



Community Verge Development Policy

Reference Number:	4.39
Type:	Council Policy
Category:	Environment and Open Space
Relevant Community Plan Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greenhouse gas emissions significantly reduce, and we adapt to our changing climate• Our city is greener to reduce heat island effects and enhance our biodiversity
Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Open Space, Recreation and Property
First Issued/Approved:	24 February 2020
Minutes Reference:	CoS 2/05/2022, Item 4.14
Last Reviewed:	May 2022
Next Review Due:	May 2024
Applicable Legislation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Government Act 1999• Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016• Electricity Act 1996• Water Resources Act 1997• Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)• Environment Protection Act 1993• Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural and Other Purposes Act) Act 1986• South Australian Water Corporation Act 1994• Road Traffic Act 1961• Native Vegetation Act 1991• Disability Discrimination Act 1992• Natural Resources Management Act 2004
Related Policies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City of Charles Sturt Environmental Sustainability Policy• City of Charles Sturt Memorials Policy• City of Charles Sturt Path Policy• City of Charles Sturt Public Consultation Policy
Related Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australian Standard for Risk Management (AS/NS 4360-2004).• City of Charles Sturt Community Plan 2013 – 2027.• City of Charles Sturt Living Green to 2020.• City of Charles Sturt Open Space Strategy 2025.• City of Charles Sturt Vegetation Management Plan.• City of Charles Sturt Risk Management Framework.• Western Adelaide Urban Heat Mapping Study• Verge Planting Guidelines and Checklist

1. Purpose

The City of Charles Sturt Community Verge Development Policy has been written in line with the strategies, actions and objectives of:

- Community Plan 2016 – 2027 Charles Sturt – A Leading, Liveable City
- Living Green to 2020
- Open Space Strategy 2025
- Biodiversity Action Plan 2017 – 2030

It is the intention of this policy to both formalise and clearly state Councils commitment to:

- Improving and maintaining verges and streetscapes across the City
- Enabling and empowering our community to green our Cities verges and streetscapes

2. Scope

This policy relates to the development and maintenance of verges and streetscapes on land owned by or under the management and control of Council.

3. Policy Statement

The streetscapes and public open space within the City of Charles Sturt provide for the aesthetic, amenity, habitat and biodiversity needs of the city while maintaining a sustainable and sensitive approach in context with the built environment.

Residents are encouraged to establish and maintain the verge adjacent their property. Where a resident is unable to maintain their verge, Council provides a limited, risk management and vegetation management service and a verge conversion programme in line with Councils Tree and Vegetation Management Plan.

The primary objective of this policy is to ensure effective programmes, guidelines and permit processes are in place, to facilitate improvements across the City's streetscapes through community participation in the development and maintenance of the city's verges and streetscapes

- Increased amenity
- Increased biodiversity
- Increased habitat opportunities
- Mitigation of the urban heat island effect
- Opportunities to build and sustain a vibrant, connected and resilient community.

In keeping with these outcomes and the Verge Development Guidelines and Checklist, the use of artificial turf in the verge is not permitted.

All verge developments must comply with Councils Community Verge Development Guidelines in order to achieve issue of an automatic Permit under Section 221 of the Local Government Act. Any verge development

that does not comply with the Community Verge Development Guidelines, including planter boxes in the streetscape, must be formally assessed by an authorised officer prior to the issue of a permit.

4. Definitions

Key Term – Acronym	Definition
Verge	<p>The “Verge” is the strip of land between the kerb and the property boundary which provides access for many purposes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrians; • Vehicle access; • Trees and Streetscaping; • Services such as water, sewer, gas, electricity and telecommunication services • Waste Collection services