

IMPLEMENTATION

This Strategy is structured around a vision and five themes that articulate the desired outcomes for Canberra. To achieve the vision and themes, 25 strategic directions and 65 actions have been developed to focus implementation and achieve the outcomes.

This Strategy will be implemented through the following opportunities:

- » as a framework for policy development to inform district planning, building on the Master Plan Program and other local plans
- » inform strategic planning and service delivery across government
- » integrate with the ACT Government Infrastructure Plan 2011–21 and its update to align major land use and infrastructure planning
- » integrate with ACT climate change and transport strategies to align land use, transport and climate change adaptation for a resilient and connected Canberra
- » **encourage investment in Canberra by clearly showing the parameters for growth management and the infrastructure investment intentions of government.**

Many of the actions under this Strategy rely on implementation through the Territory Plan, the government's key statutory planning document in the ACT. With a review of the Territory Plan scheduled to begin in 2019, the release of this Strategy provides a sound basis for scoping elements of the review.

Annual reporting on this Strategy will occur through the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate Annual Report. This will identify progress on the actions under the Strategy.

In accordance with the [Planning and Development Act 2007](#), consideration as to whether a review of the Strategy is required is made every five years. This enables government to review progress on the Strategy implementation and to consider whether the Strategy requires updating to take account of legislative, social, economic or environmental changes.

The ACT State of the Environment Report is a key vehicle to review and monitor progress towards achieving the five theme areas and corresponding directions and actions. The report is a requirement of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, and the [Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment Act 1993](#), and is undertaken every four years, with the next report due in 2019.

Delivering the Strategy

Preparation of this Strategy has been informed by extensive engagement with the community, business, peak groups and government stakeholders.

Successful implementation will similarly rely on a range of stakeholders to realise the vision and initiatives under this Strategy.

Responsibility for delivering the Strategy rests with the Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, in consultation with a number of other ACT Government Directorates

ACT PLANNING STRATEGY 2018 – IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

Strategic Direction	Action	Lead Agency	Partner Agencies
COMPACT AND EFFICIENT CITY			
1.1 Support sustainable urban growth by working towards delivering up to 70% of new housing within our existing urban footprint, and by concentrating development in areas located close to the city centre, town and group centres and along key transit corridors.	1.1.1 In order to manage growth and achieve a compact and efficient city, work towards achieving up to 70% of new housing within the existing urban footprint by identifying, investigating and planning for infill development in line with key location criteria.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, CRA, SLA, HD
	1.1.2 Investigate the opportunities for higher density development within future urban intensification locations in order to inform prioritisation and staging of future development, land release and infrastructure (social and physical) investment options in locations that meet that meet certain criteria.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, CRA, SLA, EDU
	1.1.3 Undertake preliminary land use investigations for the potential City to Woden light rail line to determine the opportunities for urban intensification afforded by increased transport accessibility.	EPSDD	TCCS, NCA
	1.1.4 Building on the Master Plan Program, investigate opportunities for district-level strategic and spatial planning approaches (see District level planning section) for districts likely to accommodate substantial infill growth and/or significant change.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, CRA, SLA
1.2 Investigate the potential for new residential areas to the west of the city to meet future housing need.	1.2.1 Undertake environmental, infrastructure and planning studies for the western edge of the city to identify suitable areas for a range of uses.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, SLA
1.3 Use infrastructure efficiently to support our growing community.	1.3.1 Continue to align land use planning and infrastructure planning to support the growth of the city.	EPSDD	TCCS, CMTEDD
1.4 Continue to work with the NSW Government and Councils to implement joint initiatives to understand and manage growth in the Canberra Region.	1.4.1 Progress joint ACT and NSW planning actions identified in the NSW Government's 'South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036' including an agreed set of principles to inform a new cross-border infrastructure funding model and a cross-border land and housing monitor.	CMTEDD	EPSDD, NSW Government
	1.4.2 Continue to collaborate with the NSW Government and councils in the region and other stakeholders on planning and related issues through the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CBRJO) and other forums.	CMTEDD	EPSDD, NSW Government
1.5 Protect the ACT and NSW border interface.	1.5.1 Support the provision of adequate buffer areas between the urban areas of the ACT and adjoining land uses within NSW, in order to achieve compact and efficient growth, avoid land use conflict, protect rural and environmentally important areas, and maintain the setting and approaches to the National Capital.	CMTEDD	EPSDD, NSW Government, NCA

