

The Myth Of Mitcham: Media Release.

There are many myths being passed off as facts, relating to the implementation of a Stormwater Management Plan.

One such myth that has gone largely unchallenged, is that Mitcham Council **unfairly** stopped the 2006 Master Plan.

Mitcham Council in fact was quite correct in opposing that flawed plan.

Worley Parsons on page 54 of the 2011 Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan, give their findings after modelling the 2006 Master Plan.

" It has been determined that up to 3,400 properties would still be affected by flooding during the 100 year ARI event if the 2006 Master Plan were implemented without modification. Of those properties, about 550 properties would be subject to over-floor flooding.

The residual flood extent is largely a result of flows overtopping the Brown Hill Creek channel upstream from the Anzac Highway, spreading out across areas of Unley and then travelling overland across the Highway into West Torrens Council area".

**This shows that if a 100 year ARI event had occurred, then the 2006 Master Plan would have failed by up to 50%.
Not a good return for \$110M of ratepayer/taxpayer money!**

Unley and particularly West Torrens would have paid the price and yet Mayor Trainer still attacks Mitcham Council for stopping this plan.

How could this failure possibly occur with two huge dams in Brownhill Creek Valley? They were a key part of the 2006 Master Plan.

The answer is that the dams did nothing to mitigate against a short term 1 in 100 year ARI event over the entire catchment. The physical catchment above the dams was also less than 20% of the total catchment area.

That is why 93% of the costed works in the 2011 "Worley Parsons"

Plan do not involve dams.

Over 80% of the flood mitigation benefits for West Torrens are provided by the Brown Hill Creek Channel Upgrades below and above Anzac Highway (\$56.7M) and the Keswick Creek to Brown Hill Creek Diversions (\$30M). Despite this, West Torrens still seems to concentrate its attention on a dam in Brownhill Creek and looks longingly back to the 2006 Master Plan.

My observation is that Mitcham Council is working in a spirit of co-operation with the other four catchment councils and is attempting to ensure that the 2011 Plan provides the best possible outcome. They should not be punished for trying to do what is right.

If the alternatives to the proposed dam are cost comparable and provide the same level of flood mitigation, then why not have a win/win situation and drop the dam. Effective flood mitigation is achieved and the environment and heritage of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park is saved for present and future generations.

Or must the overwhelming majority against the dam be punished along with Mitcham Council and made to have an unacceptable and unnecessary dam.

No Dam in Brownhill Creek Action Group.