

# Case Study City of Port Phillip – implementing a Toward Zero strategy



The City of Port Phillip was formed in 1994 and is an amalgamation of the former cities of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda.

Covering a catchment of 20.62sq km, the City hosts 86,883 residents and is an area made up of commercial, industrial, office and residential land use.

## Leading the way

The City of Port Phillip has been committed to improving environmental sustainability across Council's property portfolio since 1996. In implementing this commitment, Council recognises the role of leadership, capacity building and empowerment. 'Toward Zero' is the City of Port Phillip's strategy for responding to climate change.

## Toward Zero strategy

The City of Port Phillip's Toward Zero strategy provides the strategic link to connect all Council operations in a sustainable way with objectives for the following:

- greenhouse gases
- potable water use
- waste
- contamination and pollution
- transport
- urban design and development
- natural heritage
- purchasing
- climate change.

## The Greenhouse Plan

The Greenhouse Plan supports Towards Zero with two key goals:

- zero net emissions by 2020
- A 50 per cent reduction from the community sector.

## City of Port Phillip Green Team

Established in January 2012, and coinciding with signing on as a CitySwitch Signatory, the Green Team focuses on reducing the carbon emissions of Council's head office at St Kilda Town Hall. The team covers five key areas; waste, purchasing, stationery, transport and electricity.

## Goals

- To achieve a 4 star NABERS Energy tenancy rating
- To create a sustainable workplace
- To encourage others to reduce their environmental impact



Signatory status	
Date joined CitySwitch	20 March 2012
Tenancy size	6176 sqm
NABERS Commitment rating	★★★★
Website	www.portphillip.vic.gov.au
Estimated Outcomes	
Annual saving	\$24,500
Annual Costs	\$153,000
Green CO <sub>2</sub> savings per annum	253 Tonnes
Technology	Improved lighting efficiency, delamping, education, thermostat set point changes, appliance timers

## Reducing Council building emissions: actions

The City of Port Phillip has conducted energy audits on the majority of its 250 buildings and Council is currently in the third year of a building retrofit program to replace inefficient appliances and improve building efficiency.

In addition, major reviews have been completed on heating and air conditioning systems for larger buildings. Council has also commenced an initiative to create building environment management plans which incorporate building ratings for the monitoring of ongoing progress.

A building rating index and energy usage guide has been developed in support of this initiative.

## Green Power

The City of Port Phillip currently purchases 25 per cent of all of its power from renewable energy sources through the Green Power program.

Council is also focused on improving efficiency, automated data collection, and data quality together with an increased focus on behavioural change.

## Waste management

The recent completion of waste audits on all of Council's major facilities has identified significant opportunities for improving:

- general waste management
- emissions from waste
- waste separation and diversion.

## Reducing electricity usage

A number of initiatives are underway in Council's head office to reduce electricity usage. These include:

- conducting LED lighting trials
- reviewing automated light systems and operational times
- removing unnecessary lighting
- reviewing refrigeration requirements
- re-programming automated hot water services
- modifying thermostat settings.

## Achievements to date

Since 1996/97, Council has achieved a 36.6 per cent reduction in total emissions and a 10 per cent reduction in the 2010/11 year.

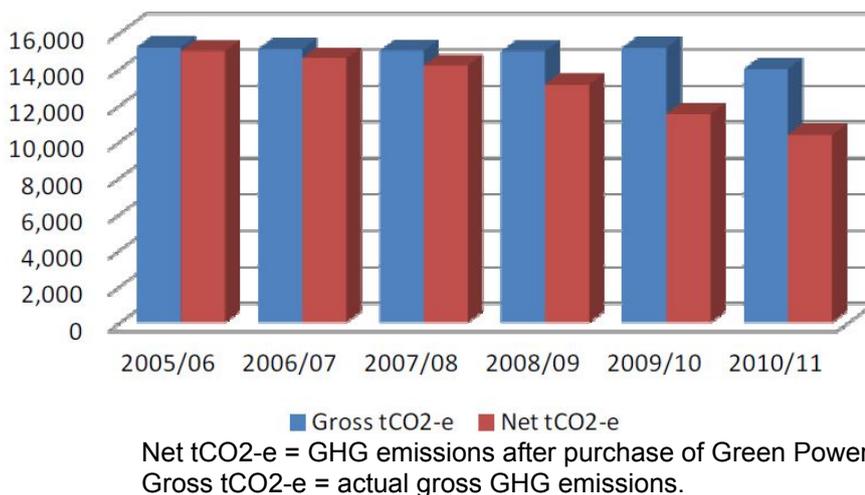
These results were largely achieved through building retrofits and changes to street lights. Since 2001, Council has reduced water usage by 77.6 per cent.

## Get involved

Join CitySwitch and discover how small changes can make a big difference to Australia's future environmental health – and that of the planet.

Visit [www.cityswitch.net.au](http://www.cityswitch.net.au) for more information or call the CitySwitch Program Manager in your state. Contact details are listed on the website.

## City of Port Phillip Annual GHG Emissions



CitySwitch is a national tenant energy efficiency program. Previously known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative, the program works with tenants to improve office energy efficiency, thereby reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that contribute to climate change.

## CitySwitch Green Office partners

