

Looking after our essential infrastructure

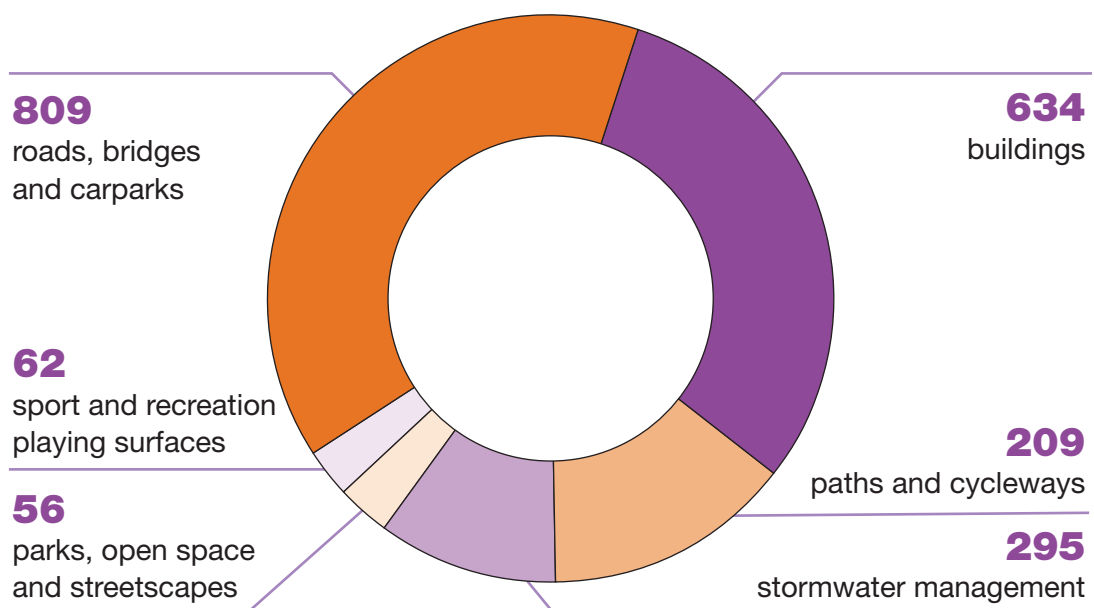
Council owns different types of buildings and infrastructure worth over \$2 billion. These assets help Council to provide its services.

Every year, we spend about \$80 million to provide and maintain our assets.

We spend this money carefully to get the best results for our community.



How much it would cost to replace our existing infrastructure (\$ million)



In September 2024, we heard from 288 community members, who told us they would most like to see improvement in:

Asset	Percentage who would like to see improvement
Park trees and gardens	73%
Street trees	61%
Off-road paths for walking and riding	60%
Public toilets	58%
Libraries	47%
Footpaths	48%
Customer service centres, rubbish and recycling depots	44%
Street seats and litterbins	42%
Leisure centres and pools	40%
Stormwater drains	39%
Park and off-road path lighting	39%
Street lighting	38%



‘I think our street trees and the trees in our parks are so important for our mental health and wellbeing.’

Ashburton resident, aged 60 to 69.

‘People-oriented spaces such as parks, gardens and walking/cycling paths are highly valued.’

Hawthorn East resident, aged 70 to 84.

‘Need toilets where playgrounds are.’

Hawthorn resident, aged 35 to 39.

Council assets fall into 3 groups:

1. **community facilities** - including buildings and related infrastructure
2. **open space and outdoor recreation** - includes trees, park furniture, playgrounds, sports surfaces and sports pavilions
3. **infrastructure networks** - roads, paths, stormwater drainage and public lighting.

1. Community facilities

Community facilities support health and wellbeing, safety and community connections by providing spaces for services, activities and gatherings.

The following facilities and buildings support Council services

- 4 arts and cultural facilities
- 5 libraries (including community meeting rooms)
- 4 leisure and aquatic facilities
- 14 maternal and child health centres
- 23 kindergartens
- 11 neighbourhood houses and community centres
- seniors centres, men's sheds, Universities of the Third Age which may be either co-located with other Council services or accommodated in stand-alone buildings
- Council operations and minor buildings.

Outdoor sports pavilions, sports fields and courts are listed under "Open space and outdoor recreation".

