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Media Release

Regional growth calls for expansion of wastewater network

Mount Barker District Council's wastewater treatment plant on Springs Road currently services the townships of Mount Barker, Littlehampton, Nairne and Brukunga, and is the largest council operated wastewater treatment facility in South Australia.

As the district of Mount Barker continues to grow at a rapid rate, construction of wastewater infrastructure must also expand to be able to meet the predicted service demand.

Mount Barker District Council's Head of Wastewater, Helen Edmonds says council has entered into wastewater commitment deeds with a number of developers in the Mount Barker Growth area and is obligated to provide a sewer service for these new development sites.

"In order to cater for the growth in both the eastern and central areas, an upgrade of three further collection trunk mains is required," Dr Edmonds said.

"We have previously upgraded some sections of the existing collection trunk main from the township of Littlehampton to the wastewater treatment plant on Springs Road.

"A final section remains to be upgraded. This will include the capacity for forecasted growth in Littlehampton as well as catering for the development in Mount Barker's city centre."

The council has estimated the cost for the expansion projects to be between \$16 million and \$20million which includes provision for design, construction and project management.

Design of the project has been included in the budget for the 2023 financial year.

The cost of the project will be largely funded from revenue received by council from developers through payment of the wastewater infrastructure fee. Some funding will be from revenue from the annual service charge where existing wastewater infrastructure assets are upgraded or renewed.

“These projects will significantly expand Council’s wastewater collection and treatment capacity, in addition to utilising the latest technology to maximise our environmental outcomes,” Dr Edmonds said.

“The delivery of an upgrade to three further collection trunk mains will ensure ongoing network regulatory compliance, provide improved public and environmental health and generate employment through the construction industry.”

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Mount Barker District Council Communications Manager, Ian Hildebrand

P: (08) 8393 6470 | E: ihildebrand@mountbarker.sa.gov.au