



**Minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee
held on Tuesday, 8 July 2025 at 6.30 pm
Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre
245 Sturt Road, Sturt**

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor Kris Hanna

Councillor Nathan Prior

Councillor Raelene Telfer

Councillor Luke Naismith

Councillor Jason Veliskou

Councillor Sarah Luscombe

Councillor Jayne Hoffmann

Councillor Renuka Lama

Councillor Jana Mates (Chair)

Councillor Ian Crossland

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

General Manager City Development - Ben Keen

Chief Financial Officer - Ray Barnwell

Manager Engineering, Assets & Environment - Carl Lundborg

Unit Manager Governance and Council Support - Victoria Moritz

Water Resource Coordinator – Glynn Ricketts

Anita Allen – Associate Director URPS

Sarah Lowe – Senior Consultant, URPS

Henry Rutherford – DEW (Green Adelaide Project Coordinator Field River)

1 Open Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.32pm.

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Elected Member Declaration of Interest (if any)

The Chair asked if any member wished to disclose an interest in relation to any item being considered at the meeting

The following interests were disclosed:

- Councillor Lama declared a Material conflict of interest in the confidential item *Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment*.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 10 June 2025

Report Reference IEC250708R4.1

Moved Councillor Naismith

Seconded Mayor Hanna

That the minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 10 June 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

5 Business Arising

5.1 Business Arising Statement - Action Items

Report Reference IEC250708R5.1

Moved Councillor Telfer

Seconded Mayor Hanna

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the business arising statement.

Carried Unanimously

6 Confidential Items

6.1 Cover Report - Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment (Confidential)

Report Reference IEC250708F6.1

Councillor Lama declared a material conflict of interest in the item due to owning property in close proximity to the area defined for the proposed Code Amendment and will leave the meeting for the item.

6.34pm Councillor Lama left the meeting

Moved Councillor Veliskou

Seconded Councillor Telfer

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(m) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Committee orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item IEC250708F6.1 Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment (Confidential) except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Corporate Services, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Office of the Chief Executive Office, Manager Development and Regulatory Services and Senior Strategy and Policy Planner, Manager Engineering, Assets and Environment and external advisors from URPS - Anita Allen and Sarah Lowe , to

enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of council.

2. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed be excluded from the meeting as the Council receives and considers information relating to the proposal over the land, upon the basis that the Council is satisfied that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the matter confidential given the information relates to a proposal to rezone land that has not yet been made public through the Code Amendment process.

Carried Unanimously

6.35pm the meeting went into confidence

Moved Councillor Naismith

Seconded Councillor Hoffmann

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item IEC250708F6.1 Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment (Confidential) shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(m) of the Act:
 - Report - IEC250708F6.1 Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment (Confidential)
 - Attachment 1 - Map of the subject allotments forming part of the proposal
 - Minutes - IEC250708F6.1 Proposed Adams Road, Trott Park Code Amendment (Confidential)
2. on the grounds that the document(s) relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to be contrary to the public interest and the receipt, consideration or discussion of the information or matter in an information or briefing session open to the public would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it includes private property information and proposals which would prejudice potential future negotiations with land owners.
3. Determines this order shall operate until it is revoked and will be reviewed every 12 months.
4. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried Unanimously

7.12pm the meeting came out of confidence

7 Reports for Discussion - Nil

8 Reports for Noting

7.14pm Councillor Lama re-entered the meeting

8.1 Field River - Update

Report Reference IEC250708R8.1

Field River Restoration Project

Mr Rutherford from Green Adelaide provided an update on the Field River Restoration Project, which focuses on biodiversity and a whole-of-catchment approach from the coast to the Mount Lofty Ranges. The project involves state, local, and private landholders across all land tenures to support long-term catchment management.

Key points:

- Aims to protect biodiversity and restore the river corridor, building on the 1990s Great Southern Urban Forest proposal.
- The Field River is now proclaimed Kauwi-marnirla — Field River Conservation Park by the national Park and Wildlife Service SA, with a management plan in development for consultation in December 2025.
- Strong partnerships with Green Adelaide, Kaurna Nation, National Park and Wildlife Service, City of Marion, City of Onkaparinga, Greening Australia, Trees for Life, volunteers, and sponsors are central to delivery.
- Work with Kaurna Nation and the Kaurna Firesticks Team is progressing to incorporate cultural heritage and traditional fire practices.
- Supports Friends of Upper and Lower Field River volunteer groups.
- Commonwealth grants are funding restoration works, including woody weed control.
- Stormwater assets within the park have been identified for repair.
- Visitor safety improvements have been made at the historic Worthing Mine site.

