – City Projects, City Development, City Landscapes, Water and Wastewater.

### Benefit to Sustainability:

- Selecting a project from existing strategies will assist in securing support and for capturing co-benefits.
- Delivering a project will provide proof-of-concept and a real-life example to demonstrate the varied benefits to internal and external stakeholders.
- Involving a multi-disciplinary team will allow roles and responsibilities to be refined and developed.
- Lessons learnt can be applied to future projects.

# Implementing the Sustainability Framework

## The Framework

This Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan outlines actions across six themes for how AlburyCity and stakeholders will work together to improve sustainability outcomes for the region. The Sustainability Framework outlines AlburyCity's internal Lead and Support clusters for the 19 proposed actions and the recommended implementation steps. Clusters assigned as Leads will incorporate appropriate actions into annual and multi-year work plans and budgets as part of normal planning processes. Support clusters will ensure a whole of organisation response in the implementation of the actions and associated steps.

External stakeholders are also key to the success of the Sustainability Framework. Buy-in from our community is pivotal as many of the actions focus on changing our communities' behaviour to achieve the sustainability outcomes.

Implementation of the Sustainability Framework will be monitored and progress reported annually to Council. This will allow commitments and actions to be adapted with any developments in knowledge, technology, science and federal or state policies. Council will also advocate federal and state governments for legislative changes that expediate sustainability outcomes. This will enable AlburyCity to be responsive in the Framework's actions and outcomes, along with optimising government grant funding when it is available.

## Data Limitations

In collating data for the Sustainability Framework a number of limitations were identified. It is proposed that these data gaps are addressed as part of the implementation of the Sustainability Framework.



Item	Data Limitation Rating	Description / Notes
<b>State of Environment Data</b>		
<b>Air Quality</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air Quality monitoring is a state responsibility. There was limited historical data around regional air quality identified through desktop research, with most data pertaining to the state of NSW. The NSW Government operates an air monitoring station in Albury which records the following air quality indicators: average concentrations of PM2.5, annual exceedance and PM10. Other datasets not collected are O3, NO2 and CO.</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity and Ecosystems</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A large portion of the collected data was for the whole state. There was limited historical information relative to the AlburyCity LGA.</li> <li>The Regional Natural Environment Strategy (a 2C1C project) details several actions around the importance of data collection and monitoring in respect to key threatened species, ecosystem quality and the submission of data to appropriate databases. AlburyCity is providing support and working with local organisations and state government agencies to gather data on local threatened species such as the Grey-headed Flying-fox, Sloane's Froglet and Squirrel Glider. There is a need to develop monitoring for other threatened species and groups such as woodland birds.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historic climate-related disasters are generally well documented across the state. Consider estimating economic damage from natural disasters and compare to AlburyCity's GDP.</li> <li>Future climatic modelling and projections are readily available for the region and utilised by AlburyCity.</li> <li>AlburyCity Climate Change Adaptation Strategy considers climatic risks to its operations and has identified several actions to reduce the likelihood and or severity of climate risk. Climate risks are identified in new strategies, such as the draft Asset Management Strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Green and Open Public Spaces</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open space that AlburyCity directly owns or manages includes 480 hectares of parks and reserves, 90 playgrounds, 18 sportsgrounds, 50km of walking and cycling trails, and a further 1,580 hectares of natural areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snapshot provides carbon emission data for the Albury LGA.</li> <li>Corporate emissions currently focus on scope 1 and 2 calculations per the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act and Regulations.</li> </ul>
<b>Soil Quality</b>	<b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very limited soil quality data specific to the Albury area, however data for the Murray Region from the State of the Catchments Report (2010) showed that soil quality for the Murray Region ranged from fair to good. The extent of saline affected soils is not known. Similarly, heavy metal concentrations do not appear to be reported despite contaminated land notices for the area.</li> <li>Contaminated land sites have been identified across the Albury LGA and are available via the EPA notified sites list.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Quality and Availability</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data is available pertaining to raw water quality (Murray River), water treatment processes and reticulation water quality. Data for the Murray Basin Data is available pertaining to nitrogen concentrations, salinity, and dissolved oxygen for three locations along the Murray River.</li> </ul>



Item	Data Limitation Rating	Description / Notes
<b>Pressure Data</b>		
<b>Transport</b>	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due to vehicular dependency across Albury and the surrounding regions, transport data is readily available. Information on the mode of transportation, car use, public transportation, congestion, and vehicular counts is available.</li> </ul>
<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some data is available surrounding electricity and gas consumption within buildings including residential homes, commercial buildings and industries (recorded in tCO2e and PJ, but no kWh/m2 measurements). AlburyCity operations are also recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>Industry</b>	<b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited information is available around industry indicators found within Albury. It is largely unknown how industry impacts the City's state of environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy supply and generation</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some data availability around thermal comfort and renewable energy.s.</li> </ul>
<b>Water supply and Treatment</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data for water consumption is available through industrial and household water consumption records.</li> </ul>
<b>Solid Waste</b>	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High level of solid waste data available (which impacts soil quality). Solid waste generation and treatment is well documented.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Density and integrated land usage is well documented (eg. number of multi-dwelling housing).</li> </ul>



AlburyCity

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