

4. Climate change adaptation

The City of Port Phillip will use appropriate tree selection, water sensitive design features, mulch and other sustainable landscape practices in order to adapt to and reduce the impacts of climate change on the urban forest.

	Policy Statement	Action	Time frame
Managing trees for climate change			
4.1	The urban forest will be maintained to adapt to a dry climate.	Investigate and use tree species suited to a drier climate.	ONG
		Develop and implement tree management practices that enhance the trees ability to cope with climate change, including the use of storm resistant tree stock and implementation of water sensitive urban design principles.	ONG
Water			
4.2	The City of Port Phillip will maximise opportunities to increase the amount of non potable water available to trees in the public realm.	Implement a capital program to deliver storm water harvesting projects as recommend in the Open Space Water Management Plan.	YR 1
		Investigate and implement the use of water sensitive urban design features including bioretention systems, stormwater harvesting and passive irrigation systems in new plantings and retrofit into existing landscapes where appropriate.	ONG
4.3	The City of Port Phillip will ensure that existing irrigation systems operate to a minimum of 75% efficiency.	Where water sensitive urban design features are used, communication to the community on water sensitive design features will be incorporated into the project.	ONG
		Undertake irrigation systems upgrades in parks to ensure that all tree irrigation systems are drip line systems.	ONG
		Audit all irrigation lines on a quarterly basis.	ONG
Urban heat island			
4.4	Council will maximise opportunities to address the heat island effect.	Undertake a project to develop and plan the city's heat island effect areas including a tree canopy coverage current % rate and targeted % rate.	YR 2
		Work with the Sustainable Environment and City Strategy teams to develop heat island design and management principles that can be implemented within Port Phillip. This includes increasing tree canopy and greening options within Port Phillip.	ONG

Note. There are key links between the actions in this section and the actions in The City of Port Phillip Climate Adaptation Plan and the Open Space Water Management Plan.



Porous pavement on St Kilda Road allows water through and protects the roots of the Elm tree