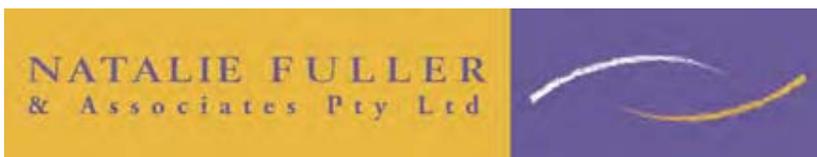


Consultation findings on the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project: Part B Report

**Prepared for the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project by:
Natalie Fuller and Associates Pty Ltd in partnership with URPS**

AUGUST 2015



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List of Acronyms

AMLRNRMB	Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board
BCA	Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated
BHCC	Brown Hill Keswick Creek
FOCUS	Friends of City of Unley Society
KNCHA	Kaurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association
RESS	Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions Incorporated
SMA	Stormwater Management Authority
SOCKET	Save Our Creek Environs Trees
SOSCAG	Save Our Streets Community Action Group
WUPOT	West Unley Protection of Trees

Executive Summary

A consultation process was undertaken between 13 May 2015 and 23 June 2015 regarding the proposed works associated with the Brown Hill Keswick Creek (BHKC) Stormwater Management Plan Part B Report (the Part B Report) prepared by the BHKC Stormwater Project.

The consultation process was undertaken by an independent consultant team comprised of Natalie Fuller & Associates Pty Ltd and URPS engaged by the BHKC Stormwater Project on behalf of the five catchment councils of the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens.

This report summarises the feedback collected via the consultation process. The purpose of the consultation process was to:

- Inform key stakeholders and the broader community about:
 - > the outcomes of investigations on the eight potential options for Part B works
 - > the identification of, and reasons for, the identification of a preferred option – Option D
 - > how they could provide feedback on options for Part B works
- Seek feedback from key stakeholders and interested members of the public regarding:
 - > how important they consider it is to undertake flood mitigation works in the Brown Hill Creek catchment
 - > their level of support for Option D in comparison with other options
- Seek additional feedback from owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek regarding their specific concerns and opportunities relating to proposed rehabilitation and creek capacity upgrade works (under Options D, B1 or B2)
- Report on the outcomes of the engagement to assist Councils in making a final decision regarding Part B works.

The consultation process comprised three key aspects, namely:

- Preparation and distribution of information materials and feedback forms
- Conduct of four open days
- Receipt, collation and analysis of feedback forms and written submissions.

Distribution of information materials and feedback forms

A suite of information materials was prepared including:

- A summary brochure, “Managing Stormwater flows in upper Brown Hill Creek”, providing an overview of the Part B Report, the eight flood mitigation options, and the consultation process

- Fact sheets addressing key components of the Part B Report, namely: “Creek Capacity Upgrade Works”, “Creek Rehabilitation Works” and “Legal Arrangements with Property Owners”
- Letters and feedback forms tailored to:
 - > Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where creek capacity upgrade and creek rehabilitation works are proposed
 - > Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where creek rehabilitation works are proposed
 - > Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where no creek capacity upgrade or creek rehabilitation works are proposed
 - > Non-owner occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek
 - > Interested members of the public.

The information materials and the feedback form were made available via a direct mail out to 216 property owners and 53 non-owner occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek.

Other members of the public could receive the information materials and a feedback form by calling a dedicated free call phone number, emailing the project or submitting a feedback form request via the Project website.

The consultation period was advertised through advertisements and public notices in the Eastern Courier, Mitcham & Hills, Guardian, City and Weekly Times Messenger newspaper on 13 and 20 May, and 10 June 2015 .

The information materials were also made available:

- At each of the five catchment councils’ offices along with the Part B Report
- On a dedicated Project website linked to the home pages of the five catchment councils
- At the open days.

In addition, a number of community groups with an interest in the project were kept informed in the lead up to the consultation process to ensure that they were aware of the process and understood the ways in which their members could participate. Similarly, the Project advised relevant Federal and State Members of Parliament and government departments about the consultation process.

Conduct of open days

Members of the wider community could obtain further information about the Part B Report by attending any or all of four open days which were held during the consultation period at the Unley Community Centre and the Mitcham Civic Centre. The open days provided an opportunity to learn more about the eight flood mitigation options and ask questions of members of the project team.

In total, approximately 80 people attended the four open days.

Summary of Consultation Activities

April 2015	Letter directly mailed to creek owners identifying that consultation process on Part B report to commence shortly
13 May 2015	Consultation on Part B Report commences
13 May -23 June	<p>Feedback form and information package directly mailed to creek property owners</p> <p>Information made available on Project Website, Councils website and at Council Offices for access by broader community</p> <p>Advertisement and Public Notices in Messenger newspapers and signage in public parks informing community about consultation process and how to participate</p> <p>Feedback form and information package for wider community available upon request via phone, email or project website</p> <p>Four open days held to view information, ask questions and seek clarification about Part B Report</p>
Early June 2015	<p>Follow up letter to creek property owners reminding them to return feedback form</p> <p>Reminder advertisement in Messenger newspapers about consultation process and end date</p>
Late June 2015	Follow up phone calls to creek property owners reminding them to return feedback form
23 June 2015	Consultation on Part B Report ends

Additional efforts to maximise response rate

In order to maximise the response rate, the project:

- Placed an additional advertisement in the Eastern Courier, Mitcham & Hills, Guardian, City and Weekly Times Messenger Newspapers on 10 June 2015 encouraging members of the public to request feedback forms well before the close of consultation to allow for processing and delivery time
- Sent a follow-up reminder letter to creek property owners and occupiers on 5 June 2015 to encourage property owners and occupiers to return feedback forms before the close of consultation period on the 23 June 2015
- At the end of the consultation period, where phone numbers were available, courtesy calls were made to owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed who had not returned a feedback form. These owners were offered an additional couple days to submit a response.

Responses received

In summary, a total of 818 feedback forms were received:

- 88 out of a distributed 216 from owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek
 - > 39 out of 126 (31%) from owners of properties located in the City of Unley
 - > 49 out of 90 (54%) from owners of properties located in the City of Mitcham
- 2 out of a distributed 53 from non-owner occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek (1 from each of the Cities of Unley and Mitcham)
- 728 out of 1,074 sent in response to requests from members of the public. The majority of these (519) came from individuals in the City of Mitcham, followed by the City of Unley (118).

76 written submissions were received from individuals, groups or organisations, businesses and Government.

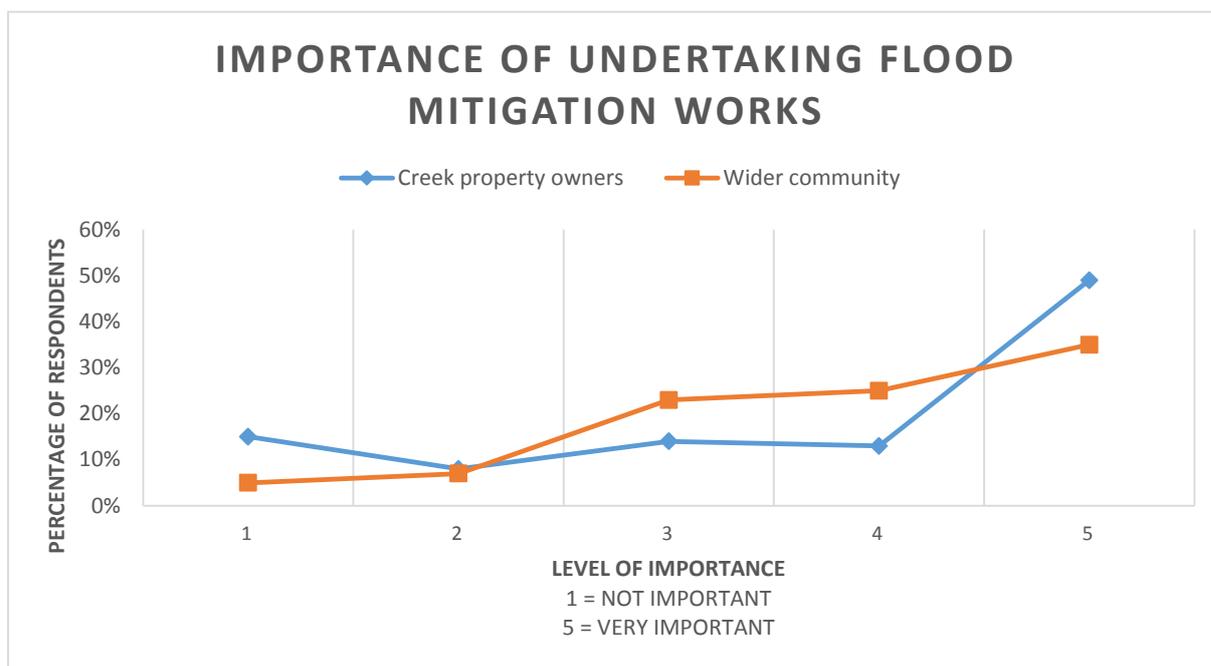
Summary of feedback received

Importance of Flood Mitigation

Respondents were asked to rate on a five point scale, from '1: not important' to '5: very important', how important it was to them that flood mitigation works are undertaken to reduce the impact of major flooding in the Brown Hill Keswick Creek catchment.

Responses from creek property owners as well as owners/occupiers in the catchment councils indicate a moderate level of importance (62% for a combined rating of 4 and 5), with a slightly lower level of importance for members of the wider community (60% for a combined rating of 4 and 5).

Figure 1: Overview of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works



Level of Support for Option D

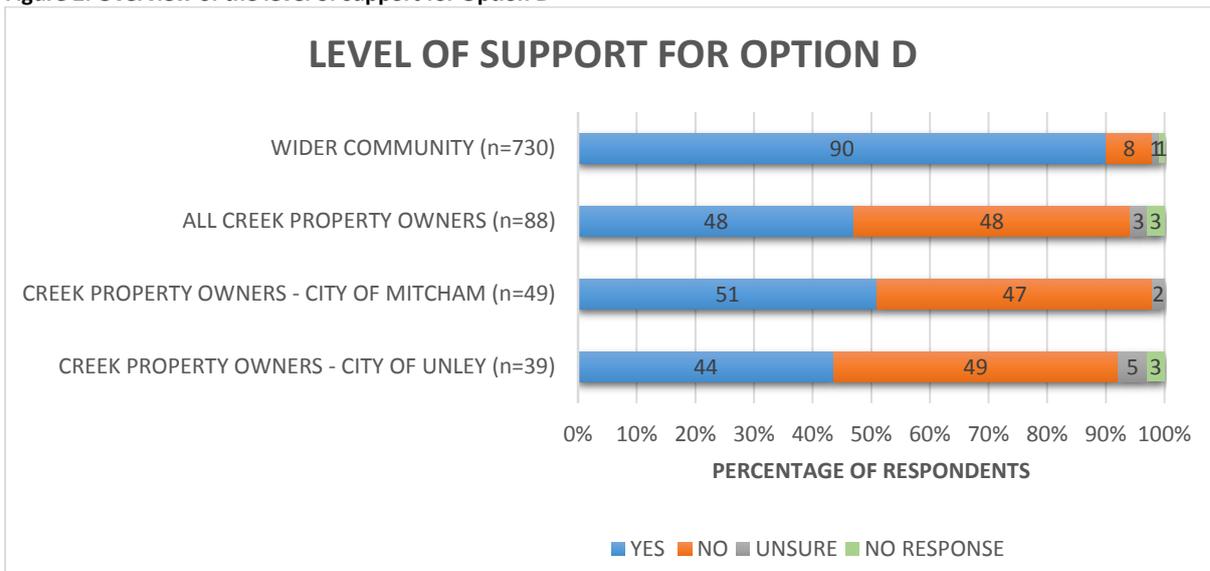
The Part B Report outlines eight flood mitigation options for upper Brown Hill Creek, of which Option D: Creek Capacity Upgrade is identified as the preferred option. Option D involves upgrading the capacity of the upper Brown Hill Creek at critical sections (including an estimated 66 private properties) as well as creek rehabilitation works along the full length of the creek.

Respondents were asked to indicate if they supported the preferred Option D: Creek Capacity Upgrade, by selecting from the following responses: 'yes', 'no' or 'unsure'.

As indicated graphically in Figure 2, the level of support for Option D varied markedly between creek property owners and members of the wider community with:

- Mixed views expressed by creek property owners with 42 of the 88 respondents supporting Option D, 42 opposing Option D and 3 unsure (1 did not respond)
 - > Owners of properties where only creek rehabilitation works are proposed indicated higher levels of support for Option D compared with owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works (including creek rehabilitation works) are proposed (68% compared with 31%).
 - > Creek property owners in the City of Mitcham indicated higher levels of support for Option D compared with creek property owners in the City of Unley (51% compared with 44%).
- Overwhelming support (90%) for Option D by members of the wider community with 654 of the 730 respondents supporting Option D, 59 opposing Option D and 9 unsure (8 did not respond).

Figure 2: Overview of the level of support for Option D



As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the level of support / opposition for Option D needs to be seen in the broader context of the overall level of response, particularly by creek property owners.

Figure 3: Support / opposition for Option D by City of Unley creek property owners

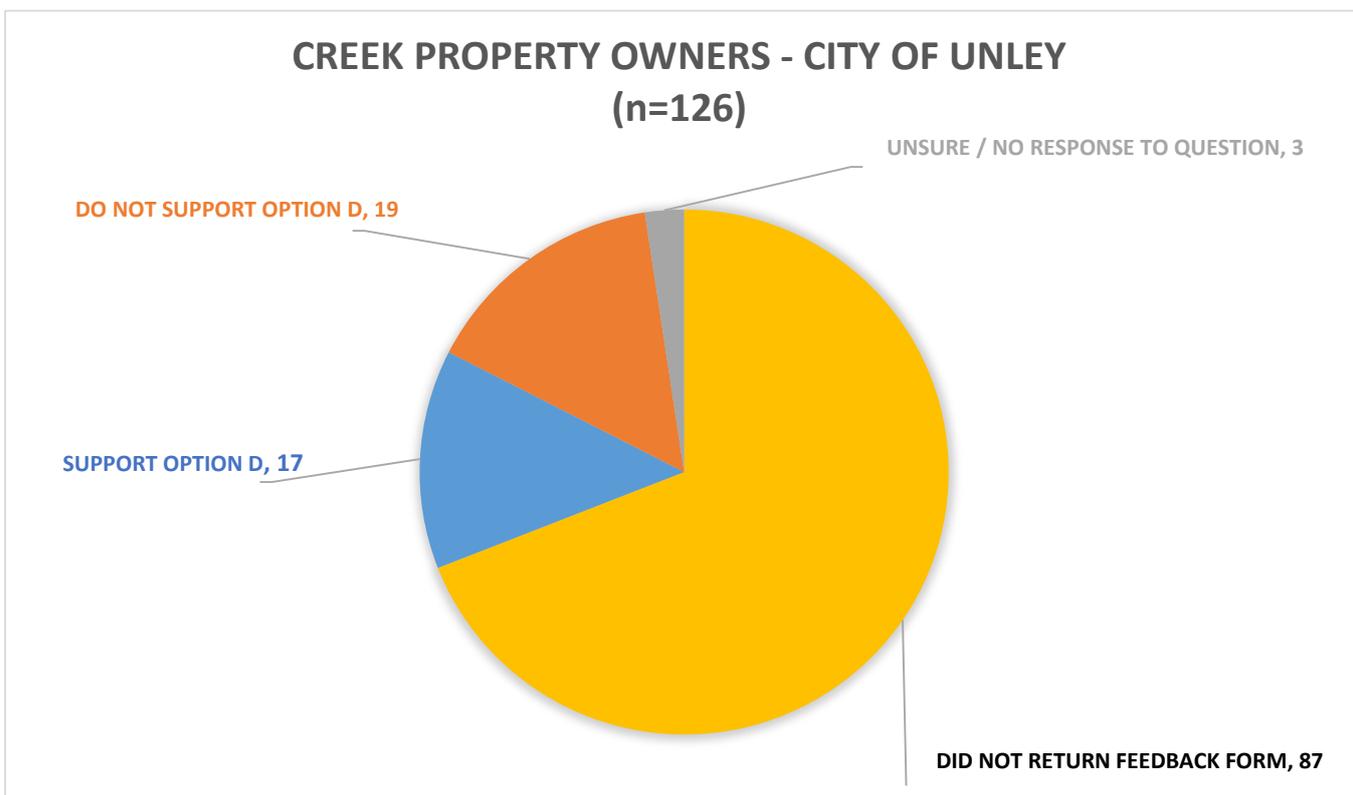
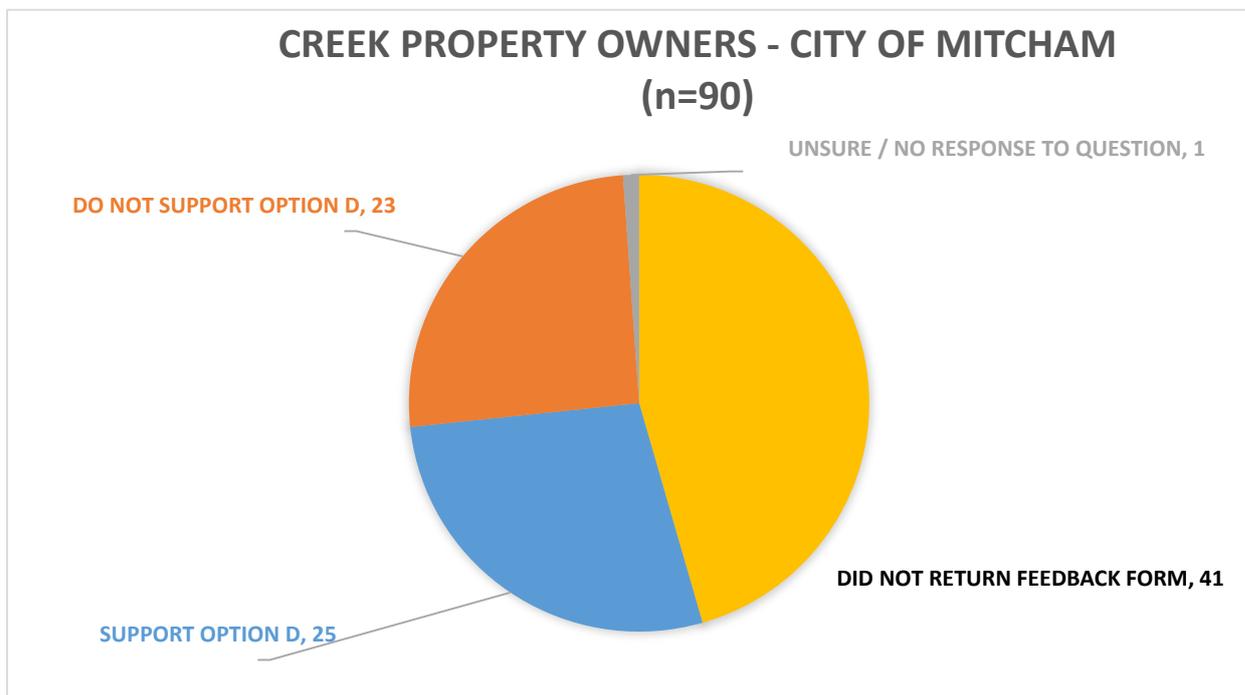


