



Image: William Beach Reserve, Brownsville

Wollongong City Council

Our Wollongong Our Future 2035 Community Strategic Plan Summary





*Image: Aboriginal Smoking Ceremony,
Sculpture in the Garden, Wollongong Botanic Garden*

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our city is built, Dharawal Country. We recognise and appreciate their deep connection to this land, waters and the greater community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and those emerging and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who call this city home. We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first people to live in the area. We respect their living cultures and recognise the positive contribution their voices, traditions and histories make to the city.



Image: Lunar New Year

Community Vision

On Dharawal Country, from the mountains to the sea, we value our natural environment, we respect each other, our past and future. We will be a sustainable, connected, vibrant, and innovative city, with a diverse economy.

Community Goals

Wollongong is Sustainable Connected Vibrant Inclusive

We are a sustainable and climate resilient city

We have well planned, connected, and liveable places

We foster a diverse economy, and we value innovation, culture, and creativity

We have a healthy, respectful, and inclusive community

Goal 1 | Sustainable

We are a sustainable and climate resilient city



How will we get there?

- 1.1 The community is actively involved in the expansion, improvement, and preservation of our waterways, green corridors, and other natural areas connecting the escarpment to the sea.
- 1.2 Partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations in the way we care for the environment.
- 1.3 Manage and improve the cleanliness, health, biodiversity of land and water including creeks, lakes, waterways and oceans.
- 1.4 Increase our resilience to natural disasters and ability to adapt to a changing climate, to protect life, property, and the environment.
- 1.5 Work together to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- 1.6 Reuse, repurpose, redirect, or recycle, to drive a circular economy, and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.
- 1.7 Manage our coastal environments, including Lake Illawarra, to protect and enhance environmental sustainability, social, cultural, and economic values.



Image: Local residents in their garden

Image: Children enjoying Nature Shake Event at Wollongong Botanic Garden

Goal 2 | Connected

We have well planned, connected, and liveable places



Image: Culture Mix Festival

How will we get there?

- 2.1 Urban areas are planned and well maintained to provide a healthy and safe environment for our community to live, work and play.
- 2.2 Facilitate ecologically sustainable development that considers the current and future needs of our community and environment.
- 2.3 Deliver high quality, fit for purpose and sustainable infrastructure to support a growing and resilient city.
- 2.4 Housing provides choice, affordability, and liveability for our diverse community.
- 2.5 Integrated services are provided to residents in need of urgent shelter.
- 2.6 The growth of West Dapto urban release area is well planned with facilities, spaces and educational institutions to support the growing community.
- 2.7 Develop and implement programs and projects that achieve proactive heritage management, education and promotion.
- 2.8 Plan, advocate for, and provide affordable, accessible and sustainable multi-modal transport networks. This includes continuation and expansion of the Gong Shuttle, and active transport infrastructure to meet the community's needs.
- 2.9 Effective and integrated regional transport with a focus on road, bus, rail and freight movement (including the port of Port Kembla).
- 2.10 Plan and provide sustainable infrastructure for safe and liveable places integrated with the environment and accessible to key transport routes.
- 2.11 Advocate for strong transport links within the Local Government Area, and connections to Greater Sydney, particularly Western Sydney (including the Aerotropolis), and the Illawarra Region, to provide physical and economic opportunities.
- 2.12 Improve active transport links and connectivity to our unique places and spaces, including marine access along the Local Government Area and accessibility from the Central Business District to the foreshore.
- 2.13 Maintain the service levels of our roads, footpaths, cycleways, and shared paths to an acceptable standard.
- 2.14 Plan and deliver an accessible, safe, clean and inviting public domain.
- 2.15 Community transport options for frail older people, people with disabilities, and the transport disadvantaged, are actively promoted and available.

Goal 3 | Vibrant

We foster a diverse economy, and we value innovation, culture, and creativity



How will we get there?

- 3.1 Support educational and employment opportunities that retain young people and local talent, attract new workers and provide opportunities for the unemployed.
- 3.2 Continue to diversify and grow the Wollongong economy to enhance its economic and employment role in the Region recognising opportunities and challenges in South West Sydney.
- 3.3 Increase and attract new business investment and enterprise to Wollongong while supporting and growing existing local businesses.
- 3.4 Continue to build Wollongong CBD as a vibrant employment precinct with an active evening economy.
- 3.5 Encourage an innovative and diverse economy, which drives entrepreneurship, research capability and commercialisation in the Wollongong Local Government Area.
- 3.6 We are leaders in sustainable industries and support a transition to a low-carbon and clean energy future.
- 3.7 Support key growth sectors to assist in the ongoing transition of Wollongong's economy, including Port Kembla industrial lands.
- 3.8 Promote the Wollongong Local Government Area as an event, conference and visitor destination.
- 3.9 Enable signature events and festivals where communities and visitors can gather and celebrate.
- 3.10 Promote and support tourism opportunities through planning controls and infrastructure.
- 3.11 Using community art and cultural development practices, our places and spaces reflect the creativity, history, and identity of our people.
- 3.12 Promote museums and galleries as part of the cultural landscape.

Goal 4 | Inclusive

We have a healthy, respectful,
and inclusive community



How will we get there?

- 4.1 Accessible and appropriate health care services are available to the community.
- 4.2 Provide a variety of quality and accessible public spaces and opportunities for sport, play, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities in the community.
- 4.3 Provide safe, well-maintained and accessible beaches and aquatic facilities, and promote water and beach recreation safety to residents and visitors.
- 4.4 Plan for, and provide opportunities for inclusion for people of all abilities in our community.
- 4.5 Healthy, active ageing programs are provided and promoted in partnership with government agencies and community organisations.
- 4.6 Work together to reduce crime, and foster a safe, and resilient community.
- 4.7 Work towards enabling all people in our community to have access to safe, nutritious, affordable, and sustainably produced food.
- 4.8 Provide our community with equitable services, access to education, and information to help them make informed decisions.
- 4.9 Provide programs, services and places including libraries and facilities for social cohesion, cultural activities and community belonging.
- 4.10 Work in partnership to reduce inequity and build on opportunities to strengthen vulnerable communities.
- 4.11 Partner with our diverse communities, including Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities on programs and projects.
- 4.12 In the spirit of reconciliation, build awareness and understanding of Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, heritage and histories.
- 4.13 Support and strengthen the local community services sector.
- 4.14 Council demonstrates responsible leadership that is customer focused, demonstrates respect and inclusion, and uses resources that are managed effectively to ensure long-term sustainability.

By working together we will make the aspirations of our community a reality.



Image: Austinmer sunrise

Our Wollongong Our Future 2035 Community Strategic Plan is a shared community vision and details the actions needed over the next 10 years to create the Wollongong our community wants. The Plan has been prepared in response to community feedback on their aspirations for the future. Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan responds to the community's vision and goals and outlines the services and projects that Council has capacity to deliver.

Visit Council's website for more information.



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