



April 2026

Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework (Part 1)


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Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

Wyndham City Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first Peoples of Australia. We acknowledge the Bunurong and Wadawurrung Peoples as Traditional Owners of the lands on which Wyndham City operates. The Wadawurrung and Bunurong Peoples have and always will belong to the Werribee Yalook (river), creeks, stars, hills and red clay of this Country. We pay respect to their Ancestors and Elders who always have, and always will, care for Country and community today and for future generations.



Introduction

The Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework is part *one* of a *two*-part document. This Framework document is designed to be read in conjunction with part *two* – *Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Standards*.

The ESD Standards is a live working document designed to be updated when relevant industry or internal standards and technical advances arise. Updates will be brought to the City Resilience and Climate Risk Steering Committee for discussion and endorsement where updates do not materially impact on process and budget. Where they do, approval will be sought from the Executive Leadership Team.

As our municipality faces increasing environmental challenges, the need for sustainable infrastructure becomes paramount. This framework aids Council in achieving legislative requirements in relation to climate change and in making more informed sustainable design decisions on infrastructure projects. The implementation of the Framework is achieved through sustainable standards, guides and processes.

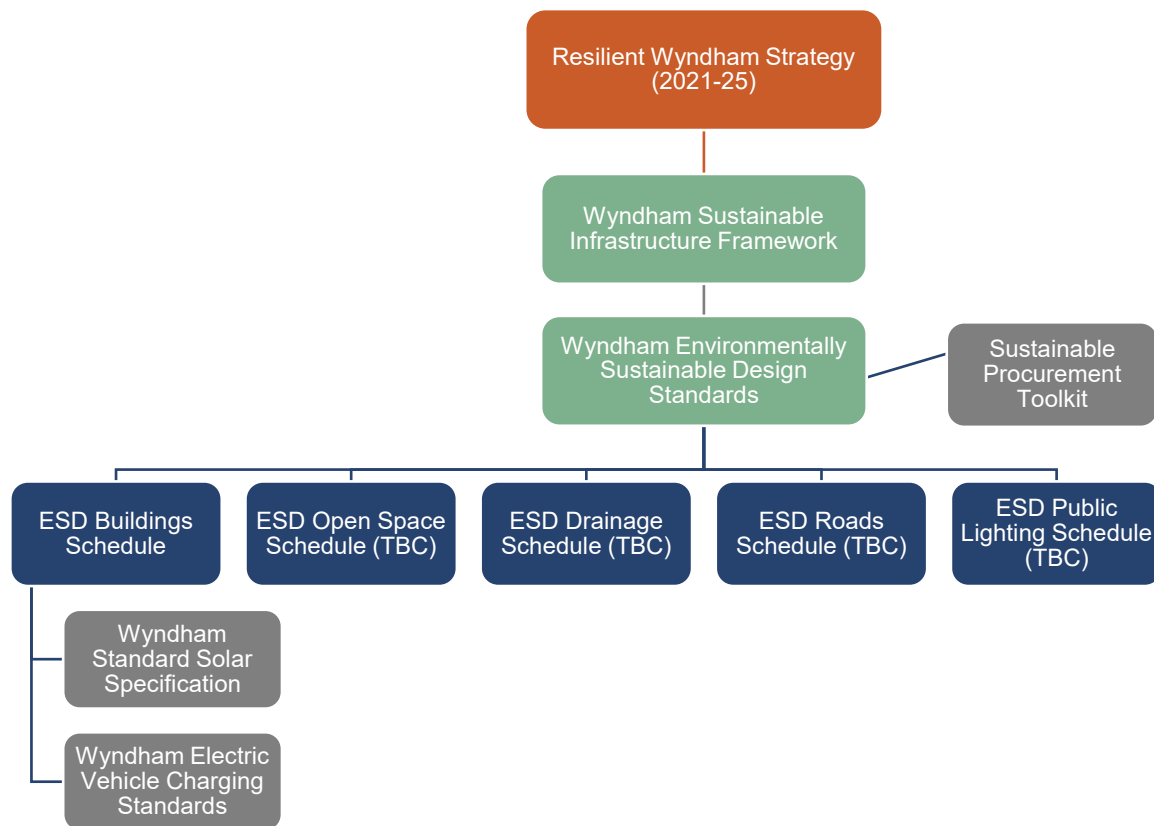
The value of sustainable infrastructure is widely recognised in industry and projects captured under this framework will aim to be more efficient, durable, lower risk, will take opportunities to adapt to and mitigate climate change.

