



Brownhill Creek Tourist Park
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Hon. Ian Hunter MLC
Hon. Leon Bignell MP
Sandy Pitcher,
Chief Executive, DEWNR
Carmine Porcaro,
General Manager, SMA
Adelaide City Council
The City of Burnside
The City of Mitcham
The City of Unley
The City of West Torrens

14 September, 2015

Dear Ministers, Lord Mayor, Mayors, Chief Executive Officers and Councillors,

Brownhill Creek Tourist Park forms an integral part of a local tourism industry that generates essential employment and injects revenue into our local and state economy.

Over the past 15 years I have built this business into a successful venture, attracting around 20,000 paying guests per annum and providing a permanent home for 20 residents.

Tourists from around Australia and overseas are attracted to Brownhill Creek Tourist Park, because of its tranquil, natural setting in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park and its close proximity (only 7 kilometres) to Adelaide's CBD.

Our paying guests also spend valuable dollars at local businesses such as the Edinburgh Hotel and Mitcham Square Shopping Centre and patronise businesses throughout Mitcham, Unley and Adelaide's CBD. They attend our city's festivals, sporting and cultural events.

I have noticed a significant increase in visitor numbers to Brownhill Creek Recreation Park in recent years, well above the 2003 survey number of 40,000 day visitors per annum. Extended recreational and heritage trails linking Carrick Hill with Ellison's Gully and Brownhill Creek Recreation Park, including a Kaurna Cultural Heritage trail, would further increase visitor numbers.

The construction of a dam at Site 1 (Option B1) in the centre of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park would permanently damage local tourism and our business. The visual appeal of this park would be ruined, as Seven Pines picnic area (Site 1) is very much the heart of the park.

Dam construction at either Site 1 or Site 2 (Option B2) in Ellison's Gully would extend over a two-year period, with constant heavy truck movements through the narrow valley and directly past our Tourist Park. Occupancy rates would drop significantly and the safety of our guests compromised.

I am extremely concerned about the negative financial impact that this prolonged disruption during dam construction would have on my business.

Yet there is a feasible alternative, which complies with the endorsed position of all five catchment councils in their 2012 agreement.

The restoration of Brownhill Creek, involving Creek Rehabilitation works and Creek Capacity Upgrade works, is a common sense solution that is supported by an overwhelming majority in the community and also by the project for sound reasons.

Option D is the best available option for flood mitigation, the environment, tourism, local business and our economy.

I urge you to advocate the project's recommendation supporting Option D, and in the case of Council Elected Members, vote for the project's recommendation.

If the five catchment councils are unable to reach an agreement that supports Option D, then a final Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan should be completed with the recommended Option D, under the guidance and direction of the responsible Minister Ian Hunter MLC and the Stormwater Management Authority.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Dyer', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Gavin Dyer
Proprietor, Brownhill Creek Tourist Park
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