

Draft Stormwater Management Plan

Brownhill Keswick Creek



A Draft Stormwater Management Plan (the Draft Plan) has been developed to reduce the impact of major flooding across the catchment of the Brownhill, Keswick, Glen Osmond and Parklands Creeks that flow through the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens.

Non-Infrastructure Flood Mitigation Measures

As well as proposing flood mitigation infrastructure works, the Draft Plan recommends the following initiatives to reduce the impact of major flooding on the catchment:

- Improving planning policy and assessment processes that apply to new development in the catchment, to ensure new development is designed to reduce flood risk
- Improving community awareness about flood risk, improving flood preparedness by the community, and development of a new Emergency Response Plan for Brownhill and Keswick Creeks
- Clarifying responsibilities and improving practices for ensuring appropriate creek channel maintenance

Planning Policy and Development Assessment

Improving Development Plans

The State Planning Policy Library is a set of Development Plan policies developed by the Department of Planning and Local Government that deal with issues common to most councils, including stormwater management and flood risk management. Adoption of the current relevant policies by all councils in the catchment would ensure all new development in the catchment includes adequate protection against flood risk, such as appropriate finished floor levels for buildings.

Development Assessment Guidelines

A report prepared for the City of Unley in 2010 recommended that council consider a streamlined approach to assessment of development applications according to a classification of High, Mid or Low categories of flood risk. The categories relate to the predicted depth of flooding at the development site during a 100 year ARI storm event, and correspond to three levels of flood risk assessment. The Draft Plan recommends each of the catchment councils consider such an initiative.

Water Sensitive Urban Design

Intensification of development increases the rate and quantity of stormwater runoff by increasing the area of impervious surface in the catchment. This can in turn increase the risk of flooding of downstream areas. Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) provides an opportunity to manage the risk of flooding in the context of new development and urban consolidation.

WSUD involves integration of management of the urban water cycle into planning and design. Elements of WSUD include integrating stormwater treatment into the landscape, and minimising runoff and peak flow through capture of local stormwater runoff.



Community Awareness, Flood Preparedness and Emergency Response

In partnership with the State Emergency Service, the five catchment councils currently implement a FloodSafe program that is designed to:

- Provide people with an understanding of whether they live or work within a floodplain area
- Provide information to property owners about how they can protect their homes and businesses from flooding
- Provide information on effective ways to respond during a flood emergency; and
- Work with property owners at a neighbourhood level to provide advice on developing individual emergency response and recovery plans.

The Draft Plan recommends that the FloodSafe program continue, and that consideration is given to expanding the program to include door-knocking of the most flood prone areas by State Emergency Service volunteers to publicise FloodSafe activities and services.

Emergency Response

The State Emergency Service is currently consulting key stakeholders regarding the development of a new Emergency Response Plan for the catchment. The Emergency Response Plan is expected to be completed in 2011 and tested through simulations and field exercises.

Creek Maintenance

Under legislation, caring for a creek is the responsibility of the owner of the property through which it runs. In conjunction with local councils, the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board provides brochures and information for private property owners to assist and advise with this responsibility.

The Draft Plan recommends that the body tasked with implementing the flood mitigation proposals in the Draft Plan take responsibility for working in a consultative way with property owners to achieve more effective maintenance of Brownhill and Keswick Creeks.

More Information

From Monday 31 October to Monday 12 December 2011 members of the public are invited to provide feedback on the Draft Plan. Feedback collected will be considered in finalising the Draft Plan.

More information including the complete Draft Stormwater Management Plan can be found online by following the link on the City of Unley website www.unley.sa.gov.au, and can be viewed in hard copy at the offices of the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens.

Open Days

The following Open Days will provide another opportunity to learn more about the Draft Stormwater Management Plan. Drop in anytime during the times listed below to view display information and ask questions about the Draft Plan.

Date	"Drop in" between:	Location
Thursday 17 November 2011	5.00pm – 9.00pm	Unley Town Hall, 181 Unley Road, Unley
Saturday 19 November 2011	11.00am – 3.00pm	City of Mitcham Civic Centre 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park
Tuesday 22 November 2011	4.00pm – 8.00pm	George Robertson Room, City of West Torrens Civic Centre, 165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive Hilton

Any questions about the community consultation process can be directed to your local catchment council: Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley or West Torrens.