Framework Structure and Strategic Setting

The development and implementation of the Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework will support Council's obligation and commitments associated with the following:

Relevant Act, Scheme, Strategy or Risk Register	Obligation, target or commitment
<p>Under the Victorian Local Government Act 2020 and Climate Change Act 2017, Councils are required to respond to climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils are required to promote 'the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks'. • In considering climate change, the relevant decision-maker must have regard to: the potential impacts of climate change relevant to the decision or action. • In having regard to the potential impacts of climate change, relevant considerations are: potential direct and indirect impacts and potential cumulative impacts.
<p>The Resilient Wyndham 2021-2025 strategy commits to sustainable buildings, and resilient and sustainable development through the targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wyndham City Council operations are carbon neutral by 2023 (excluding the RDF). • All new Council buildings are gas free (where appropriate electrical solutions exist). • Council decision making aligns to the science-based targets in the Paris Agreement.
<p>Council conducts risk management in accordance with the Wyndham Strategic Risk Register - SR3 Climate Resilience.</p>	<p>Coordinated climate change action may not meet legislative and ethical compliance standards; due to complex governance needs for organisation-wide integration, and the increasing frequency, duration and intensity of severe weather events; resulting in excess costs associated with asset damage, poor community health outcomes, and legislative non-compliance.</p>
<p>Under the Wyndham Planning Scheme clause 15.01-2L-01 Environmentally Sustainable Development, applications must demonstrate Best Practice in environmentally sustainable development (ESD) through the submission of a report and sustainability assessment tool.</p>	<p>The planning process requires developments to consider environmentally sustainable design at an early stage to maximise opportunities for sustainability at the least cost to development.</p> <p>Through the Sustainable Infrastructure Framework, council projects will exceed the ESD expectations of the Wyndham Planning Scheme. This ensures that Council is well placed to lead by example and drive uplift in private development, thus underscoring our commitment to creating a sustainable city.</p>
<p>The Victorian Government has committed to an outcome of 'sustainable and resilient city planning and development' under Plan Melbourne 2017-2050.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction 6.1 - Transition to a low-carbon city to enable Victoria to achieve its target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 • Direction 6.2 - Reduce the likelihood and consequences of natural hazard events and adapt to climate change • Direction 6.3 - Integrate urban development and water cycle management to support a resilient and liveable city • Direction 6.4 - Make Melbourne cooler and greener • Direction 6.5 - Protect and restore natural habitats • Direction 6.6 - Improve air quality and reduce the impact of excessive noise • Direction 6.7 - Reduce waste and improve waste management and resource recovery

The below image outlines the Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework documentation structure.



Background

Wyndham City Council is a certified Climate Active organisation in support of our carbon neutral commitment under Resilient Wyndham 2021-2025.

The World Green Building Council finds that 39% of global emissions are due to the construction and operation of our buildings. In Wyndham we also see that 22% of our emissions are a direct result of constructing with concrete, asphalt and road base materials, painting a clear picture to seek emissions reductions through our full scope of works and also to ensure projects are equipped to manage a changing climate and guarantee their longevity.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to facilitate the delivery of environmentally sustainable design into infrastructure design and construction projects, major renewals/refurbishments and asset maintenance works at Wyndham City Council.

