

Public Question Time

Question from Helen Halliday

In relation to street planting, how will Council achieve its canopy cover targets when, for instance, Gibbs, William and Nightingale streets were programmed for response this year but have had no new trees planted to date?

Response

Council has a ten-year target to increase municipal wide canopy cover by ten percent. Progress towards achieving this target is currently being measured via a mid-point review of the Greening Port Phillip Strategy. This review which will include the latest canopy cover figures will be made public in Report to Council in June and will inform planting works in future years.

Gibbs Street has recently undergone greening works which included narrowing a section of road to provide additional planting and water sensitive urban design features. Additional trees are also planned for this section of the street to be installed during this planting season.

William and Nightingale Streets were not on the works program for this year. However, officers have recently identified a small opportunity for some infill planting in William Street (in the section between Nightingale and Grosvenor) and intend to complete this work this planting season.

As you know, planting season has just commenced and will run until October. Exact dates have not yet been set for planting in Gibbs and William Streets and may be affected by COVID-19 particularly if increased restrictions affect the ability of workers to attend site to plant and water new trees. We will keep you updated once we have more certainty.

**Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*