2. Tree planting and selection

The City of Port Phillip will proactively carry out tree planting in nature strips, parks and reserves and other council owned and managed land to meet the following objectives:

- To increase the number of trees within the city's streets and other council owned and managed land.
- To preserve and enhance the local character of the distinct areas within the city.
- To select tree species that are suitable to the site, provide biological diversity and have the potential to contribute to the landscape without onerous management implications.
- To set and maintain high tree planting and establishment standards.

	Policy Statement	Action	Time frame
Tree planting			
2.1	The City of Port Phillip will seek to maximise opportunities for greening within the municipality through tree planting and alternative greening options.	Identify and plant trees at the optimum tree planting density and locations for each street and park – including using planting sites on nature strips, median strips and round-a-bouts.	ONG
		Identify alternative greening options that could be applied within the City of Port Phillip.	YR 1
		Implement alternative greening options for the City of Port Phillip.	ONG
2.2	The City of Port Phillip recognises the environmental, social, economic and cultural benefits of trees to the community and will continue to seek new opportunities for tree planting.	Develop and implement a five year streetscape planting program.	YR 1
		Conduct annual tree planting programs in streetscapes and parks.	ANN
		Conduct an annual audit of the city to identify missing trees and undertake in-fill planting as required.	ANN
		Incorporate water sensitive urban design principles in planting systems, including the use of bioretention systems, stormwater harvesting and passive irrigation systems.	YR 1
2.3	Where appropriate, opportunities will be sought for planting iconic or signature trees.	Identify suitable sites to plant signature trees to complement and enhance streetscapes and neighbourhood character.	YR 2
		Plant signature trees as part of the tree planting program.	ONG
2.4	Best practice tree planting techniques will be implemented to maximise successful tree establishment rates.	Continue to implement the two year maintenance program for the establishment of new trees, which includes weekly watering from October to March.	ANN
		Document the watering schedule for new trees on the City of Port Phillip web site.	YR 1
		Use structural soils where appropriate to promote good health and mitigate possible infrastructure conflicts.	ONG
Tree selection			
2.5	Selection of tree species for planting will be based on their suitability to the site, biological tolerances, future climate change conditions and potential to contribute to the landscape without onerous management implications. 'The right tree in the right place'	Development of a tree species palette suitable for sites in Port Phillip that takes into consideration the need to adapt the species list to future climate change conditions. The list is to be updated annually published on the council web site.	YR 1
Park trees			
2.6	Strategic tree planting in parks will be undertaken to maximise amenity, enhance neighbourhood character and social values.	Develop a priority tree planting program for parks.	YR 2
		Maximise tree planting opportunities when undertaking park master planning or park upgrades.	ONG
		When undertaking park tree planting, consider surrounding streets and parks in order to provide continuity in tree species.	ONG
Nursery tree stock specification			
2.7	Quality nursery stock will be used for tree planting in accordance with best practice and standards.	All trees supplied to the City of Port Phillip will comply with 'Specifying trees-a guide to assessment of tree quality' Ross Clarke, 2003.	ONG
		Where trees are stored at council depots prior to planting they will be appropriately managed.	ONG

	Policy Statement	Action	Time frame
Development applications- tree selection			
2.8	Development applications will align with existing tree planting and streetscape plans and will use species that complement the landscape character of the precinct.	Enforce permit conditions to ensure developers implement the required landscape plans.	ONG
Habitat and biodiversity			
2.9	The City of Port Phillip recognises the role of the urban forest in supporting biodiversity by providing habitat for native flora and fauna.	Undertake a formal study of native habitat sites within the City of Port Phillip.	YR 3
		Maintain and strengthen wildlife corridors and increase habitat where appropriate.	YR 2
		Develop strategic partnerships with environmental organisations such as Earthcare and conservation volunteers.	ONG
		Undertake a study on how habitat in parks can be enhanced to encourage bird life.	ONG
Tree planting net community benefit			
2.10	The City of Port Phillip will prioritise tree planting over private views to achieve net community benefit.	All vacant tree sites will be planted.	ANN
		New opportunities for planting trees will be designed to maximise canopy coverage.	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.

Flowering Gums, Brighton Road