The implementation of this framework addresses a key strategic direction outlined in the Council Plan (2025 – 2029) which acknowledges that Wyndham is:

- *A Welcoming, Healthy, and Resilient City*
- *A Clean and Green City: A presentable and sustainable place where open spaces are valued protected and enjoyed*
- *Delivering for the community*

Council will;

- *Work with other levels of government and key stakeholders to provide sustainable, fit for purpose community infrastructure.*
- *Leverage opportunities and invest in initiatives that reduce our carbon footprint.*
- *Work in partnership with other levels of government and key stakeholders to ensure the City's unique natural environment, flora and fauna is protected.*

Invest in the development of its workforce to continuously improve Council's processes and systems to drive operational efficiencies.

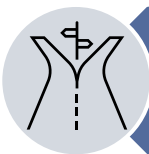
Principles

The principals of this framework were developed during consultation with key stakeholders across the Wyndham Project Management Community. The principals respond to the strategic setting of the framework and build on the intent and guiding principles of the superseded Environmentally Sustainable Design Framework 2015.



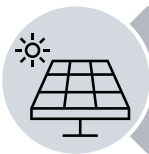
Carbon Neutrality

Council will continue to measure, minimise and offset its emissions in the capital works program through considered design, timely reporting and accountability.



Climate Adaptation

Council will consider how assets can adapt to climate change when planning and designing new infrastructure and renewing existing infrastructure. New assets will be resilient and durable, focusing on reaching and exceeding the useful life of the infrastructure as planned in the Wyndham Asset Management Strategy.



Climate Change Mitigation

Council will take opportunities to reduce its contribution to climate change that result from the capital works program and operational project delivery. This will include the practical implementation of innovations that support the above principles.



Protect and Restore Biodiversity and Natural Ecosystems

Council will design and build to minimise negative impacts on natural systems and take opportunities to enhance biodiversity.

Alignment

This policy works in conjunction with all statutory building and planning requirements. The requirements of this policy sit adjacent to any statutory requirements such as the National Construction Code and do not replace these requirements. The Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework aligns with a number of Council strategies, plans and policies as listed below.

- Wyndham City Council Plan 2025 - 2029
- Resilient Wyndham 2021 - 2025
- The Wyndham Asset Plan 2022 – 2032
- City Forest and Habitat Strategy 2017 - 2040
- Coastal and Marine Management Plan 2020 – 2025
- Smart Cities Strategy 2019 - 2024
- Wyndham Open Space Strategy 2045
- Wyndham City Biodiversity Policy
- Wyndham City Water Sensitive Urban (WSUD) Selection & Design Guidelines 2018
- Wyndham Plan 2023 – 2040

Scope

This framework applies to all capital projects for new and renewal of assets as triggered in the **Implementation and Reporting** section. The intended outcome is for projects to be more efficient, durable, lower risk, to mitigate climate change and be resilient in a changing climate.

The Wyndham ESD Standards (*part 2*) set the minimum sustainability expectations for Council's new building and existing buildings.



The standards and associated ESD Schedule must be referred to by Council staff and contractors when planning or carrying out projects and works involved in the design, construction, expansion, upgrade, renewal, maintenance and disposal of Council's assets.

The standards vary depending on project type and scale to ensure viability; i.e standards requiring more resources are only applicable to larger projects that can accommodate their inclusion and realise the benefits of the standard without undue compromise. The ESD Schedule documents contain all applicable standards by project type and category. Details on how to implement the ESD schedule documents are defined in the Standards.

Accountabilities

The practical implementation of this framework is detailed in the (part 2) Wyndham ESD standards document.

The Executive and Senior Leadership Team acknowledge the corporate and strategic commitment to deliver sustainable capital projects. They will ensure planning of capital projects provides for the necessary resources to fulfil the aims of this framework.

The ESD Standards and associated ESD Schedule must be referred to by Council staff and contractors when planning for, or carrying out projects and works, involved in the design, construction, expansion, upgrade, renewal, maintenance and disposal of Council's assets.