Figure 4: Support / opposition for Option D by City of Mitcham creek property owners



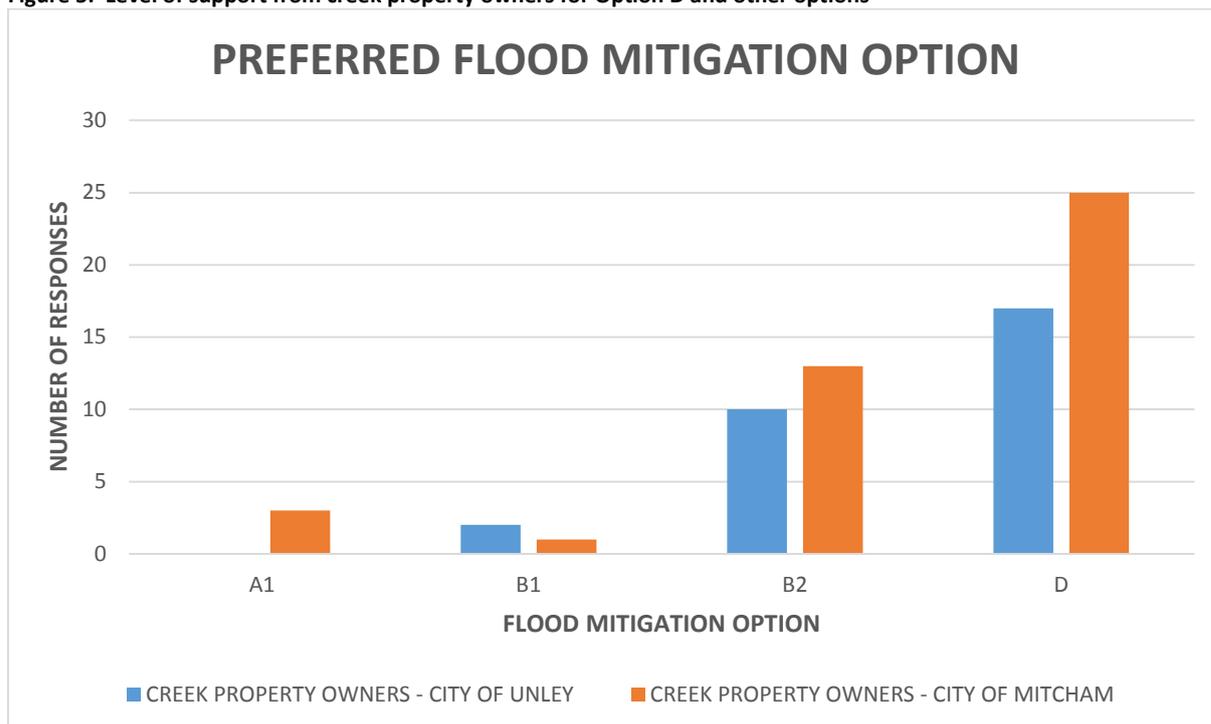
Level of support for other options

Those who do not support Option D were asked to identify if they had a preference for one of the other seven flood mitigation options, none of the options, or if they were unsure.

Of the 42 creek property owners opposing Option D:

- 23 support Option B2
- 3 support B1
- 3 support A2
- 5 were unsure
- 4 supported none of the other options
- 4 respondents did not select one response as requested and ticked multiple options. To avoid double counting, these responses are noted in the body of the report but were not included in the analysis.

Figure 5: Level of support from creek property owners for Option D and other options



Of the 59 respondents from the wider community opposing Option D:

- 43 indicated support for Option for B2
- 6 indicated support for Option B1
- 1 indicated support for Option A1
- 1 indicated support for Option A2
- 1 indicated support for Option C1
- 7 indicated they were either unsure (1), none of the above (4) or did not provide a response (2).

Impact of works on properties – creek capacity upgrades

Owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works, combined with creek rehabilitation works, are proposed were asked to identify the positive and negative impacts of possible works on their property.

The positive impacts identified included:

- Positive impact on creek environment, especially water flows and appearance
- Improved flood protection
- Improved bank stability and reduced erosion
- Positive impact on properties and property values.

The negative impacts identified included:

- Negative impact on space, appearance, landscaping and use of private properties

- Negative impact on property values
- Impacts of construction works
- Negative impact on the creek environment, including loss of trees and shade
- Concerns about security, safety and privacy
- Concerns about ongoing responsibility, maintenance and legal agreements.

Impact of works on properties – creek rehabilitation works

Owners of properties where only creek rehabilitation works are proposed were asked to identify the positive and negative impacts of possible works on their property.

The positive impacts identified included:

- Positive impact on creek condition, water flows and appearance
- Stabilisation of banks and reduced erosion
- Improved flood protection and mitigation
- Improvement to the creek in general.

The negative impacts identified included:

- Negative impact on residential amenity, including shade and creek ambience
- Negative impacts on the creek environment, including loss of biodiversity
- Increased risk of erosion and bank instability
- Impacts of undertaking the creek rehabilitation works
- Concerns about security, safety and privacy.

Legal agreements

The feedback form sent to owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works included an additional question regarding possible legal arrangements should infrastructure be installed on their property.

They were asked to indicate which of the following three options (or none of them) they would prefer:

- Option 1: The property owner agrees to take responsibility for ongoing maintenance of creek capacity upgrade works (at their cost)
- Option 2: The Project takes responsibility for ongoing maintenance of creek capacity upgrade works (at its cost) – this option legally requires the Project to acquire an easement
- Option 3: The property owner decides on ongoing maintenance arrangements after the construction works are completed.

Of these 76 owners who were sent feedback forms with the additional question regarding legal arrangements, responses were received from 49 creek property owners. Of these responses:

- 14 support Option 3
- 10 support Option 2
- 1 support Option 1
- 18 support none of the options
- 6 did not respond.

Written Submissions

76 written submissions were received during the consultation period.

Summary of written submissions received

GROUP	OVERT OR IMPLIED		SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION NOT STATED
	SUPPORT OPTION D	OPPOSE OPTION D	
COMMUNITY AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (13)			
Brown Hill Save Our Creeks Environs Trees (SOCKET)		✓	
Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated (BCA)	✓		
Creek Class Action Advocacy		✓	
FOCUS	✓		
ForTrees		✓	
Friends of Brownhill Creek	✓		
Goodwood Residents Action Group		✓	
Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association	✓		
Mitcham Creek Preservation		✓	
Mitcham Historical Society	✓		
No Dam in BHC Community Action Group	✓		
Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions Incorporated (RESS)		✓	
West Unley Protection of Trees (WUPOT)		✓	
BUSINESSES (2)			
Brown Hill Creek Tourist Park	✓		
The Mitcham Rehabilitation Clinic	✓		
GOVERNMENT (1)			
Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, State Member for Waite.	✓		

GROUP	OVERT OR IMPLIED		SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION NOT STATED
	SUPPORT OPTION D	OPPOSE OPTION D	
INDIVIDUALS (60)			
Residing in the City of Unley (13)	7	5	1
Residing in the City of Mitcham (26)	24		2
Residing in other council areas (21)	21		

Part One: Consultation Process

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Part B Report

This consultation report summarises feedback collected from the community and stakeholders during the consultation process regarding the Brown Hill Keswick Creek (BHKC) Stormwater Management Plan Part B Report (the Part B Report) prepared by the BHKC Stormwater Project.

In 2013, the Stormwater Management Authority (SMA) endorsed the 2012 Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) for the Brown Hill Keswick Creek catchment. This plan grouped works into Part A and Part B:

- Part A Works: designed to mitigate flooding generated from the mainly urban sub-catchments in lower Brown Hill and Keswick, Glen Osmond and Parklands Creeks. These works, which comprise approximately 80% of the project, have already commenced.
- Part B Works: designed to provide flood mitigation in the upper Brown Hill Creek catchment. The 2012 SMP identifies a process to investigate and determine Part B based on the councils' preference to pursue a feasible and whole of catchment community supported 'no dam' solution.

In September 2014, the BHKC Stormwater Project released the Part B Report which details the outcomes of investigations of eight options to manage stormwater flows in the upper Brownhill Creek catchment. The eight options:

- Differ in how they combine the following three components:
 - > A detention dam at one of two sites (Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully)
 - > High flow bypass culverts (laid under suburban streets along the relevant route)
 - > Creek capacity upgrade works at critical sections of the creek (including bridge upgrade works)
- All include undertaking creek rehabilitation works to rehabilitate the creek towards achieving 'good condition' to assist flow capacity along the full length of upper Brown Hill Creek.

Based on an initial assessment, investigations focussed on three of the eight options (Options B1, B2 and D) of which Option D was subsequently identified as the preferred option by the Part B Report.

Option D involves upgrading the capacity of the creek at critical sections over the full length of upper Brown Hill Creek, requiring works on:

- 66 privately owned properties
- 10 road bridges
- a section of channel owned by Unley Council
- three public parks (Forestville Reserve, Orphanage Park and the Soldiers Memorial Gardens/JWS Morris Reserve/Dellwood Reserve).

1.2 Previous community engagement

The primary purpose of this consultation report is report on the outcomes of the consultation undertaken by the BHKC Stormwater Project during the six week period, Wednesday 13 May to Tuesday 23 June 2015, on the Part B Report.

However, in doing so, it is important to acknowledge the considerable engagement undertaken by the Project in preparing the Part B Report, on release of the Part B Report and in the lead up to the commencement of the formal six-week consultation period. These activities are summarised below.

1.2.1 In preparing the Part B Report

In preparing the Part B Report, the BHKC Stormwater Project:

- Participated in a community meeting in December 2012 conducted by Unley Council on the impact of the Brown Hill Creek diversion culvert (constructed by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) on Forestville Reserve
- Disseminated an information brochure in May 2013 concerning route options for high flow bypass culverts in Unley
- Commenced interaction with special interest community groups in the second half of 2013
 - > SOSCAG (Save our Streets Community Action Group)
 - > SOCKET (Save Our Creek Environs Trees)
 - > No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group
- Commenced engagement with owners of properties in the Cities of Unley and Mitcham where creek capacity upgrade works were envisaged (under all eight options), conducting area based meetings in April 2014 followed by on-site visits on request
- Conducted a community consultation process in June 2014, to present and seek feedback on initial options for Orphanage Park, involving Park users as well as nearby property owners and residents. A summary of the outcomes of the Orphanage Park consultation was included in a report to Unley Council on 14 July 2014
- Wrote to owners/occupiers of properties through which upper Brown Hill Creek traverses in early September 2014 (immediately prior to the release of the Part B Report) to provide an update on the BHKC project and to advise whether, based on concept level investigations, their property was identified as requiring creek capacity upgrade works under Options B1, B2 or D.

1.2.2 On release of the Part B Report

When the Part B Report was released in September 2014, the BHKC project:

- Invited representatives of the following special community interest groups to a briefing session to provide an overview of the Part B Report:

- > SOCKET (Save Our Creek Environs Trees)
- > SOSCAG (Save our Streets Community Action Group)
- > No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group
- > Friends of Brownhill Creek
- > Conservation Council of SA
- > Mitcham Historical Society
- > Kaurua National Cultural Heritage Association
- Wrote to owners/occupiers of properties through which upper Brown Hill Creek traverses advising of the release of the Part B Report and enclosing a summary brochure, “Managing Stormwater Flows in Upper Brown Hill Creek”
- Wrote to key stakeholders including Federal and State Members of Parliament in the five catchment Council areas, the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board and the Stormwater Management Authority (SMA)
- Provided additional content to the Project website <http://bhkcstormwater.com.au/> and each of the 5 catchment council websites
- Made the Part B Report and summary brochure available in the five catchment Councils’ offices and libraries.

All communication materials advised that a formal community consultation process would be conducted before any decisions were made about the Part B Works. Given the timing of Local Government Elections in late 2014 followed by the summer holiday period, it was advised that consultation was envisaged to commence in March 2015.

1.2.3 Prior to commencement of formal consultation on the Part B Report

Following the release of the Part B Report, the Project:

- Sought feedback from the following community interest groups on the draft community engagement strategy and draft feedback forms to be used in the formal consultation process:
 - > SOCKET (Save Our Creek Environs Trees)
 - > SOSCAG (Save our Streets Community Action Group)
 - > No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group
 - > Friends of Brown Hill Creek
 - > Brown Hill Creek Association Inc
- Continued liaison with owners and occupiers of properties where creek capacity upgrade and/or creek rehabilitation works were envisaged (under various options) including:
 - > Conducting site visits on request

- > Writing to them in late March 2015 to provide an update on the timing of the community consultation process on the Part B Report
- Maintained the Project website
- Liaised with an increasing number of community and special groups (refer Section 2.2) updating them by email in late March / early April 2015 of the likely consultation process and confirming details in early May 2015.

Consultation undertaken prior to the release of the Part B Report was undertaken by Natalie Fuller & Associates Pty Ltd for the BHKC Stormwater Project on behalf of the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens.

Natalie Fuller & Associates Pty Ltd prepared the draft community engagement strategy on the Part B Report. Consulting firm URPS was engaged in January 2015 to work in partnership with Natalie Fuller & Associates Pty Ltd. URPS undertook the consultation with special interest groups seeking comments on, and based on these advising amendments to, the draft community engagement strategy and feedback forms. The revised community engagement strategy was approved by the Project Steering Committee and subsequently endorsed by each of the five catchment councils in April 2015.

1.3 Purpose of the consultation on the Part B Report

As described above, considerable community engagement was undertaken prior to the formal consultation on the Part B Report. In addition, the Project took account of community feedback from the earlier consultation in November 2011 on the draft Stormwater Management Plan.

The Part B Report explained the investigations undertaken on eight possible flood mitigation options, identifying a preferred option – Option D. It was therefore considered appropriate that the level of engagement for the Part B Report, based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) framework, be ‘Consult’: “To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions”.

This reflects that the Project was at the final stage of making a decision regarding Part B Works having identified a preferred option (Option D). Notwithstanding this, the Project was keen to seek feedback from key stakeholders and the broader community about all of the eight options for Part B works.

To this end, the specific purpose of the consultation process on the Part B Report was to:

- Inform key stakeholders and the broader community about:
 - > the outcomes of investigations into the eight potential options for Part B works
 - > the identification of, and reasons for, the identification of a preferred option – Option D
 - > how they could provide feedback on options for Part B works
- Seek feedback from key stakeholders and interested members of the public regarding:
 - > how important they consider it is to undertake flood mitigation works in the Brown Hill Creek catchment
 - > their level of support for Option D in comparison with other options

- Seek additional feedback from owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek regarding their specific concerns and opportunities relating to proposed rehabilitation and creek capacity upgrade works (under Options D, B1 or B2)
- Report on the outcomes of the engagement to assist Councils in making a final decision regarding Part B works.

The feedback collated in this consultation report will be considered by each of the five catchment councils in their decision making processes with the view to endorsing a final Stormwater Management Plan including Part B Works which will then be submitted to the State Government's Stormwater Management Authority.

Throughout this report, references are made to supporting information in Appendices A-E which are contained within a separate Appendices Report.

2.0 Community Consultation Activities

The consultation process regarding the Part B Report was conducted between 13 May 2015 and 23 June 2015. The activities undertaken, as described in the sections below, were based on a community engagement strategy approved by all of the five catchment councils.

2.1 Written materials

A suite of written materials was prepared to provide information about the Part B Report and the consultation process to the community. The documents produced comprised:

- A summary brochure, “Managing Stormwater flows in upper Brown Hill Creek”, providing an overview of the Part B Report, the eight flood mitigation options, and the consultation process
- Fact sheets addressing key components of the Part B Report, namely:
 - > “Creek Capacity Upgrade Works”
 - > “Creek Rehabilitation Works”
 - > “Legal Arrangements with Property Owners”
- Letters to the following households:
 1. Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where creek capacity upgrade including creek rehabilitation works are proposed
 2. Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where creek rehabilitation works only are proposed
 3. Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where no creek capacity upgrade works are proposed due to the construction of the DPTI culvert between the railway corridor and Aroha Terrace, Forestville
 4. Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where no creek capacity upgrade or rehabilitation works are proposed due to the construction of the DPTI culvert at Millswood
 5. Owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek where no creek capacity upgrade or rehabilitation works are proposed upstream of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park
 6. Non-owner occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek
 7. Interested members of the public from the City of Unley
 8. Interested members of the public from the City of Mitcham
 9. Interested members of the public from other places.

- Feedback forms tailored to the recipients
 - > A tan feedback form for recipients of letter 1
 - > A green feedback form for recipients of letter 2
 - > A purple feedback form for recipients of letters 3-6
 - > A blue feedback form for recipients of letters 7-9.

A comparison of questions posed in the various feedback forms is provided in Section 3.1. In addition, all consultation materials as described above are included in **Appendix A** in the Appendices Report.

The summary brochure and fact sheets were available from each of the catchment councils as well as on the BHKC Project website.

2.2 Liaison with community and special interest groups

2.2.1 Community groups

As discussed in Section 1.2.3, a number of community groups with an interest in the project were kept informed in the lead up to the consultation process to ensure that they were aware of the process and understood the ways in which their members could participate.

These groups were:

- SOCKET (Save Our Creek Environs Trees)
- SOSCAG (Save our Streets Community Action Group)
- No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group
- Friends of Brown Hill Creek
- Brown Hill Creek Association Inc
- Residents and Ratepayers against Dams
- FORTREES
- Mitcham Historical Society
- Conservation Council of South Australia
- Blackwood, Belair and District Community Association
- Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association
- West Unley Protection of Trees
- Goodwood Residents Action Group.

A number of the above groups provided a written submission during the consultation period. A few additional community and special interest groups emerged during the consultation period, who also provided written submissions. These are summarised in Section 4.2 of this Report.

2.2.2 Government

The following Federal and State Government Members of Parliament, government departments and organisations were also kept informed about the consultation process:

Federal Government MPs

- Kate Ellis MP, Federal Member for Adelaide
- Andrew Southcott MP, Federal Member for Boothby
- Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Federal Member for Sturt
- Mr Matt Williams MP, Federal Member for Hindmarsh.

State Government MPs

- Sam Duluk MP, State Member for Davenport
- Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, State Member for Waite
- Dr Duncan McFetridge MP, State Member for Morphett
- Annabel Digance MP, State Member for Elder
- Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, State Member for West Torrens
- Vickie Chapman MP, State Member for Bragg.

