



HAPPY VALLEY OUTFALL CHANNEL UPGRADE PROJECT

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

Monday 12 November, 2012

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

SA Water Project Team:

Steve Dangerfield	Manager, Stakeholder Engagement (Facilitator)
Simon Bower	Project Manager
Alyssa Freeman	Community Engagement Officer

Steve Dangerfield welcomed participants to the Community Information and acknowledged the attendance of the Hon Member for Fisher, Dr Bob Such and Heidi Harris, Policy Advisor to Member for Morphett, Dr Duncan McFetridge MP.

Apologies from the Federal Member of Kingston, Ms Amanda Rishworth, MP.

2. PURPOSE OF MEETING

Steve Dangerfield introduced the meeting purpose which was to address the following:

- Importance of the Happy Valley Channel system in managing and mitigating against flood events
- Existing community use
- Happy Valley channel upgrade objectives
- Community issues
- SA Water technical issues
- Site future

Steve Dangerfield introduced the agenda for the evening then sought agreement from participants before proceeding.

3. HAPPY VALLEY RESERVOIR CHANNEL - BACKGROUND

Steve provided background information on the reservoir and channel. An explanation was provided on how the bypass catch drain and channel form a critical part of the reservoir.

An increase in urban development has placed this infrastructure under stress.

Steve Dangerfield acknowledged the channel as a community asset.

SA Water has reviewed the initial project scope and considers that a different approach that engages the community in the overall solution is required.

4. CHANNEL UPGRADE OBJECTIVES

Steve Dangerfield outlined the objectives of the Happy Valley Channel upgrade.

- Protect the Happy Valley Community against risk of flooding
- Ensure capacity of channel to receive stormwater runoff during rain and flood events
- Ensure long term integrity of the channel
- Maintain a community asset
- Improve safety for both operators and the community

5. COMMUNITY ISSUES

Community members; Michael Bignell and Allan Macdonald presented on their main concerns regarding the channel upgrade. In summary, the key issues raised were:

- SA Water are known for their pipe infrastructure but not above ground aesthetics
- SA Water need to assure the community that an outcome like the Dam Wall upgrade will not occur again
- Would like to see a best practice project and not mass tree removal
- The channel and surrounding land offers a tranquil, relaxing and peaceful area for the community
- The channel has worked successfully in removing runoff water since the construction of the reservoir
- Concerns regarding previous upgrade works in the channel undertaken by SA Water
- Remove trees that are in immediate danger of falling into the channel
- Immediate attention required (interim measures)
- Plant additional trees
- Relocate the existing fence line in at risk areas to protect the public

- The community do not want to see continued soil erosion, all trees inside fence line removed, a cement channel and a high barbed wire fence

Steve invited attendees to outline their concerns related to the Happy Valley Channel upgrade.

The following items were raised:

- A technical justification is required
- Something needs to be done to prevent further erosion
- Could a catchment upstream relieve stress on the drain and channel
- Mass removal of trees will not be accepted by the community
- Acknowledgement of the channel as a community asset
- Flora and fauna to be considered
- Tranquillity and amenity of the channel to be acknowledged

6. SA WATER ISSUES

Steve Dangerfield discussed the key issues for SA Water with regard to the upgrade works.

- Increasing upstream development placing the asset under stress
- Increasing erosion of the channel floor
- Water Quality in reservoir
- Safety – operators and community/public
- Potential for trees to fall into the channel and partially block it
- Capacity of channel to receive existing and future stormwater events
- Flood mitigation

Steve outlined the project givens that will direct the final outcome

- Community value of asset is acknowledged
- Initial project scope reviewed
- Given both community and SA Water concerns, do nothing is not an option
- Overall strategy will require some tree removal
- Improvement in safety
- Opportunity to link corridor to water proofing the south project to the west
- Development of a concept plan to be implemented in stages

7. PROCESS

Steve explained the process that will be used to move toward a solution that both the community and SA Water can accept.

- Independent assessment
- Scoping of Community Design Brief
- Project scope determined
- Formation of community working group

8. DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY DESIGN BRIEF

A workshop session was held to obtain information that could be used to develop a community design brief. Steve asked participants to work together in their table groups to discuss the following:

- What do you like about the channel?
- What don't you like about the channel?
- What ideas do have to improve the channel?

9. NEXT STEPS

- Engage independent assessor to inspect the channel and consider technical issues and make recommendations
- Consider ideas
- Formulate design brief
- Deliver concept plan accounting for community views and technical issues

At the conclusion of the meeting, volunteers to form a small reference group were sought to work with SA Water to move toward a solution that both the community and SA Water can accept.