



Building a Water Sensitive Municipality @ Moreland

Vaughn Grey¹

¹Moreland City Council, Coburg, Australia

The Moreland municipality is a highly urbanised area with public open space in high demand and with many competing interests. There are few opportunities for “end of line” WSUD treatments of the upstream catchment and where there are, these rarely have the available size required in order to fully treat the catchment. Thus, more so than other municipalities, Moreland will require the community to embrace the concept of Water Sensitive Cities in order to achieve the uptake of stormwater management required for healthy local urban waterways.

In order to affect this change, Moreland is structuring its WSUD program to target building community support and expectations around the inclusion of WSUD into the everyday Moreland experience. This presentation will focus on the actions that Moreland is undertaking to build this community support including:

- Characterisation of the catchment and identification of opportunities WSUD and stormwater harvesting implementation
- Prioritisation of easy wins with large-scale WSUD projects and embedding landscape design into the design process
- Inclusion of WSUD into Council’s activity centres and shopping strip renewals
- ESD planning amendment to ensure on-lot management of stormwater
- Planning for future works in the streetscape

In covering these topics, Moreland’s latest WSUD projects will be showcased including (i) design for retrofit of large scale WSUD into a former tip sites at Jones Park, Brunswick (ii) completion of the Living Stream at Herbert Street Reserve, Oak Park, and (iii) engaging the public and bringing shade and green into Brunswick through raingardens and tree pits in one of Brunswick’s busiest spaces.

Each of these projects has differed in the overall aim and issues faced, but a common theme of building community support for the concepts of WSUD and Water Sensitive Cities has played a key role in their design and the final project outcomes and will be key point discussed in this presentation.