Departments and Organisations

- Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board
- Stormwater Management Authority
- Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

2.3 Direct mail outs to creek property owners and occupiers

The Part B Report categorises upper Brown Hill Creek, defined as the section upstream of Anzac Highway to its source in the rural land of the Mitcham hills, into sections of private and public ownership as shown in Table 2-1.

Prior to the formal consultation process on the Part B Report, previous correspondence had been sent to owners and non-owner occupiers of Areas 1-4 (located in the City of Unley) and Areas 5 – 7 (located in the City of Mitcham as these are the areas where either creek capacity upgrade works or creek rehabilitation works were identified as being required.

During the formal consultation process, it was decided to also write to owners and non-owner occupiers of creek properties where neither creek capacity upgrade works nor creek rehabilitation works are envisaged. There are two locations where this occurs:

- In the City of Unley: Properties located between the railway corridor and Aroha Terrace, Forestville do not require creek works while this section of the creek carries local flows, high stormwater flows are diverted through the bypass culvert constructed in 2013 by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) as part of the Goodwood Junction rail project. These additional properties are identified later in this report in Table 3-2 (Section 3.2) under 'Area 2'.
- In the City of Mitcham: Properties located upstream of the Brown Hill Creek Recreation Park where, at this stage, it is not intended to undertake creek rehabilitation works as the focus of the project is on the urban part of the catchment. These additional properties are identified later in this report in Table 3-2 (Section 3.2.1) under 'Area 7'.

Immediately prior to the commencement of the consultation period an information package – comprising a covering letter, the summary brochure, the three fact sheets, the relevant feedback form and a reply paid envelope – was delivered to all owners and occupiers of Areas 1-7 including the expanded sections as described in the above two dot points. Information packages were also sent to commercial properties in the Mitcham Shopping Centre and surrounds.

A follow-up reminder letter was subsequently sent on the 5 June 2015 to encourage property owners and occupiers to return feedback forms before the close of consultation period on the 23 June 2015 (included in **Appendix A** in the Appendices Report).

At the end of the consultation period, where phone numbers were available, courtesy calls were made to owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed who had not returned a feedback form. These owners were offered an additional couple days to submit a response.

Details of the distribution numbers and response rates are detailed in Section 3.2.

Table 2-1: Sections of upper Brown Hill Creek

CITY OF UNLEY		
Ownership	Descriptor	Location
Private	Area 1	Anzac Highway to Leah Street
Public		Leah to Ethel Street council channel
Public		Forestville Reserve
Public		Forestville Reserve to Victoria Street diversion culvert
		Victoria to Mitchell Streets
Private	Area 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 2A: Victoria Street to Cranbrook Avenue • Area 2B: Cranbrook Avenue to Goodwood Road • Area 2C: Goodwood Road to Mitchell Street
Public		Orphanage Park
Private	Area 3	Douglas to Malcolm Streets
Private	Area 4	Malcolm Street to Cross Road

CITY OF MITCHAM			
Ownership	Descriptor	Location	
Private	Area 5	Cross Road to Belair Road	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area 5A: Cross Road to Hampton Street Area 5B: Devonshire to Kent Street Area 5C: George Street to Angas Road 	
		Public	Soldiers Memorial Gardens, JWS Morris Park and Delwood Reserve
		Private	Commercial
Private	Area 6	Mitcham Shopping Centre to Muggs Hill Road	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area 6A: Newark Road / Ayr Avenue to Paisley Avenue Area 6B: Paisley Avenue to Muggs Hill Road 	
Private	Area 7	Muggs Hill Road to Brown Hill Creek Caravan Park	

2.4 Promotion of the consultation process to wider community

2.4.1 Advertisements and articles

A half page advertisement providing an overview of the Part B Report and how people could participate in the consultation process was published on Wednesday 13 May 2015 in the following Messenger Newspapers: the Eastern Courier, Mitcham & Hills, Guardian, City and Weekly Times. These were supplemented with public notices in the same Messenger papers on Wednesday 13 May 2015 and Wednesday 20 May 2015.

In addition, articles outlining the consultation process appeared in the:

- City of Unley's "Unley Life" Winter 2015 newsletter distributed in June 2015
- City of Mitcham's "Mitcham Community News" distributed in June 2015.

Copies of all Project advertisements are included in **Appendix B** in the Appendices Report.

Advertisements and articles encouraged interested members of the public to phone a dedicated free call phone number, email the project and/or submit a request via the project website if they were interested in receiving the information materials and a feedback form.

Upon receipt of a request for a feedback form, the Project verified the name and address for all requests within the five catchment Councils. This verification attempted to ensure that only one feedback form was issued per household. Verification of name and address was not possible for requests outside the catchment Councils or for rental properties.

The closure date for the feedback forms was 23 June 2015. An additional advertisement was placed in the Eastern Courier, Mitcham & Hills, Guardian, City and Weekly Times Messenger Newspapers on 10 June 2015 encouraging members of the public to request feedback forms well before this date to allow

for processing and delivery time. Feedback form requests received after 19 June 2015 were not distributed via the post but instead were collected from Unley Civic Centre.

2.4.2 Project and council websites

The Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project website <http://bhkcstormwater.com.au/> was updated to support the consultation process. The website included background information about the Part B Report and the eight options, details of the consultation process including the open days, and electronic copies of the suite of written materials as well as the Part B Report.

A link to this website featured on the homepage of each of the five catchment councils for the duration of the consultation period.

2.4.3 Signs on public parks

The Cities of Mitcham and Unley Council erected signs on Forestville Reserve, Orphanage Park, JW Morrison Reserve, Dellwood Reserve and along Brownhill Creek Road adjacent the Brownhill Creek Caravan Park and Brownhill Creek Recreation Park. These signs contained information promoting the formal consultation period.

2.5 Open Days

Four open days were held during the consultation period:

- Monday 18 May 2015 at Unley Community Centre between 2pm-6pm
- Sunday 24 May 2015 at Unley Community Centre between 11am-3pm
- Thursday 28 May 2015 at Mitcham Civic Centre between 2pm-6pm
- Saturday 30 May 2015 at Mitcham Civic Centre between 10am-2pm.

Details of the open days were promoted in the summary brochure, facts sheets and project website, and were also publicised in the advertisements and notices placed in the Messenger Newspaper.

Information panels displayed at each open day contained text and graphics based on the content of the Part B Report, providing an overview of the Part B Report and its objectives as well as more detailed information about the various components of flood mitigation works (namely creek capacity upgrade works, creek rehabilitation works, high flow bypass culverts and a detention dam) and how these are combined for each of the eight options.

The open days were staffed by members of the URPS / Natalie Fuller and Associates consultation team, the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project, staff from the catchment councils and the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board. Staff were available to provide information to the community about the eight options for Part B Works and answer any questions.

The following attendances were estimated for each open day:

- Monday 18 May 2015 at Unley Community Centre: 20 people

- Sunday 24 May 2015 at Unley Community Centre: 20 people
- Thursday 28 May 2015 at Mitcham Civic Centre: 15 people
- Saturday 30 May 2015 at Mitcham Civic Centre: 25 people.

Part Two: Consultation Findings

This section summarises comments made by those creek property owners and occupiers, members of the wider community and community groups who either completed a feedback form and / or provided a written submission.

It should be noted that:

- Comments about the Part B Report, as summarised in this report, reflect views provided by respondents. Such comments and views may / may not reflect an accurate interpretation of the Part B Report.

Indeed in reviewing the written submissions, the BHKC Project Manager identified a number of points requiring clarification. An information sheet was subsequently prepared (see **Appendix C** in the Appendices Report) clarifying commonly asked questions. This was sent to individuals and groups by the BHKC Project as an attachment to a letter acknowledging receipt of their submission.

- Absolute numbers are provided in reporting on questions where respondents were asked to select from a defined list of responses. Percentages are also provided to assist in comparing responses. Given that feedback form responses were self-initiated (as opposed to being conducted as a statistically valid survey), percentages cannot and should not be generalised to the broader community.

3.0 Feedback Forms

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Definitions

For the purposes of analysis presented in this section, the following definitions apply:

Creek Capacity Upgrade Works

Creek capacity upgrade works involve widening the creek bed and/or modifying the creek banks at critical sections, including bridges, to ensure there is sufficient capacity for high stormwater flows. Minor deepening of the creek may also be required at certain sections by removing sediment build-up.

Creek capacity upgrade works would include creek rehabilitation works as described below.

Creek Rehabilitation Works

Creek rehabilitation works aim to reduce the risk of flooding by ensuring the watercourse channel (creek bed and side banks) is clear of obstructions so that water can flow unimpeded along the full length of the creek. Creek Rehabilitation works include:

- Clearing invasive vegetation (native and non-native) from the creek bed and side banks
- Removing trees and branches that may have fallen into the channel
- Removing rubbish such as discarded household items
- Raising bridge structures (or removing them if agreed to by the owners) that are too low and do not provide sufficient clearance for the passage of floodwaters.

Creek Property Owners

Creek property owners refer to owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek. The Part B Report (section 5.1.3) identifies 66 creek properties that may require creek capacity upgrade works under Option D. Of these 66 properties, 29 would require capacity upgrade works under Option B1 and 22 under Option B2.

There are 76 creek property owners associated with these 66 properties. This is because some of these properties are units under multiple ownership. Each of these creek property owners received a feedback form.

3.1.2 Design and distribution of feedback forms

As detailed in Section 2.1, feedback forms were mailed directly to owners and occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek while interested members of the community were able to request a feedback form be sent to them.

As detailed in Section 2.1 of this report, feedback forms varied depending on who they were targeted to. All versions (refer **Appendix A** in the Appendices Report) included questions aimed at ascertaining respondents' views regarding:

- The level of importance of implementing flood mitigation works to reduce the impacts of major flooding in the Brown Hill Keswick Creek catchment
- Their level of support for Option D and, for those not supporting Option D their preference for the other seven options or none of them
- Their interest in the Project including whether they own or live in a property located in any of the five catchment councils, if the property they own or live in is at risk of flooding from Brown Hill Creek, and whether members of their household use any of the public parks located along upper Brown Hill Creek
- Any other comments.

Additional questions were included in feedback forms sent to owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works and / or creek rehabilitation works inviting them to comment on any positive and / or negative impacts of undertaking such works.

Owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works were also invited to identify and comment on their preference for legal arrangements associated with installing any permanent infrastructure on their property.

3.1.3 Analysis of feedback forms

Truscott Research provided support in entering and collating data obtained from returned feedback forms.

Returned feedback forms have been separately analysed for:

- Creek property owners – noting differences between the location of property (by area and council) and the nature works proposed
- Wider community members together with the two feedback forms received from non-owners occupiers of creek properties (refer Section 3.2.1) – noting differences between respondents residing/owning property in the five catchment councils compared to areas outside of the catchment councils.

Where respondents were asked to select a response, responses have been tallied and presented as both absolute values and percentages. As previously mentioned, percentages are only used for comparative purposes to highlight similarities or differences.

It is important to note that respondents who completed the feedback form self-selected and may therefore not be representative of the whole community. Unlike a statically valid survey where respondents are randomly selected and findings used can be generalised back to the whole population within a defined confidence level, the feedback form does not constitute a statically valid survey.

The percentages provided in this report therefore only refer to those individuals who chose to respond. They cannot and should not be understood as an indication of what the whole community might think, as responses could be swayed one way or another. People with strong views either for or against a proposal are more likely to respond to self-initiated feedback processes.

While percentage rates of responses are provided throughout this report, in light of the above statement, what is more useful is to focus on trends that may be apparent and the underlying reasons based on respondents' comments as to what has informed these viewpoints.

Respondents' comments were thematically coded and are summarised in the body of the report, with direct quotes used to illustrate different perspectives. Further comments received from creek property owners who provided feedback forms can be viewed in **Appendix D** in the Appendices Report.

3.2 Response rate

This section details the number of feedback forms distributed to, and returned by, creek property owners and occupiers as well as members of the wider community.

In summary, as shown in a Table 3-1, a total of 818 feedback forms were received:

- 88 out of a distributed 216 from owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek
 - > 39 out of 126 (31%) from owners of properties located in the City of Unley
 - > 49 out of 90 (54%) from owners of properties located in the City of Mitcham
- 2 out of a distributed 53 from non-owner occupiers of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek (1 from each of the Cities of Unley and Mitcham)
- 728 out of 1,074 sent in response to requests from members of the public. The majority of these (519) came from individuals in the City of Mitcham, followed by the City of Unley (118).

Table 3-1: Summary of receipt of feedback forms

COUNCIL AREA	RECEIVED FROM			TOTAL
	Creek property owner	Creek non-owner occupier	Member of wider community	
City of Adelaide			4	4
City of Burnside			17	17
City of Mitcham	49	1	519	569
City of Unley	39	1	118	158
City of West Torrens			3	3
Total catchment councils	88	2	663	
Areas outside catchment councils			67	67
TOTAL	88	2	728	818

3.2.1 Response rate from creek property owners

Details of the number of feedback forms that were distributed to, and returned by, owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek are shown in Table 3-2 disaggregated by the:

- Location of the property based on the description of areas identified in Section 2.2.1
- Nature of the works proposed, namely:
 - > creek capacity upgrade works
 - > creek rehabilitation works
 - > no works proposed.

A total of 216 feedback forms were distributed to owners of properties traversed by upper Brown Hill Creek (referred to in this report as 'creek property owners') of which:

- 76 were sent to owners of the 66 properties (noting that some of the properties are units in multiple ownership) that require creek capacity upgrade works under Option D. Of these 66 properties, 29 would require capacity upgrade works under Option B1 and 22 under Option B2.
- 129 were sent to owners of properties likely to require creek rehabilitation works
- 11 were sent to owners of properties not envisaged as requiring either creek capacity upgrade or creek rehabilitation works.

Of the 216 feedback forms distributed, 88 were returned representing an overall response rate of 41 percent. In relation to the distribution and response by Council area:

- 39 out of 126 (31%) possible feedback forms were returned from owners of properties located in the City of Unley of which:
 - > 24 require creek capacity upgrade works
 - > 15 require creek rehabilitation works
- 49 out of 90 (54%) possible feedback forms were returned from owners of properties located in the City of Mitcham of which:
 - > 25 require creek capacity upgrade works
 - > 23 require creek rehabilitation works
 - > 1 does not require either creek capacity upgrade or creek rehabilitation works.

Table 3-2: Distribution and receipt of feedback forms - creek property owners

AREA	NATURE OF WORKS REQUIRED						TOTAL	
	Creek capacity upgrade		Creek rehabilitation		No works		Sent	Rec'd
	Sent	Rec'd	Sent	Rec'd	Sent	Rec'd		
Area 1	11	5	0	0	0	0	11	5
Area 2	21	9	43	5	6	0	70	14
Area 3	14	10	3	0	0	0	17	10
Area 4	0	0	28	10	0	0	28	10
Total City of Unley	46	24	74	15	6	0	126	39
Area 5	18	14	7	5	0	0	25	19
Area 6	12	11	28	11	0	0	40	22
Commercial	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0
Area 7	0	0	12	7	5	1	19	8
Total City of Mitcham	30	25	55	23	5	1	90	49
Total – creek property owners	76	49	129	38	11	1	216	88

3.2.2 Response rate from creek property non-owner occupiers

Feedback forms were also sent to non-owner occupiers of creek properties. Of the 53 feedback forms distributed, only two responses were received:

- 1 from a property in Area 4 where creek rehabilitation works are proposed
- 1 from a property in Area 5 where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed.

To ensure confidentiality, these two responses have been included in the analysis of feedback forms received from interested members of the public.

3.2.3 Response rate from interested members of the public

As shown in Table 3-3, a total of 1,074 feedback forms were sent in response to requests from members of the public, of which 728 were returned date stamped on or before the 23 June 2015 closure date. As mentioned above, the 2 feedback forms received from non-owner occupiers of creek properties were included with this dataset, making a total of 730 feedback forms.

Of the 730 feedback forms, 663 (91%) were received from individuals residing or owning property in one (or more) of the five catchment councils. The majority of these (520) came from individuals in the City of Mitcham, followed by the City of Unley (119).

67 feedback forms were received from individuals residing or owning property outside of the five catchment councils.

Table 3-3: Distribution and receipt of feedback forms - members of the wider community

COUNCIL AREA	FEEDBACK FORMS				
	Number distributed	Owner	Occupier	Not stated	Total
City of Adelaide	11	4	0	0	4
City of Burnside	28	13	2	2	17
City of Mitcham	738	416	32	72	520
City of Unley	176	94	9	16	119
City of West Torrens	5	2	0	1	3
Total catchment councils	958	529	43	91	663
Areas outside catchment councils	116	38	13	16	67
Total - wider community	1074	567	56	107	730

3.3 Profile of respondents

Respondents were asked to indicate their interest in the BHKC Project in relation to whether:

- They owned and / or lived in a property located in one or more of the five catchment councils
- They perceived that the property they own or live in is at risk of flooding from Brown Hill Creek
- Members of their household use any of the public parks located along upper Brown Hill Creek, namely:
 - > Forestville Reserve (located in the City of Unley)
 - > Orphanage Park (located in the City of Unley)
 - > Soldiers Memorial Gardens / JWS Morris Reserve / Dellwood Reserve (located in the City of Mitcham)
 - > Brownhill Creek Recreation Park (located in the City of Mitcham).

3.3.1 Property ownership

Of the 88 (out of possible 216) creek property owners who completed a feedback form:

- 12 (6 from City of Unley and 6 from City of Mitcham) reside at another location
- 7 indicated they also own a property in one of the other catchment Councils (refer Table 3-4).

Table 3-4: Ownership of properties other than creek property

OWN CREEK PROPERTY IN:	ALSO OWN PROPERTY IN THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL AREAS OF:					TOTAL
	Adelaide	Burnside	Mitcham	Unley	West Torrens	
City of Unley	3	1	1	0	0	5
City of Mitcham	1	0	0	1	1	2 [#]

Note: one creek property owner in the City of Mitcham owns properties in both the City of Adelaide and City of West Torrens

As approximately 1 in 8 respondents from the wider community did not state their ownership details, no further analysis was undertaken in looking at multiple property ownership.

3.3.2 Risk of flooding

Of the 88 (out of possible 216) creek property owners who completed a feedback form, 38 (43%) identified that their property is at risk of being flooded. Proportionately, responses were higher amongst:

- City of Unley respondents (20 out of 39 or 51%) compared to those from the City of Mitcham (18 out of 49 or 37%).
- Owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works which would include creek rehabilitation works (65%) compared to those only requiring creek rehabilitation works (16%).