Current investment strategies

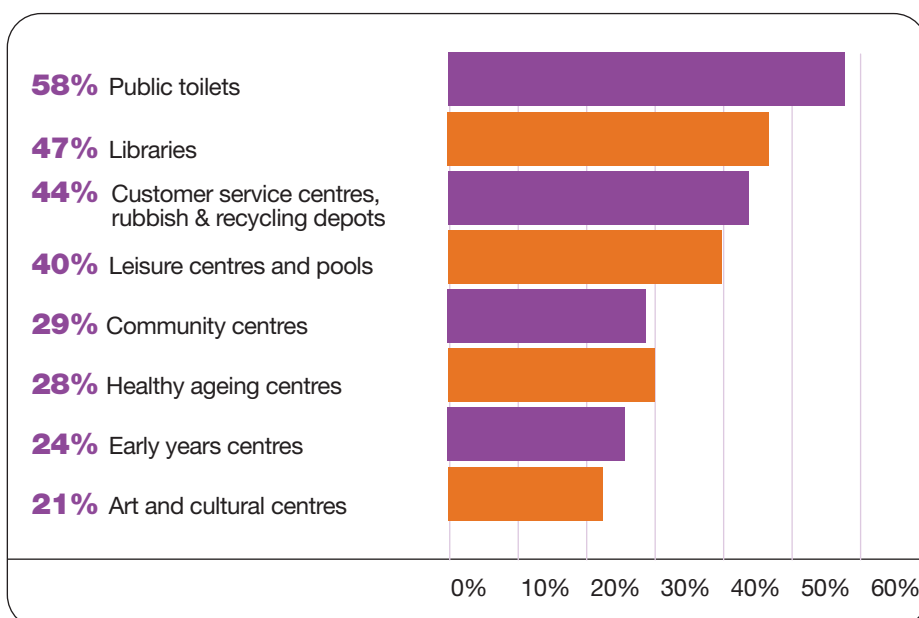
- regular maintenance and repair programs to keep buildings and infrastructure in good condition
- continued improvement and redevelopment of libraries and recreation facilities in priority locations
- refurbishment of approximately 3 community and early years facilities annually.

Community views

Residents in the 2024 consultation were asked to choose up to 3 community facilities they would most like to see improved.

This chart shows the percentage of consultation participants who want improvements for each type of community facility.

Percentage who would like to see improvement



2. Open space and outdoor recreation

Open space and outdoor recreation assets support public health and wellbeing by providing public spaces for people to exercise, meet others, relax and enjoy nature.

The following facilities and buildings support Council services

- streetscapes including street trees, garden beds, nature strips, street seats, litterbins and places for outdoor dining
- 242 parks including trees, grassed areas and garden beds
- 104 public playgrounds
- park furniture, including barbeques
- 39 football and cricket pavilions and 54 sportsgrounds
- 44 clubrooms with playing surfaces for a variety of sports and recreation activities.

Current investment strategies

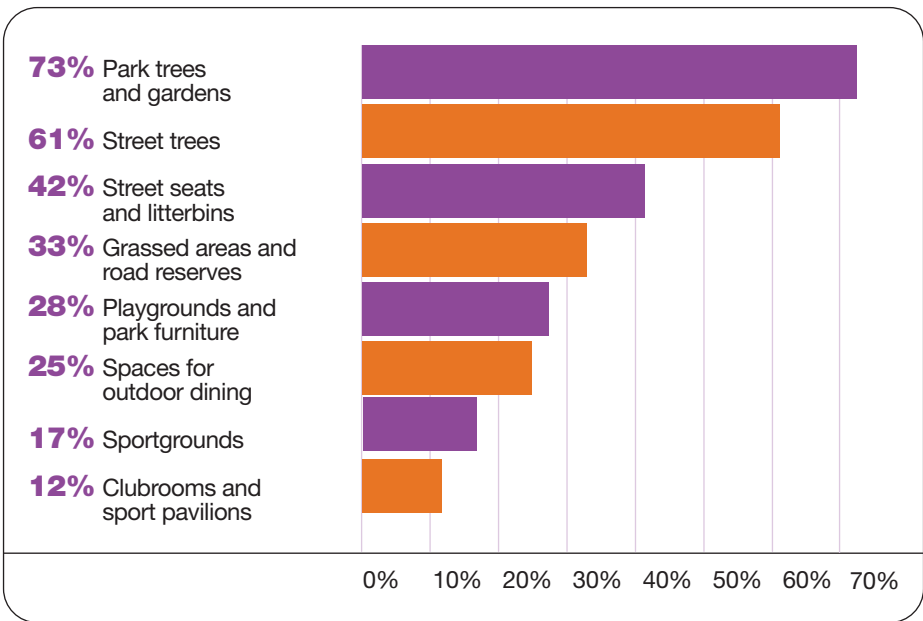
- regular maintenance and repair programs to keep open space and outdoor recreation assets in good condition
- extending biodiversity area by one hectare annually to achieve 61 hectares by 2030
- upgrade one clubroom or pavilion annually on average, funded by Council with some state and federal contributions.

Community views

Residents in the 2024 consultation were asked to choose up to 3 things they would most like to see improved.

This chart shows the percentage of consultation participants who want improvements for each type of asset.

Percentage who would like to see improvement



3. Infrastructure networks

Council’s networks of essential infrastructure include roads, paths, stormwater drainage and public lighting. These help keep our community connected and safe.

The following facilities and buildings support Council services

- 565 km of local roads
- 1,258 km footpaths and 37 km shared walking and cycling path
- 747 km stormwater pipes and 38,000 stormwater pits
- 12,750 streetlights (distributor-owned with Council contributing to power costs) and 1,500 Council-owned lights.

Current investment strategies

- regular maintenance and repairs to keep infrastructure in good condition
- stormwater pipes designed to limit overflows, aiming for no more than one overflow every 5 years (on average)
- streetlight upgrades are done only when needed, based on available funding.

Community views

Residents in the 2024 consultation were asked to choose up to 3 things they would most like to see improved.

This chart shows the percentage of consultation participants who want to see improvements for each type of infrastructure.

Percentage who would like to see improvement

