

Footscray Community Arts Centre

People, place, potential

Organisation Name: Footscray Community Arts Centre

Sector: Arts & Cultural Centre

Location: Footscray, VIC

Footscray Community Arts Centre (FCAC) is located on the banks of the Maribyrnong River in Footscray. The site consists of two buildings – a heritage listed bluestone building and warehouse, and an outdoor amphitheatre and lawn area. The bluestone building (Henderson House) was built around 1872 as a residency, while the warehouse (The

Warehouse) was recently converted into a multi-use facility.

The site is a community engaged, contemporary arts organisation working with local, regional and international communities.

Opportunities at a glance

Projected Savings top 5 Opportunities:

\$4500 per year

Estimated Investment top 5 Opportunities: \$

\$10,300 per year

Projected Savings all opportunities:

\$11,000 per year

Collaboration occurs with artists, communities and organisations to build capacity, create opportunities and drive social change. They are a place where important conversations happen, which are then actioned, cultivated and deepened. As a communal location the FCAC offers a wide variety of uses, including exhibitions, theatre performances, festivals and workshops, as well as onsite administration facilities. Innovative programs are multidisciplinary delivering high social impact and support of creative development, community engagement, cultural celebration and the provision of professional learning experiences through accredited and pre-accredited programs, workshops and capacity building exercises.

Although they will continue to foster community cultural development and the championing of the arts in the Western suburbs, the priorities of the FCAC were to reduce operating and maintenance costs, while at the same time maintain or improve the functionality of the site. The Centre has a long term lease arrangement and are in a position to consider medium to long term strategic decisions, including operating their festivals and events as sustainably as possible.

The key opportunities identified were:

- Help share the learning and the story of the NEEN project as applied to FCAP operations.
- Find ways to help to better manage the site's energy consumption.
- Look at possible alternate technologies to assist in the above.

Current Activities

The Footscray Community Arts Centre has an annual electricity cost of approximately \$27,000 from an estimated annual usage of 130,000 kWh, and around \$3,000 of natural gas costs from a usage of 200,000 MJ per year.

The total energy savings from the identified opportunities are \$11,000 per year or 39% of annual spend (including benefits from solar PV in the order of \$900 per year). A number of opportunities were prioritised with the site representative for further investigation and/or implementation, with anticipated energy savings of approximately \$4,600 being derived from approximately \$10,300 investment.

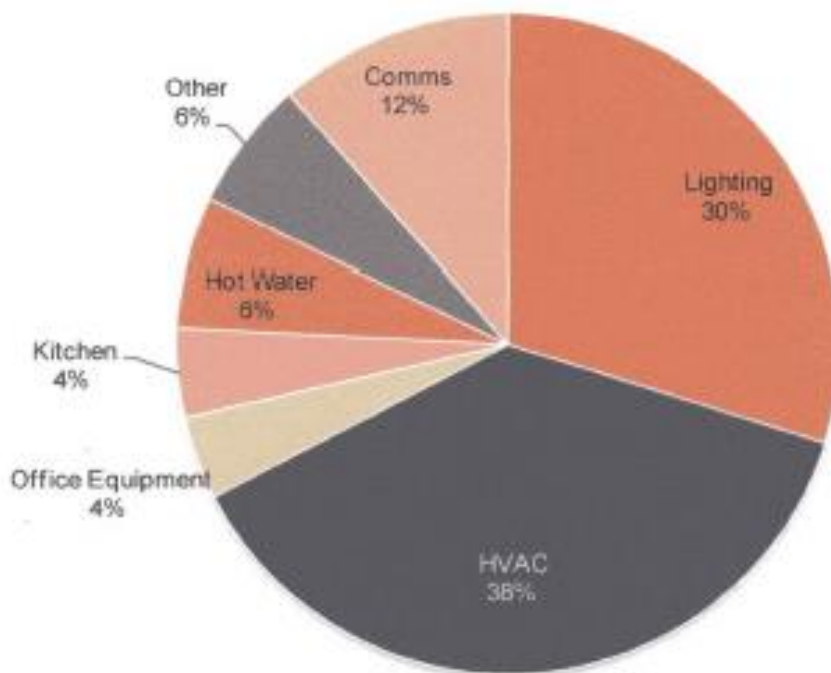
Primary energy using equipment includes:

- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning

- Lighting
- Communications IT & Server Room
- Hot Water System
- Other - Kiln and other plug in appliances

The estimated split of energy between this equipment is shown in the diagram below.