Table 3-5: Creek property owners: perceived risk of property being flooded (by area)

AREA	PROPERTY AT RISK OF FLOODING?				TOTAL
	Yes	No	Unsure	No response	
Area 1	5	0	0	0	5
Area 2	6	2	5	1	14
Area 3	6	1	0	3	10
Area 4	3	4	2	1	10
Total City of Unley	20	7	7	5	39
% City of Unley	51%	18%	18%	13%	100%
Area 5	10	2	0	7	19
Area 6	6	2	1	13	22
Area 7	2	4	2	0	8
Total City of Mitcham	18	8	3	20	49
% City of Mitcham	37%	16%	6%	41%	100%
Total Cities of Unley and Mitcham	38	15	10	25	88
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	43%	17%	11%	28%	100%

Table 3-6: Creek property owners: perceived risk of property being flooded (by nature of works)

AREA	PROPERTY AT RISK OF FLOODING					
	CREEK CAPACITY UPGRADE (n=49)			CREEK REHABILITATION (n=38)		
	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp
Area 1	5	0	0	--NOT APPLICABLE--		
Area 2	5	0	4	1	2	2
Area 3	6	1	3	--NOT APPLICABLE--		
Area 4	--NOT APPLICABLE--			3	4	3
Total City of Unley (39)	16	1	7	4	6	5
Total City of Unley (%*)	67%	4%	29%	27%	40%	33%
Area 5	10	2	2	0	0	5
Area 6	6	2	3	0	0	11
Area 7	--NOT APPLICABLE--			2	3	2
Total City of Mitcham (48)	16	4	5	2	3	18
Total City of Mitcham (%*)	64%	16%	20%	9%	13%	78%
Total both Councils (87)	32	5	12	6	9	23
Total both Councils (%)	65%	10%	24%	16%	24%	61%

* Note - percentages refer to percentage by Council area by type of works (e.g. 67% of properties in the City of Unley where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed identified that their property is at risk of flooding)

In contrast to creek property owners, only 67 of the 729 (9%) members of the wider community who returned a feedback form indicated their property is at risk of flooding; 29 from the City of Mitcham and 37 the from City of Unley.

Table 3-7: Wider community: perceived risk of property being flooded

AREA	PROPERTY AT RISK OF FLOODING?				TOTAL
	Yes	No	Unsure	No response	
City of Adelaide	0	3	0	1	4
City of Burnside	0	12	2	3	17
City of Mitcham	29	384	78	29	520
City of Unley	37	54	18	10	119
City of West Torrens	1	2	0	0	3
Total catchment councils	67	455	98	43	663
% Total catchment councils	10%	69%	15%	6%	100%
Outside catchment councils	0	45	2	20	67
% Outside catchment councils	0%	67%	3%	30%	100%

AREA	PROPERTY AT RISK OF FLOODING?				TOTAL
	Yes	No	Unsure	No response	
Total wider community	67	499	100	63	730
% Total wider community	9%	68%	14%	9%	100%

3.3.3 Usage of public parks

Respondents were asked to identify their household's use of public parks located along upper Brown Hill Creek.

In comparing responses between creek property owner respondents (refer Table 3-8) and those from the wider community (refer Table 3-9):

- Creek property owners are far less likely to use Brownhill Creek Recreation Park (21% for City of Unley creek property owners and 45% for City of Mitcham creek property owners) compared to respondents from the wider community (84%)
- Orphanage Park is well utilised by both City of Unley creek property owners (59%) as well as respondents of the City of Unley wider community (61%)
- Forestville Reserve is also more likely to be used by City of Unley creek property owners (31%) as well as respondents of the City of Unley wider community (23%) although to a lesser extent than Orphanage Park
- The Soldiers Memorial Gardens / JWS Morris Reserve / Dellwood Reserve is used by 24% of City of Mitcham creek property owners and 35% of respondents of the City of Mitcham wider community.

Table 3-8: Creek property owners: Household use of public parks

AREA	HOUSEHOLD USE OF PUBLIC PARKS IN UPPER BROWN HILL CREEK					TOTAL NO. RESPONDENTS
	Forestville Reserve	Orphanage Park	SM Gardens/ JWS Morris / Dellwood	Brownhill Creek Recreation Park	None of these	
Area 1	4	2	1	0	0	5
Area 2	4	8	1	1	1	14
Area 3	3	9	1	4	0	10
Area 4	1	4	0	3	4	10
Total City of Unley	12	23	3	8	5	39
% City of Unley	31%	59%	8%	21%	13%	
Area 5	2	5	8	9	2	19
Area 6	1	2	4	10	0	22
Area 7	1	3	0	3	3	8

AREA	HOUSEHOLD USE OF PUBLIC PARKS IN UPPER BROWN HILL CREEK					TOTAL NO. RESPONDENTS
	Forestville Reserve	Orphanage Park	SM Gardens/ JWS Morris / Dellwood	Brownhill Creek Recreation Park	None of these	
Total City of Mitcham	4	10	12	22	5	49
% City of Mitcham	8%	20%	24%	45%	10%	

Note that respondents were asked to indicate all of the parks used by members of their household, therefore totals exceed 100% as in many instances respondents made multiple selections.

Table 3-9: Wider community: Household use of public parks

AREA	HOUSEHOLD USE OF PUBLIC PARKS IN UPPER BROWN HILL CREEK					TOTAL NO. RESPONDENTS
	Forestville Reserve	Orphanage Park	SM Gardens/ JWS Morris / Dellwood	Brownhill Creek Recreation Park	None of these	
City of Adelaide	1	1	2	3	0	4
City of Burnside	1	1	2	14	1	17
City of Mitcham	37	98	184	467	17	520
City of Unley	27	73	17	71	10	119
City of West Torrens	2	2	1	2	1	3
Total catchment councils	68	175	206	557	29	663
% Total catchment councils	10%	26%	31%	84%	4%	
Outside catchment councils	5	9	11	54	11	67
% Outside catchment councils	7%	13%	16%	81%	16%	
Total wider community	73	183	216	610	40	730
% Total wider community	10%	25%	30%	84%	5%	

Note that respondents were asked to indicate all of the parks used by members of their household, therefore totals exceed 100% as in many instances respondents made multiple selections.

3.4 Importance of flood mitigation

Respondents were asked to rate on a five point scale, from '1: not important' to '5: very important', how important it was to them that flood mitigation works are undertaken to reduce the impact of major flooding in the Brown Hill Keswick Creek catchment.

As discussed in more detail below, responses from creek property owners as well as owners/occupiers in the catchment councils indicate a moderate level of importance (at 62% respectively for a combined rating of 4 and 5), with a slightly lower level of importance (55%) for owners/occupiers outside of the catchment councils.

As shown in Table 3-10, of the 88 out of 216 creek property owners who provided feedback forms, 54 (62%) indicated it is either important (13%) or very important (49%) to undertake flood mitigation works. Just under a quarter of respondents (23%) gave a low importance rating of 1 or 2.

In comparing responses, higher levels of importance (a 4 or 5 rating) were more likely from:

- Owners of properties located in the City of Mitcham (69%) than those in the City of Unley (54%), with the lowest level of support recorded in Area 3. This is interesting given that City of Unley property owners were more likely to identify that their property is at risk of flooding (refer Section 3.2.1).
- Owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works than those requiring creek rehabilitation works (refer Tables 3-11 and 3-12). However, the level of importance attributed by the latter was comparatively high given the lower percentage of owners who perceive their property is at risk of flooding.

Responses from owners / occupiers located within the catchment councils were fairly consistent across councils (refer Table 3-13). Overall 62% indicated it is important (4 or 5 rating) to undertake flood mitigation works; while only 12% indicated it is not important (1 or 2 rating).

Comparing responses between creek property owners and members of the wider community, of interest is that:

- Within the City of Unley, creek property owners rated the importance lower than owner/occupiers from the wider community (54% vs 60%), with comments indicating this reflected concern about the impact of works on their property
- Within the City of Mitcham, a greater proportion of creek property owners indicated it was very important (5 rating) to undertake works compared to owner/occupiers from the wider community (55% vs 35%)
- Overall owner/occupiers from the catchment councils appear to consider that undertaking flood mitigation works are important, especially given that only 67 of the 663 respondents indicated their property is at risk of flooding.

Results are shown graphically below and detailed in Tables 3-10, 3-11, 3-12 and 3-13.

Figure 1: Overview of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works

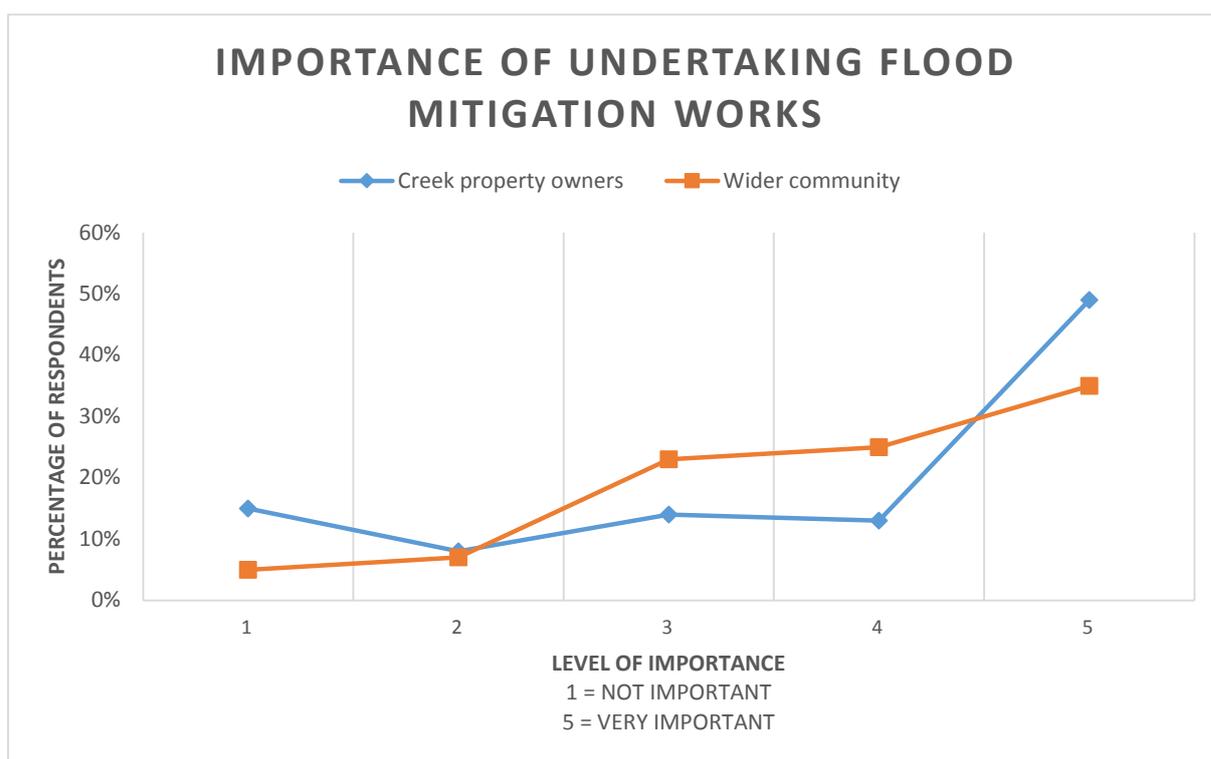


Table 3-10: Creek property owners: Perception of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works (by area)

AREA	IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS						TOTAL
	Rating: 1 'not important' to 5 'very important'						
	1	2	3	4	5	No response	
Area 1	1	0	0	0	4	0	5
Area 2	0	1	2	2	8	1	14
Area 3	5	1	1	0	2	1	10
Area 4	3	2	0	2	3	0	10
Total City of Unley	9	4	3	4	17	2	39
% City of Unley	23%	10%	8%	10%	44%	5%	100%
Area 5	0	1	3	6	9	0	19
Area 6	3	2	5	0	12	0	22
Area 7	1	0	1	1	5	0	8
Total City of Mitcham	4	3	9	7	27	0	49
% City of Mitcham	8%	6%	18%	14%	55%	0%	100%
Total Cities of Unley and Mitcham	13	7	12	11	43	2	88
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	15%	8%	14%	13%	49%	2%	100%

Table 3-11: Creek property owners where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed: Perception of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works (by area)

AREA	IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS						TOTAL
	Rating: 1 'not important' to 5 'very important'						
	1	2	3	4	5	No response	
Area 1	1	0	0	0	4	0	5
Area 2	0	1	2	1	5	0	9
Area 3	5	1	1	0	2	1	10
Area 4	--NOT APPLICABLE--						
Total City of Unley	6	2	3	1	11	1	24
% City of Unley	25%	8%	13%	4%	46%	4%	100%
Area 5	0	1	3	2	8	0	14
Area 6	1	2	1	0	7	0	11
Area 7	--NOT APPLICABLE--						
Total City of Mitcham	1	3	4	2	15	0	25
% City of Mitcham	4%	12%	16%	8%	60%	0	100%
Total Both Councils	7	5	7	3	26	1	49
% Both Councils	14%	10%	14%	6%	53%	2%	100%

Table 3-12: Creek property owners where creek rehabilitation works only are proposed: Perception of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works (by area)

AREA	IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS						TOTAL
	Rating: 1 'not important' to 5 'very important'						
	1	2	3	4	5	No response	
Area 1	--NOT APPLICABLE--						
Area 2	0	0	0	1	3	1	5
Area 3	--NOT APPLICABLE--						
Area 4	3	2	0	2	3	0	10
Total City of Unley (15)	3	2	0	3	6	1	15
% City of Unley	20%	13%	0	20%	40%	7%	100%
Area 5	0	0	0	4	1	0	5
Area 6	2	0	4	0	5	0	11
Area 7	1	0	1	0	5	0	7
Total City of Mitcham (23)	3	0	5	4	11	0	23
% City of Mitcham	13%	0	22%	17%	48%	0	100%

AREA	IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS						TOTAL
	Rating: 1 'not important' to 5 'very important'						
	1	2	3	4	5	No response	
Total Both Councils (38)	6	2	5	7	17	1	38
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	16%	5%	13%	18%	45%	3%	100%

Table 3-13: Wider community: Perception of importance of undertaking flood mitigation works

AREA	IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS						TOTAL
	Rating: 1 'not important' to 5 'very important'						
	1	2	3	4	5	No response	
City of Adelaide	0	0	1	2	1	0	4
City of Burnside	0	3	2	2	9	1	17
City of Mitcham	29	35	116	138	181	21	520
City of Unley	7	7	31	27	44	3	119
City of West Torrens	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
Total catchment councils	36	45	150	170	237	25	663
% Total catchment councils	5%	7%	23%	26%	36%	4%	100%
Outside catchment councils	3	9	15	16	21	3	67
% Outside catchment councils	4%	13%	22%	24%	31%	4%	100%
Total wider community	39	54	165	186	258	28	730
% Total wider community	5%	7%	23%	25%	35%	4%	100%

In analysing respondents' comments, a number of themes became apparent. These are summarised below with verbatim comments in italics that have been selected from all versions of the feedback forms to demonstrate specific views.

Reasons put forward supporting the importance of undertaking flood mitigation works included:

- Concerns regarding the impact of flooding to either their own property or that of others – with associated damage to properties, loss of capital value and risk to human lives

"In recent rains the level was about 3/4 way up bank. I don't want to be flooded."

"We are concerned that in the event of a major flood, our property would be impacted and might result in flooding of our property and home in particular."

"It is important to control the flooding as it can damage properties and affect property values."

“Significant flooding occurred in 2005 as well as previously resulting in property damages. These were not even 1 in 100 year floods. On these occasions, there were no loss of lives or human injuries. 1 in 100 floods would cause significant catastrophes if independent flood mitigation recommendations are not implemented.”

- The need to take action now (irrespective of future flood risks) to address current issues including: destabilisation of creek banks resulting from erosion; debris and overgrowth of weeds blocking the flow path, and the lack of capacity of many bridge structures

“Since building and occupying the house on this property in 1974, there has been marked degradation of the creek and its banks. Proliferation of "woody weeds" and dumping of garden refuse upstream has altered the flow, causing erosion of the bank, exposing the root structure of mature trees on my property, resulting in loss of limbs.”

“Important that storm events cause minimum flooding to adjoining properties and that means the creek needs to be as sure flowing as can reasonably be achieved.”

- Concerns about increased risks of flooding resulting from increased urban consolidation and changes to weather patterns

“With the build up of more properties and run off over time there will be an increase of flooding and danger to lives and properties.”

“Floods do not impact me directly but realistically they should be controlled because it is urbanisation and land clearing that has caused the problem.”

“Because Brown Hill Creek is a stormwater drain, serving to remove stormwater from an increasingly dense urbanisation in Unley and Mitcham Council must address the flooding.”

“The fact we are having more frequent extreme weather events (e.g. Feb 2014) urgent work on this waterway is of paramount importance to reduce the possibility of flooding.”

Some respondents stated it was important to undertake works provided it does not negatively impact on the creek environment.

“There is no doubt flood mitigation is important however it needs to be done in a manner that is least intrusive to property owners and least destructive to the environment.”

In contrast, respondents who do not consider it is important to undertake works commented that:

- The likelihood of flooding is very rare; with some creek property owners stating their properties have not been impacted by previous floods

“Major flooding is very rare. One in a hundred years.”

“The one in a hundred year might never happen. It’s all speculation, why do we have house insurances- they are more likely to burn down.”

“Our house is more than 100 years old and on the bank of the creek. It has never been flooded.”

“I have lived in the area for over 20 years and thus have only seen 1 flood event of significance.”

- Concerns about the negative impact onsite works might have on the ambience of their property

“Brown Hill Creek poses no risk to our house that we are not prepared to risk. BHC traverses our property and is a major focal point in the design of our house. The treed "natural" creek environment is a major contributor to our outdoor living space and is in an important part of our living environment. Flooding rarely occurs.”

- The cost benefit ratio of undertaking major works cannot be justified

“While flood mitigation is important, I question whether major works is the best value approach. Some works +maintenance + fast response to remove obstruction may be as effective & less expensive.”

“The cost benefit ratio calculated by "The Project" at .3-.4 indicates a very low importance on flood mitigation from an economic viewpoint.”

Several respondents made specific comments about their preferred flood mitigation option. These have been included in Sections 3.4 and 3.5.

