

# GREENING OUR CITY TOGETHER



Local residents looking after the James Street Redfern community garden

The impacts of urban heat on community health, nature and biodiversity have been identified as key risks to our city. Greener cities are better able to mitigate these threats and *Greening Sydney 2030* outlines key ways we can work together to cool our urban environment.

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Under *Greening Sydney*, we will continue to support a range of nature-based community and resident education programs. We will continue to encourage footpath gardening projects and community gardens. Our City Farm at Sydney Park helps residents learn about urban agriculture and sustainable food production. And we'll continue to support the vital work undertaken by volunteer groups such as Bushcare and Landcare.

## AND RESPECTING INDIGENOUS ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

We will intensify our work with local Aboriginal communities to learn about and utilise Aboriginal ecological knowledge. This will allow us to better identify cultural practices when designing green spaces.

## ...AND ENSURING WE HAVE THE WATER WE NEED!

To look after our many trees and parks, we need a lot of water. So for more than a decade, we've been installing water recycling infrastructure in our city. We now have 20 water recycling systems in our parks, including Sydney Park and Harold Park. This summer, we produced more than 80,000 litres of non-potable water every day to keep our parks and streets green.

In our major urban renewal area Green Square, we built Australia's largest urban stormwater recycling facility. It treats up to 900,000 litres of stormwater every day for use in the Green Square Town Centre.

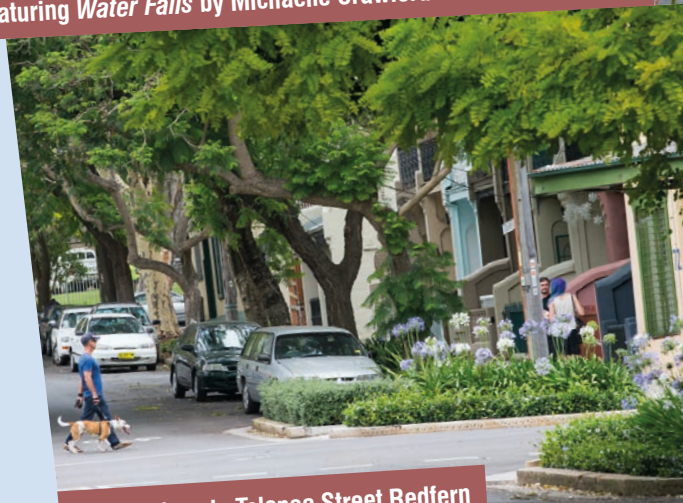
And during the light rail construction, we laid 5.6 kilometres of water pipes under George Street to supply recycled water to the city centre in the future. We are working with Sydney Water and key stakeholders on the development of this recycling network and will ultimately appoint a commercial operator to manage the project.

We've also installed 249 raingardens since 2005 to clean street stormwater before it drains into our waterways. These are mainly on street corners and also help beautify our local areas.

We are laying the foundations for a drought-proof city.



Wetlands at Sydney Park featuring Water Falls by Michaelie Crawford and Jennifer Turpin



Raingardens in Telopea Street Redfern

# TURNING PRIVATE LAND INTO PUBLIC LAND



The playground, picnic areas, public art and a wildlife corridor at Harold Park

With increasing population and density, the City of Sydney takes every opportunity to add more open and public space for the benefit of our city communities. This is challenging in the already built-up inner city, and includes advocating to the NSW Government and private owners to turn open space set aside for private use into public parkland.

## REDEVELOPMENT OF THE HAROLD PARK PACEWAY

When Mirvac acquired Forest Lodge's Harold Park, formerly a harness racing course, we insisted that a third of the redevelopment should become public open space.

So, we consulted with the community to adopt new planning controls to balance private developer and public interests.

Opened in 2018, the 3.8 hectare park is located between the cliff face, new apartments, and the restored Tramsheds. We also negotiated for a community centre, restoration of the tramworkers' war memorial, and 75 affordable homes.

The park contributes to the 19 hectares of parkland which now stretches from Wigram Road and The Crescent, through to the Glebe Harbour Foreshore walk, which the City has extended from Annandale to Wentworth Park.



