



The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

Bridge to Opportunity

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Subject: Environment and Climate Emergency Consultation**

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**Date: Wednesday 10 February 2021**

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PROTECTING the environment and limiting the potential impact of climate change is the focus of a new Council Plan out for community consultation.

The Draft Environment Management Plan (2020-2024), inclusive of Climate Emergency Action Plan, articulates Rural City of Murray Bridge ambitions for the next four years to value and protect the natural environment, while promoting a sustainable Rural City.

Electric vehicles, water sensitive urban design, LED (light-emitting diode) public street lighting and protecting roadside vegetation during construction are some of the initiatives proposed.

Mayor Brenton Lewis said the Plan provided clear direction for the Council to create more liveable communities, improve biodiversity, effectively manage water and the River, guide development, and build community resilience.

“As Mayor, it’s important to me that our actions match our commitments – and that we dedicate an appropriate level of resourcing towards environmental initiatives,” he said.

“Major actions include replacing public street lighting with LEDs (which will save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions), introducing electric vehicles to the Council fleet, expanding stormwater harvesting infrastructure and installing solar panels at the Depot.

“Climate change will impact significantly on our already dry region, which is heavily dependent on the River Murray, so the more we can do to increase our resilience and mitigate the impacts the better future we will build.

“Significant development is occurring in our region and we need to ensure it benefits our community in a positive way - both for the environment and the economy.

The Draft Plan follows Council’s declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019.

Community Consultation runs from Wednesday 10 February until Wednesday 10 March 2021.

Review the Plan and provide feedback at [letstalk.murraybridge.sa.gov.au](http://letstalk.murraybridge.sa.gov.au), the Local Government Centre or Murray Bridge Library, or make a submission in person at a community meeting 6pm Wednesday 24 February 2021 at the Local Government Centre.