



28 August 2025

Dear MVCC Engagement Team,

## **Moonee Valley in 2040: Shaping Our Future**

Moonee Valley Sustainability (MVS) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the publicly released drafts of the refreshed MV2040 Strategy (2025) and its related strategic Plans.

Not surprisingly, our feedback aims to strengthen Council's vision and ambition on influencing and taking positive action on sustainability and climate to enhance the health and wellbeing of all residents, visitors and our living environment.

In this submission, we provide feedback on two of those documents - the **Draft MV2040 Community Vision and Strategy** (2025) and the **Draft Council Plan 2025-29** (2025).

Please note that the format of having the Strategic Objectives, Objectives and Outcomes spread across 3 separate documents made it hard to provide succinct feedback. Consistency of terminology was also an issue, e.g. MV2040 Outcomes (2025) are labelled only with "we know we've succeeded when:" in the tables. We would welcome summary sheets for the Council Plan in particular, similar to the [visual summaries](#) of the previous plans, to make the cascading flow of the plans easier to understand and comment on.

MVS has made every effort to be reasonable and solutions-focussed in its response to these draft plan documents. We trust you will give our thoughts and suggestions due consideration, and that our contribution adds value.

Yours Sustainably,

**Logan Shield, Angela Clarke, Teresa Day, Veronica Snook, Supriya Perera, Valerie Thiessen, Ganga Selvarajan**

Moonee Valley Sustainability

*A climate safe and pollution free Moonee Valley for a*





# SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

## Recommendation 1

### ➤ Strengthen MV2040 Community Vision Statement

Strengthen “Acknowledging the climate emergency, we value environmental sustainability and embrace our green open spaces” to

➤ Our city is **climate-safe** and **pollution-free**, we use **renewable energy** and **clean transport**, **waste nothing** and enjoy **shaded streets** and a **healthy environment**.

## Recommendation 2

### ➤ Reword Strategic Objectives 10, 13, 14 & 15

#### **Strategic Objective 10**

Reword “A city where modern, low-emission and reliable transport is the easy option” to

➤ **A city that uses mostly clean and healthy modes of travel**

#### **Strategic Objective 13**

Reword “A city that is zero carbon, cool and climate-safe” to

➤ **A city that is zero carbon**

#### **Strategic Objective 14 (new)**

Insert remainder of Objective 13

➤ **A city that is cool and climate-safe**

#### **Strategic Objective 15 (was 14)**

Reword “A city that has increased biodiversity and is water-sensitive” to

➤ **A city of biodiverse, shaded suburbs, managing water wisely**

#### **Strategic Objective 16 (was 15)**

Reword “A city that repurposes and recycles to minimise waste” to

➤ **A city saving most food and goods from waste**



### **Recommendation 3**

#### **➤ Clear Targets in the Council Plan**

##### **Strategic Objective 10**

- *A city that uses mostly clean and healthy modes of travel*

##### **Targets**

- *Half (50%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2030*
- *Two thirds (67%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2035*

##### **Strategic Objective 13**

- *A city that is zero carbon*

##### **Targets**

- *Community emissions are 67-70% below 2018 levels by 2030*
- *Net zero Council and community emissions by 2040, at the very latest*
- *40% rooftop solar uptake by 2030*

##### **Strategic Objective 14 (new)**

- *A city that is cool and climate-safe*

##### **Target**

- *Limit urban heat island to 10° above baseline*

##### **Strategic Objective 15 (was 14)**

- *A city of biodiverse, shaded suburbs, managing water wisely*

##### **Targets**

- *25% tree canopy cover by 2030*
- *30% tree canopy cover by 2040*

##### **Strategic Objective 16 (was 15)**

- *A city saving most food and goods from waste*

##### **Target**

- *90% of household and Council waste diverted from landfill by 2040*



# 1. DRAFT MV2040 COMMUNITY VISION

It is vital that the community Vision Statement in the refreshed **MV2040 Community Vision and Strategy (2025)** include a strong statement detailing what an environmentally sustainable city will encompass in 2040, given the significance to our community's physical, social and economic health and wellbeing.

