



Maintenance of Water Sensitive Urban Design Projects

Resourcing the maintenance of Water Sensitive Urban Design Projects.

Description

Proposal

To increase operating budget within City Operations, to meet maintenance standards for Water Sensitive Urban Design solutions. Emerging requirements for optimal maintenance will increase the efficiency of these solutions and mitigate longer term degradation of the assets.

Background

Council have been installing increasingly sophisticated water management strategies in response to climate change challenges. These industry leading initiatives continue to evolve as does the understanding of best practice maintenance.

Council maintenance staff have recently undertaken significant training and development activities to understand and implement best practice maintenance methodologies, in managing various interventions. Of particular focus are council's suite of rain gardens, storm water inlets and biodiversity solutions such as Pasadena Biodiversity corridor and St Marys sportsgrounds surrounds.

These maintenance methodologies and process' will maximise the efficiency of the various interventions and improve the effective lives of the assets. Many of the strategies in place are evolving as is the understanding of best practice maintenance. Current resource allocation is unable to match these newly identified expectations and an inability to meet these creates a risk that these highly effective assets will not meet their full potential.

This request seeks \$40,000 operating funding to enable Council staff to maintain the above sites and interventions to best practices service standards. Specific activities that will be undertaken on a regular, planned, basis include:

- Regular weeding of over 30 rain garden sites across the City.
- Regular replacement of plants within all rain gardens
- Clearance of blockages in rain gardens and storm water inlets
- Programmed site checks prior to anticipated weather events to improve efficiency during storms.
- Increased application of mulch in priority Biodiversity sites such as Pasadena Biodiversity Corridor.
- Regular weeding of in priority Biodiversity sites.

This work will be incorporated into a program of works to be undertaken within the Garden Bed maintenance function.

Community Benefits

- Parks and gardens with water sensitive urban design elements are maintained at service standards expected by the community – aesthetically pleasing.
- WSUD strategies will remain effective and fit for purpose as leading edge Climate Change management initiatives.

Category B

Rate Impact: 0.07%
Ongoing (Council): \$40,000

Primary Theme

Theme 3.1 Placemaking

Community Insight

I feel that I live in an attractive local area

Other Information

- ☐ Pending Grant Funding
- ☐ Future Grant Funding Request
- ☒ Priority Theme
- ☐ Non-Priority Theme

General Manager

Dan Baker

2023/24
Annual Business Plan,
Budget & LTFP