Strategic Direction	Action	Lead Agency	Partner Agencies
DIVERSE CANBERRA			
2.1 Respect Canberra's culturally rich and diverse community to foster inclusion and participation in our community.	2.1.1 Continue to build on an evidence based approach to planning the city.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, EDU
	2.1.2 Incorporate cultural and linguistic, age and gender diversity in comprehensive engagement on strategic planning to strengthen participation in the planning of our city.	EPSDD	CMTEDD
	2.1.3 Take a district-level approach to planning for our diverse community to investigate the implications on a range of local infrastructure, housing and place making approaches.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, SLA, CRA, CSD, TCCS, HD, EDU
2.2 Enhance the diversity and resilience of our centres to meet the needs of the community, support economic viability and improved liveability.	2.2.1 Investigate a new approach to Canberra's centres hierarchy policy.	EPSDD	CMTEDD
2.3 Improve the character of our city centre to improve liveability and activity.	2.3.1 Establish an approach to the urban design of the city centre that focusses on interconnected precincts, and considers matters relevant to the city centre location.	EPSDD	CRA, TCCS
	2.3.2 Support the implementation of the City Renewal Authority and other initiatives to enhance sustainability and revitalise the city.	EPSDD	CRA, TCCS
	2.3.3 Support and plan for the growth of commercial and residential development within the city centre to meet a diverse range of business investment and lifestyle choices that effectively uses existing infrastructure.	EPSDD	CRA, TCCS
2.4 Recognise and protect existing industrial areas and service trade areas as important elements of a diverse economy.	2.4.1 Investigate planning measures to manage competing demands and protect the role and function of service trade and industrial areas.	EPSDD	TCCS
2.5 Plan for adequate employment land in the right location that supports a diverse range of uses including commercial and industrial land linked to supportive infrastructure, transport options and investment opportunities.	2.5.1 Investigate the changing nature of employment and its spatial distribution implications in the ACT in order to inform planning and infrastructure decisions.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS
	2.5.2 Continue investigations into the establishment of new employment areas and other land uses including the Eastern Broadacre area and other potential sites.	EPSDD	TCCS
	2.5.3 Undertake district level investigation to consider how planning can support the growth of our knowledge clusters.	EPSDD	CMTEDD

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DIVERSE CANBERRA			
2.6 Protect and enhance infrastructure that supports the economic development of Canberra and the region.	2.6.1 Continue to work with the NSW Government and regional councils to advocate for strategic infrastructure that benefits the Canberra Region and has the capacity to drive economic development.	CMTEDD	EPSDD, TCCS, NSW Government
	2.6.2 Work with the Australian Government and other stakeholders on the high speed rail concept ensuring proposed corridors are protected.	TCCS	EPSDD, Federal Government
	2.6.3 Incorporate appropriate provisions for the National Airports Safeguarding Framework in the review of the Territory Plan.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, NCA
	2.6.4 Plan for complementary and compatible economic development opportunities around Canberra Airport.	EPSDD	
	2.6.5 Support the development of the freight network by limiting inappropriate development (eg: sensitive uses) and direct access points along national freight routes, particularly the Monaro, Federal and Barton Highways.	TCCS	EPSDD
	2.6.6 Participate in discussions with key stakeholders including the Canberra Airport and regional neighbours to understand the potential and key requirements for a freight hub or hubs within the Canberra region.	CMTEDD	EPSDD, NCA, TCCS

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SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT TERRITORY			
3.1 Transitioning to net zero emissions city through the uptake of renewable energy, improved building design and transport initiatives.	3.1.1	Investigate appropriate planning policy and statutory mechanisms to encourage the development of net zero emissions buildings, precincts and suburbs.	EPSDD SLA, CRA
	3.2	Reduce vulnerability to natural hazard events and adapt to climate change.	3.2.1 Review planning policy and statutory mechanisms to incorporate climate change adaptation considerations and resilience criteria into urban planning and design processes.
3.3 Integrate living infrastructure and sustainable design to make Canberra a resilient city within the landscape.	3.3.1	Support the implementation of a living infrastructure plan for the ACT through the review of planning policy and planning mechanisms to support the maintenance and enhancement of the urban forest in precinct, estate and district level planning processes, and relevant development and design guidelines.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
	3.3.2	Support the implementation of climate wise design and materials in statutory planning provisions, precinct and estate planning processes, and relevant development and design guidelines.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
3.4 Plan for integrated water cycle management to support healthy waterways and a liveable city.	3.4.1	Implement the revised WSUD General Code and integrate consideration of WSUD into precinct and estate and suburb planning and design processes.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
	3.4.2	Evaluate and implement cost-effective opportunities for stormwater irrigation of living infrastructure and priority public open space areas, as part of integrated water cycle planning in precinct, and estate and suburb planning and design processes.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
3.5 Protect biodiversity and enhance habitat connectivity to improve landscape resilience.	3.5.1	Identify and establish environmental offset areas within planning processes to mitigate any unavoidable impacts of development on ecosystems and biodiversity of national significance and other protected matter.	EPSDD Australian Government
	3.5.2	Incorporate consideration of natural habitat and conservation areas into urban planning and design processes to promote habitat connectivity and support the establishment of biodiversity refuges.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
3.6 Reduce waste, improve resource efficiency and decrease our ecological footprint.	3.6.1	Investigate appropriate requirements under the Territory Plan for the provision of resource recovery infrastructure and waste service requirements in planning provisions for medium and higher density residential and mixed-use developments.	EPSDD TCCS, CRA, SLA
	3.6.2	Encourage reduced waste and improved resource efficiency in new development and support the continued reduction of the ACT's ecological footprint.	EPSDD OCSE

