

Objective 4: Greening Private Land and New Development

Privately owned land accounts for 66% of the Vincent local government area. Infill development in this domain has been the main contributor to decline in Vincent's tree canopy and vegetation cover. The recent introduction of policy provisions to preserve and increase tree canopy and soft landscaping in new developments is one mechanism through which the City aims to reverse this trend. Other approaches will require proactive engagement and advocacy with landowners and state government as set out in the targets and actions below.

Targets:

- Tree canopy cover of 12% on privately owned land by 2050 (interim target: 7.53% by 2023 [based on 2019 mapping data](#), up from 6.81% in 2014)
- Reduced loss of tree canopy cover on privately owned land compared to each previous five-yearly imaging cycle
- Increased tree planting compared to each previous five-yearly imaging cycle
- Compliance with the tree retention, deep soil zone and tree canopy provisions of the City's Built Form Policy 7.1.1
- Increased planting of trees and other vegetation on privately owned land

Actions:

- Educate the community on the benefits of trees and soft landscaping
- Support and advise residents in choosing appropriate tree and landscaping species
- Engage and educate developers on the value of trees and soft landscaping to developments
- Advise developers in choosing appropriate tree and landscaping species
- Use available planning instruments to mandate and incentivise the retention or reinstatement of vegetation
- Investigate incentives for encouraging tree retention by property owners outside the development approval process
- Advocate for changes to state planning legislation and policy to facilitate protection of both trees on privately owned land and their owners against tree-related liability