3.5 Level of support for Option D

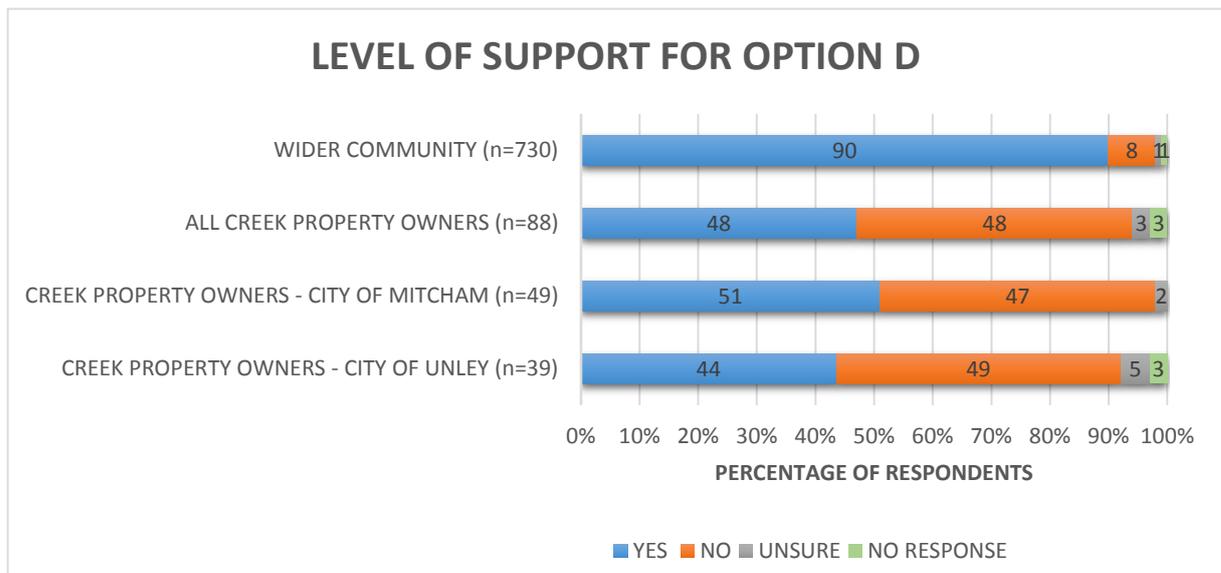
The Part B Report identifies Option D: Creek Capacity Upgrade as the preferred option for managing stormwater flows in the upper Brown Hill Creek catchment. Option D involves upgrading the capacity of the upper Brown Hill Creek at critical sections (including an estimated 66 private properties) as well as creek rehabilitation works along the full length of the creek.

Respondents were asked to indicate if they supported the preferred Option D: Creek Capacity Upgrade, by selecting from the following responses: ‘yes’, ‘no’ or ‘unsure’.

As indicated graphically in Figure 2, the level of support for Option D varied markedly between creek property owners and members of the wider community with:

- Mixed views expressed by creek property owners with 42 of the 88 respondents supporting Option D, 42 opposing Option D and 3 unsure (1 did not respond)
- Overwhelming support (90%) for Option D by members of the wider community with 654 of the 730 respondents supporting Option D, 59 opposing Option D and 9 unsure (8 did not respond).

Figure 2: Overview of level of Support for Option D



As detailed in Tables 3-14, among the 88 **creek property owners** who returned a feedback form (out of a total of 216 owners who were sent feedback forms):

- Support for Option D was split with 42 of the 88 respondents in support of Option D, 42 opposing and 3 unsure (1 did not respond)
- Owners of properties where only creek rehabilitation works are proposed indicated higher levels of support for Option D compared with owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works (including creek rehabilitation works) are proposed (68% compared with 31%). Drilling down further by nature of works (refer Tables 3-14 and 3-15), levels of support for Option D by nature of the works are consistent across the Cities of Unley and Mitcham
- Creek property owners in the City of Mitcham indicated higher levels of support for Option D compared with creek property owners in the City of Unley (51% compared with 44%).

In contrast, there was overwhelming support (90%) for Option D among members of the **wider community**, (refer Table 3-16) with:

- 588 (89%) of the 663 respondents owning / living in the catchment councils supporting Option D, 58 opposing and 5 unsure
 - > The highest level of support was received from respondents owning / living in the City of Mitcham with 495 (95%) supporting Option D and 15 (3%) opposing
 - > In contrast, mixed views were recorded amongst respondents from the City Unley with 70 (59%) supporting Option D and 42 (35 %) opposing
- 66 (99%) of the 67 respondents owning / living outside of the catchment councils support Option D.

Table 3-14: Creek property owners: Level of support for Option D (by area)

AREA	LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR OPTION D				
	Yes	No	Unsure	No response	Total
Area 1	4	0	1	0	5
Area 2	7	6	0	1	14
Area 3	1	9	0	0	10
Area 4	5	4	1	0	10
Total City of Unley	17	19	2	1	39
% City of Unley	44%	49%	5%	3%	100%
Area 5	6	12	1	0	19
Area 6	12	10	0	0	22
Area 7	7	1	0	0	8
Total City of Mitcham	25	23	1	0	49
% City of Mitcham	51%	47%	2%	0%	100%
Total Cities of Unley and Mitcham	42	42	3	1	88
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	48%	48%	3%	1%	100%

Table 3-15: Creek property owners: Level of support for Option D (by area and nature of works proposed)

AREA	NATURE OF WORKS PROPOSED					
	CREEK CAPACITY UPGRADE (n=49)			CREEK REHABILITATION (n=38)		
	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp
Area 1	4	0	1	NOT APPLICABLE		
Area 2	3	5	1	4	1	0
Area 3	1	9	0	NOT APPLICABLE		
Area 4	NOT APPLICABLE			5	4	1
Total City of Unley (39)	8	14	2	9	5	1
Total City of Unley (%*)	33%	58%	8%	60%	33%	7%
Area 5	3	10	1	3	2	0
Area 6	4	7	0	8	3	0
Area 7	NOT APPLICABLE			6	1	0
Total City of Mitcham (48)	7	17	1	17	6	0
Total City of Mitcham (%*)	28%	68%	4%	75%	25%	0%

AREA	NATURE OF WORKS PROPOSED					
	CREEK CAPACITY UPGRADE (n=49)			CREEK REHABILITATION (n=38)		
	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp	Yes	No	Unsure/ no resp
Total both Councils (87)	15	31	3	26	11	1
Total both Councils (%)	31%	63%	6%	68%	29%	2%

* Note - percentages refer to percentage by Council area by type of works (e.g. 33% of properties in the City of Unley where creek capacity upgrade works are proposed support Option D).

Table 3-16: Wider Community: Level of support for Option D

AREA	LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR OPTION D				
	Yes	No	Unsure	No response	Total
City of Adelaide	3	1	0	0	4
City of Burnside	17	0	0	0	17
City of Mitcham	495	15	4	6	520
City of Unley	70	42	5	2	119
City of West Torrens	3	0	0	0	3
Total catchment councils	588	58	9	8	663
% Total catchment councils	89%	9%	1%	1%	100%
Outside catchment councils	66	1	0	0	67
% Outside catchment councils	99%	1%	0%	0%	100%
Total wider community	654	59	9	8	730
% Total wider community	90%	8%	1%	1%	100%

In addition, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, the level of support / opposition for Option D needs to be seen in the broader context of the overall level of response, particularly by creek property owners.

Figure 3: Support / opposition for Option D by City of Unley creek property owners

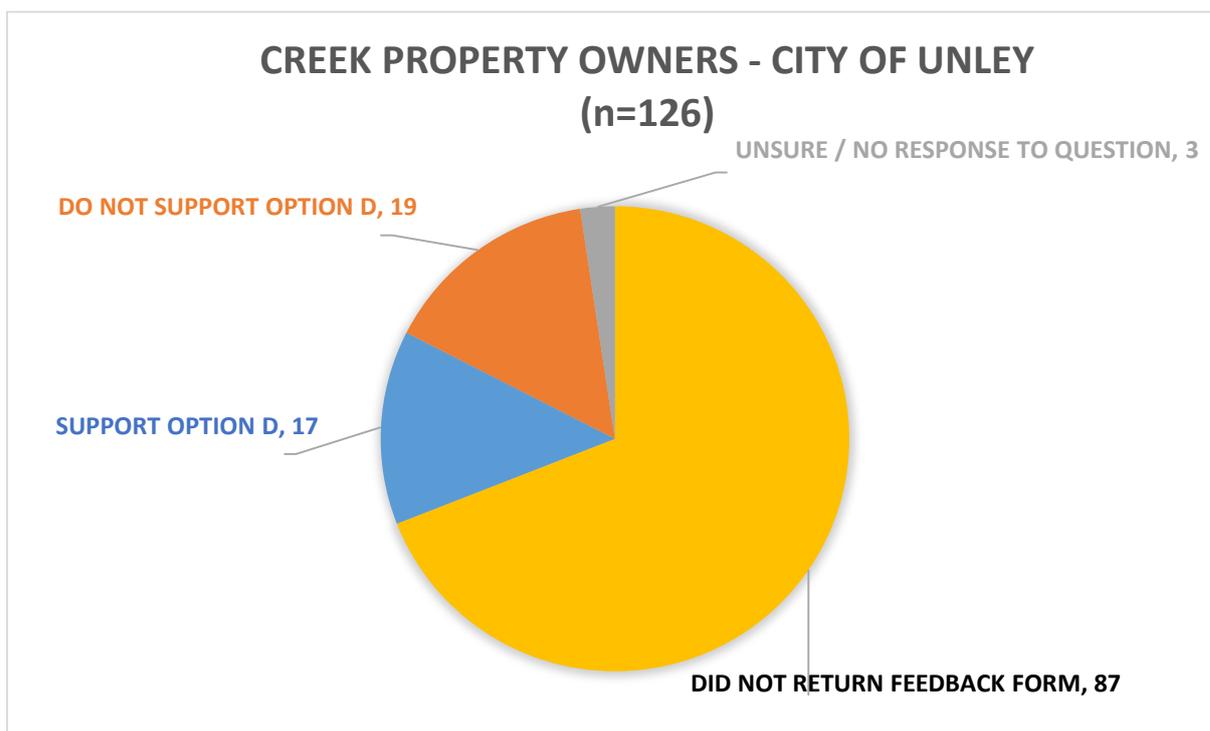
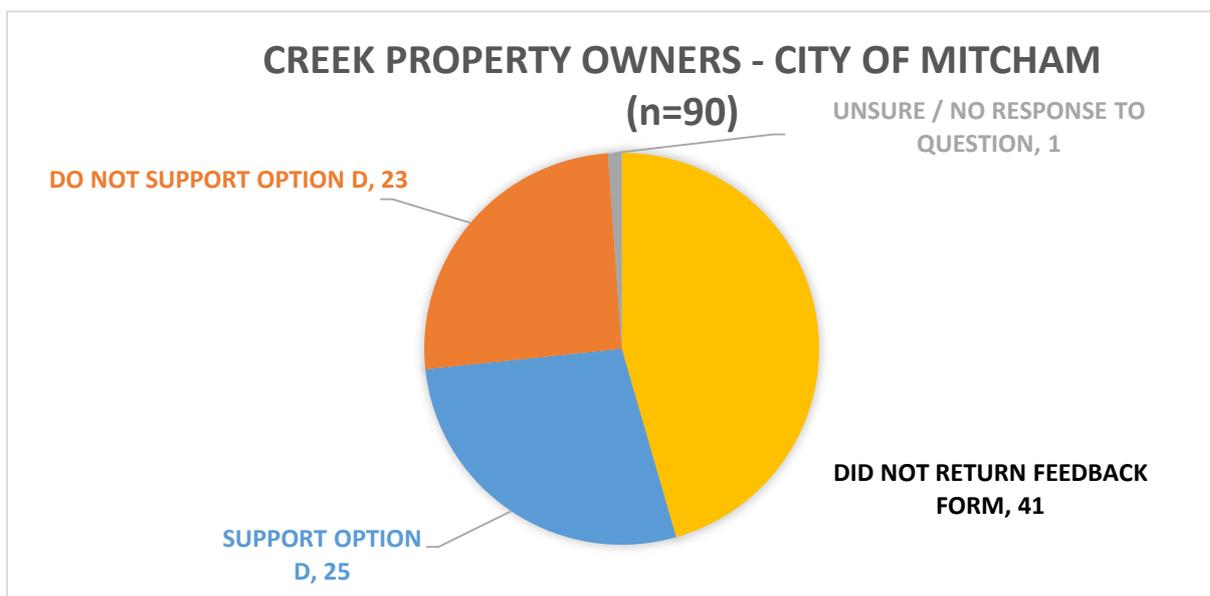


Figure 4: Support / opposition for Option D by City of Mitcham creek property owners



Reasons put forward **supporting Option D** included:

- It is a balanced solution based upon sound research

“The Project Team has performed a detailed analysis and after attending an information session and having a home visit from representatives of the group, I am confident they have made a good decision in regards to the preferred option.”

“...Given costs and residents complaints, Option D is the only viable solution, and we will be pleased to cooperate to get the best possible result from this option if funded.”

“...It is a "No-Brainer" and I cannot believe that anyone would object to this option as it benefits all stakeholders. Option D ticks all the boxes.”

“It far and away seems the most acceptable, sensible and logical option.”

“It is the sensible option – flood mitigation without the unnecessary environmental and recreational impact of a dam.”

- It avoids the need for a dam in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park

“...we feel a sense of duty to preserve the historic natural environment of Brownhill Creek Reserve of Ellisons Gully that is essentially outside the more habited suburbs.”

“As an active conservationist I strongly support the no dam option D. This option will provide flood mitigation for a 1 in 100 year flood, high flow events and provide invaluable restoration of BHC.”

“Brownhill Creek Recreation Park is a treasure that will be even more valuable with urban consolidation...it should not be sacrificed because of private development overcrowding a stream that needs larger capacity because of urbanisation.”

“The dam options are unacceptable in a key heritage area”

“The upper Brownhill Creek catchment, including Ellisons Gully, is an area rich in history (both pre and post European settlement) and abundant environmental assets... This unique area must be protected for future generations”

“A dam would be a permanent scar on the landscape and irreversible.”

- It is good for the bank condition, erosion prevention and biodiversity along the creek

“It would be helpful to have some bank construction/support to stop erosion that is ongoing.”

“Saves environment, heritage and lifestyle; restores Brownhill Creek.”

“The creek should have cleaned out years ago to facilitate stormwater flows. Dry stonewalling or gabions are my preferred method of treatment. The planting of native plant species to improve biodiversity is a sound idea.”

“The creek is a precious and much used resource that needs strengthening.”

“Ecologically, Option D has to be the one that does the least damage, and if we can redevelop a culture of awareness and caring for waterways, both as habitats and as places where water moves, this has to be the best.”

- It is the most cost effective option

“The cost of a dam would be uneconomical...other measures would be just as effective at a fraction of the cost”

“This option is the cheapest to implement and maintain.”

“It offers least impact at what should be the cheapest cost.”

“It will enable Part B works to meet budgeted cost estimates – particularly important given current cost overruns in SA projects.”

“It may well be difficult to obtain funding these days for the more expensive options.”

- It provides the required flood protection

“Flood mitigation is important, particularly to the residents in the City of West Torrens. Option D provides the required flood mitigation for Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens. Option D provides the best opportunity to finally complete the BHKCSMP.”

“Achieves an appropriate level of flood protection.”

“Provides direct flood protection and means no dam is needed. It is a breakthrough solution.”

Some creek owners also identified **conditional support**, that is, support for Option D provided more information is made available about the works proposed, and landowners are able to influence decisions about walling materials, trees and landscaping. Comments included:

“I support this with the proviso that owners are consulted - the capacity upgrade takes into consideration the aesthetic appeal of the creek.”

“With dry stone walls, I support this option.”

“Support is on the basis that we do not have the use and enjoyment of our property impacted (i.e. our tennis court) and we have full say over the walling option...”

“We support Option D if it is carried out according to undertakings stated in ‘creek capacity upgrade works’ info sheet to preserve prominent and significant trees and that every effort is taken to ensure that they are not damaged in the process of creek rehabilitation and upgrade”

“I want a solution that does not affect the beautiful landscaping of the creek as it passes through my property. The value of my property is underpinned by this landscaping. Happy for bridges to be raised, but don't want rocks and trees removed.”

Respondents **opposing Option D** highlighted the following concerns:

- Adverse impact on properties along the creek

“Option D on its own, requires too much interruption to and destruction of, residents' and living spaces along the creek course in Unley and Mitcham.”

“You are taking 'ownership' of our back garden! ... It is not a community resource to be redefined and redesigned to suit the wider community.”

“Common sense says build a detention dam inconveniencing very few people with noise and dust, rather than inconveniencing a hundred or more with noise, dust, interference to functioning wildlife corridor and decreased property values.”

- It does not provide the required flood protection

“...Option D does not involve the building of a dam in the rural catchment area which is an essential part of any complete flood mitigation plan to detain water in the rural catchment to allow some control to be exercised over floodwaters sourced in the hills as it mixes with uncontrolled floodwaters from urban areas.”

“Does not hold water at the source of rural catchment and ignores engineers report.”

“We do not believe Option D will prevent flooding in the upper Brownhill Creek area.”

“It is very important to me that any flood mitigation works undertaken in Mitcham and Unley do include a dam in the upper BHC to limit the impact of any large rain event and provide some control over floodwater volumes in the creek.”

- Adverse impact on biodiversity and trees along the creek

“Option D impacts too greatly on the green corridor of the creek course through Unley and Mitcham with the resulting negative impacts on the birds, wildlife and the general creek environment of residents who live on the creek and those in the vicinity who take advantage of the creek environment. Options other than Option D provide the required level of flood protection without causing the large amount of damage to the environment along the creek in Unley and Mitcham.”

“The preferred option will cause too much damage to the creek environments though Mitcham and Unley. Cost difference is minimal and ... Property owners are definitely going to fight for the devaluation of their property and damage to the environment”.

- Uncertainty about the basis and process on which Option D has been recommended

“Option D is a political solution. Not recommendations by independent reports!”

“Option D goes against all previous independent engineering reports. The most recent report was commissioned and written by the BHKCSP and is not independent and tailored to a pre-determined agenda”.

- Option D may not be the cheapest option

“I do not feel that the fact that option D is the cheapest solution should be the over-riding consideration. It will not be the cheapest if property owners are fully compensated.”

“Option D exposes the Council to too much risk of compensation claims from residents for easements required over their land.”

“Further, the emphasis on cost benefit analysis for Option D is in fact premised on incorrect and unsustainable assumptions. The cost benefit of Option D relates to 'capital costs'. Capital costs relate only to construction, they do not consider the costs of negotiating with landholders of 66 properties, preparing agreements in respect of these properties and potential legal action which will significantly increase the costs of the proposal.”

3.6 Level of support for other options

The feedback form was designed so that respondents who do not support Option D were asked to identify if they had a preference for one of the other seven flood mitigation options, none of the options or were unsure.

Option D was opposed by 42 creek property owners and 59 members of the wider community (refer Tables 3-13 and 3-16).