The Council has made a significant commitment to these areas since its acknowledgment of the climate emergency in 2019, and the actions it has taken since. Rather than focussing on the now, the current draft Vision Statement can build on work already underway, and make a bold declaration on where concerted and continuing action can take our city into the future.

Painting a positive vision provides hope and motivates people to act in ways that will help achieve our goals. We know the vast majority of our community want a clean, healthy and safe city with more renewable energy and more trees, so we would like to see that articulated.

MVS recommends wording that is more specific in what "environment sustainability" will look like in 2040. We have provided evidence to underpin our proposed terms, and their links to MV2040 Outcome Statements, the Community Advisory Panel recommendations and/or other relevant Strategy / legislation, as detailed in the Definition Of Terms table below:

## **Recommendation 1**

### **➤ Strengthen MV2040 Community Vision Statement**

Strengthen "Acknowledging the climate emergency, we value environmental sustainability and embrace our green open spaces" to:

➤ Our city is **climate-safe** and **pollution-free**, we use **renewable energy** and **clean transport**, **waste nothing** and enjoy **shaded streets** and a **healthy environment**.

## Definitions of Terms

| Term                    | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Link to MV2040, legislation & strategy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Climate safe</b>     | We are all healthy and connected to our community, we live in resilient homes, shaded streets and cool suburbs, with clean, reliable sources of food, water, energy and transport.                       | <p><u><a href="#">Public Health And Wellbeing Act 2008</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Council is “...to protect ..... public health and wellbeing ..... by .... creating an environment which supports... members of the local community....”</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members live in a zero-carbon, climate-safe community....</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Strategic Objective</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13. A city that is zero carbon, cool and climate-safe.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Pollution free</b>   | We all enjoy fresh air, water and land that is free from waste and contaminants eg. gases, chemicals, noise, light, heat or litter that can cause harm to humans, other living things or our environment | <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members actively recycle, repurposes, and take action to reduce waste and pollution*</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Strategic Objective</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13. A city that is zero carbon, cool and climate-safe.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Renewable energy</b> | Energy from rooftop solar or the rapidly increasing proportion of renewables in the grid                                                                                                                 | <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members live in a zero-carbon, climate-safe community, powered by renewable energy*</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Clean transport</b>  | Modes of travel such as active transport, public transport & electric vehicles powered by renewable energy that do not produce greenhouse gas emissions or other pollutants                              | <p><u><a href="#">MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members use reliable, modern and low-emission transport that meets diverse needs*</li> <li>• Community members feel safe and confident using local streets, roads and bike routes*</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Waste nothing</b>       | Food and goods are diverted from landfill and given new life through sharing, repurposing, fixing, mending, reusing, upcycling, recycling etc                                                                                                                                                                                    | <u>MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community members actively recycle, repurposes, and take action to reduce waste and pollution*</li> </ul> <u>Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduces a circular economy in Victoria that maximises the continued use of product and waste material over their life cycle and accounts for their environmental impact</li> </ul> |
| <b>Shaded streets</b>      | Healthy, viable & climate resilient tree canopy on both public and private land that provides a shaded streetscape                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <u>MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community members care for Country and enjoy to shady places, healthy waterways, and diverse flora and fauna</li> </ul> <u>MV2040 Strategic Objective</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. A city that is zero carbon, cool and climate-safe.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Healthy environment</b> | <p>Green open spaces that meet a range of social and recreational needs of residents and visitors to a city, while also providing habitat to local and migratory wildlife</p> <p>Rivers, creeks &amp; wetlands with clear, fresh, swimmable water, protected from erosion, with shade and shelter, free from weeds and pests</p> | <u>MV2040 Outcome Statements &amp; Community Advisory Panel recommendations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community members care for Country and enjoy to shady places, healthy waterways, and diverse flora and fauna</li> <li>Community members enjoy well designed, sustainable buildings and places that enhance liveability</li> <li>Community members enjoy well maintained and welcoming green spaces and public areas*</li> </ul>                                                                         |



## 2. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Based on our own research of the most effective actions required to achieve a climate-safe and pollution-free Moonee Valley, MVS proposes that the wording of Strategic Objectives 10, 13, 14 & 15, under *Connected - Berbang* and *Green - Wunwarren*, be updated to make their intent more clear.

