



Bass Coast Climate Change Action Plan

(The Plan)



Bass Coast Council declares a climate emergency September 2019.

A climate emergency recognises the serious risk that climate change poses to the safety of the entire Bass Coast community, that immediate and urgent action is required to reduce our emissions, build community resilience against the local impacts of climate change and ultimately reverse global warming.



WE ARE IN A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

In a response to a 1,000 strong community petition, Bass Coast Shire Council declared a climate emergency in September 2019.

The declaration acknowledges that climate change poses serious risks to Bass Coast and Australia and requires immediate and urgent action to reverse global warming.

Bass Coast Shire Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari said declaring a climate emergency will affect all residents, businesses and visitors of Bass Coast.

“We understand that to protect the region from the impacts of climate change, we need to work closely with our community to identify actions at an accelerated pace,” Cr Tessari said.

As of July 2020, 1,737 government jurisdictions in 30 countries, representing 820 million citizens have declared a climate emergency. In Australia, nearly 100 Councils have made the declaration and support continues to grow at a rapid pace.

** Primary School students learn about protecting the environment at the Sustainable Schools Expo.*



Community and Council operations – Target Zero Net Emissions by 2030

Community – The Plan has been designed to help you and other members of our community identify and prioritise your actions. In the community actions, you will find recommended actions for households, business/industry and farms/agriculture. We encourage you to consider what actions you can take now or in the future, noting that not all the actions will suit your individual circumstances.

Council – will be progressively implementing this plan over the next 10 years, guiding the whole Council in internal decision making. The Council actions are specific and time bound, within Council's sphere of influence as well as advocating for strong action at a state and federal level. The Plan also sets out strong action for our community and action for Council to support the community.



Our Vision for Bass Coast by 2030 is:

- 🌿 Bass Coast is a connected, zero carbon community
- 🌿 The community of Bass Coast is actively leading the just transition to our zero-carbon future
- 🌿 Our diverse natural world is our most precious asset
- 🌿 We learn from First Nations people and share a deep connection to country, traditional culture, practices and heritage
- 🌿 Our energy is renewable
- 🌿 Our homes, buildings and infrastructure are comfortable, efficient and resilient to the impacts of climate change
- 🌿 We work and travel sustainably. Our economy is healthy, regenerative and resilient
- 🌿 We look after each other, our community and our environment. We work together.

➔ For more details about our plan go to www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/climate-change-action-plan