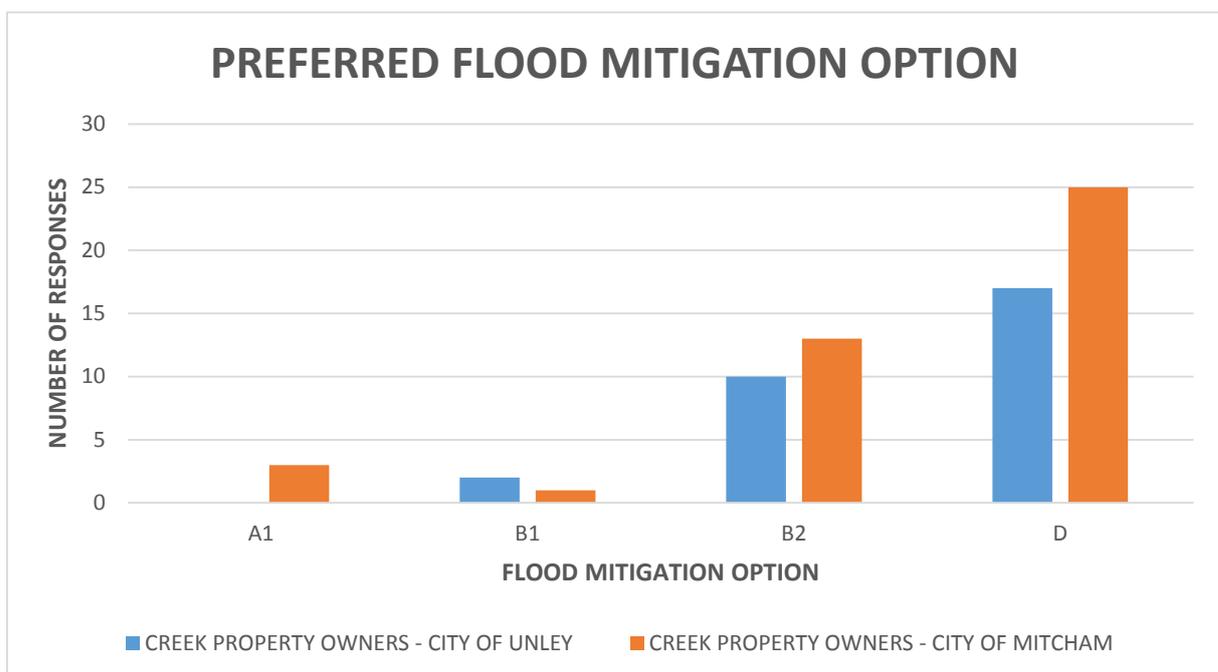
In summary, mixed views were expressed by these respondents regarding preferences for one of the other seven flood mitigation options. The highest level of support was for Option B2, which involves the construction of a detention dam in Ellisons Gully, creek capacity upgrade works on an estimated 22 private properties as well as creek rehabilitation works for the majority of other properties located along upper Brown Hill Creek.

Looking in more detail, of the 42 creek property owners opposing Option D:

- 38 respondents indicated a preferred alternative as shown in Table 3-17. Only Options A2, B1 and B2 were identified as possible alternatives. Of these, Option B2 received the highest level of support selected by 23 out of the 38 respondents.
- The additional 4 respondents (all from the City of Mitcham) did not select one response as requested, ticking multiple options as follows:
 - > 3 respondents selected both B1 and B2
 - > 1 respondent selected A1, A2 and B1

To avoid double counting, these responses have not been included in Table 3-17 or the summary bar charts in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Level of support from creek property owners for Option D and other option



Note: No support was identified for Options A2, C1, C2 or C3.

Of the 59 respondents from the wider community opposing Option D:

- 43 indicated support for Option for B2 (33 respondents from Unley, 9 from Mitcham and 1 from Burnside)
- 6 indicated support for Option B1 (5 respondents from Unley and 1 from Mitcham)
- 1 indicated support for Option A1 (respondent from Unley)
- 1 indicated support for Option A2 (respondent from Unley)
- 1 indicated support for Option C1 (respondent from Mitcham)
- 7 indicated they were either unsure (1), none of the above (4) or did not provide a response (2).

Table 3-17: Creek property owners: Level of support for other options (by area)

AREA	LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR OTHER OPTIONS					TOTAL
	A2	B1	B2	Unsure	None	
Area 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 2	0	0	3	3	0	6
Area 3	0	1	4	2	2	9
Area 4	0	1	3	0	0	4
City of Unley	0	2	10	5	2	19
% City of Unley	0%	11%	53%	26%	11%	
Area 5	1	1	8	0	0	10
Area 6	2	0	5	0	2	9
Area 7	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Mitcham	3	1	13	0	2	19
% City of Mitcham	16%	5%	68%	0%	10%	100%
Total Cities of Unley and Mitcham	3	3	23	5	4	38
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	8%	8%	61%	13%	11%	100%

Table 3-18: Creek property owners: Level of support from creek property owners for other options (by area and nature of works)

AREA	SUPPORT FOR OTHER OPTIONS							
	CREEK CAPACITY UPGRADE (n=29)				CREEK REHABILITATION (n=9)			
	A1	B1	B2	Unsure/ no resp	A1	B1	B2	Unsure/ no resp
Area 1	0	0	0	0	--NOT APPLICABLE--			
Area 2	0	0	2	3	0	0	1	0
Area 3	0	1	4	4	--NOT APPLICABLE--			
Area 4	n/a				0	1	3	0
Total City of Unley (19)	0	1	6	7	0	1	4	0
Total City of Unley (%*)	0	7%	43%	50%	0	20%	80%	0
Area 5	1	1	6	0	0	0	2	0
Area 6	1	0	5	1	1	0	0	1
Area 7	--NOT APPLICABLE--				0	0	0	0
Total City of Mitcham (19)	2	1	11	1	1	0	2	1
Total City of Mitcham (%*)	13%	7%	73%	7%	25%	0	50%	25%

AREA	SUPPORT FOR OTHER OPTIONS							
	CREEK CAPACITY UPGRADE (n=29)				CREEK REHABILITATION (n=9)			
	A1	B1	B2	Unsure/ no resp	A1	B1	B2	Unsure/ no resp
Total both Councils (38)	2	2	17	8	1	1	6	1
Total both Councils (%)	7%	7%	59%	28%	11%	11%	67%	11%

* Note - percentages refer to percentage by Council area by type of works (e.g. 43% of properties in the City of Unley where creek capacity upgrade works who did not support Option D identified support for Option B2)

Reasons offered in **support of Option B2** include:

- It provides the best flood protection and mitigation

“Less disruption to the maximum no of residents. I want to own the land at the back - it adds value to property.”

“A detention dam in the upper BHC is an essential component of any complete flood mitigation plan... It is a basic, logical and common sense that a detention dam is built as the source of any potential floodwaters to allow control to be exercised over the flow of water into urban creek and limit any potential damages to be caused in the suburbs.”

“When heavy rains occur the creek quickly becomes a raging river.... A detention dam at Ellisons Gully would allow a control over the amount of water that flows downstream and decrease the dangers of a fast flowing amount of water.”

“Independent flood mitigation reports have recommended [a] dam is the best mitigation strategy.”

- Impacts fewer properties/residents along Brown Hill Creek

“A dam in either Ellisons Gully or the Recreation Park would significant[ly] reduce the impact of works required for a creek capacity upgrade and creek rehabilitation to all the properties in the Unley and Mitcham that have the creek running through them.”

“We believe option B2 provides good flood protection whilst minimising negative impacts on properties of those living along the creek.”

- Less damaging to the creek environment

“There is less damage to the creek and environs.”

“As a detention dam does not hold water for any great length of time, any trees or vegetation in the catchment pool would not be affected from any short term inundation and any impact on the Recreation Areas created in the catchment pool would only be affected for the short period of time that floodwaters are detained.”

- Ellisons Gully is an appropriate location for a detention dam

“A dam in Ellisons Gully will not destroy the historic sites of the old Mitcham Waterworks, way up in the valley nor the historic mines (as they are both above the water pool level (if ever it fills) and will not stop any cultural walks in the valley by local aborigines.”

“The detention dam in Ellisons Gully is not in a recreation park area. The area is not generally accessible by the public. If it is ever used, it will be rare, as the project indicated that this is a 1:100 year possibility and the retention is for a very short period.”

Those who identified **Option B1** as their preferred flood mitigation option offered the following reasons:

- Better for the creek environment

“The catchment could be in the form of wetlands which provides habitat for creek wildlife as well as recreational and education resource for the broader community. Destruction of creek environment and loss of trees as per Option D is intolerable.”

“I believe a dam at Brownhill Creek Reserve could actually be attractive rather than an environmental blight!”

- Impacts fewer properties

“The creek provides an important amenity for the community but particularly those who live on it... an option that provides less changes along the creek is therefore important.”

“Option D affects more Unley residents than any other option.”

- Provides better flood mitigation

“Catchment of flood water and then slow release down the creek is [the] most sensible and obvious solution.”

- Tolerable difference in cost of works

“The cost differential between B1 and D is tolerable.”

A number of respondents who did not support Option D were either unsure if they preferred any of the other options, or did not support any of the options. In their comments, however, a number identified **alternative proposals**, including:

“Divert the creek along Mitchell Street onto Goodwood Road to connect with the creek on the west side of Goodwood Road.”

“Commission a new report without any pre-determined parameters by a suitably qualified independent engineering firm.”

“After 35 years of living on the creek it is my preference for a series of small catchments (retention dams) that are part of community use areas.”

Others commented that either they do not support Option D, or that they lack information to make a decision.

3.7 Impact of works on properties

3.7.1 Creek capacity upgrade works

Owners of properties where creek capacity upgrade works, combined with creek rehabilitation works, are proposed were asked to identify the positive and negative impacts of possible works on their property.

The **positive impacts** identified by creek owners included:

- Positive impact on creek environment, especially water flows and appearance
 - “More natural looking waterway/improvement on concrete walls.”
 - “Tidying up inappropriate vegetation along the creek would be beneficial. Natural stone walls or stepped gabion walls with vegetation could be suitable.”
 - “Tidy up of creek itself to increase and improve water flow. More aesthetically pleasing.”
 - “Neatens up the whole vicinity to make it more user friendly”.
- Improved flood protection
 - “Greatly reduces the possibility of flooding.”
 - “No more flooding of our property.”
 - “Possibly reduce risk of flooding to our tennis court.”
- Improved bank stability and reduced erosion
 - “It would provide bank stability so as to allow us to properly fence our property. The bank stability would also stop erosion”
 - “May stop further erosion under house - but we are happy to attend to this problem now at our cost.”
- Positive impact on properties and property values
 - “Financial benefit as an owner.”
 - “A solution to flood risk along the creek will improve the value of all creek properties.”
 - “Potential to enhance property.”

The **negative impacts** identified by creek owners included:

- Negative impact on space, appearance, landscaping and use of private properties
 - “Interferes with the development potential of the land.”
 - “Easement also means loss of recreational area and likelihood of an eyesore in our backyard instead of green space.”
 - “Under Option D there is potential for our outdoor living space to be decimated. We have several large mature trees on the banks of the creek, the roots of which would be impacted by the installation of any infrastructure in the banks along the creek and could result in their destruction.”
 - “We love the natural beauty of the creek flowing through our land along with the trees and shrubs that provide birdlife with homes. We DO NOT want anything touched on our property.”
- Negative impact on property values

“Significant reduction in property value due to structures built, reduction in tennis court size. As well as reduction in resale value due to easement or agreement in place. The sum of losses may total upwards of 40% of property’s current value.”

“The landscaped creek through my property is a large part of its value. Channelling of the creek with concrete or gabions will devalue it.”

“Loss of land - and subsequent loss of value of property, which is a life-time investment.”

- Impacts of construction works

“Noise, dust, etc. and general activity at the site during initial works.”

“The undertaking of any works on our property will impinge seriously on our privacy during the period of such works with machinery and personnel intruding on our property.”

“Currently the property is rented which may have effects on "rentability" during any works.”

- Negative impact on the creek environment, including loss of trees and shade

“A significant tree near my property could be adversely effected.”

“Loss of Amenity: Tree canopy provides shade in summer that is sufficient to allow my children to play outside on even the hottest of days.”

“Loss of mature and significant (treeline) and wildlife corridor.”

“Established tree line lost. Micro climate of shade tolerant plants will be lost with removal of large established trees. Visual impact with loss of tree line.”

- Concerns about security, safety and privacy

“Security - ease of access to my property.”

“Loss of privacy as area becomes more accessible to public.”

“Increase flows through creek at peak times (danger for children/pets in particular).”

“The objective of Option D is to upgrade the capacity of the creek and to increase the volume and speed at which water passes our property. Any increase in speed of water past our property creates safety hazards for ourselves, our visitors and our family.”

“Fencing of the creek will be required to ensure our children do not fall into the fast flow creek that will be created.”

- Concerns about ongoing responsibility, maintenance and legal agreements

“Continued lack of clarity around ownership of land and responsibility for creek land.”

“Project Group will assume responsibility not only for the development but for the maintenance”

“It seems unlikely that compensation would cover the loss of value of the property.”

In addition, a number of people provided comments about the **lack of detailed information** about proposed works, for example:

“The letter with this feedback form did not provide any details of how my property is likely to be impacted by a creek capacity upgrade and creek rehabilitation works.”

“Not sure what impacts work will have on creek. Too much emphasis on "trust us"-and I don't”.

3.7.2 Creek rehabilitation works

Creek owners where creek rehabilitation works (but not creek capacity upgrade works) are proposed were also asked to identify the positive and negative impacts of works on their property.

The **positive impacts** of creek rehabilitation works identified by creek owners included:

- Positive impact on creek condition, water flows and appearance
 - “Creek clean-up is always a good thing as it improves flow in the creek.”
 - “Make a lovelier outlook for my property without having to do the work ourselves - all for it.”
 - “Improvement of habitat of native flora and fauna e.g. frogs were common inhabitants in 1974; now non-existent.”
 - “Removal of bamboo. Removal of large dead branches.”
- Stabilisation of banks and reduced erosion
 - “Upgrading/anti-erosion for some parts of creek walls.”
 - “Reinforcement of banks with indigenous plants.”
- Improved flood protection and mitigation
 - “Marked reduction of risk of flood damage to my and neighbouring properties.”
 - “Removal of invasive creepers such as scarlet runner, bamboo and periwinkle... most certainly a less obstructive bank surface for potential flood waters.”
- Improvement to the creek in general
 - “I think the rehabilitation works would have a positive impact. The 'one off' extraordinary creek maintenance to be undertaken program sounds like an excellent idea. It would certainly help to restore the creek banks back to a level where they can be maintained and then kept in a tidy manner.”
 - “Rehabilitation is definitely a positive providing it is done in consultation with the owners. I can see no reason why anyone could object.”
 - “I am quite happy for rehab works to be undertaken.”

The **negative impacts** of creek rehabilitation works identified by creek owners included:

- Negative impact on residential amenity, including shade and creek ambience
 - “A number of trees would have to be removed and we would require replacement and replanting of trees along the banks to maintain shading for our place. Our house relies extensively on shade from the trees along the creek banks of our property.”
 - “Reduce the visual amenity we currently enjoy.”
 - “Reduction in environmental ambience for the many residents.”
 - “Loss of creek setting charm; loss of shade on western aspect; spoil natural sense of seclusion”.

- **Negative impacts on the creek environment, including loss of biodiversity**

“I would not like to see removal of large areas of vegetation before replacements have a chance to establish.”

“Ruin integrity of the natural watercourse. Remaining trees would cause erosion and impact significantly on bird and wildlife.”

“Removal of any native trees or bushes along the creek will impact on birds' nests and ducks living in the winter-spring water.”

“It may be considered environmentally desirable to replace exotic vegetation with natives but mature exotics are still vital for the functioning of this wildlife corridor.”

“I would like to see ongoing care, it would be such a shame to become overgrown like some "Bushcare" sites.”
- **Increased risk of erosion and bank instability**

“It would also mean that scouring of the banks would be more likely as the water flow rates would likely increase.”

“Removal of trees in the bank will increase risk of erosion.”

“A couple of trees in the bank, if removed, would seriously undermine the existing wall and we do not see the need to remove them. It would be too costly.”
- **Impacts of undertaking the creek rehabilitation works**

“Possible damage to our existing garden area when work is undertaken.”

“The Council will be liable for increased damage to my property as a direct result of the proposed ...works.”
- **Concerns about security, safety and privacy**

“Removal of any vegetation will have a negative impact on our privacy from neighbours across the creek.”

“Privacy between us and over creek property; privacy from street at back of property.”

In addition, a number of people provided comments about the lack of detailed information about proposed works, for example:

“I can't really comment until someone tells me exactly what will be done to my property.”

“We cannot comment on the likely impact of any works. We would be happy to discuss specifics in due course.”

3.8 Legal arrangements

The feedback form sent to owners of properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works included an additional question regarding possible legal arrangements should infrastructure be installed on their property.

They were asked to indicate which of the following three options (or none of them) they would prefer:

- **Option 1: The property owner agrees to take responsibility for ongoing maintenance of creek capacity upgrade works (at their cost)**

- Option 2: The BHKC Project takes responsibility for ongoing maintenance of creek capacity upgrade works (at its cost) – this option legally requires the Project to acquire an easement
- Option 3: The property owner decides on ongoing maintenance arrangements after the construction works are completed.

All of the eight flood mitigation options require creek capacity upgrade works to be undertaken. Of the eight options, Option D involves the greatest extent of creek capacity upgrade works on an estimated 66 properties. A total of 76 owners have an interest in these 66 properties as some of the properties are units. Of these 76 owners who were sent feedback forms with the additional question regarding legal arrangements, responses were received from:

- 24 out of a possible 46 with a property in the City of Unley
- 25 out of a possible 30 with a property in the City of Mitcham.

As shown in Table 3-19, mixed views were received in relation to possible legal arrangements. Of the 49 respondents:

- Just over a third, 18 (37%) indicated they do not support any of the three options
- The highest level of support recorded (44%) was from City of Mitcham property owners in support of Option 3.

Table 3-19: Preference for legal arrangements on properties requiring creek capacity upgrade works

AREA	PREFERENCE FOR LEGAL ARRANGMENTS					TOTAL NUMBER feedback forms	
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	None	No response	Received	Sent
Area 1	0	3	0	2	0	5	11
Area 2	0	3	1	4	1	9	21
Area 3	1	0	2	4	3	10	14
City of Unley	1	6	3	10	4	24	46
% City of Unley	4%	25%	13%	42%	17%	100%	
Area 5	0	2	7	5	0	14	18
Area 6	0	2	4	3	2	11	12
City of Mitcham	0	4	11	8	2	25	30
% City of Mitcham	0%	16%	44%	32%	8%	100%	
Total Cities of Unley and Mitcham	1	10	14	18	6	49	76
% Cities of Unley and Mitcham	2%	20%	29%	37%	12%	100%	

The one respondent who supported the **Option 1** (the property owner agrees to take responsibility for ongoing maintenance of creek capacity upgrade works) commented that:

“I would continue as I have in the past. Naturally would confer with your engineers - as well as my own. I would willingly carry out such steps as are reasonably acceptable. I would assume [that] no funds available for some recompense for work completed.”

Among the 10 creek owners who indicated support for **Option 2** (an easement), the most common comment was that there is a need for more detailed information, which is discussed further below. One respondent suggested that easements should be mandatory “to enable a consistent landscaping and maintenance approach”.