We also propose splitting Strategic Objective 13 into two, creating an additional Strategic Objective, as the actions required to achieve a zero carbon city are mitigations that are significantly different in nature from the adaptation actions required to achieve a cool and climate safe city. We suggest the Objective should read more like the existing 4 objectives under *Green - Wunwarren*.

### **Recommendation 2**

#### **➤ Reword Strategic Objectives 10, 13, 14 & 15**

##### **Strategic Objective 10**

Reword “A city where modern, low-emission and reliable transport is the easy option” to

➤ **A city that uses mostly clean and healthy modes of travel**

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Reword “A city that has increased biodiversity and is water-sensitive” to

➤ **A city of biodiverse, shaded suburbs, managing water wisely**

##### **Strategic Objective 16 (was 15)**

Reword “A city that repurposes and recycles to minimise waste” to

➤ **A city saving most food and goods from waste**



### 3. CLEAR AND MEASURABLE TARGETS

In reviewing the Draft Council Plan 2025-29, we found that the clear, specific and measurable targets contained within the MV2040 Strategy (2018, see below), as well as those made by Council resolution since, have not been included.

The plan provides descriptions of success, performance indicators (how we'll track progress), a time-frame and the lead Council service responsible for action against each Objective. However, there are no targets to drive action or against which to track progress eg. what levels do we want our carbon emissions or tree canopy coverage to be by the end of the 4 year period? Or in 2035? Or 2040?

At a minimum, MVS strongly recommends these targets be included in the Council Plan 2025-29 as an effective way to achieve goals, focus efforts and provide a clear destination to work towards.

#### MV2040 Interim & Long Term Targets (2018 Version)

**10. A city where sustainable transport is the easy option**

- *More than half of our residents travel to work by walking, cycling or public transport*

**13. A city that is low carbon**

- *Reduce community emissions by 67-70 % below 2017 levels by 2030 (Council resolution 08/09/2020)*
- *We achieve zero net emissions for our community and reduce emissions from Council's operations by 95 per cent by 2040*

**14. A city that is green and water-sensitive**

- *25% tree canopy cover by 2030 (Council resolution 30/11/2021)*
- *We achieve 30 per cent canopy cover by 2040 through enhancing our urban forest*

**15. A city that rethinks waste**

- *We divert 90 per cent of household waste and waste from Council operations from landfill by 2040*

While we understand caution about being too ambitious where full control of the outcome is not guaranteed, Council has previously noted that meeting targets is a shared responsibility across all levels of government, other sectors and our community. With its many roles - provider, partner, funder, regulator, monitor, facilitator, influencer and advocate - Council is best placed to help guide our community to meet these targets.

It would also be helpful to see a summary of targets provided alongside the Community Vision Statement and on the front page of the website.

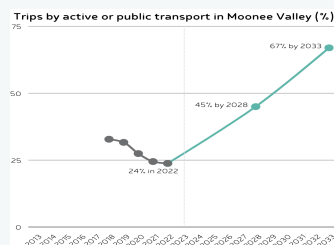


## 3.1 MVS Goals & Targets

In our **MVS Community Plan**, we set our own goals with associated targets, based on consultation and extensive research on the action required here in Moonee Valley to do our fair share in meeting the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to well below 2°.

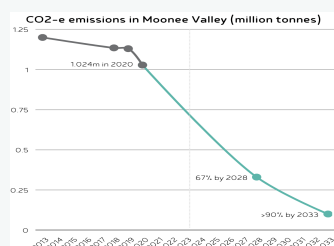
These targets are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound (SMART) to focus our actions effectively, track progress and get us where we want to be.

In setting our targets, we reviewed targets at local, state and federal level and the latest evidence based modelling.



