Hello,

First of all thank you for allowing residents to submit their thoughts.

Let’s start with the Urban forest idea: Is the council for real mentioning this idea? It is very hard to accept that currently every house that gets knocked down in the Burnside area comes with a complete raid of the entire block. No tree and scrub is ever saved. I am a runner as well as cyclist and our family walks our dog daily. Therefore I see the destruction of our suburbs. There are currently more than 10 empty blocks void of any plants within a 2 km radius. (Comes to mind that Unley council has lost 24% of greenery in the past 5 years.) We have lost a lot of greenery also in Burnside! And the way we are going we are loosing 40 % within the next 10 years.

To not protect our existing green spaces, allowing to raze ancient Gum trees (it is common knowledge that any privately paid arborist will issue the council with a report that the tree is sick and cannot be saved) and bulldoze established gardens on a weekly schedule will not generate an Urban forest. In fact, we are destroying it!

What about perhaps having green roof tops, like seen in Europe? Grass covers roofs there. If we need all these McMansions with flat roofs, then build them to good use. Built only to a 5 star energy rating. Currently the McMansions need more energy than any other house AND have no trees on the block! How does this make any sense? We are heating up our suburbs, producing carbon. Having a flat roof with a grass cover can be used to attract insects and birds. This system is also a very good roof insulation. And what about hanging plant covered walls?

Please don’t talk of an Urban forest unless you are actually implementing mandatory green spaces on each block and do not allow for any mature trees to be cut down.

Also building laws and protection of our existing buildings needs to be put in place as a matter of urgency. We have gorgeous old homes around us that need protecting. We can see what it did to Coronel Light Gardens as there are no McMansions or ugly fences there and the trees and gardens are gorgeous. It is a pristine suburb and I bet the council is doing well financially. Why not doing this here in our council?

Not only are we currently losing character bungalows and homes in our council on a weekly basis, we are also subjected to new McMansions without a single tree. These monsters of homes are taking the entire block and no green plant other than a couple of sqm of lawn can be planted.

This council attracts interested buyers due to the green garden / open spaces. What is wrong trying to keep it this way? We are becoming very quickly a suburb of white massive structures devoid of any greenery and trees. How did this happen?

Our family has been living here for 11 years and we love the way the parks are kept and maintained. Our boys cycle around the parks daily and enjoy what we have. But the future is not looking good. I come from a farming background and I can see the daily destruction.

‘Keep going the way we are and see what happens.’ Is this the plan? We might have to have dirt roads to make up for the heat build-up soon. As well as going to shade cloths to cover these
white McMansions since there is no tree available for shade. Forget about birds and blue tongue lizards, insects and koalas. We clearly don’t need them by the way we act.

Very very sad to see the council only interested in collecting more and more rates. Mind you, the council IS NOT a business. We residents are all part of it and pay rates; yet generally we have nothing to say. This is grossly unfair but admittedly most of our residents here probably don’t care. Our neighbours have grown up without nature so I am told. In big cities with polluted skies living in huge apartment blocks.

Regards
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