

Adelaide 2030 FEEDBACK FORM
South East City Residents Association (SECRA)

Within the City of Adelaide what is working well and should be retained?

Accessible Adelaide Park Lands
Heritage buildings
North Terrace Cultural Precinct
Central market
'China Town' precinct
Connector bus

Within the City of Adelaide, what needs to be changed or improved?

1 Adelaide Park Lands

The Adelaide Park Lands which surround Adelaide City, create a permeable surround to the city. The Park Lands represent a very marketable aspect of Adelaide as a Capital City.

The Adelaide Park Lands should, therefore:

- remain 'permeable' and accessible
- be protected by State, National and World Heritage registers
- be promoted through marketing of Adelaide as 'The City in the Park'
- be valued as an attraction and amenity in themselves rather than as a 'development site' or free venue for commercial activity or events.

2 Accountability, transparency and responsibility

There needs to be greater transparency and accountability about the Adelaide City Council's activities.

For this to occur, there needs to be greater clarity about the role(s) of the ACC as a local government body responsible to its rate payers (as per other local councils) and its role in relation to Adelaide as a Capital City.

There needs to be greater clarity about how these roles intersect with those of the State Government.

For the performance of the ACC to be judged fairly, there needs to be a shared understanding of what its responsibilities are. There will be some planning and funding issues for which the ACC is clearly responsible (using rate payer dollars only); those which need to be planned for jointly by local and state governments (and jointly funded); and, those in which the primary responsibility is one for state government.

Currently, this clarity does not exist.

Public transport and planning for movement through the city are prime examples of areas where responsibility intersects or overlaps.

There is currently a conflict between desire for greater use of public transport and the building of car parks.

However, this is an area where Council could work with State Government to deliver real benefits for residents, workers and students, businesses and the environment through measures such as:

- free travel on all buses within the Terraces (State Government)
- and/or more connector buses (ACC)
- Copenhagen-style bicycle lanes (both State Government and ACC)
- no new car parks and/or using costs to encourage/discourage cars into the city (ACC)
- more pedestrian-friendly streets (ACC)
- improved integration of public transport to the city (State Government)

NB At present the ACC encourages use of public transport and 'green' powered Connector buses yet also actively promotes and makes money from the many ACC car parks, and recently won an award for its effective advertising of these car parks. This may be why on p40 it reports an increase in car use by visitors.

3. Retention and promotion of what else that makes Adelaide unique:

- heritage buildings
- 'garden city' street plantings
- a compassionate and friendly community

4. Revamping of the Hutt Street library

The Hutt Street Library is a valued local asset. However, it is not operating as a genuine 'community' or 'business' hub.

It needs to be revamped as a genuine 'community' library with facilities able to be used by community members and groups. For example, the library's 'Local Community Information' notice board is not available to community groups – it only publicizes ACC information.

Use of the upstairs computer room is difficult to access for local community not-for-profit organizations such as SECRA and the rules for its use keep changing.

The south-east corner of the City doesn't have a community centre and the Library was to fulfill that function. Currently, it does not.

What are you passionate about seeing created to ensure the City of Adelaide becomes an even better place to live, work, study or visit?

- Improved integration of transport options to support Adelaide City as a preferred destination
- Reduction in private car use
- Improved pedestrian walkways
- Increased and safer bicycle use
- Completion of the Adelaide Park Lands Trail
- No parking on green spaces (such as the Adelaide Park Lands)
- Better connections between North Terrace Cultural Precinct and the shopping area of Rundle Mall through revamped and interesting small lane ways
- Recreational bicycle lane through Rundle Mall to encourage more people there in the evening.
- Wider footpaths with space for bicycle racks and scooter parking and better access for pedestrians (especially Hutt Street outside cafes between Halifax and Angas Streets).
- Retention of strip shopping streets such as Hutt Street, so that the village/community feel is retained, the amenity of the area is retained, and people are encouraged to shop locally.
- More shade through tree plantings.
- Events organizers wanting to use ACC assets (such as the Adelaide Park Lands) submit a transport plan in concert with State Government, which sets an increasing target for public transport use to the event.
- Improved integration of the River Torrens walkway to the Convention Centre , to the proposed new hospital and to other pedestrian access points to provide a useable cultural and relaxation space. This space could further be utilized for coffee and food outlets, for stage areas and for buskers both during office hours and at night.

