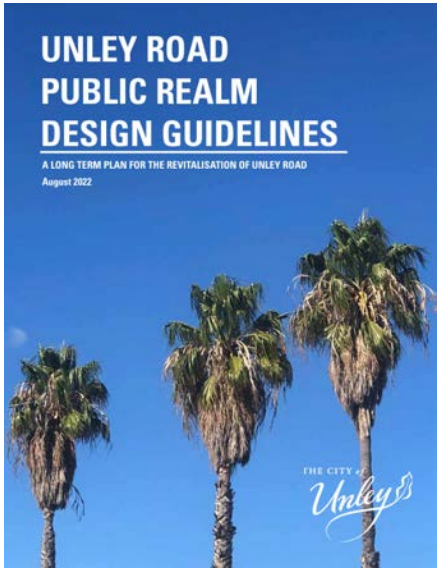
UNLEY ROAD EAST GREENING OPPORTUNITIES

Greenhill Road to Whittam Street

Revision Date	Document Change	Author	Review
13/02/2026	Draft For Internal Review	TS	AW
27/03/2026	Adjustments to underground services	TS	AW
16/06/2026	Final Review	TS	AW

THE CITY of Unley

Background

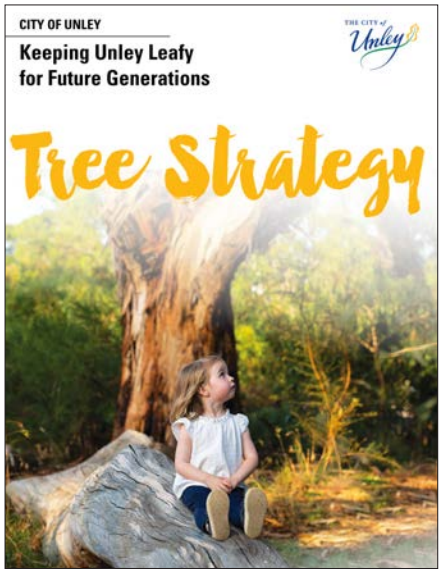


UNLEY ROAD PUBLIC REALM GUIDELINES

Among the core objectives of the Unley Road Design Guidelines is;

IMPROVED AMENITY - STRENGTHEN A GREENER CORRIDOR

- Infill tree planting along Unley Road, including utilisation of new planting technology to address complexity of existing below ground services
- Expand vine planting along character verandahs along Unley Road, in partnership with building owners
- Establish sustainable planting beds along Unley Road to offer additional amenity
- Enable opportunities to integrate the 'borrowed landscape' of adjacent private properties to expand tree canopy and greening along Unley Road





CITY OF UNLEY TREE STRATEGY

The Tree Strategy sets out a long-term plan to increase tree canopy cover across the City of Unley by 31% by 2045. It promotes the retention of existing trees, as well as opportunities to increase tree planting within the public and private realms

