This document was prepared by a group of 6 members of PECAN from March to July 2020

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# Council Commitment and Leadership

Council's overarching mission and direction statements to tackle the climate emergency.

* Declare a Climate Emergency
* Fully commit to tackling the climate emergency
* Engage with the community to empower and involve the community (e.g. through deliberative democracy).
* Work, collaborate and advocate with community, local, state, and federal, international bodies (MAV, SECCA, CASBE, Resilient Melbourne, IMAP, Coalition of Bayside Councils, Cities Power Partnerships)
* Commit to cuts and response required to limit 1.5C temperature rise
* Develop and implement a climate emergency plan with milestone targets
* Join with other local government bodies to advocate for greenhouse gas emissions.
* Advocate for Victoria and Australia to achieve emissions reductions (across all sectors):
  + 50% emissions reduction by 2025 (on 2005 levels)
  + 90% emissions reduction by 2030 (on 2005 levels)
  + 100% emissions reduction by 2040 (on 2005 levels)
* Advocate for end to deforestation and native forest logging

# Council Structures and Bodies

Create fit-for-purpose structures and bodies within the organisation to tackle the climate emergency.

* Commit the council to a whole-of-organisation focus on tackling the Climate Emergency
* Ensure staff and resources for cross-departmental Climate Action/Emergency structures
* Implementation of Climate Emergency plan is a priority for other areas of council (i.e. waste, transport, parks, etc)

# Community Partnering and Engagement

Council to create structures such as Advisory Committees, Department responsible for Climate Action etc to consult, collaborate, create, implement policy with the community

* Engage, inform, resource and activate local community to tackle the Climate Emergency (through advisory and participatory bodies, community involvement in planning and activities, and expand the role of existing community outreach bodies, such as the EcoCentre)
* Follow mandatory community participation requirements under the Local Government Act 2020, and follow the community engagement recommendations in the Auditor General's Victoria Better Practice Guide

# Climate Emergency Education Initiatives

Council to educate the community on Climate Change and council's climate emergency declaration

* Ensure council is informed and educated of the climate emergency and how the council and its operations must be transformed to respond to the climate emergency.
* Engage with the community (residents, commercial and industry) about the reasons for climate emergency declaration and how the community can be transformed to tackle the climate emergency.
* Promote and publicise council and community practices designed to address the climate emergency (storm water harvesting, solar panels on roofs, power purchase agreements, etc).
* Design practices so residents understand their contribution to addressing the climate emergency
* Include a community education component in all climate emergency-related community and council programs, practices, and initiatives.
* Utilise community outreach bodies (e.g. the Port Phillip EcoCentre) and draw upon the municipality’s natural features to expand engagement of children in schools and adults in community settings in learning about their environment and the impact of the climate emergency.

# Transparent Sustainability Reporting

Implement a transparent Management System in all the projects (KPIs, monitoring, reporting, etc)

* Full quarterly reporting of emissions from residential, commercial, and industrial, as well as from council assets (using National Asset Management Systems or equivalent as a reporting standard).
* Reporting must comply with obligations defined in the Local Government Act 2020 and follow Auditor General of Victoria's Better Practice guide.
* Public release of all consultant's reports and studies.
* Annual public reporting on progress of all activities against measureable goals.

# Budget Allocation for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

The council allocates budget expenditure towards the mitigation of and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

* Ensure funding to deliver Climate Emergency commitments.
* Involve the community in a participatory budgeting process through all stages of council's budgeting process.
* Prioritise implementation of the most cost effective and impactful projects.

# Renewable Electricity - Council

Initiatives to reduce emissions by council purchases renewable electricity (for buildings) and the council generates its own renewable electricity through solar panel installations.

* Source electricity from 100% renewable sources (i.e. MREP, solar)
* Increase electricity generation within the municipality, e.g. through further solar installation on council buildings

# Renewable Electricity - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial

Initiatives that require, promote and underwrite the use of renewable energy for residential, commercial, and industrial properties (i.e. solar panel installations, community grids, battery purchases, etc).

* Broker Power Purchase Agreements (e.g. MREPII) and similar bulk purchasing projects (micro-grids, virtual power plants, etc) for residential, commercial, and industrial users.
* Source community (residential, commercial, and industrial) electricity from 100% renewable sources by 2030.