Strategic Direction	Action	Lead Agency	Partner Agencies
LIVEABLE CANBERRA			
4.1 Deliver social infrastructure that meets community needs and supports strong communities.	4.1.1 Investigate social infrastructure in infill and urban expansion (greenfield) areas to meet community needs.	EPSDD	CSD, CMTEDD, ED, HD, TCCS
	4.1.2 Undertake district-level assessment of land used to deliver community-focussed functions to inform the strategic release and development of land for community use to maximise whole-of-community benefit.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, ED
	4.1.3 Investigate land under concessional lease to strategically determine the future use of that land for greatest public benefit.	EPSDD	CMTEDD
4.2 Deliver recreation, open (green) space and public spaces that support social interaction, physical and mental health and engagement in public life.	4.2.1 Investigate planning mechanisms to deliver a range of sport and recreation opportunities to meet changing community need by taking a strategic city-wide approach.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, HD
	4.2.2 Investigate opportunities to enhance the network of accessible, high quality local open space to meet changing community need through a district planning approach.	EPSDD	CMTEDD, TCCS, SLA, CRA, HD
4.3 Strengthen neighbourhoods and support their diverse character by creating strong local activity hubs.	4.3.1 Continue to support local community and business capacity by developing place-making approaches to support vital neighbourhoods.	EPSDD	TCCS, CRA, SLA
	4.3.2 Investigate planning mechanisms to respond to the changing role of local centres and their long-term viability, and place within the hierarchy.	EPSDD	TCCS
4.4 Deliver housing that is diverse and affordable to support a liveable city.	4.4.1 Plan for a range of higher density development in appropriate and clearly defined locations with a mix of apartment and dwelling types to improve diversity and access to support ageing in place, families, affordability and adaptability.	EPSDD	
	4.4.2 Identify priority areas for medium density housing in locations that meet diverse community needs.	EPSDD	
	4.4.3 Building on the Housing Choices consultation, continue to develop planning mechanisms to facilitate the delivery of medium density housing options.	EPSDD	
	4.4.4 Building on the Housing Choices consultation, investigate options for dual occupancies in the RZ1 zone and RZ2 zone.	EPSDD	
	4.4.5 Investigate planning provisions to facilitate the delivery of affordable housing across the spectrum of community needs.	EPSDD	CSD
4.5 Encourage high quality design, built form and places for a changing climate.	4.5.1 Investigate a range of processes to improve the design and quality of our buildings and public places.	EPSDD	CRA, TCCS
	4.5.2 Investigate policy and planning mechanisms to improve streetscape design for better tree canopy cover and improved verge design of streets.	EPSDD	CRA, SLA, TCCS
	4.5.3 Integrate policy and planning mechanisms to enhance living infrastructure for the planning and design of residential areas in our neighbourhoods.	EPSDD	CRA, SLA, TCCS

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ACCESSIBLE CANBERRA			
5.1 Enhance accessibility by better integrating transport and land use.	5.1.1 Support the integrated transport network by focussing urban intensification in town centres and around group centres and along the major public transport routes, and balancing where greenfield expansion occurs.	EPSDD	TCCS
	5.1.2 Support the delivery of the government's transport strategy to expand movement options (particularly active travel) and the delivery of the government's Climate Change strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport.	TCCS	EPSDD
	5.1.3 Investigate parking provision requirements to confirm they support broader government accessibility and transport policy.	EPSDD	TCCS
	5.1.4 Plan and strategically locate community infrastructure, services and open space in order to optimise accessibility and meet the needs of a growing and changing population.	EPSDD	CSD, TCCS, SLA, HD, EDU
5.2 Deliver well designed, safe and sustainable streets and public spaces to create walkable neighbourhoods that are inclusive and fair.	5.2.1 Apply the Movement and Place Framework in future precinct planning to recognise people and place in the design and function of precincts.	EPSDD	TCCS
	5.2.2 Support the Active Travel Office to improve walking and cycling network connectivity and urban amenity, particularly close to key transport corridors, local and town centres and education institutions.	TCCS	EPSDD
	5.2.3 Through place making and improved urban design, deliver high quality streets and places to facilitate social inclusion, activity and improve accessibility.	EPSDD	TCCS, CRA, SLA
5.3 Create a better experience for walking and cycling into and within the city centre and our town centres.	5.3.1 Work with the City Renewal Authority and other partners to create high quality, lively and safe streets and public spaces in the city centre that encourage walking, cycling and public transport use.	CRA	EPSDD, TCCS
	5.3.2 Support the development of high quality, lively and safe streets and public spaces in our town centres that encourage walking, cycling and public transport use.	EPSDD	TCCS
	5.3.3 Review parking arrangements in the city centre and develop a city parking strategy.	EPSDD	

CMTEDD	Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
CRA	City Renewal Authority
CSD	Community Services Directorate
EDU	Education Directorate
EPSDD	Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
HD	Health Directorate
NCA	National Capital Authority
OCSE	Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment
SLA	Suburban Land Agency
TCCS	Transport Canberra and City Services (Directorate)