THE PROGRAM

2030 focuses on 10 strategic directions:

1. A globally competitive and innovative city
2. A leading environmental performer
3. Integrated transport for a connected city
4. A city for pedestrians and cyclists
5. A lively, engaging city centre
6. Vibrant local communities and economies
7. A cultural and creative city
8. Housing for a diverse population
9. Sustainable development, renewal and design
10. Implementation through effective partnerships

Since 2007, when tens of thousands of Sydneysiders helped create Sustainable Sydney 2030, we’ve taken big strides in making our city more green, global and connected. I hope you’ll continue to work with us to make this vision a reality.

Lord Mayor Clover Moore

GREEN, GLOBAL AND CONNECTED

Sustainable Sydney 2030 is a program for the sustainable development of the city to 2030 and beyond.

Sustainable development is not just about the physical environment, but about the economy, society and culture as well, and how addressing each, with bold ideas and good governance, will result in better outcomes for current and future communities.

Sustainable Sydney 2030 expresses the community’s vision and the city’s commitment to a Green, Global, Connected city.

Green
With a modest environmental impact, green with trees, parks, gardens and linked open spaces, green by example and green by reputation.

Global
In economic orientation, global in links and knowledge exchange, global and open-minded in outlook and attitude.

Connected
Physically by walking, cycling and high-quality public transport, connected ‘virtually’ by world-class telecommunications, connected communities through a sense of belonging and social wellbeing, and connected to other spheres of government and to those with an interest in the city.
Economy

Sydney is Australia’s only truly global city. The City of Sydney is a vital business hub for Australia, responsible for almost a quarter of the economy of the entire state of NSW.

With world-class business facilities and resources, the city is home to more than 22,000 separate business establishments.

More than 200 of the top 500 Australian corporations are headquartered in the city, along with almost half of the headquarters of multinational corporations in Australia.

As the most significant, globally connected city in the region, the city’s economic output is estimated to be in excess of $100 billion or more than 7% of Australia’s GDP.

At last count (2012), there were more than 437,000 jobs, a 13% increase over the last five years.

Carbon neutral

In 2011, the City of Sydney became the first of any level of government in Australia to be certified as Carbon Neutral under the National Carbon Offset Standard. The City remains carbon neutral by continuing to implement emission saving projects, developing a greenhouse gas emissions inventory with independent verification, and through the provision of accredited offsets equivalent to 100% of the organisation’s emissions.

The City has an ambitious plan to reduce carbon emissions by 70% by 2030.

We are working to turn Sydney into a low-carbon city that doesn’t need to rely on coal-fired electricity. One solution lies with renewable energy, which we estimate will provide 30% of our energy needs.

Decentralised energy is being investigated which could provide up to 70% of our energy needs.

The rest of the City’s reductions in carbon emissions will come from energy efficiency and other carbon reducing measures.

Green infrastructure

At the moment, 80% of the City of Sydney’s carbon emissions come from the production of electricity, primarily by coal-fired power stations in the Hunter Valley. Two-thirds of the energy used by these stations is wasted as heat from cooling towers and on long-distance transmission and distribution over power lines to Sydney.

Energy efficiency and renewable energy could save on electricity network costs and avoid costs of new power station capacity to serve the city’s growing demand.

A key component of 2030 is our Green Infrastructure Plan which comprises:

• Decentralised Energy – Trigeneration Master Plan
• Decentralised Energy – Renewable Energy Master Plan
• Decentralised Water Master Plan
• Advanced Waste Treatment Master Plan
• Energy Efficiency Master Plan (under development)
• Climate Change Adaptation Plan (under development)

Renewable energy

Renewable energy sources could provide 100 per cent of future electricity, heating and cooling needs in a blueprint that details how the city could run on renewable electricity and renewable gas by 2030.

The City of Sydney’s final renewable energy master plan shows how 30 per cent of the city’s electricity can come from carbon-free energy such as wind and solar power, and 70 per cent from trigeneration using renewable gas from waste.

The plan is the most detailed technical, financial and economic assessment of renewable energy sources ever undertaken for Sydney and proves a renewable energy future is possible.

Our Renewable Energy Master Plan gives us a roadmap to transform Sydney into a city run entirely on renewable energy by 2030.

The community told us they want to get involved in helping the City deliver our target of 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030. In direct response to this, we have included a new section in the master plan looking at how residents, businesses and landowners can install and own renewable energy.

The City is also developing its Energy Efficiency Master Plan. This plan will look at technologies and actions we can use to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions across the City.
In a big city owning a car can be a hassle, but most of us need to drive occasionally. Signing up to a car share scheme means people can drive when they need to, without all the worries and costs associated with owning a car – parking, permits, meters, insurance, and maintenance included.