Aerial view of the Moore Park Golf Course



The former greyhound racing track will have open spaces and facilities for the public

## END OF LEASE FOR GREYHOUND RACING AT WENTWORTH PARK

Pymont is already one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in Sydney, and in 2020 Council passed a resolution stating that we believe greyhound racing is not a fair or ethical use of precious inner city space.

The City of Sydney has long advocated for Wentworth Park to be returned to the public for accessible public parkland and community sport. And in the NSW Government's Pymont Peninsula Place Strategy released earlier this year, we are pleased that the NSW Government has committed to returning Wentworth Park to the people.

We will advocate to the NSW Government to bring this forward earlier than 2027, as currently indicated.

## RETURNING 9 HOLES OF THE MOORE PARK GOLF COURSE TO PUBLIC PARKLAND

At the end of last year, we consulted with the community to find out what they thought about our proposal to convert 9-holes of the 18-hole Moore Park Golf Course to public parkland.

A majority of the respondents strongly supported the conversion of half or all of Moore Park Golf Course to public parkland.

It is clear that our community and stakeholders recognise the importance of public green space as our city's population and density grows.

It's now up to the Minister for Planning!

Help shape the future of Sydney.  
Have your say at  
[SydneyYourSay.com.au](https://sydneyyoursay.com.au)



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Online: [cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](https://cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au) **Your councillors are** Clover Moore (CMIT) / Jess Miller (CMIT) / Robert Kok (CMIT) / Jess Scully (CMIT) / Philip Thalys (CMIT) / Christine Forster (LIB) / Craig Chung (LIB) / Linda Scott (LAB) / Kerry Phelps (IND) / Angela Vithoulkas (SBP)



Children enjoying the wetlands at the 41 hectare Sydney Park

APRIL 2021

## SYDNEY CITY NEWS

## GREENING OUR CITY!

We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change with bushfires and floods. As well as addressing the cause of climate change, it is vital that our City increases its resilience to the likely impacts, such as higher temperatures. Our just released *Greening Sydney 2030* strategy sets further directions, targets and actions to significantly increase green cover across the whole local government area.

We know that effective and extensive canopy cover can help reduce temperatures on the ground by up to 10 degrees – and that tree cover and urban greenery are essential to reduce heat island impacts.

We are planning to invest \$377 million for the continuous greening of our City and the provision of new and renewed parks over the next 10 years.

We aim to plant 700 new trees every year for the next decade and set new targets of 27 per cent canopy cover and 40 per cent vegetation and green cover by 2050.

Greening our City has been a high priority since 2004, when one of the first actions of the amalgamated Council was to purchase land for \$11 million from the State Government to create Pirrama Park

in Pymont. And, in 2011 we negotiated substantial new public parkland in Harold Park as part of the redevelopment of the paceway, creating more than 24 hectares of additional recreational space. This connects to a much-extended Glebe foreshore walkway. We have also invested \$23 million to transform Sydney Park into a 40-hectare oasis.

We have completed upgrades of 132 parks and 61 playgrounds, planted more than 15,000 street trees, installed 249 raingardens, and completed more than 100,000 square metres of landscaping with 800,000 new plants, which has made the City one of the only Councils in Australia to increase its canopy cover over the past decade.

Under *Greening Sydney 2030*, we'll continue this vital work. We'll use innovation and design to create more planting opportunities, including practical ways to green roofs and walls, and our 383 kilometre network of laneways and narrow streets, by introducing planning tools to ensure we're greening equitably across the City.

*Clover Moore*  
Lord Mayor of Sydney

📞 @CloverMoore  
📧 @clovermooresydney

## AND WELCOME TO THE BARLOW STREET FOREST!

To help support a creative-led Covid-19 recovery, we invited artists and thinkers to create temporary, and possibly permanent, public artworks in our city laneways, as part of our City Art program.

*Barlow Street Forest* by cross-disciplinary collective Dirt Witches is one of four art installations selected from more than 200 responses. It is a micro-forest that creates layers of a natural ecosystem in the middle of the urban environment.