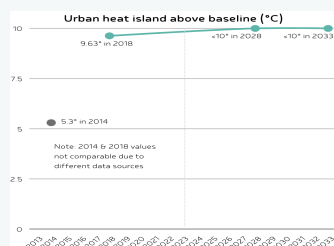
### Use Clean Transport

- Half (50%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2030
- Two thirds (67%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2035



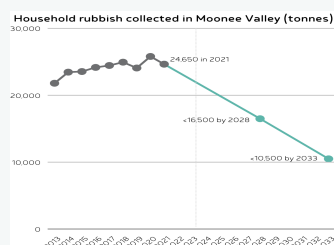
### Switch To Renewables

- 75% emissions reduction (below 2018) by 2030
- 95% emissions reduction (below 2018) by 2035



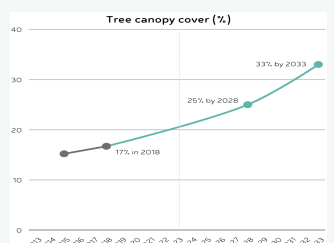
### Climate Proof Homes

- Limit urban heat island to 10° above baseline



### Waste Nothing

- Reduce total household rubbish to <16,500t by 2028
- Reduce total household rubbish to <10,500t by 2033



### Plant Our Suburbs

- 25% tree canopy cover by 2030
- 30% tree canopy cover by 2035



## 3.2 MV2040 (2025) Interim & Long Term Targets

We present below recommendations to use existing Council targets where sufficiently aligned with meeting Paris Agreement goals or where they are insufficient, we propose strengthening targets to a level of ambition that is science-aligned.

The use of existing targets does not require any further reporting, research or resolution by Council. However, we understand that strengthening targets may require further work, which we implore Council to undertake in order to guide action to achieve the MV2040 Community Vision.

### Suggested Targets

#### Strategic Objective 10

The existing target of “*More than half of our residents travel to work by walking, cycling or public transport*” (by 2040) does not align with the action required for transport emissions reductions. Instead, we propose science-aligned targets, based on the Climate Council’s ‘strong action’ scenario<sup>1</sup> (page 14, [Shifting Gear: The Path To Cleaner Transport](#)) of:

- **Half (50%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2030**
- **Two thirds (67%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2035**

#### Strategic Objective 13

Use existing targets with amended wording, and add solar uptake target:

- **Community emissions are 67-70% below 2018<sup>2</sup> levels by 2030**
- **Net zero Council and community emissions by 2040, at the very latest<sup>3</sup>**
- **40% rooftop solar uptake by 2030<sup>4</sup>**

#### Strategic Objective 14 (new)

Adopt MVS set target of limiting any further increase in urban heat:

- **Limit urban heat island to 10° above baseline<sup>5</sup>**

#### Strategic Objective 15 (was 14)

Use existing targets with slightly amended wording:

- **25% tree canopy cover by 2030**
- **30% tree canopy cover by 2040**

#### Strategic Objective 16 (was 15)

Use existing target with slightly amended wording:

- **90% of household and Council waste diverted from landfill by 2040**

<sup>1</sup> Page 14, [Shifting Gear: The Path To Cleaner Transport](#)

<sup>2</sup> Update baseline year to enable use of free [Snapshot Climate](#) data starting at 2018

<sup>3</sup> [Climate Council report](#) shows that net zero by 2035 is the only target aligned with <2° warming

<sup>4</sup> 40% is the business-as-usual scenario on p10, Point Advisory [Community Emissions Reduction Analysis](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Urban Vegetation, Urban Heat Islands and Heat Vulnerability Assessment in Melbourne, 2018](#)



### **Recommendation 3**

#### **➤ Clear Targets in the Council Plan**

##### **Strategic Objective 10**

- *A city that uses mostly clean and healthy modes of travel*

##### **Targets**

- *Half (50%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2030*
- *Two thirds (67%) of all trips by active or public transport by 2035*

##### **Strategic Objective 13**

- *A city that is zero carbon*

##### **Targets**

- *Community emissions are 67-70% below 2018 levels by 2030*
- *Net zero Council and community emissions by 2040, at the very latest*
- *40% rooftop solar uptake by 2030*

##### **Strategic Objective 14 (new)**

- *A city that is cool and climate-safe*

##### **Target**

- *Limit urban heat island to 10° above baseline*

##### **Strategic Objective 15 (was 14)**

- *A city of biodiverse, shaded suburbs, managing water wisely*

##### **Targets**

- *25% tree canopy cover by 2030*
- *30% tree canopy cover by 2040*

##### **Strategic Objective 16 (was 15)**

- *A city saving most food and goods from waste*

##### **Target**

- *90% of household and Council waste diverted from landfill by 2040*