



1 June 2018

City of Nedlands wants to branch out with Urban Forest Strategy

The City of Nedlands is on a mission to increase its tree canopy cover with a draft Urban Forest Strategy for 2018-2023 – but wants to hear your thoughts before adopting it.

The Urban Forest Strategy has been developed in response to several priorities set out in the Strategic Community Plan, Nedlands 2028, which are:

- Provide, retain and maintain public trees in streets and on reserves to at least maintain the urban forest canopy.
- Invest in parks infrastructure in accordance with enviro-scape master plans.
- Revegetate remnant bushland areas.
- Develop greenway corridors.
- Undertake tree planting in public areas.
- Restore coastal and estuarine areas.
- Maintain parks and other green spaces.

Currently, the City has 22,188 public trees, made up of 17,277 street trees and 4,911 trees within parks and reserves (excluding bushland).

Over the past three years, the City has planted about 760 trees a year in the public domain and an average 570 trees a year in road reserves and parks.

“If this trend continues, it’s anticipated a 20 per cent increase in potential canopy could be achieved in 10 years if the current planting regime of 960 trees a year is maintained and there is no spike in tree mortality,” City of Nedlands Mayor Max Hipkins said.

“The Urban Forest Strategy is designed to respond to changing weather patterns, water shortages, ground water availability, reducing tree canopy and the quality of infrastructure to support this environment.

“It provides guidance on ensuring the City can achieve its tree canopy target, which will result in increased shade to reduce the ground’s surface temperature and achieve increased social, environmental and economic benefits.”

The strategy primarily addresses public land and only monitors the condition of trees on private land.

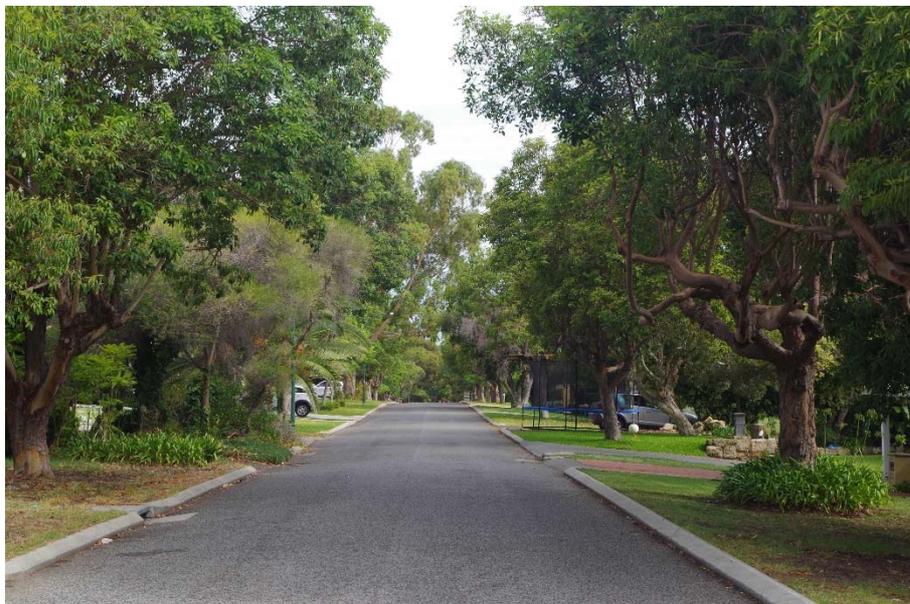
“Urban forest is measured by the size of tree canopy cover, which consists of the branches and leaves of a tree, not the number of trees,” Mayor Hipkins said.

“The amount of canopy cover has the greatest impact on shade and resultant cooling.

“This means it’s important to not only plant new trees but to also protect established trees with large canopies because they provide the greater benefit.”

To find out more and provide feedback, visit yourvoice.nedlands.wa.gov.au before 9 July.

The City of Nedlands wants your thoughts on its Urban Forest Strategy.



About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of more than 21,000 lives in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information, please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 3500.