Some future projects are listed on pages 10-11 as a starting point for consultation and budget consideration.

a. Which three projects most appeal to you?

Victoria Park as urban park.

Subject to consultation and agreement on a proper management plan. Such a plan should remove the designation of Victoria Park as a 'multi-events' or sporting hub. To become a great urban park, Victoria Park should retain its accessibility and not become too prescriptive in its use. It should retain its personal focus ie provide facilities that meet the needs of individuals and not just vested, organised groups. The heritage grandstand should become a focus for community events. Organised events such as the car race should be restricted to the area previously used by the SAJC (north-east corner of the park). To encourage the relationship between the park and the local area, signage should be erected to direct park users to Hutt Street for shopping/cafes.

Compulsory listing of heritage buildings.

Also new ways of allowing heritage to be given a new life for example through sympathetic 'revamping' as occurred with the State library.

Integrated transport into and around the city

Including completion of the Adelaide Park Lands Trail, free transport within the Terraces, more connector buses, better pedestrian access, Copenhagen bicycle lanes.

- b. Are there other projects that you'd like to see undertaken in addition to those listed?

Stormwater retention

Good Design

That the ACC have clear development guidelines including height, scale and density parameters to guide 'good' development. In addition, that these parameters include guidelines and assistance to encourage 'good' design and that impacts of residential or commercial development include impact on loss of open or green space.

- What do you feel are the most important challenges and opportunities facing the City into the future? (Refer to pages 14-16 and 38-40 for some ideas?)
 - a. **Water:** to sustain the population, the environment and the life-style

- b. **Peak oil:** will change the way in which people live, work and shop. It may increase the population of the city but may reduce the number of visitors and international students.
 - c. Adelaide has the weather and the population density to make us a **solar** capital. There is an opportunity for the ACC to support the use of solar power through innovative mechanisms, for example, through the buying of solar panels for rate payers and recouping the energy generated until costs recovered (thus meeting own green targets). The ACC also could play a similar role with underground water storage.
 - d. There is lack of a coherent vision about what living in Adelaide should/could be like. This needs to be generated and agreed with the people of SA, the State Government and the ACC. This would allow for less ad hoc development and grasping at 'bread and circuses' and more **sustainable development**. There is an opportunity to better define ourselves, our ambitions and our values.
- Our view of the Vision and associated statements on page 9
 - a. Support (with comment)

Comments: If 'vibrant' implies 'lively' then there need to be some provisos. This is a nub issue as there seems to be, in some quarters, an impression that not supporting anything 'lively' (or noisy, or destructive to the environment) means a desire for a 'dead' city in which nothing happens. This is not the case.

Moreover, a city which is comfortable, sustainable and of human scale and pace can be very attractive to residents and to visitors – particularly so as the pace of life elsewhere is being forced and is not necessarily so by choice.

Note the success of the 'slow cities' movement in Europe.

However, if by 'vibrant' you mean the interesting mix of activity that comes from the needs of diverse communities interacting, then this is supported so long as the needs of some don't detract from the needs of others.

Seven Outcomes

- 1 We would support a city that is sustainable and prosperous with that prosperity being shared.

However, it should be noted that as a Capital City, Adelaide cannot underpin the State economy.

