

Sustainability Action Plan (SAP)

The Sustainability Action Plan is Council's long term, integrated and community focused vision to guide the sustainable future of Woollahra. The SAP identifies future actions for achieving more sustainable practices in all of Council's functions and activities and sets clear sustainability targets. The SAP's vision and actions embody the principles of ecological sustainable development (ESD) – development that improves the quality of life both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends. Council will commence reporting on its environmental sustainability performance in the 2010-2011 annual report.

Environmental Education and Action Plan (EEAP)

Environmental Levy funds also contribute to Council's Environmental Education and Action Plan (EEAP) to engage, educate, motivate and support the community (including schools, residents and business) to work together towards sustainability and the protection of our beautiful natural environment.

Projects undertaken as part of the EEAP include:

- Eastern Suburbs Sustainable Schools Network (ESSSN) - Ongoing support of this network to support and engage local schools in sustainability education;
- Community Environmental Grants Program - Provision of school and community grants for small environmental projects and initiatives;
- Sustainability Workshops - Free, monthly sustainability workshops and events for the public;
- Local support of regional and international environmental initiatives - including World Environment Day, Earth Hour, National Recycling Week, National Tree Day etc;
- Woollahra Environmental Schools Sculpture Prize - to engage students in environmental education through artistic expression;
- Sustainability education for Council staff – through Council induction program, workshops and sustainability events
- Support of grass roots community groups and projects - including Sustainability Street, Transition Towns, community gardens and environmental networks;
- Local schools support - through workshops, visits and teaching resources;
- Local business support – to support and encourage sustainable practices within local businesses.



To stay up to date on these projects and more, sign up to receive Council's quarterly e-newsletter, 'Our Environment' at www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au



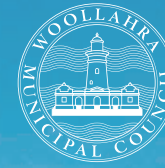
Woollahra Municipal Council

536 New South Head Road
Double Bay NSW 2028
Tel: (02) 9391 7000 Fax: (02) 9391 7044

E-mail address:
records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au

Website address:
www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au

SEPTEMBER 2010



Woollahra
Municipal
Council

Sustainable Woollahra

Environmental Projects

Funding Sustainability

- The Environmental Levy was first introduced in 2002 allowing Council, in partnership with its ratepayers, to fund a range of specific improvement projects called the Environmental Works Program (EWP) for a five year period.
- In 2007, the State Government extended this program to become the combined Environmental and Infrastructure Renewal Levy, an integrated pool of funding for strategic environmental, sustainability and infrastructure projects, for a further five years.
- Of the \$3.4 million received annually through the Environmental & Infrastructure Renewal Levy, \$440,000 is allocated to the EWP and \$2.96 million to Council's Infrastructure Renewal Program (IRP).
- Additionally, \$450,000 from the Stormwater Management Service Charge funds stormwater infrastructure projects and floodplain studies and management plans. Completed flood studies include:
 - Double Bay Catchment Flood Study
 - Rose Bay Catchment Flood Study
 - Rushcutters Bay Catchment Flood StudyFloodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans are in progress in Double Bay, Rose Bay and Rushcutters Bay.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)

Over the last four years, the EWP has demonstrated a changing focus in urban stormwater management to include Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles like stormwater harvesting and re-use, sand filters, permeable paving and bioretention gardens. WSUD projects carried out as part of the EWP include:



Rose Bay Promenade Completed: March 2008

Rose Bay Promenade features a porous paving infiltration system that treats polluted stormwater runoff from New South Head Road. The treated stormwater is then diverted to underground tanks capable of storing 200,000 litres. The recycled water is then used for irrigation and maintenance.



The Crescent, Vacluse Completed: July 2009

Two bio-retention tanks have been installed to protect properties along Hopetoun Ave and The Crescent from the risk of flooding, and to filter road runoff before it enters Parsley Bay Creek.



Bellevue Hill Shops Completed: June 2010

Permeable paving and rain gardens have been installed to reduce urban runoff and help filter pollutants before they enter the stormwater system. These works improve the quality of water that makes its way into Cooper Park Creek.

Holdsworth Community Centre



In combination with a grant received from the NSW Government's Climate Change Fund - Public Facilities Program, Council installed rainwater tanks and other water saving technologies at the Holdsworth Community Centre, saving 700,000 litres of water annually. The project includes the installation of four rainwater tanks (three 7000L tanks and one 5000L tank), waterless urinals and a water wise, organic 'rain garden' that provides a learning space for community groups and workshops.

Cooper Park Pond

This extensive rehabilitation program included weeding, clearing, dredging, riparian rehabilitation and native planting, landscaping and structural restoration efforts throughout the eastern end of Cooper Creek. The project was completed in November 2009 with the release of two native fish species (Australian Smelt & Pacific Blue Eye) into Cooper Park Pond to ensure the ongoing health and biodiversity of the area.



Before



After

Carbon Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (CRSAP)

Council is currently working on a dynamic carbon reduction project with sustainability specialists Kinesis. The Carbon Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (CRSAP) was adopted by Council on June 28, 2010. Council can now measure emissions from both Council assets and from the community and predict future emissions. Council is using the Kinesis carbon monitoring tool to model the sustainability outcomes from a range of sustainability initiatives such as efficient lighting, co generation plants, and solar power.

Major opportunities and specific carbon reduction projects have been identified including:

- Street lighting efficiency upgrade
- CoGen at Council Chambers
- Energy savings in Council buildings
- More efficient fuels for Council fleet
- Solar photovoltaic projects

Council is now working on these projects to meet its carbon reduction target of a 30% reduction on 2003/2004 levels by 2025. This plan is now available on Council's website for viewing by the community.