Of those who supported any of the options for legal agreements, **Option 3** was the most popular, especially in the City of Mitcham. Respondents indicated an appreciation for the opportunity to ‘wait and see’ the completed works before committing to a legal agreement, with comments such as:

“I would prefer to not give away an easement but would go for Option 3 in the first instance once I see how it works out.”

“Option 3 would be preferred on the condition that all work carried out that may affect our property require written approval by us before proceeding.”

“Option 3 with doubts. We would like to retain ownership of the piece of land affected, as this will affect our investment value, which we need for retirement.”

Of those **who do not support any of the proposed legal agreements**, reasons offered included:

- **Negative impact on property value**

“Easements devalue property value”

“In the event that an easement or registered agreement is forced upon us, commercial compensation would be required for the loss of value to the total property by the impediment caused by easement or non-cancellable agreement.”
- **Loss of control over property**

“No control over property under easement.”

“...We would not willingly allow an easement to be placed on our property as it is permanent and it is a long term impediment to the title ... We would not willingly enter into any long term agreement...as it also effectively creates a long term impediment to the title.”
- **Do not support works and therefore do not support proposed legal agreements**

“If a retention wetland was built in Brownhill Recreation Park, then substantive structures downstream would not be required.”

“Make no changes to the creek. If necessary we could make required alterations at our cost - with no easement/agreements involved.”
- **Concern about ongoing maintenance**

“One only has to look at parts of the creek already under Council control. Maintenance is woeful and does not engender confidence for the future. ”

“What happens when the project changes the rules?”

Discussing legal agreements more generally, a number of creek owners expressed concern about the **value of financial compensation**, commenting:

“The only other possibility for me would be Option 3 and reason for that is to retain the value of my property if the offer of compensation in the acquisition of the easement is unsatisfactory.”

“The proposed calculations [20% land value, ~ \$30,000] are just not in keeping with principles of compulsory acquisition...”

Lack of detailed information was frequently mentioned by creek owners as something that made it difficult to determine a preferred option for legal agreements. Comments included:

“It is unfair to ask the owners to choose an option above in the absence of fine details of the work to be done. How wide is the clearance in the section of our backyard?”

“It would depend on what the 'permanent' infrastructure would involve. I would want to be in discussion of how it would look and what was involved.”

“We are happy to discuss this in more detail with the Project before any works are commenced in the event approval and funding for the project is received.”

“To enable any serious comment to be made in respect of easements or agreements, we would need to know the specific terms of such easements or agreements.”

Some creek owners offered **alternative proposals**, such as:

“Would like the option of retaining ownership of our property and creek but would be willing to pay an annual fee to the project to assist in maintaining the creek/take responsibility for ongoing maintenance.”

“A more sensible solution to this practical problem of maintenance of the creek ...is best made by an agreement made from time to time on a needs basis between the owner and the local Council. It is highly unlikely that any landowner would object to the Council or contractors coming on site for maintenance subject to the usual suitable prior notice and agreement on the works to be undertaken.”

Two properties expressed a preference for the **project to purchase land**, as follows:

“...the purchase by the Project of the small portion of land owned by us where the creek runs through, at a price determined by an independent valuer. Maintenance of this creek would then be by the Project.”

“Section of creek involved to be purchased freehold by Government... for the level of interest in future use of this area, it needs to become public property...with the lack of open space in inner suburbs, I would have thought acquisition for this section would be the preferred option.”

3.9 Other comments

All feedback forms contained a question asking people whether they had any other comments.

60 out of the 88 (approximately 68%) of creek owners who returned a feedback form provided an extra comment. 48% of the wider community members who completed a feedback form also provided a comment.

These comments have been grouped by theme.

A large number of people provided comments about **flood mitigation and prevention** such as:

- Support for Option D as the preferred option for flood mitigation

“Option D appears to be the most logical, least costly and quickest to construct.”

“I believe this option provides the best risk mitigation strategy and environmental outcomes.”

“Residents who enjoy the amenity of a creek that flows through their properties cannot have their cake and eat it. With this privilege comes the responsibility to allow and support flood migration works for the benefit of the greater good.”

“Option D seems the only sensible option.”

- Perceived inability for Option D to provide flood mitigation

“Build a dam to control any large rain event.”

“I strongly suggest BHKCSP listens to independent reports of Worley Parsons and Hydro Tasmania in implementing the recommendation of building a dam as the most effective flood mitigation measures. Do the right thing for flood control!”

“Option "D" will not work as the gradient of the ground is not enough for the water to move on.”

- Support for Option B1 or B2

“The obvious conclusion to the consultation should be that it is in the best interests of the wider community that flood mitigation works undertaken, that impacts on directly affected residents are kept to a minimum and that an aesthetically acceptable dam must be built in the upper BHC (probably in Ellisons Gully). ”

“Option B1 or B2 is the only way to control the flow of water and flooding.”

“The option B2 is cheaper and more logical... the people who oppose the dam don't live on the creek.”

Creek owners and a few members of the wider public identified **site specific issues** and their **individual circumstance**, with their other comments, for example,

“We are keen to work with the project team. Plans and details specific to our property would be appreciated.”

“Currently volume and flow of water through our property is more than adequate... We have insurance for flood damage - we are happy to risk any flood damage.”

“We want the gum tree in the creek removed for safety reasons.”

“Our primary concern is about the impact of any works on our property and in any potential loss in value.”

“If box culvert is installed so I could reclaim space above, we would accept an easement. In this case we gain something in return for losing something.”

“Creek design in Wilberforce Walk must prioritise the protection of the very old eucalypt”.

A large number of the feedback forms from the wider public specially discussed protecting **Brownhill Creek Recreation Park and Ellisons Gully** from the construction of a Dam, with comments such as:

“I strongly oppose the option of creating a detention dam as this will have negative environmental impact in addition to being high cost.”

“The Brown Hill Creek reserve and hills is an amazing place to have so close to the city. Its worth doing everything we can to preserve this idyllic setting.”

“The environment of the upper Brownhill Creek...should not be endangered due to irresponsible management of resources further downstream.”

“The spend for the dam is not warranted”.

Some of the creek owners also discussed **Option D**, using the other comments section to both indicate support and opposition to the option, for example

“Option D solution will most likely NOT be found to be the cheapest option when considering additional compensation claims from the many residents along the creek course in Unley and Mitcham.”

“Option D is entirely premised on achieving "no dams" solution. It ignores 4 major, independent engineering reports costing \$millions. It is thus Political, a compromise to accommodate all Councils.”

“We walk regularly up through Brownhill Creek Rd...Don't want it lost to a dam or to any interference removing the natural wilderness of the area.”

“The community has made it absolutely clear that a dam in Brownhill Creek is totally unacceptable.”

Across all feedback forms, the **environmental impact of proposed works** was a common theme, with people commenting

- That Option D will have a significant environmental impact
 - “People are kidding themselves if they think that re-working the creek will cause less environmental impact than building a retention basin.”
 - “Please do not vandalise the environment by chopping down all these mature native trees some are as old as 800 years.”
 - “B1/B2 will cause the least environmental impact of all options and is the most cost effective.”
- A desire to restore the creek to a natural state
 - “The creek should be left in as natural a state as possible.”
 - “Removal of non-native trees and vegetation is important as these seed prolifically.”
 - “The creek needs tidying up but maintain the feeling of the bush.”
 - “Dry stone walls look good – gabions don't.”

Similarly, a number of people commented on the consultation process,

- Thanking the BHKC Project for the process
 - “We would just like to add that we are very impressed with the manner in which this debate has been handled. The information packs have been extremely thorough and most importantly easy to digest and understand. As residents, we appreciate the opportunities to provide our perspectives that you have allowed us.”
 - “Thank you for the opportunity to make comment.”
 - “Very pleased with the collegiate approach.”
- Expressing concern about the consultation process
 - “I think the information provided to property owners has been inadequate.”
 - “The emphasis/promotion of Option D which involves more properties, seems to be inherently prejudicing this process, undermining its balanced assessment.”
 - “Option D has been promoted throughout Mitcham Council, Banners in Mitcham Council Colours... The Banners in Mitcham Council area were erected illegally... This is not offering an unbiased consultation period and needs to be noted.”

“I am disappointed and strongly objected to the way the BHKC Project group favour Option D. The group does not listen to the owners of the properties affected.”

“the opposition to a clearing out of the creek by some property owners... represents the ultimate NIMBYism.”

Some people commented about the ongoing **implementation** of any works, for example

“Any action better than no action! Very frustrated by the apparent bureaucratic gridlock.”

“There is no likelihood of funding for the works outlined.”

“It is unreasonable that the individual owners of BHC are expected to bear the cost of maintaining the creek course, the use of which is for the benefit of the whole community by facilitating the drainage of stormwater. The creek, used by the community for its benefit, is rightly and equitably maintained by that community at its cost.”

“B/Hill Creek is an asset/resource that is beyond the capacity of landowners to control.”

“We are more than happy to continue with open and frank dialogue with Council around creek rehabilitation works slated for our property and empathise on the need for some works to exist.”

“Ongoing maintenance of creek lines is vital to prevent re-seeding of unwanted species and ensure creek flows.”

4.0 Written Submissions

4.1 Overview

In addition to the feedback forms, 76 written submissions were received. Table 4-1 shows who written submissions were received from and their support/opposition in relation to Option D.

Table 4-1: Summary of written submissions received

GROUP	OVERT OR IMPLIED		SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION NOT STATED
	SUPPORT OPTION D	OPPOSE OPTION D	
COMMUNITY AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (13)			
Brown Hill Save Our Creeks Environs Trees (SOCKET)		✓	
Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated (BCA)	✓		
Creek Class Action Advocacy		✓	
FOCUS	✓		
ForTrees		✓	
Friends of Brownhill Creek	✓		
Goodwood Residents Action Group		✓	
Karna Nation Cultural Heritage Association	✓		
Mitcham Creek Preservation		✓	
Mitcham Historical Society	✓		
No Dam in BHC Community Action Group	✓		
Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions Incorporated (RESS)		✓	
West Unley Protection of Trees (WUPOT)		✓	
BUSINESSES (2)			
Brown Hill Creek Tourist Park	✓		
The Mitcham Rehabilitation Clinic	✓		
GOVERNMENT (1)			
Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, State Member for Waite.	✓		
INDIVIDUALS (60)			
Residing in the City of Unley (13)	7	5	1
Residing in the City of Mitcham (26)	24		2
Residing in other council areas (21)	21		

Of the 76 submissions, 26 submissions were enclosed with feedback forms while the remaining 50 were standalone in that the author did not submit a feedback form.

Following the conclusion of the consultation period, the Project acknowledged the receipt of a written submission in the form of a letter. With this letter, the Project also enclosed an information sheet (refer **Appendix C** in the Appendices Report) containing key questions and answers. This paper was prepared in response to a number of factually incorrect statements or assumptions made in the written submissions.

The following sections summarise the key points raised in the submissions. Written submissions are included in full in **Appendix E** in the Appendices Report.

4.1.1 Brown Hill Save Our Creeks Environs Trees

Brown Hill Save Our Creeks Environs Trees (SOCKET) is a community group that was formed in response to concerns about the impacts of undertaking creek widening and rehabilitation works along upper Brown Hill Creek.

Brown Hill SOCKET state that “our members unanimously reject Option D” claiming that the process has been skewed by lobby groups of people unaffected by flooding, and that Option D ignores previous engineering reports.

Brown Hill SOCKET do not accept the endorsed position of the five catchment councils to pursue a feasible no dam solution.

The group considers that there are no sites of heritage or indigenous significance in the upper reaches of the catchment (upstream of where the dam is proposed). In addition, they state that Option D will not be cheapest option because of costs associated with the acquisitions of easements and legal costs associated with any class action.

Brown Hill SOCKET also contends that:

- There will not be reduced rainfall due to climate change, but instead rainfall events will be more intense and of shorter duration
- There will be greater scouring of the creek because of tree removal and creek capacity works
- Tree removal is unacceptable due to its impact on the wildlife corridor and loss of very old trees
- Owners of properties will suffer a devaluation of their properties, removal of trees and loss of amenity.

4.1.2 Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated

Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated (BCA) is a group that exists to “promote the conservation and enhancement of Brownhill Creek as a watercourse and scenic feature of the environment”. Their submission included the following components:

- PowerPoint Presentation about BCA’s campaign and reasons for supporting Option D
- Copy of the media release jointly issued by Conservation Council SA, Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association, The National Trust of South Australia, the Wilderness Society South Australia, Mitcham Historical Society, The Friends of Brownhill Creek and Brownhill Creek Association (summarised in Section 4.2.8). The media release stated:

“Our environment and heritage organisations value the technical expertise contained in the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan-Part B Report, and the collaboration and input by the five catchment councils, SA Government and community groups alike that has made this proposed stormwater management strategy possible”.

“We support the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project in preferring the ‘Creek Capacity Upgrade’ Option D, as it provides the required 1 in 100 year level of flood protection in the most cost effective manner, while preserving existing Kurna and European sites of heritage significance. This includes the preservation of the ‘Seven Pines’, a group of large Stone Pines planted in 1891, identified for their size and cultural significance in the National Trust Significant Tree Register”.

“Our groups are delighted that Option D will protect and rehabilitate this valuable riparian zone as a significant natural and cultural asset. It is encouraging that flood mitigation can be achieved along with the protection and improvement of native biodiversity and habitat in Upper Brownhill Creek”.
- Document outlining the heritage and environmental assets of the upper reaches of Brownhill Creek
- A copy of the State Government’s *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* policy and associated email
- Copy of the BCA public flyer.

Through all these components, BCA clearly state that they support Option D, which is consistent with the organisation’s three aims:

1. Save the environment and heritage of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park/Ellisons Gully (Warraparanga), by stopping the proposed dam
2. Support the implementation of a balanced and effective Stormwater Management Plan, which includes a feasible No Dam option.
3. Promote sustainable best practice stormwater management solutions for Brownhill Creek / Willawilla.

BCA support the 2012 resolution of the five catchment councils to “pursue a feasible and whole of catchment, community supported No Dam solution”. The BCA submission states that Option D “ticks all the boxes” of providing the required flood protection, is the most cost effective, saves the environment and heritage, enhances the urban creek environment and provides net benefit for creek property owners.

BCA do not support any form of dam in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully, and contend that:

- The current cost estimates for a dam are twice the original estimate
- Construction of a dam would result in two years of disruption to residents and the Brown Hill Creek Tourism Park

- Construction of a dam would permanently destroy the environment and heritage of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park and Ellisons Gully.

BCA consider that Option D is the best way to manage flood risk in upper Brown Hill Creek as it does not impact on the environmental, heritage and cultural assets of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully. A component of the group's submission outlined these assets, their history and significance in detail, and is included in **Appendix E** in the Appendices Report.

The group enclosed the State Government's Strategic Plan for the Healthy Parks, Healthy People program, which outlines the Government's agenda to increase the number of South Australians using parks for recreation, and improve awareness about the health benefits of parks. BCA contend that Brownhill Creek Recreation Park is one of the city's most important recreation areas and should be preserved for recreation purposes so as to reduce risks of chronic diseases.

4.1.3 Creek Class Action Advocacy

Creek Class Action Advocacy is a group of residents from the Mitcham and Unley Council areas formed during the consultation process, who would be affected by Option D through easement acquisition. (It should be noted that all eight options require creek capacity upgrade works not just Option D).

The group is strongly opposed to Option D and state in their submission that they will seek a class action to protect their interests should Option D proceed. Creek Class Action Advocacy contends that they will secure compensation through this process, meaning that ratepayers will ultimately have to pay for the most expensive flood mitigation option.

Creek Class Action Advocacy considers that Option D would have adverse impacts on properties along the creek and result in the devaluation of properties without reasonable compensation.

The written submission makes a number of claims about the plan development and consultation process, including that:

- Previous studies have recommended a detention dam in the upper reaches of Brown Hill Creek, and that a dam will affect the least number of households, and have a lesser environmental impact
- The Project has ignored expert advice and chosen a "political solution", and this exposes them to future litigation
- The consultation process lacks detailed designs about the impacts of creek capacity upgrade works to individual properties
- The project should have prepared an Environmental Impact Study prior to consultation on the different flood mitigation options
- The Part B Report is based upon flawed assumptions about rainfall and climate change.

4.1.4 Friends of the City of Unley Society

Friends of the City of Unley Society (FOCUS) is a residents group with an interest in the preservation of the character of Unley as a city of Villages.

In their written submission, FOCUS review the history of the Plan and the changes that have taken place since the 2012 Report, most notably the reduction in the number of properties effected by a 1 in 100 ARI flood event.

The submission also reviews the relative merits of the eight options, concluding that:

FOCUS supports the approach proposed in the rehabilitation and the capacity upgrading with selective widening while keeping the creek as a natural creek, respective the biodiversity and the staged approach over years. Retention and protection of all significant and regulated trees is an imperative [except if a significant tree is within the channel]

On balance, having considered the options and the outcomes, FOCUS favours Option D. We recognise that the majority of Brown Hill Creek in the plains catchment flows across private property and this option involves significant negotiations with the owners of the creek. Those negotiations will however determine the outcome.

The FOCUS submission also discussed creek maintenance and considers that creek maintenance, other than maintaining vegetation on land outside of the creek channel, should be a Council responsibility and occur at no cost to property owners. FOCUS suggested that community or land care groups could play a role in ongoing maintenance.

Other issues raised by FOCUS include:

- The importance of protecting street trees as part of the Northgate Street bridge upgrade
- Maintaining the decorative 1935 balustrades at the Ethel and Charles Street bridges - if they are affected, they should be replaced with balustrades that reflect the historic character
- The need to limit infill development to prevent further increases in impervious surfaces
- The suggestion that creek rehabilitation works be completed before undertaking creek capacity upgrade works, as flow rates may improve after rehabilitation works and therefore the scope of creek capacity works could be reduced.

4.1.5 ForTrees

ForTrees is a community group with an interest in the preservation of trees along Brown Hill Creek.

ForTrees do not state their preferred flood mitigation option, but instead express concern about the environmental impacts of works along Brown Hill Creek, most especially a loss of the wildlife corridor and associated impacts on mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates.

The group suggest that trees in the creek do not provide obstructions but instead slow the flow of water. They contend that bank stability depends upon the tree root systems, and that the removal of trees and other vegetation will increase the risk of erosion. ForTrees claim that it might be difficult to establish new plantings on the bank, and that long term fire risk may increase with a greater amount of native vegetation.

ForTrees also hold the view that:

- Flooding impacts residents in Mitcham Council, as well as downstream suburbs
- In the 2005 flooding, most floodwater originated in the upper catchment and therefore flood waters need to be contained before entering the urban area
- Creek capacity upgrades will only succeed if all sections are at sufficient capacity (i.e. a chain is only ever as strong as the weakest link)
- Proposed creek works under Option D will have a greater overall impact on creek ecology than the construction of a dam
- Frustration that the “no dams” campaign has misrepresented the facts
- Cattle hooves in the rural part of the catchment may increase water runoff.

