



Damper Creek Doings

August 2018

VOTE YES FOR THE MONASH URBAN LANDSCAPE AND CANOPY VEGETATION STRATEGY
https://monashcitycouncil.formstack.com/forms/draft_urban_landscape_and_canopy_strategy



DOUG'S DELIBERATIONS

This early edition of DCD recognises that we live in "interesting" times, both for the Friends group and the City of Monash. A large attendance at our July meeting passed the following motion:

"The Friends of Damper Creek Reserve strongly supports the

Monash Urban Landscape and Canopy Vegetation strategy and urges Monash City Council to implement the strategy expeditiously".

Much has been said in recent times about this document. It is vital that we do not lose sight of the fact that, at this stage, it is simply a draft strategy, released for public comment. At our July meeting, Rebecca Patterson reminded us that several councillors did not fully support the strategy and it is entirely possible that the implementation of this strategy will not receive a majority vote in Council.

As individuals we must let Council know that we support the strategy by completing the Community Survey which can be found at

www.monash.vic.gov.au/urban-landscape. If you want a paper copy you can go to the Council offices, alternatively I will endeavour to have copies available at 24 Park Road. This is a numbers game and it is likely that those who are threatened by the proposals will do their best to protect their interests by maximising the number of opposing responses. So, it is important to ensure that you contact friends, neighbours and relatives to maximise the number of supporting responses.

The highly summarised Council brochure contains the following statements which should help you decide whether you respond to the survey:

THE VISION > Creek corridors flow through our suburbs with bushland and wetland that are teeming with birdlife. > Tree lined streets, leafy gardens and parks contribute to the green Garden City Character with fresh air and plenty of shade. > Employment areas with landscaped setbacks, tall trees and people walking and cycling to their workplace or relaxing and socialising during lunch in the dappled shade.

WHAT'S PROPOSED > The retention of mature canopy trees on private and public land > An appropriate balance between buildings and greening - increasing grass, garden beds and trees > Planting more street trees to fill the gaps in our streetscapes > More greening in high density precincts and activity centres.

FRIENDS OF DAMPER CREEK RESERVE INC.

Reg No. A...

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Why would Council not get support from every resident for this noble proposal?

The difficulty arises when those who wish to remove trees to manage their land or develop it for profit face restrictions as their ability to remove trees is restricted. If the environment and the liveability of Monash is more important than individual profit, you must support this strategy.

You must VOTE to the Council by 15 August > click the link above, answer 6 easy questions.

Jubilee Project - Celebrating 50 years since the saving of Damper Creek Reserve

It is fantastic to see works starting in Park Road. The weedy nature strips have been ripped up, soil replaced and mulch applied. Hopefully this area will be a showpiece of what can be achieved by low growing indigenous plants. An area between the playground and Norman Court has been scraped clear of weeds in preparation for the planting of additional canopy trees.

Our own preparations for the day of celebration on 30 September are progressing well. There will be some surprises in store. If you know of any past members who might like to attend please send addresses or email addresses to secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com. Also, display material including old photographs would be appreciated.

AGM IS PART OF OUR AUGUST MEETING

Please attend. If you're inclined to stay away because you may get "roped in", remember that most potential office bearers have been approached before the meeting. On the other hand, if you feel we could be doing things better this may be your chance to step in and make a difference. Positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, newsletter editor, membership secretary/ noticeboard coordinator and general committee members who adopt special roles as appear necessary. If you are receiving our newsletter by email, a nomination form is included, or it can be downloaded from our website and nominations can be taken on the night. **Doug Scott**

August Working Bee

Note that this will be our community planting day complete with thank-you BBQ courtesy of Melbourne Water. A excellent opportunity to showcase our group to the community and gain new members. We will publicise this widely and will do a letterbox drop in the vicinity. You may be asked to help distribute our invitations. It is expected that we will be planting in the Jubilee area on Park Rd - please meet at the Park Rd carpark opposite the playground.