To enable the implementation of the Sustainable Infrastructure Framework, Project Sponsors of relevant projects will:

- Initiate projects that comply with the Sustainable Infrastructure Framework, and
- Include ESD requirements into the project scoping phase, as per the ESD Standards.

To enable the implementation of this framework, Project Managers of relevant projects will:

- Implement projects that comply with the Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework, utilising guidance from the ESD Standards;
- Incorporate the Wyndham Sustainable Infrastructure Framework when developing their Service/Asset Management Plans with support from the Climate & Resilience Unit;
- Participate in appropriate training to develop the skill sets required to undertake sustainable building practices as appropriate for the responsibility of the role or position; and
- Ensure verification by the Climate & Resilience Unit at relevant stages.

To assist with the implementation of this framework, key stakeholder engagement and upskilling will be integrated into Council's Project Management Processes.

The Climate and Resilience Unit is responsible for maintaining the 'ESD Schedules' referenced by the Wyndham ESD Standards (part 2) document, which may be adjusted as industry standards and corporate expectations change. Amendments will be endorsed by the City Resilience and Climate Risk Steering Committee where updates do not materially impact on process and budget. Where they do, approval will be sought from the Executive Leadership Team.



Implementation and Reporting

Council commits to the following minimum ESD requirements for respective projects:

		NEW BUILDING				EXISTING BUILDING
		PAVILION	MINOR COMMUNITY BUILDING \$2m-\$15m	MAJOR COMMUNITY BUILDING \$15m+	MAJOR SPORTS, AQUATIC & ARTS CENTRE \$15m+	MAINTENANCE / REFURBISHMENT \$2m+
ESD REQUIREMENTS						
Compliance with ESD Buildings Schedule						
5 Star Green Star Certification including WCC minimum credits pathway						
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS						
CONCEPT DESIGN	ESD Strategy					
	Climate Change Risk Assessment					
SCHEMATIC DESIGN	ESD Report		^	^		^
	Green Star Pathway Proposal				*	
DETAILED DESIGN	ESD Report					
	Green Star Pathway Proposal				*	
TENDER	Sustainable Procurement Metrics					
	Green Star Pathway Proposal				*	
CONSTRUCTION	Green Star Progress Report				*	
COMPLETION	Sustainable Procurement Metrics					
	Green Star Submission & Certification				*	
CONSULTANT REQUIREMENTS						
Suitably qualified ESD professional appointed to the Design Team		#				#

^ = Draft report only

* = To be reported on at regular progress meetings

= Only if required to trial innovative approaches

Notes;

- 'Green Star' is an industry recognised tool that should be referred to for their current standards and application.
- The ESD requirements and standards are to be incorporated into RFQ/RFT documentation so that they are an inherent part of the design and documentation.

Evaluation and Review

The Sustainable Infrastructure Framework will be continuously monitored to ensure that it maintains relevance, objectivity and consistency. All projects will be evaluated and reported against for compliance with the Sustainable Infrastructure Framework. The results of all project evaluations will be used to verify the reliability and effectiveness of the Framework.

The Standards will be reviewed annually to ensure the latest technology, policy and standards are considered for future projects.

The Climate and Resilience Unit will carry out the Monitoring Review and Evaluation of the framework as required.

Standards Updates and Process

Updates to the Standards should be provided to the City Resilience and Climate Risk Steering Committee and any relevant additional Department Managers responsible for assets effected by the standards amendment/s.

Updates can be sought in accordance with annual reviews (as detailed above), in response to changing market conditions, industry standards, technology standards, Wyndham practices, responding to regulatory change and when continuous improvement opportunities are presented. Where updates do not materially impact on process and budget the steering committee may approve changes to the relevant standards.

If a proposed standards update may significantly impact overall capital process or budget, approval will be sought from the Executive Leadership Team.