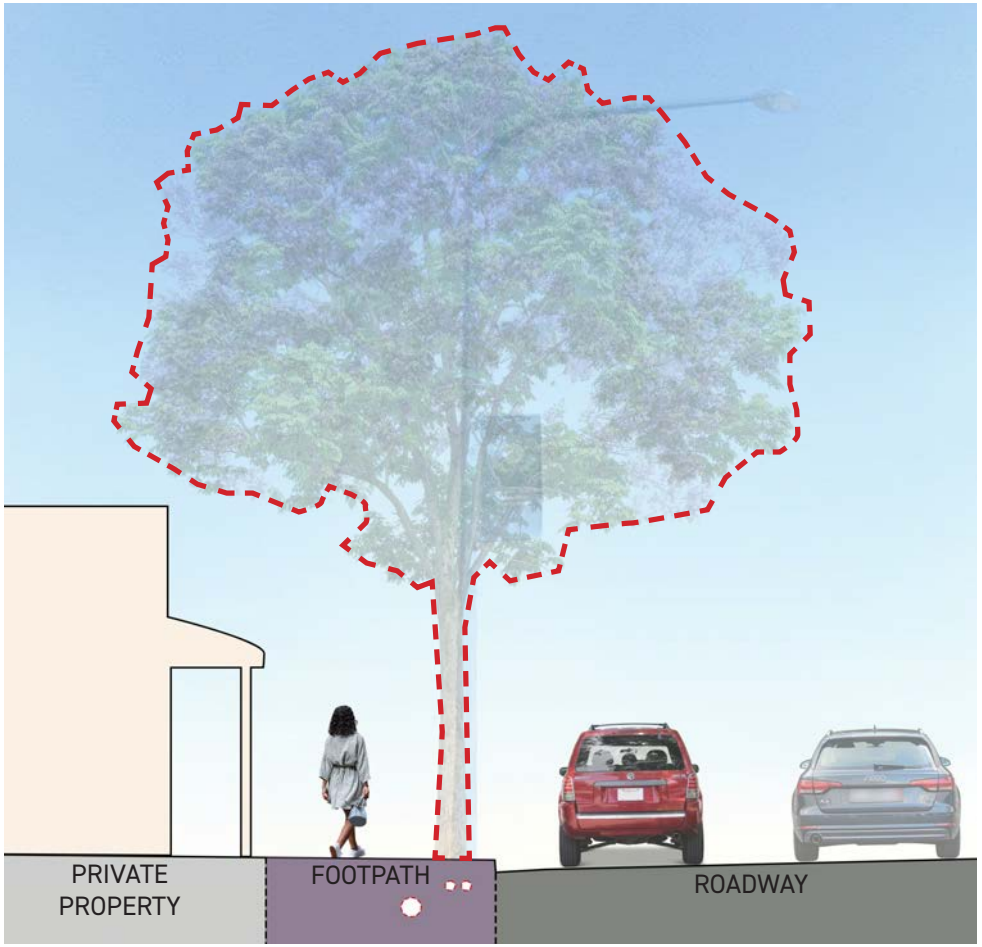
CITY OF UNLEY GREEN CAR PARKS

The Green Car Parks resource sets an example for informing and engaging property owners to increase greening in car parks and building frontages, integrating the "borrowed landscape" into streetscapes

Background Unley Road East Side

PREVIOUS TREE PLANTING INVESTIGATIONS AT BACK OF KERB

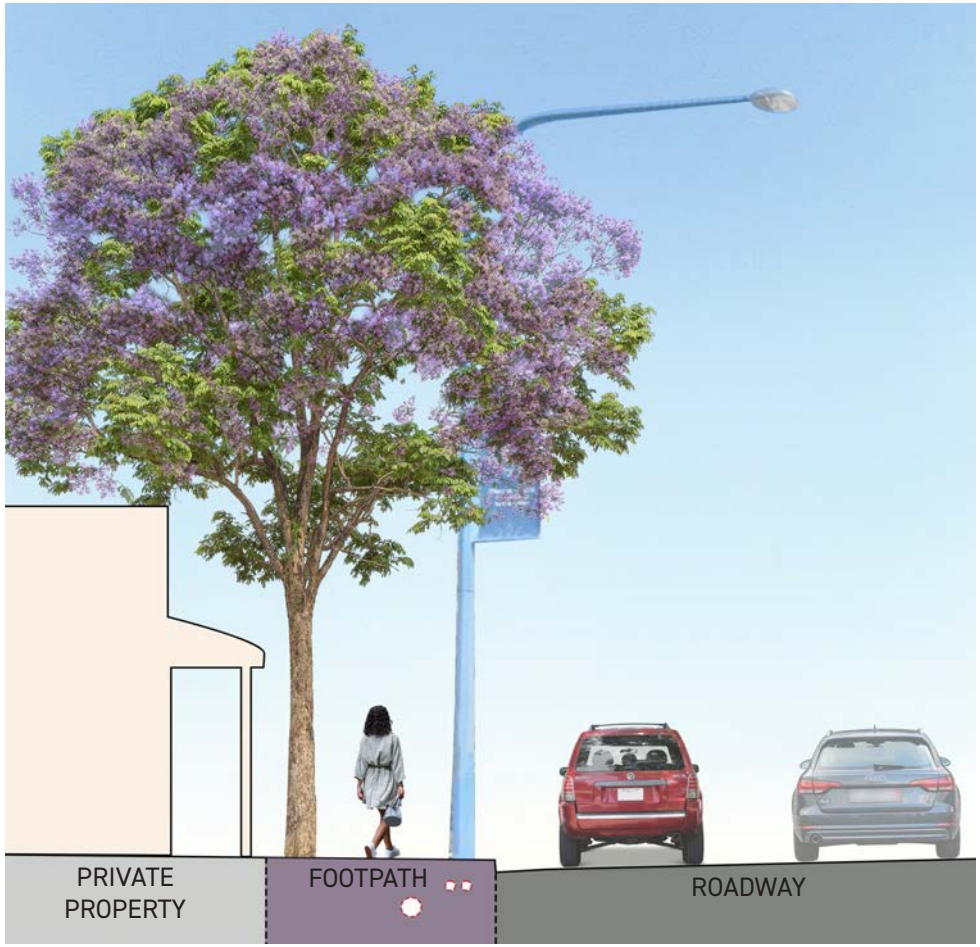
- As part of delivering the Unley Road Public Realm Guidelines, tree planting at the back of the kerb was investigated. This option was deemed unfeasible due to conflicts with existing underground services.