The artists worked with landscape architects and engineers to incorporate more than 30 species belonging to the critically endangered eastern suburbs banksia scrub, as well as beehives with sugarbag stingless native bees. It serves as a poetic reminder of the 5,300 hectares of scrub that once stretched between Botany Bay and North Head.

Dirt Witches community volunteers will maintain the garden until July 2021, with a diverse program of talks and workshops also on offer.

Visit [cityofsydney/lanart](https://cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/lanart) for more information about Barlow Street Forest in the CBD and the three other Covid-19 recovery artworks.



Lord Mayor Clover Moore and Dirt Witches at the Barlow Street Forest in Haymarket



# UNIQUE RECREATIONAL SPACES FOR DIFFERENT CITY SITES AND COMMUNITY NEEDS



Victorian Redfern Park was upgraded in 2008. The fountain and war memorial were restored, artworks and play areas added, and new sports field and grandstand better integrated, and open for public use on non-game days.

We further committed to a greener city when we endorsed *Sustainable Sydney 2030* in 2008. Since 2009, the amount of open space in our local area has increased by 24 hectares.

Our ongoing work creating new and exciting recreational spaces and upgrading local parks has continued in earnest during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Each of our parks and reserves is unique to their neighbourhood and serve different needs, providing active play areas for the increasing number of families who choose to stay in our city.

Illustrated here are a variety of open space challenges we addressed in different parts of the city to create unique local experiences.



A local explores our newly upgraded Beaconsfield Park



Our first action as a newly amalgamated Council was to buy land from the NSW Government to create Pirrama Park. It now serves the densely populated Pyrmont Peninsula.



Paddington Reservoir Gardens, a former derelict water reservoir, was creatively reimagined as passive recreational space in 2009.

## RECENTLY UPGRADED

- Beaconsfield Park Playground
- Cardigan Street Reserve, Glebe
- Crete Reserve, Rosebery
- Fig Lane Park Playground, Ultimo
- Hollis Park Playground, Newtown
- Kings Lane Reserve, Darlinghurst
- Maybanke Park, Pyrmont
- Palmerston Avenue Steps, Glebe
- Pirrama Park Fitness Station, Pyrmont
- Ross Street Playground, Forest Lodge
- Shannon Reserve Playground, Surry Hills
- Strickland Park, Chippendale
- Womerah Gardens, Darlinghurst



Ross Street Playground in Forest Lodge now caters for the welcome increase in families living in our city



Womerah Gardens in Darlinghurst is one of the many upgraded local parks providing respite for local residents

Upgraded in 2011, Rushcutters Bay Park provides much needed outdoor play areas and lush greenery



## PRIORITIES FOR A GREENER FUTURE

In the next decade we will invest \$377 million more on greening Sydney. We will plant at least 700 new trees every year and aim for 27 per cent canopy cover and 40 per cent vegetation by 2050.

And, from 2021–2023, more than 30 more parks will be created or upgraded. These include Wimbo Park, Surry Hills; Woolloomooloo Playground, Woolloomooloo; and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, Potts Point.

In this period, we intend also to promote:

### MORE GREEN LANEWAYS, ROOFS AND WALLS

Across the City, there are 38.3 hectares of narrow streets classified as laneways, many are underused and their potential unappreciated. We will review and identify possible laneway greening projects while maintaining their important servicing functions. We will also gradually amend the City's planning controls to encourage the adoption and utilisations of green roofs in new developments as well as retrofitting onto existing buildings where practical.



Bligh Street's calming green wall backdrop



Trio vertical garden, Camperdown



Green exteriors at WEAVE Youth Services in Waterloo



The toilet block at Beare Park

### GREEN FACTOR SCORES

We'll introduce a new planning tool requirement for future projects to ensure an appropriate amount and quality of greening is provided in private developments.

### AND A GREENING SYDNEY FUND

While the City will continue to regard tree removal as a last resort, when removal of a tree or trees is unavoidable, especially as part of development, compensation will be required and will be deposited into a new Greening Sydney Fund. This will be used for greening initiatives such as grants programs for residents and landowners to undertake community gardens and tree planting, or the installation of green roofs, green walls and facades.



360 Central rooftop garden, Moore Park