

Councillor Siebentritt - MoN - Sustainability design prize

Tuesday, 28 April 2026
Council

Council Member
Councillor Dr Mark Siebentritt

Public

Contact Officer:
Michael Sedgman, Chief Executive Officer

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Dr Mark Siebentritt will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council agrees to establish a design award to encourage innovation and cost efficiencies in the implementation of sustainability measures, such as tree planting and residential EV charging, starting with a \$15,000 prize from the FY26 budget.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. Administration acknowledges the intent of the Motion on Notice to establish a design award that encourages innovation and cost efficiencies in the implementation of sustainability measures.
2. In this context, a targeted focus on infrastructure design solutions that support street tree planting, urban greening and residential EV charging presents a valuable opportunity to enhance canopy coverage, improve urban amenity, whilst seeking to introduce electric vehicle charging onto residential streets, supporting climate resilience across the city.
3. Council has articulated strong strategic aspirations for climate adaptation through its adopted sustainability frameworks, including the Integrated Climate Strategy (ICS). An increase in EV charging stations along residential streets and an increase in street tree greening directly support the ICS.
4. Increasing urban tree canopy and improving the conditions for healthy, long-lived street trees are key priorities, recognising their role in mitigating urban heat, improving biodiversity, and enhancing the liveability of streets and public spaces. Innovative infrastructure design, such as integrated water-sensitive urban design, soil volume optimisation, and adaptable streetscape treatments will be critical to achieving these outcomes, particularly within constrained urban environments.
5. Accelerating the shift to electric vehicles offers an opportunity for both improving local air quality and reducing noise and carbon emissions. This transition will be supported by City of Adelaide installing additional public EV charging stations in collaboration with partners ensuring targeted coverage to priority locations to support residents and businesses and provide destination charging that supports the city's economic competitiveness and appeal to visitors for shopping, employment and tourism.
6. Should Council resolve to support the proposed motion, the Administration will undertake further work to develop an appropriate framework for a design award focused specifically on infrastructure solutions that enable and enhance street tree greening and residential streets EV charging opportunities. This will include the development of eligibility and assessment criteria that prioritise innovation in design, improved tree health and longevity, efficient use of public space in terms of tree planting and EV charging, resources, constructability, and cost effectiveness.
7. The framework will also consider how proposed solutions respond to common constraints within the public realm, including underground services, competing street uses, and long-term maintenance requirements.

8. Benchmarking against comparable programs, leading practices and streetscape design will inform the approach, ensuring that the initiative supports practical, scalable outcomes.
9. Administration will report back to Council with a proposed structure for the award, including assessment methodology, governance arrangements, and implementation considerations, as well as the application of the \$15,000 prize identified in the motion.

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	Initiatives identified through this process are anticipated to be implemented into the Street Tree Greening program into the future.
Budget reallocation	\$40,000 A Strategic Budget allocation of approximately \$25,000 for administrative expenses will be required in the 2026/27 Financial Year, in addition to the proposed \$15,000 prize.
Capital investment	Not applicable
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	The establishment of this award will require coordination across the City Infrastructure and City Shaping portfolios. Up to 150 hours staff time is anticipated for the development of the award criteria, approach to market and promotion of the initiative, and the assessment of submissions. Any works required to incorporate initiatives identified through this process have not been reflected in the above time estimate.
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 5.5 hours.

- END OF REPORT -