



## MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 17 June, 2021

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### Marion goes green with 30,000 new trees

Marion Council will plant nearly 30,000 trees in its biggest ever green initiative.

It coincides with the launch of a revolutionary new online tool that allows residents to access information about the type of tree planted in their street, track its health and when it will be watered.

**Mayor Kris Hanna said Council has an ambitious plan to green the city, including priority plantings in 'hot spots'.**

"Marion Council is accelerating tree planting to new levels," Mayor Hanna said.

"We want to blanket our streets in shade and attract birdlife.

"This will involve doubling the street tree canopy – the area covered by leaves and branches.

"We have provided our community with a unique view of how we are greening the city with details of almost 45,000 current and future planting sites on an interactive website."

The 30,000 trees planted over the next seven years will include a range of native and exotic species, ranging from coral gums and dwarf SA blue gums, to ornamental pears, Jacarandas and maples.

There will be saplings and advanced trees.

The first plantings will target Oaklands Park, Edwardstown, Clovelly Park and Mitchell Park.

By September, residents in these areas will see 3500 new street trees, 400 advanced trees along main roads and 400 reserve trees.

**The plantings aim to reduce urban heat and stormwater runoff, clean the air and improve the appearance of suburbs.**

There are an estimated 65,000 trees in the City of Marion.

The website provides a 'birds-eye view' of trees throughout the City of Marion and highlights the top 10 most common species.

Additionally, people can search streets and suburbs, see the exact locations of trees, view photographs and illustrations of them and find out what species they are and how big they will grow.

Information is updated in real time. Further details of future plantings are being added as they become available.

Contact: Craig Clarke Unit Manager Communications, 0434 600 637



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The website also displays the watering schedule, the volume of water used and the number of tree inspections undertaken.

The Council is seeking to double its street tree canopy by 2040.

**People can find out more at [trees.marion.sa.gov.au](https://trees.marion.sa.gov.au)**

Mayor Hanna said a 12-month trial showed the system improved the way trees are maintained and watered, saving \$40,000 in staff time and resources.

“The new system is improving our forward planning and increasing efficiency to secure better outcomes for residents,” Mayor Hanna said.

The choice of tree species is based on soil type, the size a tree is expected to grow, proximity to infrastructure, such as drains and power lines, and its ability to thrive in an urban area.

Staff photograph trees during maintenance visits and compare images against the tree for future reference to check its development.

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