



**11.1 SUSTAINABLE CITY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER: CLAIRE FERRES MILES, GENERAL MANAGER PLACE STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT**

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**1. PURPOSE**

1.1 This report presents the Sustainable City Community Action Plan (SCCAP) for Council endorsement.

**2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2.1 The Sustainable City Community Action Plan (SCCAP) outlines the Actions Council proposes to take over the next three years to support the community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, waste and water consumption.

2.2 Council was briefed on the draft SCCAP on 6 December 2017 prior to its release for final community consultation.

2.3 Feedback received during this final community consultation phase has been collated, considered and amendments have been made to the draft SCCAP where relevant.

2.4 This report presents Council with the summary findings from this consultation and the subsequent final version of the SCCAP for Council's endorsement.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

3.1 Endorses the Sustainable City Community Action Plan (Attachment 1).

**4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES**

4.1 Council is currently developing a new Sustainable Environment Strategy (SES) to replace the *Toward Zero* strategy established in 2007. The SES is scheduled to be launched in June 2018 and will take a longer-term view than the SCCAP. The SES will also reset sustainability targets and address additional sustainability challenges including climate change adaptation.

4.2 While the new SES is under development Council has identified that it is a priority to develop and implement a SCCAP.

4.3 Contradictions between the two documents are not anticipated. However, the SCCAP can be adjusted if necessary to align with the new SES.



- 4.4 The SCCAP sets out the Actions that Council will take over the next three years to support the community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, waste and water consumption.
- 4.5 The SCCAP has been informed by community engagement and has been written for the community. Technical and policy language has been avoided so that it is understandable and accessible to everyone.
- 4.6 Ongoing analysis and evaluation of the SCCAP will be conducted to ensure that the Actions have a genuine impact on the sustainability of the community.

## 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

Community consultation was key to the development of the SCCAP.

### 5.1 Phase one – Community consultation that informed the development of the draft

- 5.1.1 Council Plan pre - engagement - From 30 January 2017 to 26 February 2017, Council conducted Community Engagement surveys and workshops that were used to develop the Council Plan. Particularly relevant were the workshops devoted to waste and water.
- 5.1.2 Council Plan draft engagement – The draft Council Plan was made available to the community who were provided with the opportunity to make submissions. Twenty-nine submissions were received in relation to sustainability.
- 5.1.3 Community Environmental Survey - An online survey that ran from 6 July to 11 August 2017 that was completed by five hundred City of Port Phillip residents.
- 5.1.4 Toward Zero Community Forum – The forum is made up of members of the Port Phillip community that have skills, knowledge and commitment regarding environmental sustainability. This group has reviewed an early draft of SCCAP and provided input.
- 5.1.5 Focus Groups - Three focus groups on 20 June, 21 June and 31 August 2017 that targeted people living in apartments and social housing.

### 5.2 Phase 2 – Community consultation on the draft itself

- 5.2.1 The draft SCCAP was released for public consultation from Thursday 25 January to Thursday 15 February.
- 5.2.2 The community were invited to complete a survey on our Have Your Say webpage to test whether they would participate in the programs outlined in the SCCAP. The survey consisted of closed and open questions.
- 5.2.3 Council received 1151 visits to the SCCAP Have Your Say webpage where a summary of the programs included in the SCCAP was provided. The draft SCCAP was downloaded 142 times and 28 surveys were completed. An unsolicited formal submission was also received.



- 5.2.4 Survey respondents represented a broad cross section of our City's community. Age groups from 25 -69 years were represented, as well as owners and tenants living in both multi and single unit residences.

