

Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Noon - MoN - Torrens Lake Rehabilitation – Hydro2050™ Proposed Trial Program

Tuesday, 28 April 2026
Council

Council Member
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor
Carmel Noon

Public

Contact Officer:
Tom McCready, Director City
Infrastructure

MOTION ON NOTICE

Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Carmel Noon will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

‘That Council:

1. Acknowledges that Torrens Lake is a significant environmental, recreational, cultural and economic asset for the City of Adelaide, the State and up and down stream councils, and that its long-standing water quality issues have implications for public health, recreation, tourism, major events, nearby businesses and downstream environmental outcomes, with previous interventions delivering only limited or temporary results.
2. Notes that Hydro2050™ has approached Council in the form of an unsocialised proposal to consider the implementation of a trial program which would introduce newer water remediation technologies provided by Hydro2050™
3. Requests the Lord Mayor to write to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water introducing Hydro2050™ to a relevant agency to assess the technology and suitability, its potential uses and pending the outcomes of a review consider a trial program within the Torrens Lake during spring or summer 2026/27.’

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. Water quality issues within the Torrens Lake mainly occur during warmer weather periods (but are not limited to) and are typically as a result of a rainfall event, following an extended dry period, which can flush high levels of organic material from the urban catchment into the river system.
2. Should Council resolve to support the proposed motion, the Lord Mayor will write to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, providing the literature from the proponent with the purpose to seek a review of the proposed technology, evaluation of its benefits and assess potential uses within the Torrens Lake and / or other water bodies.
3. In addition, the Administration will write to the Torrens Lake Cyanobacteria Advisory Committee (TLCAC) to seek their advice and consideration on the proposed technology submitted by the proponent.
4. The purpose of the Torrens Lake Cyanobacteria Advisory Committee (TLCAC) is to advise SA Water if a managed flow release is required to control cyanobacterial growth in the Lake, to help them meet their obligation pursuant to a Section 6 directive of the *Public Corporations Act 1993*.
5. In making this decision, the TLCAC will take into consideration:
 - 5.1. The risk of cyanobacterial concentrations exceeding secondary contact concentrations given the forecasted weather conditions.

- 5.2. Consideration of the full range of government, industry and community perspectives of Lake closure and the impact of managed flow releases.
 - 5.3. Collaborative approaches that accommodate alternative points of view and focus on identifying agreed solutions.
6. The TLCAC is comprised of representatives from: Green Adelaide, SA Water, Environment Protection Authority, Coast Protection Board, Coast and Marine Branch (Department for Environment and Water), City of Adelaide and City of Charles Sturt.

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:	
Public consultation	Not applicable
External consultant advice	To be determined.
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Not applicable
Impacts on existing projects	Not applicable
Budget reallocation	Not applicable
Capital investment	Not applicable
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	Not applicable
Other	Not applicable
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 4 hours.

- END OF REPORT -