

## Will Unley's Children will see our canopy cover drop to 13%?

At our January Council Meeting on Monday, we will receive a report from our CEO asking Council to consider the options for financial incentives for planting and keeping trees on private property.

- **We have a tree strategy with a 2045 tree canopy target of 31%**
- **With our current strategies our canopy will decline to 20.4% in 2045**
- **Unley's children will see our canopy cover drop to 13%**

We have the LiDar data for the three-year period 2018-2021 that demonstrates tree canopy loss with remarkable consistency for each year.

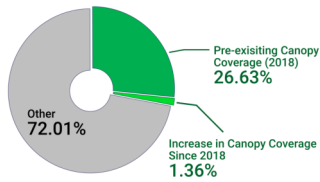
- We need both the offset scheme to be approved by the Minister and a financial incentive scheme to prevent an overall city-wide loss of 15.1% tree canopy cover.
- We currently have 28% canopy cover across our city<sup>i</sup>, but without any additional action in two generations we will have just 12.9% city-wide tree canopy cover.
- On Council owned land we can contribute just 6.4% canopy cover across the whole city.
- The figures after 2026 are worse than shown because Council land is limited and will be fully planted. After which time, we simply have no land on which to plant the necessary 450 trees per year. <sup>ii</sup>.
- However, I believe within the next five years we may come up with new schemes besides the free giveaways and education to replace our lack of land to plant trees on. <sup>iii</sup>

Over a period of two generations, we will experience a decline of **1,139,183 m<sup>2</sup>** in tree canopy cover for the City of Unley if we cannot implement incentives that work.

| Using the 2018-2021 LiDar Data <sup>iv</sup>                            | Over three years<br>M <sup>2</sup> | each yearM <sup>2</sup> |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Area Unley Council 14,290,000m <sup>2</sup>                             |                                    | 14,290,000              |
| Tree planting <sup>v</sup>  | 62,109                             | 20,703                  |
| Tree removal <sup>vi</sup>  | 127,244                            | 42,415                  |
| Target is 31% by 2045 i.e.,<br>3%*14,290,000=428,700m <sup>2</sup>      |                                    | 21,435                  |
| Tree loss from new developments increasing<br>built form <sup>vii</sup> | 61,089                             | 20,363                  |

| M <sup>2</sup> of Tree canopy                                | Annual<br>M <sup>2</sup> | 50 years<br>M <sup>2</sup> | % whole of<br>Unley |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Unley Council has a 27.99% 2021 canopy cover                 | 3,999,771                |                            | 28%                 |
| We need to save 40,748 m <sup>2</sup> each year (p/a)        | -42,415                  |                            |                     |
| We need to plant 21,435m <sup>2</sup> p/a to increase to 31% | -21,435                  |                            |                     |
| State Offset Scheme support will save 20363 m <sup>2</sup>   | 20,363                   |                            |                     |
| Free giveaways, education, street trees plant                | 20,703                   |                            |                     |
| <b>SHORTFALL</b>   | <b>-22,784</b>           | <b>-1,139,183</b>          | <b>-8.0%</b>        |
| Without the offset scheme                                    | -43,487                  | -2,157,333                 | -15.1%              |
| Canopy across Unley in two generations 31%-15.1              |                          |                            | <b>12.9%</b>        |
| Canopy cover in 2045 25 years is 20.4%                       |                          | -1,078,667                 | -7.5%               |
|  |                          |                            | <b>20.4%</b>        |

City of Unley Total Tree Canopy Coverage 2021  
27.99%



i

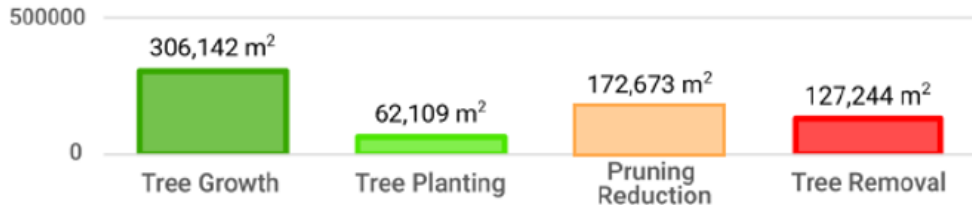
ii We may continue to see a short-term increase in tree canopy as many small council trees planted now will not show until they reach >3 meters in height. However, by 2029, with no space for extra trees to be planted after 2026, the long-term loss of tree canopy on private property without a change in policy will continue as per 2018 -2021.

iii The growth of existing trees will also temporarily mask the loss of tree removal.

## Change Detection



iv

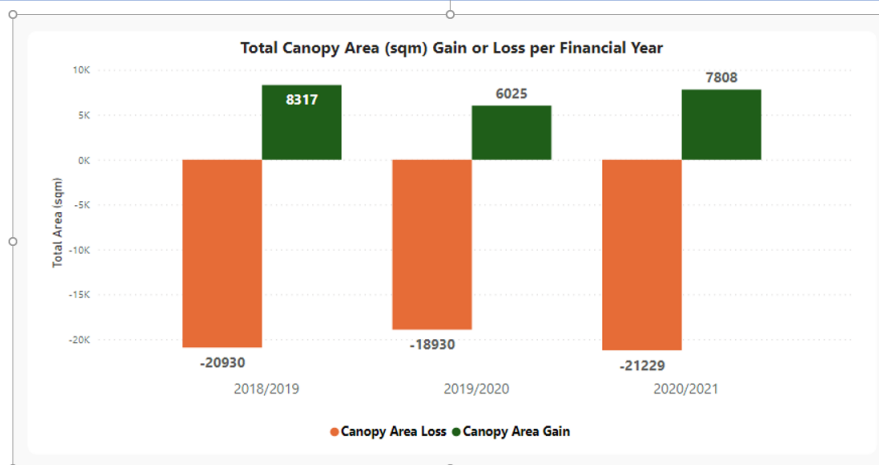


v

vi Ibid

vii

Development Applications (Building Foot Increase) June 2018 – June 2021  
Gain or Loss Per Financial Year



$20930 + 18930 + 21229 = 61,089 \text{ sq M}$