



LIVING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NATION'S CLIMATE ACTION CAPITAL

Canberra is the nation's climate action capital. As the climate warms, we're working hard to deliver more living 'green' infrastructure—like trees, parks and wetlands—to help keep our city cool.

The ACT's new Living Infrastructure Plan will:

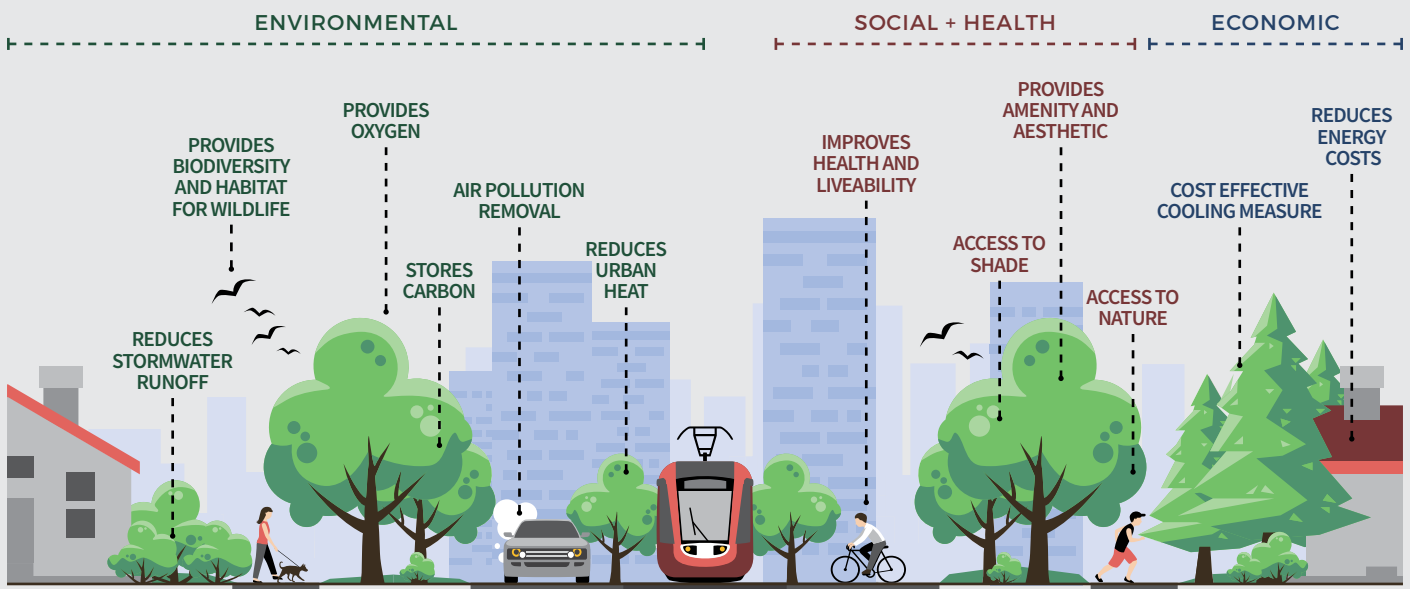
- » Deliver 30% tree canopy cover (or equivalent) and 30% surface permeability in Canberra's urban areas by 2045
- » Introduce landscape requirements for multi-dwelling, mixed-use and commercial developments
- » Develop an Urban Forest Strategy for the ACT
- » Support community efforts to incorporate sustainable landscaping principles
- » Trial and demonstrate landscaping design that is best suited to our warming climate.

Why is living infrastructure important?

It is an important way to keep our city cool and liveable in a warming climate. In urban areas, buildings and pavements absorb heat, which is then slowly released, leading to higher temperatures at both day and night. This issue can cause large temperature differences between parts of Canberra – up to 10 degrees or more on a hot day!

To address these issues, we have released a new plan to enhance, protect and take advantage of the benefits of our city's living infrastructure.

Benefits of living infrastructure.



Climate action



REDUCE OUR TRANSPORT EMISSIONS. MORE THAN 60% OF ACT EMISSIONS IN 2020 WILL COME FROM OUR CARS, BUSES AND TRUCKS.



REDUCE OUR GAS EMISSIONS. MORE THAN 20% OF ACT EMISSIONS IN 2020 WILL COME FROM GAS USED IN HOUSEHOLDS AND BUSINESSES.



REDUCE OUR WASTE. AN ESTIMATED 50,000 TONNES OF FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE IS SENT TO LANDFILL EACH YEAR IN THE ACT.



ACHIEVE 30% TREE CANOPY COVER (OR EQUIVALENT) AND 30% PERMEABLE SURFACES ACROSS CANBERRA'S URBAN FOOTPRINT BY 2045.



ACHIEVE 50-60% EMISSIONS REDUCTION BELOW 1990 LEVELS BY 2025 AND NET ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2045.



100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY TARGET BY 2020.

Things you can do

There are lots of ways that we can all help keep our city cooler.

- » When designing a new home or building development, protect existing trees and other vegetation on your site
- » Include materials like grass, gravel, timber decking and soil in your outdoor areas to reduce urban heat
- » Choose suitable garden plants from the ACT Government's Canberra Plant Selector Tool
- » Incorporate water features to help cool the air around your home and provide a cool spot for birds and bees
- » Consider green walls and roof garden options when designing or retrofitting your home or business
- » Join an Urban Open Space Volunteer Group or create your own
- » Organise a neighbourhood working bee to support nature in your community.

More information

To find out more about the ACT Government's Living Infrastructure Plan and find out how you can help, visit www.act.gov.au/climatechange, email climatechange@act.gov.au or call 13 22 81.



ACT
Government