Sustainability Strategy Action Plan

ACT Government | CITY RENEWAL AUTHORITY

June 2023

How to use this document

This Action Plan contains revised targets and actions for each of the four key principles of the City Renewal Authority's Sustainability Strategy 2021-2025:

1. Resilience and climate-wise design
2. Social and economic vibrancy
3. Sustainable use of resources
4. Active healthy living and travel

The Action Plan outlines the key actions that the Authority needs to undertake to achieve the objectives of the Strategy. It will guide the Authority's project teams to:

- consider the economic, social and environmental sustainability targets set out in the Strategy;
- implement actions through the Authority's work program and business as usual (BAU); and
- evaluate and report on the Authority's progress in achieving the Strategy's objectives.

Targets and Actions

Targets were reviewed and assigned specific, achievable and measurable actions that are delivery and/or advocacy focussed.

Baselines and Reporting

Some actions require baseline and subsequent measurements to report on the Authority's performance in implementing the Strategy. These measurements will be recorded in the Sustainable Design & Delivery checklist and reported throughout program and project lifecycles. A progress report will be produced annually until the completion of the Strategy in 2025.

Key

The following key is used to indicate which actions need to be measured as an indication of achievement for reporting, and which actions are included in a corresponding checklist for implementation.

B	Baseline and follow-up measurements required
L	Sustainability Initiatives for Land Sales Checklist
D	Sustainable Design and Delivery Checklist

Themes

Themes are identified for each target (some targets may have more than one theme) to ensure the Authority is applying a balanced triple bottom line approach to sustainability:

- Environmental (total 15),
- Social (total 16),
- Economic (total 15).

CRA Role and Responsibility

The Design and Place Strategy team will be responsible for oversight of the Action Plan and reporting. All staff and contractors of the Authority are responsible for implementing the actions that are relevant to their core business.

The Authority's role in implementing actions is identified as:

- delivery focussed – achieving sustainable urban renewal outcomes through public realm design, construction and activation projects, and land sales and development within the CRA precinct; and/or
- advocacy focussed – supporting the delivery of sustainability targets and aspirations through the Authority's role as a referral agency in the land development process and creating public awareness through running placemaking events, activation programs and communicating our sustainability achievements in urban renewal projects to the community.

Responsible teams are identified for each action:

DPS	Design and Place Strategy
CW	Capital Works
DEV	Development
PEMCE	Place Experience, Marketing and Communications and Engagement
PMO	Project Management Office

Lead Directorate

The Action Plan identifies the lead directorates within the ACT Government that are responsible for setting targets, policies or planning instruments relevant to each action.

PRINCIPLE 1: Resilience and climate-wise design

Objective 1: Climate resilient, healthy, and natural places for people

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Work towards achieving a minimum 30% tree canopy cover across the CRA precinct (in line with Canberra's Living Infrastructure Plan target*)	Environmental	Increase tree planting in CRA public realm projects to work towards meeting the 30% ACT wide canopy cover target **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	EPSDD
		Identify strategic tree planting sites to increase connectivity of urban canopy cover in CRA public realm projects	*Delivery* DPS CW	
		30% tree canopy cover target mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	
CRA public realm projects will help to reduce the urban heat island effect	Environmental	Consider green and blue infrastructure initiatives for CRA public realm projects **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	EPSDD
		Include an outdoor thermal comfort index measurement in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	
Improve biodiversity and landscape outcomes across the CRA precinct	Environmental	Increase number of gardens that support cultural plant use in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	EPSDD
		Increase variety of species, including native/endemic, climate-wise and pollinator species, planted in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	
		Consider Caring for Country activities for improved environmental and landscape outcomes in all land sales and CRA public realm projects ** **L D**	*Delivery* DPS CW DEV	
Improve permeability across the CRA precinct (in line with Canberra's Living Infrastructure Plan target*)	Environmental	Deep root zones and a minimum of 30% permeable surfaces mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
		Increase permeable surfaces in CRA public realm projects to work towards meeting the 30% ACT wide permeable surfaces target **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	
		Undertake a review of ACT Government permeable surfaces standards and policies to identify opportunities for alignment	*Delivery* DPS	
Increased awareness of CRA projects that improve environmental outcomes	Environmental Social	Promotion of best practice environmental sustainability outcomes achieved in CRA projects through social media, newsletter and marketing materials **B**	*Delivery* PEMCE	CRA

*Canberra's Living Infrastructure Plan: Cooling the City has 30% targets for permeable surfaces and tree canopy cover across the ACT by 2045.