EMAIL FROM FRIENDS OF DAMPER CREEK TO ALL OUR COUNCILLORS FOLLOWING OUR JULY MEETING:

Dear Councillor,

The monthly meeting of the Friends of Damper Creek Reserve discussed the Landscape and Canopy Vegetation strategy. The large audience was dismayed at the information contained in the report showing a deplorable loss of vegetation canopy cover and the general winnowing of the garden character of our city. This deterioration has occurred over 15 years whilst successive councils and Council strategy documents have talked about the City's "garden character" and the importance of its preservation! We now have the evidence that the City has lost much and that corrective action is essential. The only strategy that Council has is this commissioned report, - the Urban Landscape and Canopy Vegetation strategy.

Our meeting passed the following motion: **The Friends of Damper Creek Reserve strongly supports the Monash Urban Landscape and Canopy Vegetation strategy and urges Monash City Council to accept and implement the strategy expeditiously.**

Amongst the hurley-burley of day-to-day politics the time has come for our Councillors to take a 50 year view of how our city will look in 2068. Fifty years ago your predecessors on Council voted to rezone Damper Creek and its surrounds as a permanent bushland reserve. Those Councillors are no longer with us but their courage and their heritage is with us now and will endure. In 1968 it must have seemed there was unlimited open space in Waverley, why lock this particular parcel away? Why not just turn Damper Creek into a barrel drain and get on with the planned subdivision? But their foresight showed them that the city as it was in 1968 would not endure. Of course the Councillors in 1968 could not have even conceived of the massive challenge posed by climate change which is also central to the strategy outlined in the document.

For all these reasons, we urge you to vote for the implementation of this vital strategy for the 50 year good of our city - we assure you, our and your grandchildren will thank you.



What is your 50 year view of Mt Waverley? Streets like that on the left with canopy trees and bush gardens or streets of faux French chateaux with not a tree in sight - houses that demonstrate no solar planning principles and for which the air conditioning will run all summer and the heating all winter. Possibly a design suitable for France 150 years ago but not for Mt Waverley now, yet alone in 50 years time. What happened to Monash Council considering design sympathetic to the existing streetscape? The home that stood here before the demolition had an excellent established garden and a treed landscape.

Please go online to https://monashcitycouncil.formstack.com/forms/draft_urban_landscape_and_canopy_strategy Vegetation Strategy survey and answer the six simple questions...Yes, I want the strategy implemented.

For your diary:

Wednesday 22 August: AGM; Sunday 26 August: Community Planting Day and barbecue: meet at the Park Rd carpark.

Wednesday 26 September: General meeting, 7.30 pm. Alvie Hall.

Sunday 30 September: 12 noon, 50 year celebration, Alvie Hall, corner High Street Rd and Alvie Rd.

Damper Creek Doings is printed by Michael Gidley MP, as a community service. Content is the responsibility of The Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Inc.

Damper Creek is part of the Yarra catchment and is financially supported by Melbourne Water and Monash City Council.

If you see something in Damper Creek that you think needs attention, please contact Monash Council on their website and leave a message: www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service

FRIENDS OF DAMPER CREEK RESERVE INC

PO Box 2063, Mt Waverley 3149

Member: 'Landcare' & 'Land for Wildlife Volunteer Nature Conservation'

Web site: www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au

ACN A 0029531G



NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTED OFFICEBEARERS & ORDINARY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

DATE:...../...../.....

We, the undersigned, nominate for election to the position of [tick one]:

- President (President may only serve two consecutive years)
- Vice-president (Vice-president may only serve two consecutive years)
- Secretary (Secretary may only serve for three consecutive years)
- Treasurer (Treasurer may only serve for three consecutive years)
- Ordinary member of the Committee of Management (Up to three)

Proposer:

Name:

Signature:

Secunder:

Name:

Signature:

Confirmation of agreement to stand for election by the nominated member of Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Inc.

I (print name) agree to my name being proposed for election to the position of

....., and if elected, I agree to serve for the term of 12 months.

Signed:

Note that the Proposer, the Secunder and the member nominated for election must all be financial members of the FoDCR Inc.