

Expert Panel Submission



Following the meeting held at Blackwood on 13/9/22 regarding the accelerating clearance of mature trees for housing development in the area of Waite I submit the following:

A guide outlining the contribution of mature trees in carbon removal from the atmosphere to be provided to councils, town planners and developers . Town planners and developers to be financially rewarded for their contribution of carbon credits gained from vegetation retention as part of positive action for climate change. Buyers of real estate to be made aware of the long term benefits of tree retention regarding climate change.

Information regarding the above can be found in the report "Waite Arboretum: not just a pretty place." (10 October 2017) Historic Precinct News, University of Adelaide, 10 October 2017.

Dr Jennifer Gardener, Marian McDuie and Erica Doyle have completed a research project outlining the value to the ecosystem of 601 species in the arboretum. In an urban environment trees sequester and store carbon, capture rainfall to avoid run off, and aid in preventing erosion. The following details are quoted from their report.

Arboretum tree Eucalyptus Cladocalyx (Sugar Gum) , age 140 years, canopy area 718 square metres, trunk diameter 201 centimetres, height 34 metres: carbon sequestered 10 kg per year, carbon stored 6.2 tonne, total pollution removal 5.3 kg per year.

The carbon storage of the 601 trees surveyed was 1,167 tonnes, equivalent to the annual emissions of 910 vehicles or 373 single family homes. The air pollution removal was 1.2 tonnes per year, equivalent to the annual emissions of 160 vehicles or 36 single family homes. Carbon sequestration was 34.3 tonnes per year, oxygen production 91.5 tonnes per year, avoided run off 1072 cubic metres per year.

The full report is available on i-Tree Eco Resources/Project reports

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I suggest the report quoted be used in preparing guide lines for councils and developers. I also submit that architectural grants be made available from councils to encourage housing design which protects existing vegetation. Janet Callen

