## ISSUE 2 - February 2025

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an update from Greening Rosewater Loop



Artist's impression of a section of the proposed Loop plans now available on the <u>DIT</u> website. (detail)

# Report from community update 15 February 2025

Approximately 150 people attended the Rosewater Loop community update on 15 February 2025 at the Rosewater Bowling Club. Local members heard from Joe Szakacs MP, Dr Susan Close MP and Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) representatives. The revised preliminary plans leave the train tracks in place (due to the cost) with the priority on greening the open space. PAE Council has applied for a Commonweath grant for the shared path across the Gillman yards to connect with existing bikeways. If successful, this will be further supported with state and council funding. Questions from the community were then taken.

#### Its time!

At the 15<sup>th</sup> February meeting there was a call for timely action to remediate the Rosewater Loop, with residents from across the suburbs commenting that rubbish needs clearing up.

Residents would like a clear timetable and some commitment on when each stage of the project might be completed so that they can see the progress. DIT stated that they are looking at doing the greening this year.

Joe Szakacs MP commented that if residents let he and Susan Close MP know about rubbish they will get onto having it cleaned up straight away.

Local community members are engaged, with residents and local schools wanting to actively participate to improve the Loop. There was a clear message that trees, greenery and shade are important, we want to make this a good place to live.

The local community want to be involved in greening projects, to participate in the development of the plans and the activation of the Loop through a community reference group.

DIT stated that they are looking for opportunities for community involvement, a stakeholder reference group will be formed and that they can work with the community about plant species.

#### Communication needed

Several community members commented on the lack of information over the past three years and the sense of being kept in the dark. There were concerns that the DIT Loop website had not been updated and that some correspondence had not been answered.

DIT acknowledged that 'people have seen a bit of a vacuum of information'.



UPDATE!
Weeding and hard rubbish
collection started on 20 Feb
2025

# Help clean up the Loop on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March!

Local residents will be gathering to talk about their hopes for this neglected local area and help with cleaning up rubbish at the site. (No heavy lifting!)

This is a local community event - meet other locals, get to know the area and help with the clean-up if you can.

# Saturday 1st March 2025 10:00am - 11:30am

Meet at the north east corner of Evans street and Marine Terrace, Rosewater. Look out for signs. Bring along a folding chair and something to share for morning tea.

Register **here** or sign up on the day

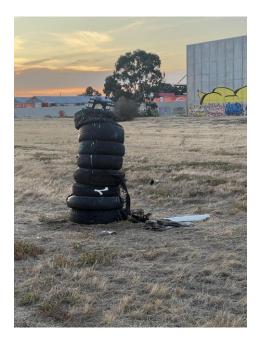


#### **Contamination concerns**

Contamination and pollution are continuing areas of concern. DIT reported that the asbestos has now been removed, and a contamination report has suggested there is no issue with the greening and shared use path presented in the plans.

There were queries about contamination in the railway yards outside the proposed path, what plans there are for remediation, and whether the contamination report would be publicly available. DIT said they would release a summary of the contamination report but declined to release the whole report.

Light, noise and air pollution from industry are serious issues for those living near the Gillman yards, with this area considered at the top limit for air pollution for SA.



Gillman yards, February 2025 some locals call it 'tyre flats'!

# Big trees please!

Locals want to see big trees and green space, decent vegetation not the current expanse of weeds across the yards. Individual pockets of the Loop will likely require bespoke responses as there are varying concerns in different areas.

There are also hopes that anti-social behaviour along the Loop will be reduced with the future greening.

## More funding needed

Residents would like to see more money allocated to this project. It could be a great place like linear park with the allocation of more resources. A number of residents expressed their sense of being neglected, but also the hope that we can move forward together with proper resources allocated to the Loop project.

Our understanding is that the preliminary plans include the pathway, trees and some hardy low-level plants...greening public space and returning the corridor to open space. Other elements that residents are asking for such as play equipment and lighting are additional projects that will require additional funding. It was also stated that the public toilets adjacent to the Rosewater oval are due to be upgraded by PAE Council in the next financial year.

It was noted that Adelaide has been declared a National Park City.

(Adelaide National Park City covers all of Greater Adelaide...across the northern plains, eastern hills, southern vales and some of the St Vincent Gulf marine environment)

Feedback on the plans was called for with sticky notes available at the tables. There are also opportunities to comment via phone or email on the DIT website <a href="https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/infrastructure/road\_projects/rosewater-loop">https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/infrastructure/road\_projects/rosewater-loop</a>

There was little time for a detailed look at the plans on the day, however DIT stated that they will be available on the DIT website. The designs will be updated in the coming months to reflect feedback from the community.

# Final thoughts...

Thank you to our local MPs Dr Susan Close and Joe Szakacs for organising the community update on 15<sup>th</sup> February.

A clean-up of weeds and large rubbish by DIT has started along the Loop.

Preliminary plans are now on the **DIT** website.

We welcome your ideas and concerns about greening the Loop at:

info@greeningrosewaterloop.au



# Living on the Loop

Max and Teneisha (and their 3 dachshunds) have just moved into their first home on the Rosewater and Ottoway loop. The young couple grew up in the western suburbs and currently work in the area. Like many new builds in the Rosewater/Ottoway area their outdoor space has been sacrificed for indoor living.

High on the couple's wish list for the loop project is a secure and shaded walking track where they can exercise the dogs safely after work. Both are keen footy players and would also love some open space where they could kick a ball. Max and Teneisha have noticed that very limited street tree plantings, the use of dark building materials and large areas of concrete increase the heat in an already hot summer.

They predict the greening of the loop will go some way to mitigate against increasingly rising temperatures in their local environment. They told a recent community meeting that they want a place where their kids can play safely in the future.

