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ENGAGING FOR SUCCESS

What we need now, more than ever, is for people to deal in facts rather than making sweeping emotional or political statements. The bulk of the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project is progressing well in Part A and the complex upper Brownhill Creek catchment works (Part B) are undergoing a necessary but temporary delay. This delay is essential to assess new channel capacity data for the urban Brownhill Creek channel, incorporate recently revised rainfall figures from the Bureau of Meteorology and develop improved hydrology that will provide the project with more accurate modelling and flood mapping. Only then can the project realistically predict potential flood damage, the level of flood protection required and decide on flood mitigation components in the upper Brownhill Creek catchment. Unley and Mitcham residents are working together at the moment to address common concerns and progress is being made. It is important that Unley and Mitcham communities continue to work together to achieve an outcome that minimises disruption for residents, protects street trees and the environment, preserves heritage and provides effective flood mitigation. Any attempt to divide our communities should be resisted. Patience, common sense and community engagement are needed now, not knee jerk reactions and political bullying. A successful and complete project is achievable and close. The threatened State government takeover of the project would create another '**Announce and Defend**' fiasco, undermining the significant progress being made by the five catchment councils.

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