**Caring for Country activities that may be relevant to urban renewal and development include:

- adopting sustainable land and water use practices to protect the integrity of Country and reduce the impacts of natural events, such as fire, flooding and drought;
- protecting and enhancing species diversity, e.g. using native, climate-wise and cultural plant species in landscaping; and
- protecting culturally sensitive sites to ensure First Nations heritage and practices are preserved.

Appropriate Caring for Country activities that improve the health and wellbeing of Country in an urban context can be identified through engagement with First Nations communities (refer to actions under Principle 2 – Objective 3).

Objective 2: Climate positive developments

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Projects within the CRA precinct demonstrate best practice sustainable performance and contribute towards zero emissions targets	Environmental Economic	Develop a land sales checklist of minimum and optional sustainability requirements for all land sales within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery* DPS	CRA
		Develop a sustainable design and delivery checklist of minimum and optional sustainability initiatives to include in CRA public realm upgrades **D**	*Delivery* DPS	
		Submit application to GBCA for GreenStar 6 star rating for Acton Waterfront Estate	*Delivery* DEV	
Facilitate industry advancement of future ready initiatives within the CRA precinct	Environmental Economic	All-electric buildings, EV charging facilities and no gas connections mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

Objective 3: Prioritise health and comfort

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
New developments contain features that prioritise the health and comfort of residents within the CRA precinct	Social Economic	70% of dwellings achieve solar orientation mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
		60% of dwellings achieve natural ventilation mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	
Public space upgrades within the CRA precinct support social connection and the wellbeing of individuals and communities	Social	Include event infrastructure and utility services in CRA public realm upgrades to facilitate and support ongoing events and activation within the CRA precinct **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	CRA
		Prepare a Wellbeing Impact Assessment for all business cases to identify and measure how CRA projects impact wellbeing against the Wellbeing Framework **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW PMO	
Activation and place making initiatives facilitate increased visitation and usage of public spaces within the CRA precinct	Social	Develop and monitor place making indicators that measure footfall and dwell time for public spaces and events within the CRA precinct **B** **D**	*Delivery* PEMCE	CRA, Events ACT, Access Canberra
		Develop and undertake perception surveys for selected public spaces and activations within the CRA precinct to identify areas for improvement **B** **D**	*Delivery* PEMCE	
		Develop outdoor dining guidelines to ensure consistent approaches to outdoor dining within the CRA precinct	*Delivery* DPS	

PRINCIPLE 2: Social and economic vibrancy

Objective 1: Diversity, density and affordability

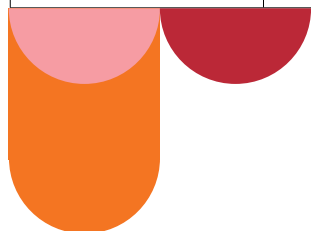| Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Multi-unit housing provides a maximum of 40% of any one type of dwelling (1, 2 or 3+ bedrooms), with at least 10-15% 3+ bedroom units to encourage greater diversity within the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Maximum of 40% of each type of dwelling mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct ⓛ	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
Facilitate an increase in the provision of affordable, community and public housing options within the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Housing Strategy targets for affordable, community and public housing are encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct ⓛ	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

Objective 2: People-centred urban design and liveability

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Urban design and placemaking initiatives deliver people-centred, quality public spaces and experiences within the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Include infrastructure and spaces for recreational and community use in CRA public realm projects ⓑ ⓓ	*Delivery* DPS CW	CRA
		Facilitate local events and activations that foster connection to community and nature within the CRA precinct ⓓ	*Delivery* PEMCE	
		Advocate for exemplar people-focussed mixed-use developments within the CRA precinct ⓛ	*Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
Facilitate improved community safety through good urban design across the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Include adequate, smart LED public lighting in CRA public realm upgrades ⓑ ⓓ	*Delivery* DPS CW	TCCS
		Permeable street-facing facades that attract people and increase passive surveillance are encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct ⓛ	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
Facilitate the increased provision and use of communal open space across the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Minimum 20% of site area to be provided as communal open space encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments with more than 30 units within the CRA precinct ⓛ	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

