

Melbourne's Urban Forest Strategy — A 40% Canopy Target for 2040, Delivered Precinct by Precinct

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Australia

Quality score: 52/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Since 2012 the City of Melbourne has run a 20-year plan to lift public-realm tree canopy to 40% by 2040 and keep 90% of trees healthy. Planting is real, but canopy gains have been offset by heatwave-driven losses of mature trees.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-03

[City of Melbourne](#) — accessed 2026-10-03

[AIPH green city case study](#) — accessed 2026-10-03

[Centre for Public Impact — Melbourne's urban forest strategy](#) — accessed 2026-10-03

[The Melburnian — next urban forest plan for the CBD \(2024\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-03

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