More than 10,000 city residents have made that economical choice – nearly one in 10 licensed drivers. And, because they don’t own a car, they have taken pressure off the limited street parking.

All over Sydney, trips by car are taking longer. The only real solution is better public transport, including light rail in central Sydney.

Light rail along George Street will form a high-capacity link through the city’s heart. It will replace hundreds of slow and inefficient buses, and reliably move up to 9,000 people across the city centre every hour.

George Street will then be able to reclaim its position as Sydney’s premier street. Five blocks from Bathurst to Hunter streets will be given over to pedestrians. The shops, offices, apartments, cafes, bars, clubs, theatres, hotels and churches along the strip will be able to throw open their doors to a world-class boulevard, where pedestrians will want to linger.

The City is working in close partnership with the NSW Government. We’ve already committed $220 million to improving the public domain, with widened footpaths, new drainage, street lighting and signs, landscaping, street furniture and traffic management work to accompany light rail on George Street.

We are opening up a network of adjoining vibrant lanes and small plazas where shops, bars and other small businesses can thrive. Outdoor dining and entertainment spaces will replace noisy queues of buses and cars.

The City of Sydney is also investing over $8 million over the next 10 years in public artworks to breathe new life into city streets, squares and laneways. Renowned international art curator, Barbara Flynn, has prepared a plan for central Sydney that could see spectacular artworks along the length of George Street, across east-west connecting streets, and in the city’s laneways.

The City of Sydney is supporting car sharing by creating parking spots especially for shared vehicles. We’re also asking developers to include car share spaces when they build car parks under new apartment buildings.
Since our first separated bike path opened, the number of people cycling has doubled or trebled in some areas, particularly for the morning rush.

We've been building a safe, convenient and sustainable network of cycleways. Increasing cyclists on separated paths frees up the road for other users, reducing congestion and increasing public transport capacity.

More than 80% of people who want to ride a bike in the city want us to keep building the separated network.

But we also have to provide connectivity beyond the city.

Infrastructure Australia has selected the proposed regional cycle network as its first bike infrastructure project to be given status in its priority program.

The City is leading the way in pollution-free travel with its fleet of 18 Nissan LEAF and Mitsubishi iMiEV electric cars. These zero-emission vehicles add to the City’s ultralow emission fleet of 27 petrol-electric hybrid vehicles and 46 diesel-electric hybrid trucks.

Unlike petrol and diesel vehicles, fully electric vehicles produce no dangerous pollutants such as carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide, particularly when charged with renewable solar energy.

To encourage electric vehicle uptake, the City has installed electric charging stations at its public parking stations in Kings Cross and Goulburn Street. With the introduction of electric vehicles and a range of other ‘Green Fleet’ initiatives, the City is on track to reduce its fleet emissions.

Towards 2030, we’re helping the business sector to create and retain good jobs, increase wealth, foster investment and remain globally competitive.

The City’s 10-year Economic Development Strategy will help deliver our vision for a dynamic, environmentally sustainable economy and a liveable city.

Its overarching aim is to strengthen the City economy and support business. The strategy centres on further improving the solid foundations for success through creating opportunities for individuals, businesses, the community and future generations.

It addresses the challenges that might otherwise limit Sydney’s potential growth as a global city.

The strategy provides the rationale for engaging with priority industry sectors and delivering outcomes through detailed action plans, such as retail and tourism.

Tourism injects serious money into Sydney’s economy and we work closely with relevant sectors to harness the opportunities our various festivals, public and community events present each year. In partnership with tourism bodies, businesses, tourism operators and organisations and the education sector, we’re building Sydney’s standing as a global destination.

The City has developed a policy that will broaden the range of night-time offerings and provide clear direction for Sydney’s night-time economy over the next 20 years.

This is creating more entertainment options for more people, while balancing public safety, the needs of local residents and economic and residential growth.

Sydneysiders love festivals and events and we host some world-famous ones. Events and festivals are a tremendous opportunity for creativity to flourish in our city.

Festivals and events bring huge economic benefits for local businesses, including the retail, hospitality and tourism sectors. Thousands of visitors spend millions of dollars when they flock to the city from interstate and around the world to go to the Sydney Festival and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

We support these events as well the Sydney Film Festival, the Sydney Writers’ Festival and more. Of course we produce our own major drawcards too, including our world renowned Sydney New Year’s Eve celebrations, Art & About Sydney and Sydney Chinese New Year Festival, which is now the biggest celebration of the Lunar New Year outside of mainland China.
It’s predicted at least another one million people will be living in greater Sydney by 2026. We’re preparing by transforming several sites across the city.

