



HAPPY VALLEY OUTFALL CHANNEL UPGRADE PROJECT

COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

Tuesday 2 October 2013

1. WELCOME

SA Water Project Team:

Steve Dangerfield	Manager, Stakeholder Engagement (Facilitator)
Simon Bower	Project Manager
Alyssa Freeman	Stakeholder Engagement Officer
Jared Wilson	Landscape Architect (Oxigen)

Reference Group Members:

Allan Macdonald	Ted Van Dijk
Greg Stephenson (apology)	Trevor Browne
Michelle Minerds	Rob Fox
James Taylor	Ron Flack (apology)
Michael Bignell (apology)	

Steve Dangerfield welcomed participants to the third community reference group. Steve introduced Jared Wilson, from Oxigen. Jared has been working with SA Water on landscape plans for the remediation of the Happy Valley outfall channel.

The Reference Group ratified the previous meetings minutes.

2. AGENDA

Steve Dangerfield introduced the meeting agenda and sought agreement from participants before proceeding.

3. PROJECT UPDATE

Steve confirmed SA Water is working towards a 2013/2014 summer construction period and provided an overview of the work SA Water has undertaken since the group last convened. The following activities have been undertaken since 30th July to 22nd October:

- Constructability industry review
- Independent Arborist engaged
- Site visits
- SKM further developed concept design
- Oxigen landscape architects engaged to develop and integrate landscape concept
- Community design brief given further consideration
- Initial cost estimates and risk assessments undertaken
- Engaged Convergen to design and produce a visualisation model to demonstrate the concept plans

Steve revisited the Community Design Brief that was developed during the first Reference Group meeting.

4. CONSTRUCTABILITY AND ACCESS

Steve discussed the constructability options that were investigated by external construction and engineering industry.

Option A (Work from top of channel) & B (work from within- no access ramp) were discounted as they were unsafe work practices and both require extensive tree removal.

Option C (Work from within channel – with access) has been selected.

Option C:

- Create access ramp into the culvert
- Work into channel to clear channel, remove top of banks and clear culverts
- Re-establish bank integrity through re-grading where necessary
- Some tree loss necessary but able to be controlled
- Safe access in and out of channel
- Limited use of shoring

5. CURRENT SITE AND LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLES

Steve and Jared presented the following landscape principles and proposals:

- The stop and re-think approach has enabled the identification of opportunities to enhance the environment and general amenity and improve biodiversity
- A once off opportunity for additional funding to be brought forward to deliver an improved outcome is possible
- Allow access for drain and landscape maintenance
- Improve amenity and experience
- Define pathways and retain existing access points
- Retain existing Aleppo Pines outside erosion corridor
- Retain existing Aleppo Pines within erosion corridor where possible
- Replace Aleppo Pines impacted by the channel works with new advanced native trees and select seed producing shrubs – to support Black Cockatoo population
- Retain open grassland and lift canopies of existing vegetation to improve sightlines (casual surveillance) and ease of ongoing maintenance
- Realign select sections of existing pathways to improve drainage and deter access in hazardous areas

Steve showed examples of similar landscapes at Beaumont Common and Heyward Park.

The Group voiced concerns regarding ongoing maintenance of the newly landscaped channel. Steve explained that a clause in a landscaping contract would be to include a 2 year replacement program. If trees were not thriving, or have not survived, they will be replaced within the time period.

There was a suggestion from the Group the community could take some responsibility of the maintenance of the site.

Steve and Jared presented the landscape cross section options. A combination of the two options (which will allow landscape to intrude into the channel whilst maintaining reasonable and useable space between the channel batter and property fence) was endorsed by the Group.

Steve explained the opportunity to improve biodiversity and habitat through the use of Pre-European Vegetation – attracting bird life.

6. TABLET VISUALISATIONS

SA Water engaged, digital media company, Convergen, to design and produce a visualisation model to demonstrate the concept plans.

The tablets contained four view points, War Memorial Gardens, Herrings Lane, Reserve South and Reserve North. All viewpoints demonstrated the current environment and then the options to view what the area may look like post remediation and landscaping. There was also an option to view how the channel may have looked if the original scope had proceeded.

6. REFERENCE GROUP STATEMENT

Steve asked the group for their feedback on the landscape plans.

The Group recommended the following inclusions:

- High density plantings
- More native pines
- Consideration of advanced stock plantings
- Growth that replicates current backdrop (middle screening) to improve density

The Group requested further information and clarity of fencing types and styles. Steve advised the group that SA Water will hold internal discussions to determine a selection of styles and will provide this information to the Group via email. The Group will then discuss and report back to Alyssa.

The Group has provided in principle support for the proposed concept landscape plans; subject to fencing determination and approval from Group members who were an apology.

Alyssa and Simon will meet with these members over the next week to seek endorsement. Alyssa will distribute the Reference Group support statement, subject to these meetings.

7. BROADER COMMUNICATIONS

Steve asked the group for their recommendations on how to communicate the concept landscape plans to the broader community. The Group supports a Community Information Session being convened to demonstrate the landscape concept plans. As the Group are representatives of the broader community they do not believe it is necessary to seek feedback from the broader community on the concept plans.

Rather, the community meeting will be an opportunity for SA Water and the Reference Group to showcase the work we have been undertaking over the last 12 months and the outcomes of our collaborations.

A community meeting will be scheduled in December. Alyssa will provide a draft structure to the Group prior to the meeting for feedback.

8. CLOSE