4.1.6 Friends of Brownhill Creek

Friends of Brownhill Creek is a group of volunteers who undertake land management activities in the Brownhill Creek Recreation Park, such as weed control, revegetation and ecosystem restoration, trail maintenance, water quality and quantity monitoring, and heritage management.

In their written submission, the Friends of Brownhill Creek expressed very strong concerns about any proposal to construct a dam, which they contend will irreversibly change the Park because of the impacts on the natural environment, amenity and Indigenous and European heritage.

The Friends of Brownhill Creek contend that the proposed dam is not consistent with the Brownhill Creek Management Plan objectives, and also note that the Park is classified as a Natural Monument under the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

The submission outlines the Park’s heritage values, stating that the Park contains 12 known historical sites and three sites of Aboriginal heritage significance, while also noting the need to undertake further investigations about the area’s heritage. The submission also explains that the Seven Sisters Heritage site in the park contains plantings from Federation.

Ecologically, the Friends are working with other groups to restore the Park’s ecosystems using a “stepping stones” approach to provide a shortcut to the establishment of a native wildlife corridor along the creek line.

The Friends of Brownhill Creek state that the proposed dam will impact upon fauna and flora species of conservation significance, and that inundation will have a profound impact on ecosystems. Similarly, they expressed concerns about the impact of inundation on Park access and safety.

4.1.7 Goodwood Residents Action Group

Goodwood Residents Action Group represents residents from Goodwood and Forestville, who have been active since 2013 to “promote a sustainable healthy living environment in our area”.

The group does not identify their preferred approach but instead provides comments “for incorporation into final planning of the proposed works for upper Brown Hill Creek”. The majority of their comments relate to the removal of trees.

In their statement, the Goodwood Residents Action Group state that they are pleased with the Project’s letter to the Messenger Press which states that the two very old river red gums – one at Forestville Reserve and the other at Wilberforce Walk - do not have to be removed.

Notwithstanding this comment, the group make a number of comments about the consultation process, most notably that the public consultation process has provided insufficient information about the impact of Option D upon Forestville Reserve and Wilberforce Walk compared with the information provided about Orphanage Park.

The group requested specific designs that demonstrate the way that the two very old river red gums will be protected.

The Goodwood Residents Action Group also requested that the works improve the area more generally through the use of suitable local vegetation, and extending the walking/cycling pathway from Wilberforce Walk through to Forestville Reserve.

In addition, the group commented that Forestville Reserve has been very successful in times of flood in the way it slows water and allows for infiltration, and that Orphanage Park should be redeveloped in similar manner.

4.1.8 Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association

During the consultation period, members of the consultant team met with Executive Members of Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association (KNCHA), who subsequently provided a written submission.

The Association expressed that Letters Patent from 19 February 1836, which protect the Aboriginal People of South Australia and their inherited rights as Traditional Owners, have not been recognised, respected or upheld by past or present South Australian Governments.

Brown Hill Creek (Willa Willa) is located in Kurna country, with the Brownhill Creek Recreation Park being the gateway to Tjribulky/Tjribulkie Warraparinga Windy Place of the Sturt River and Reserve.

In both the meeting and the written submission, KNCHA expressed strong support for Option D because the entire creek system, especially the upper reaches, are of cultural heritage significance. As custodians of Brown Hill Creek, the Kurna Nation does not support the construction of any dam in Brown Hill Creek.

The KNCHA requested for ethnographic and archaeological surveys to be carried out to identify, assess, manage and interpret any cultural heritage items, objects and places in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park and Ellisons Gully.

The KNCHA are concerned about the fragmentation of the creek environment, which has become more degraded over the years, and expressed a desire to work with the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board in the implementation of creek rehabilitation works.

4.1.9 Mitcham Creek Preservation

Mitcham Creek Preservation is a group of residents from the Mitcham Council area formed during the consultation process in response to groups and others actively promoting Option D.

Mitcham Creek Preservation does not support Option D and their preferred option is Option B1 or B2.

In their submission, the group claim that Option D has been presented in confusing ways and therefore some people may have indicated support for Option D thinking it would involve the least amount of creek capacity upgrades. Mitcham Creek Preservation contends that if these people had known the complete story they may have chosen to support another option, such as B1 or B2.

Mitcham Creek Preservation also expressed that the overall process was unfair and biased by identifying Option D as the preferred option, labelling it as a “thinly veiled pre drawn conclusion”.

The group consider that the consultation process needs to be documented clearly to ensure balanced and informed decision making, and in a manner that clearly highlights the way Option D was promoted through the consultation. Mitcham Creek Preservation expressed concern about the way that Option D was promoted through:

- Non-authorized banners, placed in public locations, including very close to Mitcham Council chambers (and not removed by Council)
- The use of Mitcham Council colours on these banners, giving the false sense of endorsement
- Flyers issued in support of Option D being printed using Mitcham Council colours.

4.1.10 Mitcham Historical Society

Mitcham Historical Society is a community group concerned with the protection and preservation of buildings, works and sites of historical significance in the City of Mitcham.

Mitcham Historical Society supports Option D as they have “serious concerns” about any proposals to construct a dam in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully, which will impact upon significant cultural, historical and environmental sites. Their submission states that Option D preserves existing sites of heritage significance. They also note that there has been no environmental impact assessment, nor survey of Kaurna cultural heritage to inform the consultation process.

The submission states that Brownhill Creek Recreation Park is one of the oldest parks in Australia, contains Kaurna and colonial heritage sites, and that the National Trust listed six Stone Pines in the Park as trees of State and National Significance. Mitcham Historical Society has prepared an information guide that they use during their regular heritage walks. This guide with the stories behind the key sites was attached to their submission (refer **Appendix E** in the Appendices Report).

The Mitcham Historical Society included a copy of the media release from environment and heritage groups that support Option D, issued by Conservation Council SA, Kurna Nation Cultural Heritage Association, The National Trust of South Australia, the Wilderness Society South Australia, Mitcham Historical Society, The Friends of Brownhill Creek and Brownhill Creek Association (summarised in Section 4.2.1).

4.1.11 No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group

No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group is “a campaign sub-committee of BCA: Brownhill Creek Association Incorporated”. Their submission consisted of:

- A copy of the No Dam in Brownhill Creek Community Action Group flyer
- A copy of the No Dam in Brownhill Creek Petition
- Summary Data Analysis of petition data.

The flyer expresses the group’s support for Option D as the preferred solution, as it is supported by the Steering Group, backed by the Project report, provides the required flood protection, is cost effective, preserves community lifestyle, environment, heritage and tourism and restores Brown Hill Creek.

The flyer also summarises information about Option D, as well as the community opposition to a dam and the importance of protecting the environmental and heritage assets of upper Brown Hill Creek.

A No Dam in Brownhill Creek Petition was included with the group’s submission. The petition states:

We the undersigned, hereby PETITION Council to protect the environment and heritage of Brownhill Creek by opposing the damming of the creek.

The petition has 11,617 signatories collected between 2011 and 17 May, 2015 as follows:

- 4,623 from the City of Mitcham
- 1,454 from the City of Unley
- 389 from the City of Burnside
- 278 from the City of Adelaide
- 223 from the City of West Torrens
- 3,221 from other metropolitan suburbs
- 1,207 from Country SA, interstate or overseas
- 222 from unspecified address.

4.1.12 Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions Incorporated

Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions Incorporated (RESS) is a community group that was initially established under the name Residents against the PAR (RAPAR) to advocate against the Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks Floodplain Plan Amendment Report in 2004.

RESS consider that previous plans to establish a detention dam in the upper reaches of Brown Hill Creek were on track to provide the necessary flood mitigation for the entire catchment, but were thwarted by community opposition and Mitcham Council.

In their submission, RESS express concern that under Option D, those living alongside the creek will carry the burden of flood mitigation for the entire catchment through creek capacity upgrade works. RESS contend that this will not provide a flood mitigation solution for the entire catchment and will devalue and destroy properties. RESS are concerned about the loss of the tree corridor for environmental and privacy purposes, particularly historical trees such as the old river red gum tree in Wilberforce Walk. They also contend that Option D will commit ratepayers to the most expensive option if legal costs associated with challenges from affected property owners are taken into account.

RESS also identified a range of concerns about the Part B Report and the consultation process, including that:

- It is a plan with a pre-determined outcome because of the influence of the community groups opposed to a dam being constructed
- The Bureau of Meteorology data that has informed the report is ‘incomplete’ and therefore may not provide effective flood mitigation
- The Project should not have gone to consultation with a preferred option
- The Project needs to commission an independent engineering company to prepare another plan with un-biased parameters.

4.1.13 West Unley Protection of Trees

West Unley Protection of Trees (WUPOT) is a community group of residents from Goodwood and Forestville with an interest in the protection of trees and ecological habitat in the western part of the City of Unley.

WUPOT do not support Option D because of the loss of trees and ecological habitat. WUPOT are particularly concerned about an extremely old river red gum along Wilberforce Walk and commissioned an arborist report about this tree.

The report, prepared by Dr Dean Nicolle, makes the following comments about the subject tree:

- The tree is estimated to be between 250 and 800 years old, and “likely to be one of the largest-girthed and oldest individuals of the species in the Unley Council region”
- The tree is highly worthy of retention
- Any redevelopment of the creek in the vicinity of the tree should have consideration to maintaining the health, longevity and stability of the tree
- It is possible to undertake creek capacity upgrade works without compromising the health, longevity and stability of the tree
- Removal of the concrete base of the creek channel will allow improved water infiltration into the soil surrounding the tree

WUPOT is also concerned about trees in Forestville Reserve and requested assurance of their protection.

WUPOT consider that the consultation regarding the impact of Option D on Forestville Reserve and Wilberforce Walk to be inadequate especially compared with the consultation associated with Orphanage Park. Similarly, the group expressed concern that Wilberforce Walk was not listed on the feedback forms along with other public parks.

The group's submission expresses support for the revegetation and the group suggested using floodworks as an opportunity to improve the amenity and utility of Wilberforce Walk, and extend the cycle path.

4.2 Businesses

Two written submissions were received from businesses, both of which indicate support for Option D.

4.2.1 Brown Hill Creek Tourist Park

Brown Hill Creek Tourist Park supports Option D, stating that:

I wholeheartedly support the project preferred Option D as a feasible and cost effective alternative to a dam in Brownhill Creek. The restoration of Brownhill Creek, involving Creek Rehabilitation works and Creek Capacity Upgrade works is the best option for flood mitigation, the environment, tourism, local business and our economy.

In their submission, the Brown Hill Creek Tourism Park outlines the economic contribution of the Park to the state and local area, noting that the Tourist Park attracts around 20,000 guests each year. They also state that visitor numbers to the Recreation Park are increasing, and that dam construction under Option B1 would permanently damage local visitation, tourism and their business.

The Tourist Park is 'extremely concerned' about the impacts of construction associated with a dam built under Option B1 or B2, as this would result in a negative financial impact on their business.

4.2.2 Mitcham Rehabilitation Clinic

The Mitcham Rehabilitation Clinic supports Option D, describing it as mitigating flood risk along the creek system instead of building a dam in the upper reaches which they contend is an "expensive and less viable solution to the potential risk of flood".

Their submission explains the importance of Brownhill Creek Reserve for physical activity and they state that there is clinical research that details the benefits of physical exercise to cardiovascular, musculoskeletal and bone health. More generally, they contend that the Brown Hill Creek is of environmental, historical and cultural significance to the residents of Mitcham and Adelaide, and to the Kurna people, and it also provides a range of educational opportunities.

4.3 Government

4.3.1 Mr Hamilton-Smith MP

One written submission was received from an elected official, Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, the State Member for Waite.

Mr Hamilton-Smith MP supports Option D, stating that:

I believe that Option D will enable the waterway to be cost-effectively rehabilitated with appropriate consideration of native habitat, diversity, heritage-significant sites, the community, and residential properties bordering Brownhill Creek.

In his submission, Mr Hamilton-Smith MP also comments about the sustained community interest in the project and concerns about the environmental implications of the dam proposal. He acknowledges the efforts of the Brownhill Creek Association and cites the 11,600 signature petition opposing the construction of a dam in Brown Hill Creek.

4.4 Individuals

During the consultation period, the BHKC Project also received:

- 26 submission from residents of the City of Mitcham
- 13 submissions from residents of the City of Unley
- 21 submissions from residents of other Council areas.

4.4.1 Written submissions from residents of the City of Mitcham

26 submissions were received from residents of the City of Mitcham. Of these, 22 indicated support for Option D, 2 inferred support for Option D, and 2 did not identify or infer a preferred stormwater management option.

Of the 24 written submissions that indicated or inferred support for Option D, a range of reasons were given for this support. Many commented that Option D avoids the need for a dam in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully, which is desirable to protect the park for its environmental, heritage, recreational and aesthetic values. A number talked about the value of maintaining and improving the Recreation Park for the next generation.

A number of submissions provided detailed descriptions of these values, ranging from the colonial and Kaurua heritage significance to the habitat that the area provides for different plant and animal species, connection to nature close to the city and opportunities for nature based play. Some submissions were explicit in describing how these values may be compromised by the construction and ongoing presence of a detention dam.

A smaller number of submissions discussed the benefits of Option D for flood management including it being the most cost effective for both capital and ongoing costs, providing the required level of flood protection and exceeding the required capacity for short term events, and rehabilitating the creek environment and flows in the suburban area. Comments were also made that Option D supports the catchment councils agreed position about a feasible no dam solution, avoids the need for culverts and is supported by engineering studies.

Other matters raised in submissions from residents in the City of Mitcham that did not specifically relate to the options included:

- Satisfaction that the project preferred option is a no-dam option
- Perception that some community groups are motivated by narrow interests, have made false claims during the consultation and it is important that there is balanced reporting of the consultation process
- That the works may be hard to justify given the now very low cost to benefit ratio
- The importance of taking a long term approach by envisioning the future of the creek as a waterway with a range of living ecosystems, capacity to mitigate occasional high flows, recharge groundwater and provide connections with nature
- The NRM Act powers to require creek owners to maintain the creek in a 'good condition' should have been enacted to require creek owners to clean up their properties
- Costs of works should be partially covered by the landowners who have legal responsibilities to look after the creek under the NRM Act
- Landowner compensation should be fair, and take account of the benefits of the work that landowners receive at public expense
- The need to undertake capacity upgrade and rehabilitation works carefully
- The importance of creek ecosystems in providing opportunities for people to have connection with nature
- The stormwater management plan should not only focus on flood protection but broader restoration of a degraded ecosystem to achieve the full range of habitat, water quality and ecosystem benefits
- Consider the establishment of green corridors to allow for community access and recreation, especially as the environmental and recreational values of the creek corridor improve
- Comments about the consultation, thanking the Project for the process
- One creek property owner's concern that they are fairly compensated for the gabion walls they installed on their section of the creek to stabilise the bank and prevent erosion.

One submission included a DVD containing two short films entitled “This is Brownhill Creek” and “This is Ellisons Gully” which are about the sights, sounds, wildlife and experiences that take place in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park and Ellisons Gully. The submission associated with these videos explains that the “beauty and tranquillity” shown in the videos would be lost if a dam was constructed.

One submission also included a copy of a children’s book “Refinding Yabbies” which describes the connection between a child and yabbies in an urban creek, emphasising the importance of natural environments.

4.4.2 Written submissions from residents of the City of Unley

13 submissions were received from residents from the City of Unley. Of these

- 6 indicated support for Option D
- 1 inferred conditional support for Option D
- 2 indicated support for Options B1 or B2
- 3 stated that they did not support Option D
- 1 did not identify a preferred stormwater management option.

Of the 6 written submissions that indicate support for Option D, a range of reasons were given. The most commonly given reason was that Option D avoids the need for a dam which would impact on the environment, recreation and connection with nature play in Brownhill Creek Recreation Park or Ellisons Gully. It was also commented that Option D would impact far fewer people than Options B1 or B2.

Other reasons given in support of Option D were that it avoids the needs for culverts which would have major impacts on local residents and street trees, and that it would help to establish and maintain a natural creek environment through the suburbs. In addition, people commented that Option D is the most cost effective and provides the required flood protection based on updated modelling.

A number of people commented that it is reasonable for those living along the creek to live with the impact of works to improve flows and provide flood protection, comparing these individual impacts to the preparation works required for those living in a high bushfire risk area.

One written submission from a creek property owner inferred conditional support for Option D, stating that the creek needs to be deepened and widened, but it is important that this is done in a natural way. This person did not support wire gabions but instead felt that large boulders should be used to line a widened creek.

The two submissions that indicate support for Options B1 or B2 stated that they thought an upstream dam, as recommended by previous engineering reports, is needed to provide an appropriate level of flood protection. They also commented that Option D would have a range of adverse impacts on the creek, the environment and landowners along the creek.

The three written submissions opposing Option D were all from creek property owners. They contend that Option D was not recommended by the majority of previous studies, is based on ‘incomplete’ hydrology information and that the process has been skewed by the ‘no dam’ community groups.

Concerns that directly relate to creek property owners include perception that their properties will reduce in value as a result of the works, and that future compensation offered by the project will be inadequate. Creek owners expressed that they do not support an easement or property agreement. One of the creek property owners commented they are happy to live with the consequences of a 1 in 100 ARI event.

One creek property owner raised site specific concerns about the impact of works on the soil around an important tree. Another commented that it was difficult to provide feedback in the absence of detailed designs for proposed works and that the process is biased because it is consulting the community with a preferred option.

Other matters raised in submissions from residents in the City of Unley that did not specifically relate to the options included:

- The need to factor in a 'drying' of our climate (i.e. reduced rainfall) because of climate change
- Significant trees, including the one on Wilberforce Walk, should not be removed
- Giving consideration to leaving space for a cycle/pedestrian path next to the creek in Forestville
- The need for remediation of the natural creek bed along its length to ensure that contaminants do not enter the aquifer in those places where the aquifer is close to the surface and there has been degradation of the substrate
- Comments about the consultation congratulating/thanking the Project for the process.

4.4.3 Written submissions from residents of the other Council areas

21 submissions were received from residents of other Council areas, coming from:

- Adelaide City Council (1)
- City of Marion (3)
- City of Port Adelaide Enfield (1)
- Adelaide Hills Council (1)
- District Council of Mount Barker (1)
- Coorong District Council (2)
- Rural City of Murray Bridge (1)
- Queensland (1)
- No address given (10).

All of these submissions identified Option D as their preferred option. Reasons given in support of Option D include:

- Protects ecology/habitats/biodiversity
- Avoids the need for a dam
- Is the most cost effective option
- Provides the required level of flood protection
- Preserves sites of heritage significance
- There are alternative ways to achieve flood mitigation without a dam
- Protects Brown Hill Creek for future generations
- Provides space for recreation and connection with nature – which are needed for health and wellbeing
- Rehabilitates the entire length of the creek.