



Greening our City Case Study

Tree planting in Fairfield City

In 2019, Fairfield City Council was one of 20 councils successful in securing a share of \$5.3 million in grant funding to deliver more trees across Greater Sydney. Fairfield City Council embarked on an ambitious plan to plant an additional 2,308 trees at multiple sites within the Fairfield local government area, including Fairfield Showground, Smithfield Road Corridor and Clear Paddock Creek.

The project included a mix of street tree planting and planting at parks and sports fields to increase shade, reduce ultra-violet radiation exposure and improve amenity. Fairfield City Council planted new trees strategically between older, isolated trees to provide areas of continuous canopy. In addition to this, planting around sports fields and in parks will also provide more shade and natural habitats for wildlife.

The project has established several sites of newly planted trees throughout the city in various streets, parks and sports fields. The new trees will support passive and active recreation within Fairfield City streets and open spaces.

“ Council planted more than 2,300 trees under this program to help increase the canopy cover in our suburbs, making our streets, parks and reserves cooler and much more pleasant for families to enjoy and be active in. The trees are in addition to the 8,000 to 10,000 we plant each year, and will provide further homes for our wildlife and make our suburbs more attractive places to live, work and play. ”

Fairfield City Mayor, Frank Carbone



Trees planted
2,308

Tree survival rate

95% 

Grant amount

\$60k

Tree planting locations

- Bosnjak Park, Edensor Park
- Hollywood Drive, Lansvale
- Polding Street, Wetherill Park
- Carrawood Park, Carramar
- Lalich Park, Bonnyrigg
- River Avenue, Villawood
- Clear Paddock Creek Reserve, Wakeley
- Endeavour Sports Park, Fairfield West
- Rosford Park and Brenan Park, Smithfield
- Nelson Street, Fairfield
- Emerson Park and Wetherill Park Reserve, Wetherill Park

Tree selection

- All trees planted are native species endemic to the Fairfield City area. This includes water gum, brush box and spotted gum. This will ensure healthy, long-lived trees make a positive contribution to the street and open space amenity, environment, aesthetic and heritage values of the local area.
- The planted trees will link remaining isolated tree groups, providing continuous canopy for habitat, as well as shady refuge for the community.

Tree establishment

- Fairfield City Council is required to ensure a successful 18-month tree establishment period as part of the grant conditions. This is an important component of the grant program, as the first 18 months are critical to the ongoing life of the trees.
- Council conducts regular monitoring of all trees during the establishment period. Council attends to the new trees by maintaining moisture levels to prevent them from drying out and to provide optimum conditions for plant establishment and growth. Weed control is conducted by hand when possible. Regular monitoring of all trees includes light pruning, slow-release fertilising and checking for pests and diseases.
- The planting program has delivered a 95% success rate for tree survival to date. As trees mature further, locals and visitors will enjoy canopy cover and its cooling effects.



Timeline

Date of planting: 3 July 2020

Start of establishment period: 4 July 2020

End of establishment period: 3 December 2021

Ongoing routine maintenance by Council: 4 December 2021

Greening our City grants

The Greening our City grant program supports local councils and their partners to enhance urban tree canopy and green cover by providing funding for tree planting and demonstration projects across Greater Sydney. Each tree planted counts towards the Premier's Priority of planting one million trees across Greater Sydney, creating cooler suburbs for our communities. More trees also provide improved air quality, better urban amenity and more habitat to support birds and wildlife.