# Energy Efficiency - Council

Initiatives that improve energy efficiency in council properties.

* Audit council assets to identify opportunities to reduce emissions through energy efficiency efforts.
* Reduce average council electricity use by 20% by 2025 (from X.X to X.X kWh/pp/day)

# Energy Efficiency - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial

Initiatives that mandate, promote, fund, and underwrite the improvement of energy efficiency in non-council properties.. This section could be Council Supported buildings and initiatives (see Moreland)

* Design and offer programs that reduce emissions through energy efficiency across residential, commercial, and industrial (e.g. through efficiency programs or rate reduction incentives for properties).
* Reduce average community (residential, commercial, and industrial) electricity use by 20% by 2025 (from X.X to X.X kWh/pp/day)

# Energy Efficiency - Street Lighting

Initiatives that replace incandescent street lighting with efficient LED lighting.

* 100% LED street lighting for pedestrian and vehicular by 2025.

# Green Space

Initiatives to expand access to green space and ensure new developments include provision for access to local green space.

* Adopt Green Governance principles.
* Access to open space (based on Fishermans Bend, which is best practice):
  + District (5ha- 15ha within 15 minutes)
  + Precinct (1.2ha - 5ha within 10 minutes) is
  + Neighbourhood (500sqm - 1.2ha within 5 minutes)
  + Pocket Parks (200sqm - 400sqm within 2-5 minutes walk)
  + Linear Parks 200
* Finalize Review of Public Spaces Strategy by 2020

# Canopy Cover

Initiatives and targets that increase the total amount of tree canopy cover across the municipality.

* Amend targets to double canopy cover across the municipality from 19% to 40% by 2040.
* Ensure planting selection guides prioritise climate-change resilience, longevity, biodiversity and canopy coverage maturity.
* Identify areas requiring increased tree canopy and potential maximum tree coverage across the municipality using urban heat island hot spots for guidance. Based on this identification use a precinct planning and engagement approach to maximise outcomes.
* Activate community groups to plant and maintain trees in parks and potential nature reserves.
* Use best practice when developing and supporting growing trees including passive watering.
* Encourage planting on private land. Prioritise canopy cover in all strategic documents including car parking and transport strategies.

# Natural Gas Phase-Out - Council

Phasing out of natural gas and retrofitting properties to switch from natural gas to electrical heating/cooking.

* Transition existing council buildings from gas to 100% electricity by 2025.
* All new council buildings should be gas free.

# Natural Gas Phase Out - Residential, Commercial, and Industial

Phasing out of natural gas and retrofitting properties to switch from natural gas to electrical heating/cooking.

* All new buildings and planning applications to prohibit gas connections by 2022. This requires amendments to the planning scheme, to be advocated through the CASBE process.
* Advocate for community members to take up State Government funding offers for solar hot water, etc and other gas-free technologies.

# Vehicle Fleet Electrification - Council

Initiatives to electrify vehicle fleets (cars, buses, rubbish collection, etc)

* All new council owned, leased or contracted vehicles 100% electric by 2022.
* Entire council owned, leased or contracted vehicles 100% electric by 2025.

# Vehicle Fleet Electrification - Residential, Commercial, Industrial

Initiatives to electrify vehicle fleets (cars, buses, rubbish collection, etc)

* Advocate for electrification of the community vehicles.

# Electric Vehicle Charging Spaces - Council

Initiatives that install or allocate space for electric vehicle charging stations

* Advocate for the provision of electric vehicle infrastructure, ensuring equity, use of renewable electricity for charging, and preserving the public realm.

# Mobility

Initiatives to improve mobility including bike paths, walking/pedestrian access, public transport, and ride share/car sharing.

* Increase investment in infrastructure supporting low-impact transport modes (e.g. separated bike lines, widening footpaths and prioritising bike lanes).
* Ensure interconnected transport to support low-impact modes (within and outside the municipality).
* Immediate provision of temporary safe separated bike paths to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
* Apply for state and federal government grants increase low-carbon mobility infrastructure investment.

