



CASE STUDY - GROWING SHADE, GROWING IMPACT

City of Adelaide Pilots Urban Greening with Innovative Canopee Infrastructure

In the heart of Adelaide's bustling CBD, a new kind of landmark has quietly taken root—not built of brick or steel, but of living, breathing green. Tasked with the challenge of cooling and softening the urban environment, the City of Adelaide partnered with Urban Canopee to trial a groundbreaking approach to street-level shade and climate resilience.

The Challenge

With rising urban heat and limited space for traditional trees, the city was at a crossroads. Hotspots across key intersections: Hutt Street needed immediate greening solutions. However, constraints like underground services, narrow footpaths, and visibility concerns ruled out conventional planting. What was needed was an adaptable, compact and creative alternative—one that could thrive above the pavement without demanding space below it.

The Solution for



Urban Canopee provided an answer that was as functional as it was elegant. Two Small Canopee structures were installed at the corner of Hutt and Halifax St.. Engineered to mimic the shading capacity of mature trees, each lightweight frame supports fast-growing climbing plants—designed to flourish into full canopy form within a few years.

The installation process was minimally disruptive, meeting both safety and accessibility standards while avoiding interference with vital utilities. Just as importantly, each Canopee was delivered with a tailored irrigation and maintenance plan, ensuring the greenery is supported through every stage of growth.



June 2022



March 2024

**Aesthetic
benefits**

**Sustainability
& Resilience**

**Community
Impact**

**Street level
Shading**



The site had been short-listed by the City of Adelaide based on criteria such as high recorded temperature, low canopy coverage, high pedestrian traffic, north-facing orientation, adequate space, and activation opportunity.

Key Observations Following Canopee's Installation

Since the Canopee's installation, this part of Hutt street has become a talking point for the local community. This site has seen some increase in local biodiversity (mainly birds) and has become a spot to gather and relax thanks to the shade and sitting offered. Its evolving nature sparks curiosity and fosters quiet connection, offering something different with each season.

Consequently, the City of Adelaide has been talking about the installation of Canopees in more locations within the city.

Client Testimonial



For the City, it was mandatory to have a solution that provides greening, offer shading/cooling effects, be a permanent and durable structure, and achieve value for money. It was also desirable to offer aesthetic benefits for activation opportunities. The Canopees were the answer to all our requirements.

Stephanie Chen, Responsible for the development and delivery of capital projects for the City of Adelaide.

The Canopees reinforce the street's identity: progressive, thoughtful, and deeply connected to its community.

It is more than beautiful structures; it is a sustainable solution to build more liveable cities.

Some Canopee Structures in Australian Councils



City of Bendigo VIC



Blue Mountains Council NSW



Brimbank City Council VIC

Let's talk

The City of Adelaide's Canopee installation proves that Canopees can transform a street and the way people feel within it.

If you're looking to bring life, beauty, and meaning into your council, we offer a solution that grows with you.

Contact us to discuss your project:
contact@urbancanopee.com.au



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