Objective 3: Inclusive, accessible places for all

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
CRA public realm projects create an inclusive, safe, sustainable city that fosters a sense of belonging and well-being	Social	Include universally inclusive elements in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	CRA
		Engage with First Nations communities to incorporate storytelling, artwork and cultural plants, elements and activities into CRA public realm projects where relevant **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW PEMCE	
		First Nations engagement and cultural elements encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct where relevant **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	
Improve accessibility and places that are child and age friendly across the CRA precinct	Social	Include accessibility elements and ensure AS1428 Accessibility Standard is met in all CRA public realm projects **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	CRA
		Include child and age friendly elements in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	
		Universal inclusion and accessibility elements mandated in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

PRINCIPLE 3: Sustainable Use of Resources

Objective 1: Highly efficient use of resources

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Promote energy efficient innovations to reduce energy use requirements in land developments across the CRA precinct	Economic	Energy efficient innovations encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **(L)**	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
Encourage the collection, storage and re-use of water in developments to reduce water consumption within the CRA precinct	Environmental	Water infrastructure and initiatives that reduce potable water demand encouraged in all land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **(L)**	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

Objective 2: Capture and beneficial re-use of finite resources

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Implement Water Sensitive Urban Design to filter pollutants and increase water capture and re-use across the CRA precinct	Environmental	Include Water Sensitive Urban Design in CRA public realm upgrades **(B) (D)**	*Delivery* DPS CW	TCCS
Encourage application of circular economy and waste minimisation principles within the CRA precinct	Environmental Economic	Include circular economy and waste minimisation principles in CRA public realm upgrades **(B) (D)**	*Delivery* DPS CW	ACT NoWaste
		Trial events or activation programs that encourage and promote the adoption of circular economy and waste minimisation principles **(D)**	*Delivery* PEMCE	
Advocate for circular economy principles to be adopted in procurement strategies and land development to support social and environmental responsibilities and foster green economies	Environmental Social Economic	Circular economy and resource use considerations encouraged in all procurements, land sales and proposed developments within the CRA precinct **(L) (D)**	*Delivery* *Advocacy* DPS CW DEV PEMCE	ACT NoWaste

Objective 3: Adaptive re-use of structures

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Identify opportunities for adaptative re-use of structures and materials within the CRA precinct	Economic Environmental	Consider opportunities for adaptive re-use of structures in public realm upgrades and land sales within the CRA precinct **(L) (D)**	*Delivery* DPS CW DEV	CRA
		Advocate for flexibility and innovation in policy and planning controls to consider opportunities for adaptive re-use of structures	*Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

PRINCIPLE 4: Active healthy living and travel

Objective 1: Enhanced active travel including public transport

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Improved walkability and connectivity of active travel networks across the CRA precinct	Social Environmental	Include infrastructure that supports walkability and active travel in CRA public realm projects **B D**	*Delivery* DPS CW	TCCS, EPSDD
		Identify strategic connections between walking, cycling and public transport networks in CRA public realm projects **D**	*Delivery* DPS CW DEV	
		Integrate transit, travel behaviour data (walk, cycle, public transport) and wellbeing scores in the Place Success Dashboard **D**	*Delivery* PEMCE	CRA
Encourage greater uptake of infrastructure and facilities that support active travel across the CRA precinct	Social Economic	Adequate bicycle storage and parking encouraged in all land sales and proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD
		End of trip facilities mandated in all commercial land sales and advocated in proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

Objective 2: Innovative solutions to car parking

Target	Theme	Actions	CRA Role & Responsibility	Lead Directorate
Encourage the progressive reduction in car parking provision and innovative parking solutions within the CRA precinct	Economic Social Environmental	Reduced parking spaces and alternative car share solutions encouraged in all land sales, proposed developments and public realm upgrades within the CRA precinct **L D**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS CW DEV	CRA
EV charging infrastructure is provided in all developments within the CRA precinct^	Economic Social Environmental	EV charging facilities mandated in all land sales and advocated in all proposed developments within the CRA precinct **L D**	*Delivery Advocacy* DPS DEV	EPSDD

^EV charging infrastructure will be mandatory for all new developments from 2023 as part of the new ACT planning system.