



2020 Update



Accessible

River Rail - Kogarah to Parramatta

The vision for Greater Sydney as a metropolis of three cities means most residents will live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education, services and great places. A future rail link between Kogarah and Parramatta is critical to the delivery of the 30 minute city and key to unlocking the prosperity of the Central City and the South District.

UPDATE Council has endorsed the River Rail Report calling for the fast tracking of the Kogarah to Parramatta Rail Link. Advocacy efforts include collaboration with Central City Councils calling for the fast tracking of the new connection commencing with the preservation of the corridor.

The Great Georges River Walk

The Georges River is an integral part of Greater Sydney. It continues to be an important place for Aboriginal people in the South Sydney region, providing food, transport and a place for gathering. The delivery of a walking track that connects secret parks, beaches and bays along the Georges River is an opportunity to connect the past and future of Georges River, and create a community recreation and tourism asset.

UPDATE In 2020 the Georges River Community has embraced our local parks and reserves, many of which are located along the Georges River. Council has focused on renewing smaller parks along the River an example is Anderson Park in Sans Souci which had a new playground installed in August. We are providing more and more opportunities for our local community and visitors to embrace the Georges River a critical step towards a more continuous river experience.

Green

100 per cent renewable energy and zero net emissions

The NSW Government has committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. We will lead work towards the targets across our own operations and provide the policy settings, information and support to businesses and residents to reduce their own emissions and practice more sustainable energy choices.

UPDATE In 2020 Georges River became the first Council in NSW to set five new sustainable goals after meeting all of its initial commitments in the Cities Power Partnership, Australia's largest network of cities and towns taking action on climate change.

The new pledges will support the community to reduce their carbon footprint by fast-tracking the uptake of renewables, and continue Council's ongoing work to drive changes within its operations to achieve its 100% renewable energy target by 2025, and work towards net zero carbon emissions.

Some achievements over the past year include increasing our use of solar panels by 100%, which is a saving of around \$22,000 in energy bills per year. We have also promoted the uptake of renewable power options in households, purchased two electric vehicles and certified our summer events as carbon neutral.

Zero waste to landfill

We see a big opportunity to take a leading role in NSW's current waste crisis. Zero waste to landfill requires us to adopt a different mindset and see waste as a resource or opportunity. It's also about avoiding and reducing the amount of waste generated, re-using and recycling waste and drawing on the circular economy principle of regeneration.

UPDATE Council has commenced work on its Waste Management Strategy. The Strategy will focus on creating a reliable environmentally and economically sustainable waste management system for our community. This will be achieved through improving amenity and environmental management, optimizing waste management costs and foster adaptive waste management contracts and importantly supporting and implementing innovative waste management initiatives.



Diverse

Libraries as discovery and sharing networks

Limited resources, collaborative consumption, the older population, and demand for experiences will influence how libraries operate in 2050. We will investigate 24 hour access, additional multifunctional spaces and innovation labs.

UPDATE In 2020 Council endorsed the Libraries 2030 Georges River Libraries Strategy. Council's vision is that by 2030 our libraries will be the centre of information, culture, history, inspiration, creativity and opportunity in support of the development of a diverse and resilient Georges River Community. Already our libraries are showing how they can be adaptable, creative and innovative spaces for our community. Hurstville Library recently became home to a state of the art media and sound lab. The space will offer amazing creative opportunities for our community.

Hurstville celebrated as a vibrant and active city centre

Our vision for Hurstville is that it 'marches to its own beat' as a proud showcase of local culture for a growing yet connected community. The city is brought to life through authentic and creative places and is celebrated as a green, accessible and innovative city.

UPDATE Since the Hurstville 'Heart of the City' Place Strategy was adopted earlier in 2020 it has been full steam ahead delivering our communities vision. Concept designs have been developed for new open space and the Palm Court Car Park and new place activation opportunities along Forest Rd and MacMahon Courtyard. These designs have been complimented by Councils successful Department of Planning Industry and Environment Streets as Shared Spaces grant application which will allow for pop ups and pilot projects that will bring Hurstville to life in early 2021.

Innovative

Kogarah Health, Education and Innovation Precinct

Kogarah is a centre of medical expertise, with jobs concentrated in the health care and social assistance sectors. It has the potential to attract world-class researchers and become a leader in health, technology and sports innovation, building on well-established public hospitals and two private hospitals, a university presence and a TAFE.

UPDATE In 2019 there was significant planning done to support the aspirations for Kogarah. The Kogarah Collaboration Area Place Strategy was endorsed by the NSW Government. The Strategy focuses on leveraging the area's existing assets, networks and activity through a place-based framework. It also highlights a number of opportunities for the Collaboration Area including the cluster of health, education, financial and sporting offerings, emerging research and innovation through the health and education precinct and anticipated future mass transit connections.

The Strategy complements Council's Kogarah Investment Attraction Strategy which guides the expansion of investment and employment in the sectors of health, education and innovation in the area.

A home for Universities

The development of the Kogarah Health and Education Precinct provides a great opportunity for a tertiary institution to be located at Kogarah. The presence of these institutions creates an ecosystem that enhances the conditions for an innovation district with a multi-disciplinary university that supports associated medical research institutions, commercialisation of R&D, start-ups, residential and amenities.

UPDATE Council has built partnerships with universities to better understand how innovation can grow in our city. Most recently we have partnered with the University of Technology (UTS) Sydney ANSTO, Regional Development Australia (RDA) Sydney and Southern Sydney councils, to map the Southern Sydney Innovation Ecosystem and are planning a deep dive into the Kogarah innovation ecosystem.

Council has also successfully completed our second smart cities project 'ChillOut' Spaces, one of which can be found in Kogarah CBD. The ChillOut hubs are outdoor work spaces that are enabled with technology such as power outlets, Wi-Fi and LED lighting to support students and professionals that call live and work in Kogarah. This project was collaboration with the University of NSW and Street Furniture. Australia .