Key messages from Phase 2 of community consultation included:

- 5.2.5 Strong support for the draft SCCAP, 68% of survey respondents reported they are 'extremely likely' or 'likely' to participate in the proposed programs.
- 5.2.6 Seventy-five per cent of survey respondents agreed that the programs will assist community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, waste and water consumption.
- 5.2.7 Seventy-two per cent of respondents said they were 'extremely likely' or 'likely' to install renewable energy products if there were cost effective options available.
- 5.2.8 Several re-emphasised the importance of Council's role in leading and assisting the community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, waste and water.
- 5.2.9 Many advocated for an increase in online programs and workshops for those who are unable to physically attend for various reasons including, family commitments and accessibility limitations.
- 5.2.10 There was strong support for the programs targeted at apartment buildings, particularly the focus placed on assisting Owners' Corporations to investigate and introduce sustainable improvements to buildings. Many voiced their support for programs designed for tenants, including those in social housing, identifying there has been little offered in this space historically.
- 5.2.11 Some advocated for more programs specifically designed for marginal income households. Advocacy for emissions targets also came from the Community. These targets will be set through the new SES which is due to be considered by Council in July. Other valuable suggestions received are outside the scope of the SCCAP and will be addressed more broadly through the SES and the Waste and Integrated Transport Strategies currently under development.
- 5.3 The feedback received during this final phase of community consultation has not resulted in changes to the SCCAP document. However, feedback will inform the more detailed design and delivery of the Actions. In particular, Council will remain mindful of the needs of vulnerable communities and the accessibility of programs. For example, the Smart Solutions for Apartments programs aims to include a social housing building, where possible the behaviour change workshops will be recorded and provided online and the Community Leaders program will seek to engage our more vulnerable community groups.

## 6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There is a risk that Actions within the Plan do not have an impact on reducing community emissions, waste and water. To mitigate this, the Actions will undergo ongoing



monitoring and formal evaluation. If they are not achieving their goals, they will be reviewed and changed if required.

- 6.2 There is a risk that community do not participate in the programs delivered through the SCCAP. To mitigate this, the Actions have been designed based on community input to ensure they meet the community's needs. Opportunities for participation will also be widely promoted to the targeted segments of the community.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 7.1 The SCCAP has an annual project budget of \$300,000 for three years. As with all Council projects, this funding allocation will be assessed each year.
- 7.2 This budget will cover the employment of a dedicated project officer and the costs of delivering Actions.
- 7.3 Throughout the life of the SCCAP, we will seek to access other grants from State and Federal Government should these become available to increase the scope and/or impact of the initiatives.

## **8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 8.1 The community is responsible for 99.6 per cent of the City's greenhouse gas emissions, Council is responsible for the remaining 0.4 per cent.
- 8.2 Council can educate, facilitate, advocate and support the community to act but in most cases, can't enforce good environmental behaviour.
- 8.3 The Actions included in the SCCAP are designed to support community to invest in their own sustainability and improve environmental outcomes for our City.

## **9. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 9.1 Our community has told us they believe Council has a leadership role to play in assisting the community to take more sustainable actions.
- 9.2 The Actions included in the SCCAP are informed by community consultation and will support community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, waste and water consumption
- 9.3 The activities and initiatives selected are also designed based on research, our community's demographic, and emissions data.

## **9.4 ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY**

- 9.5 The development of a Sustainable City Community Action Plan is a key priority under Direction 3: "We have smart solutions for a sustainable future", within section 3.2: "A City with lower carbon emissions" of the *Council Plan 2017-2027*.



## 10. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

### 10.1 TIMELINE

- 10.1.1 Following Council's endorsement, the SCCAP will be released to community and will guide Council's ongoing programs to support community to invest in their own sustainability and improve environmental outcomes for our City.
- 10.1.2 The first update on the progress of the SCCAP will be provided to Councillors and the wider community by 30 June 2018.

### 10.2 COMMUNICATION

- 10.2.1 The Have Your Say webpage will be updated to communicate the endorsement of the SCCAP which will also be published on Council's website, our sustainability website and promoted through our social media channels.
- 10.2.2 Throughout the project, programs will be promoted through various channels including: social media, Council's sustainability webpage and through the programs themselves.
- 10.2.3 Progress reports detailing the effectiveness of the programs will also be provided on these platforms.

## 11. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 11.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

**TRIM FILE NO:** 30/18/50

**ATTACHMENTS** 1. Sustainable City Community Action Plan