

## SST RESPONSE TO DAVID SHOEBRIDGE ON MONDAY 20TH AUGUST 2018 CSELR PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

In response to question asked by Committee member David Shoebridge on Monday 20th August 2018 CSELR Parliamentary Inquiry.

Saving Sydneys Trees response is:

*“The Greening Sydney Plan introduced by City of Sydney and the Green Grid introduced by NSW Government to integrate and develop a cohesive green infrastructure throughout Sydney is a positive step towards consolidating Sydney’s urban forest. Unfortunately, the CSELR has significantly undermined the intentions of both projects. On page 4 of the Greening Sydney Plan, there are estimates of the current canopy in areas of Sydney. Moore Park is indicated as having 21-26% canopy, however this data would not be correct in August 2018, as we have estimated a 9- hectare loss of canopy in this area.*

*Both the Greening Sydney Plan and the Green Grid are both positive initiatives but cannot begin to compensate for the loss of trees associated with the CSELR which had the canopy and carbon sequestration of 50-100 years growth. Greening Sydney Plan can only be effective if it stems any further loss of trees. As we indicated, there is a hidden time bomb of tree loss due to the contravention of tree protection measures required by the Light Rail contract. Only by sufficient compensation to establish a Remedial Tree Management program can we address further tree loss.”*

### **GREENING SYDNEY PLAN**

#### **Extract**

#### **4.1 Urban Canopy – Developing and protecting the City’s Urban Forest**

##### **Objectives**

The City will protect and enhance the urban forest by:

- Developing a comprehensive Urban Forest Policy
- Improving the quality and quantity of the City’s urban forest
- Providing and integrating strategic / systematic planning processes to maximise the benefits of the urban forest
- Educating and promoting the benefits of the urban forest to the community.

The development of an Urban Forestry Policy will assist the City in managing the conceptual shift from dealing with our trees on an individual basis, to managing the vegetation as collective canopy.

Under this unified management approach, the City's tree population will be managed as a number of stands, with canopy coverage measured and future targets set for our street, park and private trees, and eventually for each City village. Canopy targets and improved tree protection measures will be incorporated into the development planning framework. Other projects for the development, protection or enhancement of the urban forest will be identified and implemented to achieve the 2030 targets

### **Urban Forestry Policy Programs and actions program**

#### **ACTIONS**

- Measure the City's urban canopy (>20m, 10-20m, 5-10m and 3-5m).
- Set 2030 and 2050 targets to increase canopy.
- Prepare tree management plans for iconic parks. street tree planting
- Implement Street Tree Master Plan Planting Program.
- Build road blisters and plant trees into roads and lanes – Cowper Wharf Road, Swanson Street.
- Investigate WSUD opportunities. tree protection
- Strengthen tree protection through the inclusion of canopy coverage targets in the City Plan DCP.
- Review Significant Tree Register.