PARKSIDE RESIDENTS – YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

Ongoing groundwater discharge into Birks Street and Myra Street

Residents may have noticed that water continues to flow and collect in sections of the street gutters along Birks Street and Myra Street, even during completely dry weather. The source appears to be groundwater collected beneath the basement of the recently constructed apartment development at 293–295 Fullarton Road (corner of Birks Street). The water is understood to be collected in a holding tank and periodically pumped into the Birks Street gutter, where it flows along Birks Street and into Myra Street towards the stormwater drain near Campbell Road. This has been occurring for approximately three years.



Outside 4 Birks St



Corner of Birks and Myra Streets

Why are residents concerned?

There are several issues:

Ongoing nuisance: Water flows or pools in the gutters even on dry, sunny days. Residents and visitors getting into and out of parked vehicles can be forced to step through water.

Mosquitoes: With warmer weather approaching, stagnant or slow-moving water may create potential mosquito breeding conditions.

Council stormwater system: Is it appropriate for groundwater from a private development to be continuously pumped into the public street drainage system?

Development approval: The original development consent includes conditions requiring stormwater to be managed on-site without adversely affecting adjoining properties or the road network. Questions remain about whether the permanent groundwater discharge was included in or authorised by the approved plans.

What is being proposed?

- Council has acknowledged that the ongoing discharge presents a nuisance and requires appropriate management.
- One possible solution being pursued by Council is the installation of additional tree wells to help absorb the discharged water.

Why residents doubt this will work

However, there are concerns that this does not address the underlying problem – the continuous pumping of groundwater from the private development into our streets.

Residents feel that tree wells will not solve the problem, especially as the water is pumped out by a system that accumulates the groundwater and then discharges it all at once, creating semi-periodic large flows.

It may simply involve Council undertaking additional public infrastructure works to deal with a problem originating on private property.

RESIDENT SITE MEETING – Outside 4 Birks St

MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 5PM

Our Parkside Councillor, Jennifer Bonham, has arranged a site meeting with Aaron Wood, Manager City Assets, City of Unley Council. All interested residents are encouraged to attend.

This is an opportunity to see the issue firsthand, hear Council's position and express our concerns about the proposed solution. We would particularly like to see a solution that addresses the source of the problem, rather than simply attempting to manage its consequences at public expense.

Your attendance and input would be very much appreciated.

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Yours faithfully, **Craig Ritchie** *2A Birks St* +61 (0) 481 373 266