



SUPPORT NO DAM OPTION

Save Brownhill Creek Valley - Wirraparinga



No Dam Group Position on a Creek Upgrade Solution: Media Release: 28th April, 2014.

There is *widespread* community support for a No Dam solution:

- Over 10,000 signatories to the No Dam petition.
- Many hundreds have filled halls for public meetings and council chambers for deputations since 2011, with support increasing.
- Our State's environmental and heritage organisations are calling for a No Dam solution: Conservation Council SA; the Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association (KNCHA); National Trust of South Australia; Nature Foundation SA; Mitcham Historical Society; The Friends of Brownhill Creek and others (Letters of Support at www.brownhillcreek.org).

The five councils have a preference for a No Dam solution:

- “The councils, *recognizing community opposition to a dam* in the upper reaches of Brown Hill Creek, commit to a preference to pursue a feasible and whole of catchment community supported ‘no dam’ solution” (page 10, Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan 2012).

The five councils have agreed to place a “priority on investigating a creek upgrade solution for the upper reaches of Brownhill Creek” (Option 1), as a result of revised rainfall figures and hydrology:

- *We support this investigation, involving direct engagement with affected creek owners.*
- There are multiple benefits to creek owners from a creek upgrade solution.
- The creek upgrade solution, on current information, is feasible, the cheapest option and is more broadly accepted by the community.

A creek upgrade is essential to protect residents from urban flash flooding:

- A dam in Brownhill Creek will *not* prevent flooding from short intense rainfall over the urban catchment (short duration rain events).
- *Creek upgrading is still required even if a dam is built.*
- A creek upgrade should make the expensive, disruptive and destructive dam unnecessary, broadly benefitting ratepayers/taxpayers while also preserving the environment, documented heritage and public amenity.

Creek owners will benefit from a creek upgrade solution:

- Direct flood protection for *all* rain events.
- Costs of the creek upgrade to be largely borne by the project.
- Direct engagement with creek owners enables property owners to improve their amenity and alleviate the present legal and financial uncertainty surrounding private creek ownership.

Steering Committee: No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group
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[To view our latest deputation video, please visit www.brownhillcreek.org](http://www.brownhillcreek.org)