# Waste and the Circular Economy

* Waste reduction, reuse and recycling.
* Accelerate implementation of the State Government's Recycling Victoria action plan and undertake education program alongside rollout.
* Incorporate learnings from centralised waste recycling and FOGO collection pilots in Middle Park and South Melbourne into Recycling Victoria action plan rollout.
* Apply for state government grants to implement services that reduce waste.
* Reduce waste going to landfill by 75% by 2025.
* Implement a green waste composting program for reuse within the municipality by 2025.
* Work with commercial and premises to reduce waste.
* Advocate for and - where possible - require (e.g. South Melbourne Market) the use of bio-degradable packaging and bags.
* Advocate for accelerated roll-out of the Victorian government's Recycling Victoria 10-year waste and recycling action plan.

# Planning and Building Approval

Commitments to change the planning and building approvals processes to mandate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD), Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) planning, energy efficiency and phase-out of gas for new buildings and extensions.

* Ensure all new council developments to include ESD principles.
* Amend the planning scheme to require carbon neutralilty, including ESD and blue and green infrastructure principles, by 2023 in line with CASBE recommendations.
* Require ESD consideration including deep soils in new developments to support canopy coverage and other greening initiatives.
* Engage with MAV, CASBE, and other local government bodies to advocate for changes to the planning scheme to require carbon neutrality, ESD and WSUD in new developments (i.e. 8-star ratings, prohibit gas connections, third pipe installation).
* Require disclosure and upgrades on the sale of premises or on re lease of private and State managed properties.
* Consider sea-level rise in planning.

# Climate Control for Public, Vulnerable and Social Housing - Council

Mitigation of climate change impacts for vulnerable residents.

* Partner with aged, social and community care providers to upgrade the homes of at least 100 vulnerable community members each year (those experiencing energy hardship, with health conditions, frailty and additional needs). Customised energy retrofits may include insulation, lighting, draft proofing, door and window seals, fans and blinds, to improve thermal comfort, reduce bill stress and improve health outcomes.
* Extend council's Home Support Services program to progressively improve household energy efficiency and comfort.

# Water Management and Flood Mitigation

Initiatives towards water recycling, stormwater harvesting, installation of rainwater water gardens, rainwater tanks, depaving, and increasing water permeability.

* Update the Water Sensitive City policy to include a catchment-based water management plan by 2021 (harvest, divert, reuse and forestall stormwater to reduce run-off, contamination, water use, and flood risk across the municipality)
* Ensure all open spaces maximise use of stormwater catchments to meet public spaces water demand.
* Progressive increases in measurable permeability across the municipality.
* 70% reduction in council's mains water use by 2030 compared to 2000 (e.g. through water harvesting in Elsternwick Park and Alma Park, etc).
* 50% reduction in nitrogen runoff into the waterways by 2030 (from Melbourne 2030).
* Harvest and reuse 80ML of stormwater annually (e.g. Alma Park, Elsternwick Park).

# Fossil Fuel Divestment

Divestment from fossil fuel companies - staff superannuation & banks that are financing fossil fuel projects

* Update Investment Policy to require 100% ethical investment; excluding investment in fossil-fuels, tobacco, gambling, arms, etc.
* 100% divestment from fossil fuels by 2021.
* 100% divestment from other non-ethical investments by 2022.
* Create community awareness about divestment and related campaigns.
* Full reporting on council investments, including proportions of fossil-fuel and non-ethical companies, and threshold of fossil-fuel and non-ethical activities that defines a company as 'ethical'.
* Advocate Commonwealth government to divest from and phase out extraction and supply of fossil fuels in Australia.

# Council Green Procurement

Council to adopt a policy for Green Accreditation of its service providers

* Update procurement process and guidelines to ensure that all tender assessments prioritise:
* Sustainability (e.g. use of recycled materials, environmental impact, etc)
* Local suppliers and use of locally-sourced materials
* Divested suppliers (e.g. divested from and do not work with companies in fossil-fuel and non-ethical industries)
* Sustainable suppliers (e.g. supplier's own sustainability processes, scope 1, 2, 3 emissions)

# Glossary:

• Council:

• Municipality:

• Community:

• Emissions:

• Divestment: