

## Hon Ian Hunter MLC

Minister for Water and the River Murray

Monday, 27 February 2017

### **Stormwater project to avert flooding impacts in Brown Hill, Keswick Creek catchment**

The State Government, five local councils and the Stormwater Management Authority have reached a historic agreement on a \$140 million infrastructure project to safeguard against flooding in the Brown Hill and Keswick Creek catchment – the most at risk area for flooding in Adelaide.

The flood mitigation works detailed in the Brown Hill and Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan which has been 10 years in the making, will reduce the number of properties affected by a 1-in-100 year flood event by nearly 98 per cent. The infrastructure project will deliver about 73 full-time jobs during construction.

The plan will also yield more than \$240 million in community benefit in terms of damage mitigation, reducing flood impacts on Adelaide Airport, minimising economic disruption, and improving stormwater quality across the catchment.

The announcement was made today by Water and River Murray Minister Ian Hunter; Lord Mayor Martin Haese (Adelaide); Mayors David Parkin (Burnside), Glenn Spear (Mitcham), Lachlan Clyne (Unley) and John Trainer (West Torrens); and SMA Presiding Member Stephen Hains.

The councils and State Government have called on the Commonwealth to contribute funding toward the project, and will be actively lobbying for this contribution in order to expedite construction and reduce the burden on ratepayers.

### **Background**

The infrastructure project is 10 years in the planning and will deliver about 73 full-time jobs during construction.

The State Government has agreed to fund 50 per cent of the required works via its Stormwater Management Fund over the next 20 years.

Click [here](#) for further information about the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project and the approved stormwater management plan.

## **Quotes attributable to Water and River Murray Minister Ian Hunter**

The State Government is pleased that a comprehensive plan has been finalised by the five catchment councils that will mitigate the flooding risk from the major watercourses across the Brown Hill Keswick Creek region.

This will be welcome news for the local community, particularly in light of recent significant rainfall events in which homes were threatened by flooding.

Given the mitigation of flood impacts on the Adelaide Airport and the extent to which the works will reduce the need for costly compensation from a future flood event in the catchment, there is clearly an argument for joint investment by the Commonwealth.

It's disappointing that the Turnbull Government is not partnering with the State Government and Councils on major stormwater projects.

## **Quotes attributable to Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project chair Terry Buss**

Approval of the stormwater management plan and certainty of State funding is a major milestone and welcome news for the wider community.

Crucially, it provides an opportunity to get on with works that will ultimately improve the standard of flood protection for homes and properties across the catchment.

It's been a complex project requiring an enormous amount of work and collaboration between the five catchment councils, their communities and many other stakeholders.

## **Quotes attributable to Stormwater Management Authority Presiding Member Stephen Hains**

Formal approval of the plan by the Stormwater Management Authority delivers on one of its highest priority initiatives.

The Authority will now focus on proactively working with other councils on stormwater management plans for other catchments.

As Adelaide continues to grow and the impacts of climate change are realised, stormwater management will become even more critical for safe, vibrant and green urban areas.

Media Contact: Tanalee Smith 0408 377 584