

Banyule Urban Forest Strategy DRAFT Framework

December 2021

What is driving the need for improved urban forest management?

The major drivers behind the new Banyule Urban Forest Strategy are

The declaration of the Climate Emergency by Banyule in 2019

Community input in 2021 during the development of the Banyule 2041 Community Vision

Recognition of the continuing need to protect and enhance Banyule's natural environment

Evolving developments in urban forest management and urban forest strategies that can be used to reflect on and enhance the 2015 strategy

Overall Vision 2041

We in Banyule are a thriving, sustainable, inclusive and connected community we are engaged, we belong and we value and protect our environment.

Priority themes

Strategic objectives 2021-2025

Our sustainable environment

Protect, increase and maintain Banyule's urban forest

Our Inclusive and Connected Community

Demonstrate leadership in addressing climate change

Our Well-built City

Protect and enhance our natural environment: connected habitat for diverse flora and fauna

Our Thriving Local Economy

Minimise stormwater pollution and the impacts of flooding

Our Valued Community Assets and Facilities

Community Assets will be evenly distributed

Our Trusted and Responsive Leadership

Protect and enhance local character

Our open space improves health and well being

Draft Banyule Urban Forest Strategy

What is an urban forest?

Banyule's urban forest is the trees, and greening assets, that exist in an urban area, that are strategically planned, designed, and managed and the ecosystems, soils and water that support them.

What is the future vision for Banyule's urban forest?

Banyule's urban forest is **resilient**. It is **thriving** and **people are aware, and value** the role of the urban forest for health and wellbeing and in making Banyule a great place to live.

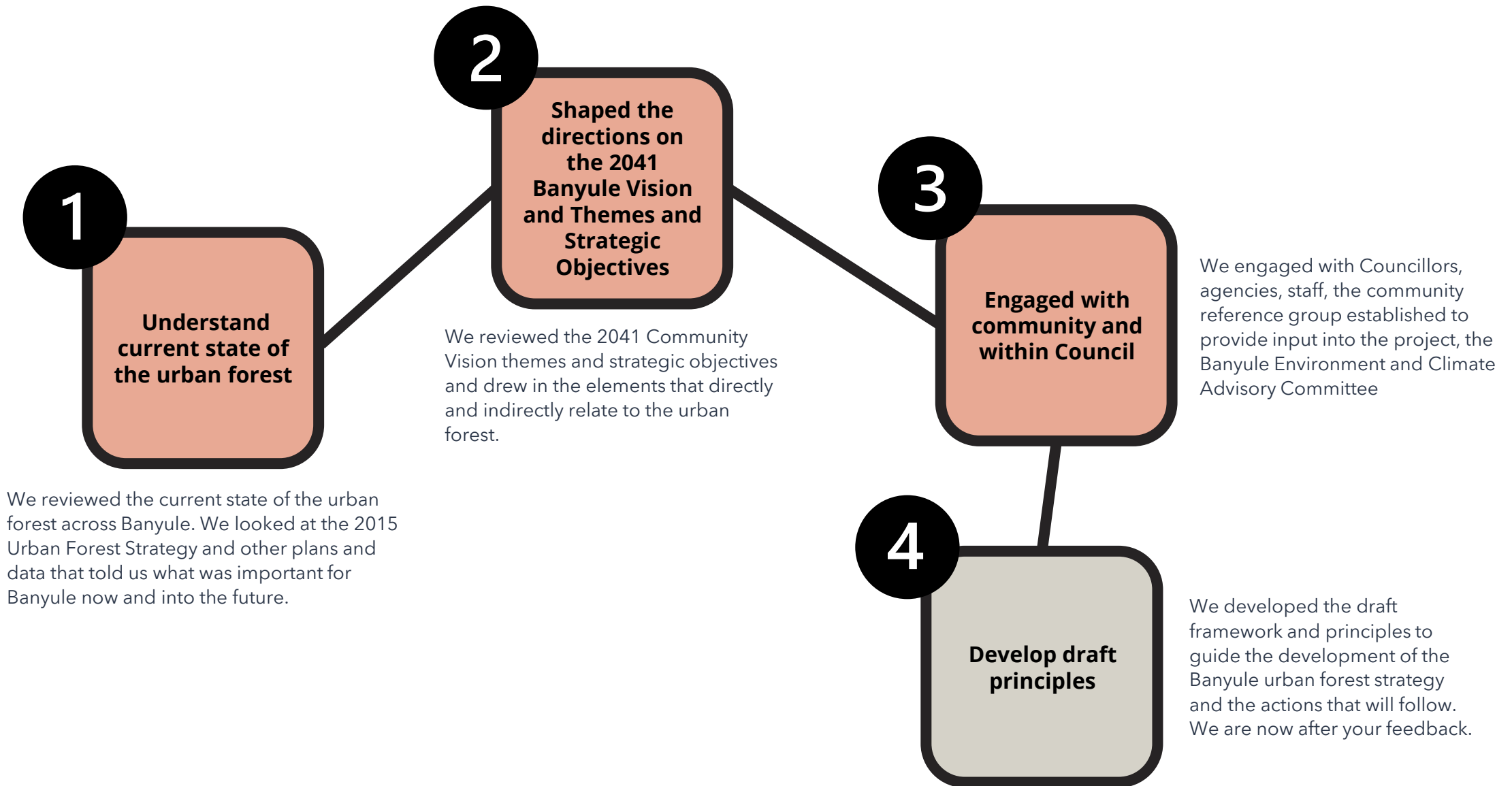
The urban forest is managed as **an essential asset** for Banyule and decisions about the urban forest are **fit for place and purpose** and **space is provided** to support greening and larger tree canopy.

People work with Council and are active in the protection, management and maintenance of the urban forest.

What principles will guide the management of the urban forest?

1. We believe the urban forest is an essential asset for Banyule, shared by all people and environments crucial for the health and wellbeing of the community
2. We believe a healthy urban forest is result of strong partnerships between the Council and community
3. We act today to leave a positive legacy for the future and we act responsibly, using evidence-based practice in our leadership and management of the urban forest
4. We plan, design and deliver for the people and places of Banyule

How did we reach these draft principles?



What do the draft urban forest principles mean?

Principles are the rules and beliefs governing Banyule behaviour and management of the Urban Forest

Draft UFS Principles

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We believe a healthy urban forest is result of strong partnerships between the Council and community

We act today to leave a positive legacy for the future community, and we act responsibly, using evidence-based practice in our leadership and management of the urban forest

We plan, design and deliver for the people and places of Banyule



Description

This principle relates to the vital services that the urban forest provides – fresh air, clean water, shade, cooling, habitat – to the community, while also emphasising that the urban forest needs to be managed as a resource and embedded in asset management processes and policies and accounted for across departments

This principle refers to Council and community working side by side to plan for design and manage greening and trees across private and public lands

This principle relates to the idea of sustainability and intergenerational equity. It is about using the best available information and the best governance structures and decision-making processes that deliver the vision for Banyule.

This principle is about focusing the efforts of urban forest strategy on the specific places and their people across Banyule. It will make sure that decisions are based on a range of evidence about the local places and their differing needs, that there is equity of urban forest access across the Banyule LGA. It is about making the urban forest fit for people and place now and into the future.