We do agree that the Capital City needs to be proud of and protect (but also exploit as a unique feature of Adelaide) its heritage and historic character buildings

- 2 Agree but don't want 'exciting' events to damage the Adelaide Park Lands.
 - 3 Undecided. Would rather have a strong and fair **community** of citizens who work for the good of all rather than pursuing sectional interests.
 - 4 Disagree. It's unrealistic to see the Adelaide Capital City as a State hub for retailing and business services unless the State Government makes a massive investment in public transport. Greater Adelaide is too spread out to make it economic for everyone travel in to the centre. It might be one of a number of hubs which could be connected by public transport.
 - 5 Strongly agree but there's a long way to go.
 - 6 Strongly agree. The Adelaide Park Lands needs better protection especially of its open space. Diversity should not imply designated spaces for designated activity: the open and accessible nature of the Park Lands should be retained.
 - 7 Strongly agree. Fewer 'in camera' sessions. Better communication of the decisions taken and by whom.
- Which one of the following options (tick one box) best describes your view of the visions and associated statements on page 9
 - Daily average City Population target Agree
 - Greenhouse gas emissions measure Undecided

Comments: There are a variety of ways in which the (albeit desirable) targets can be met. Measures taken need to be consistent with other intentions, for example, through use of public transport, through design specifications for new buildings, through retention of open space etc. Reductions in carbon emissions need to be real, ongoing and bring about new approaches to old environmental problems and new ways of thinking and doing things – it cannot just be business as usual.

9. **Outcome One**

As a matter of urgency, SO8 : good planning is the first requirement. This is what has been missing to date: however, such a plan and model needs to be agreed by the major stakeholders. Next priority is S11 (while putting pedestrians first) followed by SO9 (a matter of urgency as heritage needs protection *now*).

Outcome Two

S22 S16 S17 but with the proviso that S16 doesn't compromise the integrity of the Adelaide Park Lands

Outcome Three

S26 S28 S25 Nb while affordable housing is imperative, ACC should be a facilitator not developer. ACC can best achieve S30 through the provision of services, maintenance of amenity and ensuring these are accessible to diverse clients.

Outcome Four

This is an outcome that clearly identifies some confusion about the role of the ACC vis a vis that of state government and of the private sector. ACC can facilitate and can work cooperatively to ensure it does not place barriers in the way, but it should not be in the business of 'picking winners' , be a developer/financial player with rate payers dollars, nor make commitments it cannot meet. S36 most clearly aligns with the responsibilities/capacity of the ACC.

Outcome Five

S43 S40 S42

Outcome Six

S49 S45 S46 NB support S48 in principle but need to be careful that 'diverse roles and potential' doesn't mean that the Adelaide Park Land are seen as a place for 'events' rather than a heritage site of natural beauty that should have World Heritage listing.

Outcome Seven

S51 S50 S61 (while actively engaging their primary constituents, the rate payers)

Additional Comment:

The above responses have been formulated by the Committee of the South East City Residents Association (SECRA) on behalf of their membership. Individual members have been encouraged to submit their own comments. This response does not pretend to be comprehensive or to reflect the views of all members.

However, we are confident that our membership would support: continued support of the Adelaide Park Lands; interest in the preservation of heritage buildings; desire for integrated and transparent planning to avoid ad hoc decision-making; the importance of continued consultation on issues pertaining to planning for the future; improved

accountability in the expenditure of rate payers dollars; and, increased clarity about the role and responsibilities of the ACC and its relationship to other tiers of government.

While SECRA supports strongly a cohesive, diverse and fair society, we believe a number of issues which impact on the lives of individuals are not the business of Council but are, rather, the business of State (and in some cases Federal) governments.

In particular, social issues as homelessness and the impact on housing, work and participation in the community caused by mental health issues, are not the business of Council other than to ensure a fair and appropriate mix of services across the city. The ACC needs to work closely with the State Government for integrated planning to meet the needs of all parties (including the residents around whom such services will be sited).

Moreover, State Government departments need to work in accord with Council regulations and planning issues and not override them as was the case with Afton House.

If the roles and responsibilities of the ACC are clarified and recognised, then no future legislation can be introduced (such as occurred with the SAMSB) which moderates the powers and responsibilities of the ACC .

This clarity and recognition of its role is imperative if the ACC is to be able to meet its strategic directions in “Creating our Future 2008 – 2030”.

Anne Melrose
Chairperson
South East City Residents Association (SECRA)
PO Box 7017 Hutt Street
Adelaide 5000