Footscray Community Arts Centre



Energy efficiency measures already implemented

- Energy efficient T5 fluorescent lighting installed in the warehouse & stage lighting upgraded to LED's.
- Use of ceiling fans & reverse cycle air conditioners with draught proofing to improve thermal comfort.
- Utilising Apple computers instead of standard PC systems.

Energy efficiency opportunities

Looking at the whole site there are a range of opportunities we suggest, and these include:

Opportunities	Description	Estimated Savings (\$/yr)	Estimated Cost (\$)	Indicative Payback (yrs)
Reception lights to LED	Consider replacing the metal halide downlights in the reception area with LED fittings.	\$30	\$240	5-10yrs
Sensor on Roslyn Smorgon lighting	Consider installing a sensor for the fluorescent lighting in the Roslyn Smorgon gallery. The metal halide spotlights could also be connected to this circuit to increase savings.	\$330	\$300	<1yr
Porch lighting on sensor circuit	Connect the external porch lighting to the existing sensor circuit.	\$10	\$100	>10yrs
T8 to T5 fluorescents in basement theatre	Consider replacing the T8 fluorescent fittings in the Henderson House basement theatre with more efficient T5 fittings.	\$400	\$3,100	5-10yrs
Sensor on weave room MH	Consider installing a motion sensor for the spotlights in the Gabriel gallery in the Henderson House.	\$170	\$300	1-2yrs
Skylight clean	Cleaning the skylight in the Henderson House hallway will allow more natural light into the space and avoid the use of artificial light.	\$70	\$0	<1yrs
Car park lighting	Consider switching off or adjusting timer on rear carpark in-ground lights.	\$100	\$0	<1yr
Server virtualisation	Consider outsourcing the server to a cloud based service will reduce the site energy and maintenance costs.	\$2100	\$5300	2 to 3yrs

LED external lighting	Consider upgrading existing 250W halogen spotlights for illuminating car park area with 100W LED equivalents. This generally requires replacing the entire lighting unit, rather than simply replacing the globe.	\$110	\$750	5 to 10yrs
Group energy purchasing	Investigating group energy purchasing will potentially reduce the cost of electricity	\$1500	\$0	<1yr
Solar PV	Consider purchasing and installing a 5 kW solar photovoltaic power system for the warehouse roof.	\$900	\$5000	5 to 19yrs
Solar leasing	Due to the large roof space available, an alternative to purchasing the PV system would be to consider leasing a much bigger system (e.g. >10 kW).	\$0	\$0	<1yr
Solar caravan	Installing a small solar panel on the coffee caravan outside Henderson House would reduce the load on the site.	\$300	\$0	<1yr
Hydronic heating controls	Consider implementing a policy to switch off the hydronic heaters in Henderson House when they are not in use.	\$100	\$20	<1yr
Consolidate fridges	Consider utilising fridge space better to reduce the number of fridges on site.	\$60	\$0	<1yr

Opportunities	Description	Estimated Savings (\$/yr)	Estimated Cost (\$)	Indicative Payback (yrs)
Henderson House fridge on 'cool'	Adjust the Henderson House fridge from the lowest setting to 'cool'.	\$20	\$0	<1yr
LED stage lighting	Replace the existing stage lighting with more efficient LED fixtures.	\$5000	\$60,000	>10yrs
Hybrid outreach container	Develop an audio/visual facility for community outreach powered by a hybrid renewable system.	-	-	-
TOTAL	Cumulative total for all opportunities	\$11,200	\$75,100	

Top 5 opportunities

Based on the audit and an interactive workshop with staff, the following activities were identified as the Top 5 energy efficiency opportunities for Footscray Community Arts Centre:

1. **Hybrid outreach container**

Initial Action: Prepare one-page design for funding application.

Owner: Footscray Community Arts Centre Management

2. **Solar PV system / solar leasing**

Initial Action: Contact local contractor to discuss options and costs

Owner: Footscray Community Arts Centre Management

3. *Server Virtualisation*

Initial Action: Contact local contractor to discuss options and costs

Owner: Footscray Community Arts Centre Management

4. *Group energy purchasing*

Initial Action: Contact local contractor to discuss options and costs

Owner: Footscray Community Arts Centre Management

5. *Skylight cleaning*

Initial Action: Clean skylight

Owner: Footscray Community Arts Centre Management