In Glebe, the old raceway at Harold Park has been rezoned to make way for new housing and community facilities, walking and bike riding paths and open space.

We have delivered a long-term master plan for the parklands around Johnston’s Creek.

In Erskineville, a former industrial precinct will become a new residential neighbourhood called Ashmore Estate, with a network of new pedestrian and bike routes and a new retail area next to a new large park.

Barangaroo aims to transform 22 hectares of disused wharves on Sydney Harbour into a waterfront precinct, with a headland park, commercial office towers and apartments and areas for recreation and entertainment. The project is being delivered by the NSW Government and the City is working to ensure the development has good transport connections, is sustainable in design and respects the heritage of surrounding areas.

The Green Square project is transforming a 278-hectare area south of the city centre into a vibrant and sustainable urban place, with a mix of housing, open spaces, offices, shops and facilities.

Green Square includes Beaconsfield and Zetland and parts of Rosebery, Alexandria and Waterloo. It is just 3.5km from the city centre and 4km from the airport.

About 5,700 new dwellings have been built since 2000, bringing in close to 11,000 new residents. By 2030, Green Square is projected to house about 40,000 residents and attract 22,000 new workers.

The City’s role in Green Square is to ensure the growing population and development is matched with quality community facilities and infrastructure.

Together with private developers we’ll deliver the new Green Square town centre, a retail, commercial and cultural hub next to Green Square train station. There will be a new library integrated into an outdoor plaza, a community creativity hub, an aquatic centre and outdoor sports field. Across the wider Green Square area we’re delivering new parks, cycleways and working with the NSW Government for more transport connections. With our partners, we are building a new kind of neighbourhood.
Sydney 2030 envisages a diverse and inclusive city. It establishes an ambitious target that, by 2030, 7.5% of all housing in the City of Sydney will be social housing and 7.5% will be affordable housing.

This means a moderate growth in social housing, but a near fourfold increase in the supply of affordable housing.

This corresponds to an ambitious 18% of all new residential growth.

A key objective from Sydney 2030 is that the City takes a role in facilitating and influencing this growth.

The Affordable Rental Housing Strategy 2009-2014 adopts a suite of planning, partnership, financial and advocacy actions that can have an impact on the supply of affordable rental housing and protection of social and low-cost rental accommodation.

Through activities such as offering land, site-specific changes to planning controls, and seeking negotiated benefits on major development sites, the City can directly facilitate 2,900 affordable rental housing dwellings being built.

The City is initiating and supporting local projects that help people connect with each other. This is about encouraging a sense of belonging and social wellbeing in our communities.

The way we deliver services is constantly being improved and, although key areas will remain, additional programs are likely to be introduced as the population grows and changes.

We’re working on connecting people to communities in our fast-paced and growing city. Part of creating communities is encouraging our village centres and their businesses to thrive.

Ideally, city residents should be able to walk to their village and find everything they need – groceries and fresh food, healthcare, child care, a community centre, library, public school, transport interchanges, and a wide range of retailers and professional services.
Green living

The goal is to make neighbourhoods as attractive and sustainable as possible.

There are already close to 30,000 street trees in the city. We’re increasing Sydney’s urban forest by planting 800 more trees a year. Our parks are home to 12,000 trees and this number is ever growing. We’ve been progressively upgrading parks, reserves and playgrounds across the city to improve our green open spaces. The City has been installing raingardens to filter stormwater and stop pollutants flowing through our waterways.

We’re installing stormwater harvesting systems, including one at Sydney Park together with the Australian Government. The harvesting system guarantees the four wetlands at the park are sustainable and healthy. Workshops we run include organic gardening, worm farming, chemical-free homes and growing food in small spaces.

We’re also developing a City Farm to inspire residents to grow their own food, compost, recycle and save water and energy.

Culture

We’re commissioning art for village centres, town squares and local parks. New work is appearing across central Sydney, especially in our laneways, and we’re planning some major art projects for our urban renewal areas.

The City’s first cultural policy is an opportunity to affirm the importance of the arts and creativity to all our lives, and to articulate what the City’s priorities are for supporting the arts and cultural sectors.

Our contribution to culture includes a network of nine libraries, major and community events, our public art program, Pine St Creative Arts Centre and community centre programs. We support street activities from festivals to pop-up events, advise on logistics, communicate with other levels of government, and offer marketing support.

The City has also launched The Sydney Culture Walks app for residents and visitors to explore more than 400 of Sydney’s historical and public art points of interest with 10 walking tours curated by the City of Sydney. It’s an opportunity to discover hidden laneways and new neighborhoods while learning about Sydney’s history and the stories behind the city’s most loved public artworks.