The Committee discussed the Field River Restoration Project following Henry Rutherford's presentation with the following key points noted:

- **Catchment Extent:** The Committee noted the Field River and southern/eastern creeks flow into the sea at Hallett Cove, marking the northern extent of the catchment area.
- **Linking with RAP Activities:** Discussion was held on strengthening connections between the RAP Committee and Field River activities. Henry advised that the Kaurna Firesticks Team partnership is in its early stages, with cultural burning currently occurring on Commonwealth land, with opportunities to expand these practices over time onto council reserves in collaboration with environmental volunteer groups.
- **Stormwater Management and Microplastics:** The Committee inquired about erosion, weed seed dispersal, and microplastics management. It was noted that microplastics are a significant concern, with large volumes entering the system, requiring a focus on social behaviour and community responsibility to reduce impacts.

- **Signage and Park Access:** Issues with vandalism of Field River trail signage were discussed, noting initial signage was destroyed shortly after installation. Future operational and fire management planning will focus on improving public access, signage, and user-friendly mapping over the next year.
- **Creek Flows and Springs:** The Committee discussed seasonal creek flows, noting that while many sections dry in summer, there are permanent springs at Hallett Cove, Reynella, and Sheidow Park that maintain flows in parts of the system year-round.

7.38pm Councillor Lama left the meeting

7.40pm Councillor Lama re-entered the meeting

Stormwater Management Plan

Mr Ricketts, Water Resource Coordinator, provided an update and presentation on the Field River Stormwater Management Plan. The following discussion was noted:

- Collaboration with the City of Onkaparinga as the lead Council is underway, with an MOU drafted. Unlike other stormwater management plans focused on flooding, due to the geography of the area, this plan prioritises water quality, erosion control, and water harvesting.
- Council is preparing to approach the Stormwater Management Authority for funding (approx. \$100,000) in September, with further updates to return to Council.
- Funding models, including potential State and Federal contributions, will be explored, noting the plan's environmental and ecological focus for the Field River.
- Public consultation and education will be included in the process.
- The plan will consider connections to Glenthorne, including leveraging existing wetland systems and detention basins to help mitigate water impacts before discharge to the gulf.

7.44pm Councillor Naismith left the meeting

7.46pm Councillor Naismith re-entered the meeting

Moved Councillor Luscombe

Seconded Councillor Crossland

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the update report from staff and Green Adelaide on activities surrounding the Field River.

Carried

8.2 Marion Water Update

Report Reference

IEC250708R8.2

Mr Ricketts, Water Resource Coordinator introduced the item, and the Committee received an update and presentation on Marion Water business and future opportunities noting 334 ML of treated stormwater supplied in 2024/25, with usage regularly exceeding 2.0 ML/day.

The Marion Water business is actively exploring future opportunities to enhance the recycled water network and strengthen long-term water security. These opportunities were discussed with the following key points noted:

Torrens to Darlington (T2D) Opportunity

- Water testing over two years confirmed viability to supply T2D construction needs, with potential to support irrigated vegetation along the North-South Corridor during construction and extend pipelines as the public realm develops.
- A cost-benefit analysis is underway, with indicative costs of \$1.2M (50% recoverable via project contributions) for pipeline and well infrastructure, considering financial and environmental risk profiles before returning to Council.
- It was emphasised that above-ground irrigation needs must remain the priority to avoid adverse impacts on the City of Marion.
- The project may fund a sixth extraction well at Oaklands Wetland to increase supply security.

Majors Road Soccer and Reserves Opportunity

- Expanding supply from Seacliff Golf Course to soccer pitches at Majors Road is being explored to replace potable water, addressing high irrigation demand.
- Council's contribution would be around \$200K, with the majority grant-funded, noting potable water currently costs over \$200K/year for four pitches.

New Groundwater Access

- An EOI has been submitted for 200 ML of new groundwater allocations, providing water security and reliability benefits. A report will return to Council in August.
- The Committee noted ongoing efforts to identify grant opportunities to support expansion.

Additional Discussion Points

- The Committee discussed a review of the current four-year plan is underway, with Councillors indicating a preference for a 10-year business plan to guide water security, pricing, and investment decisions. This will be taken to the next Steering Committee for consideration.
- The Committee discussed water banking management, with strategies to address salinity risks following a dry winter, including purchasing additional water to support reserves.
- Potential future utilisation of water bodies such as Glenthorne Lake for irrigation was queried by the Committee, with feasibility to be assessed in the stormwater management planning process.

- The current pricing model (\$2.53/kL) was discussed, noting it remains below SA Water's lowest tariff while recovering full costs, including renewal, without profiteering.
- The suggestion was made to increase Marion water prices.

Moved Councillor Naismith

Seconded Mayor Hanna

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the report
2. Notes that future reports will be presented to the General Council meetings seeking endorsement of the initiatives outlined in this report.

Carried Unanimously

9 Workshop / Presentation Items - Nil

10 Other Business

11 Meeting Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 8.29pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 5 DAY OF AUGUST 2025

CHAIRPERSON