

## The Cities Power Partnership Buddying Program

### What is the Buddy Program?

The Cities Power Partnership requires member councils to buddy with other councils in their round, often one council from within their state or territory and one from a different state or territory. This can change depending on the mix of states councils are from in each round, and some councils may have more than two buddies. This program is designed to help strengthen networking and knowledge sharing within regions and across state and territory lines.

Buddies can be valuable for a range of different reasons; they may have completed a similar project to the one that your council wants to implement, they may have overcome challenges that your council is currently experiencing and they may want to work together on joint grants or regional projects.

Buddies have been selected based on preferences submitted by member councils and the CPP team has also weighed up: geographic proximity, ease of communications, potential for cross border projects, shared ambitions with carbon emissions reduction, renewable energy or carbon neutrality targets, number of councils in each state and shared project areas of experience & interest.

Buddy allocations will last from the date of issue until the 2018 National CPP Summit, to be held in late 2018, at which time councils can choose new buddies in the program if they wish. With new rounds of entry in late 2017 and early 2018, there will be an ever expanding pool of Power Partners to choose from.

Whilst councils are formally buddied with two others, councils are always free to contact others within the program. Councils can view the full list of other councils and their projects and pledges by heading to [citiespowerpartnership.org.au/who-are-the-power-partners](http://citiespowerpartnership.org.au/who-are-the-power-partners) or they can get in touch with the CPP team directly for more information on other councils and key contacts.

## What are the stages in the buddying process?

### Stage one:

**Buddy Preferences.** Councils submit their buddy preferences to the CPP team.

### Stage two:

**Buddy Allocation.** Councils are allocated their two buddies and information about the buddy program.

### Stage three:

**Media Profiling.** Council communication teams are provided with a template press release (**provided in this document**) and support from the CPP Media Advisor to help publicly celebrate these new council partnerships in the media.

### Stage four:

**Buddy Meeting.** The CPP team will provide member councils with their buddy contact details and encourage them to have a meeting (online, phone or in person) with their buddies before Jan 2018 (**draft agenda provided in this document**). This meeting will be an opportunity to understand what each council would like to get out of the buddying relationship, and to establish how frequently buddies would like to communicate with one another and in what forum. The CPP team will be in touch to provide contact details.

### Stage five:

**Ongoing Activities.** We encourage councils to maximise their buddying relationship through ongoing activities including:

- **Sharing case studies and pledge items.** Share your case studies, project plans, pledge items and project reports with you buddies.
- **Sharing of Power Analytics Project data.** This data generated by the tool is easily shareable with your buddies and provides them with insights on your potential greenhouse gas emissions savings, cost savings and energy savings.
- **Meeting your buddies in person.** The Cities Power Partnership strongly encourages councils to explore opportunities for reciprocal visits for staff or elected members including project site visits. As a Not-For-Profit the Cities Power Partnership cannot cover these travel costs. However, the CPP summit in late 2018 will be a good opportunity for mayors, councillors and officers to come together from around the country and meet each other, as well as selecting new buddies if appropriate.

### Stage Six:

**CPP Summit.** The national CPP summit will be held in late 2018. This summit will have its own dedicated breakout sessions to allow councils to evaluate the buddy program, highlight learnings and select new buddies if they wish. There will also be annual CPP awards, including a category for buddies.

## Supporting Documents

### Document One: Buddy Meeting Agenda

<b>Reasons for buddy nomination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Geographic proximity</li> <li>● Shared or similar projects</li> <li>● Progressive GHG targets</li> <li>● Similar size (land or population)</li> <li>● Similar profile (eg metropolitan, regional)</li> <li>● Want to learn from their experience</li> </ul>
<b>Areas of interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sharing of project management documentation, case studies, project reports</li> <li>● Project location site visits - staff or elected members</li> <li>● Sharing of Power Analytics project data (in progress or prospective) for review &amp; information</li> <li>● Explore opportunities for reciprocal visits</li> </ul>
<b>Communication between buddies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Regular phone conference, webinars</li> <li>● Meet at regional meetings (LG, ROC, Alliance or other)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional profiling your new partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Formal letter swap from Mayors</li> <li>● Media release / weekly column addition in local paper</li> <li>● Website &amp; social media announcement</li> <li>● Staff bulletin board</li> <li>● Ratepayer newsletter announcement</li> <li>● CPP website profile page acknowledgement</li> </ul>



## Document Two: Template Press Release for intrastate buddies

### CPP BUDDY MEDIA RELEASE TEMPLATE 1 - NEIGHBOURING BUDDIES

#### **[COUNCILS] JOIN FORCES FOR CLEAN ENERGY**

**[AREA]'s** move to a clean energy future has been powered forward, as **[COUNCIL]** and **[COUNCIL]** announce a new partnership to address climate change.

The two councils have buddied up as part of the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership program, which will see them work intensively together to develop regional solutions to climate change, including renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

**[MAYOR 1]** says: "It made sense for us to partner with **[BUDDY COUNCIL]** to tackle climate change, which poses a major threat to our region. There is so much we can do locally to create a sustainable future, and residents from both shires will benefit from this regional cooperation."

**[MAYOR 2]** says: "Finding real solutions to climate change requires us to work together. We're proud to be working with our neighbours in **[BUDDY COUNCIL]** to enhance and increase our work on renewable energy and energy efficiency."

The partnership will receive additional know-how from **[COUNCIL]** in **[STATE]**, chosen as the third buddy council on the basis of its innovative approach to renewable energy and similar circumstances.

Amanda McKenzie, Climate Council chief executive, said: "We're seeing a tipping point approaching in Australia, as local and state governments take matters into their own hands to move towards clean energy. Regional cooperation and knowledge sharing, such as the partnership between **[COUNCIL]**, **[COUNCIL]** and **[COUNCIL]** is accelerating Australia's climate response and helping create a clean energy future."



## Document Three: Template Press Release for interstate buddies

### **[COUNCILS] JOIN FORCES FOR CLEAN ENERGY**

**[AREA]'s** move to a clean energy future has been powered forward, as **[COUNCIL 1]** joins forces with renewable energy powerhouse councils, **[COUNCIL 2]** and **[COUNCIL 3]**.

The three councils have buddied up as part of the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership program, which will see them work intensively together to develop solutions to climate change, including renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

**[MAYOR 1]** says: "We chose **[COUNCIL]** and **[COUNCIL]** to partner with us as both councils have an innovative practical approach to addressing climate change that we can learn from. Working closely with other councils in similar circumstances will help us to develop the best energy and emissions reductions solutions for our residents."

**[MAYOR 2]** says: "Finding real solutions to climate change requires us to work together. We're proud to be working with **[BUDDY COUNCIL]** to enhance and increase our work on renewable energy and energy efficiency."

Amanda McKenzie, Climate Council chief executive, said: "We're seeing a tipping point approaching in Australia, as local and state governments take matters into their own hands to move towards clean energy."

She continued: "Regional cooperation and knowledge sharing, such as the partnership between **[COUNCIL]**, **[COUNCIL]** and **[COUNCIL]** is accelerating Australia's climate response and helping create a clean energy future."