*Unley Road East Side

CURRENT TREE PLANTING INVESTIGATIONS AT THE PROPERTY BOUNDARY EDGE

- The current analysis explores opportunities for tree planting along the property boundary, in locations where this would not conflict with existing underground services or impact existing building footings.
- Additionally, tree planting opportunities in side streets were assessed where no service clashes occur.



*Unley Road East Side

Unley Road Public Realm Design Guidelines Tree Planting



JACARANDA mimosifolia



FRAXINUS pennsylvanica 'Cimmaron'



PISTACIA chinensis



ZELKOVA serrata 'Green Vase'



CUPANIOPSIS anarcardioides



QUERCUS pallustris 'Green Pillar'



MALUS ionensis 'Plena'



MALUS 'Royal Raindrops'



LAGERSTROEMIA indica 'Tuscarora'

The Design Guidelines supports the establishment of a consistent landscape character along Unley Road, and where possible a continuous canopy.

Unley Road is distinguished along its western verge for the established canopy and seasonal colour of Jacarandas in bloom. Conversely, the eastern verge is distinguish by theabsence of trees along its length, as a result of limitations from the historical service alignments.

The planting of additional street trees along the Unley Road corridor is vital to:

- Maximise amenity and comfort for residents and visitors to the precinct
- Establish and connect tree canopies to shade and cool hard surfaces and mitigate against the urban heat island effect, improve air quality and buffer winds

PR - PRIMARY STREET TREES

The dominant street tree along the Unley Road Corridor is Jacaranda mimosifolia. This is an iconic large flowering tree that has successfully established along many existing stretches of Unley Road. New planting should reinforce and connect this avenue of trees.

TR - SIDE STREET TREES

A tree with compact and upright form to be planted within transitions into side streets where space is limited.

These trees have been selected for their compact height and spread but also their unique foliage or flowering to offer additional interest.

Unley Road Public Realm Design Guidelines Vine Planting and Planter Boxes



Opportunities for planter boxes should consider:

- Existing built form, walkway clearance and direct access to shopfronts
- Local traffic conditions, including on-street parking (door opening) access
- Access to existing infrastructure / service pits

VINE PLANTING

Unley Road is characterised by the shopfronts and verandahs which occur along the street. The planting of Glory Vines (Vitis species) which are trained along verandah offer shade, colour and foliage to the street.

Council encourages the planting of vines in consultation with building owners to ensure:

- Vines are planted into appropriate conditions, with paving adjusted to suit and finished around the base of
- vine with quarry sand (lightly compacted)
- Wire traces are installed on selected building verandah posts and across fascia to stabilise the vines and train their growth (sized to hold mature weight of vines)
- Vines are maintained, pruned and trained to ensure that the appropriate form is established and encouraged
- Sight lines and safety is maintained for vehicles and pedestrians

PLANTER BOXES

In many locations along Unley Road, there is insufficient space to establish sustainable stretches of inground planting. In these locations, local businesses are encouraged to adopt a planter box to improve the amenity and appeal of the local streetscape.

Council encourages the co-ordinated use of planter boxes, to ensure:

- Planter Box specification is co-ordinated between local businesses, Trader Association and with the support of the Council
- Robust species are selected to minimised maintenance and watering requirements
- Fixings will allow for future relocation
- Maintenance will be undertaken by traders with an expectation for reasonable upkeep to ensure plants are maintained in good health

Unley Towers 13 - 23 Tree planting opportunity



Trees proposed on council land and private land

- Subject to negotiation with landowner
- Proposal to modify the existing awning
- Proposed trees to be planted at a mature size and positioned to maintain visibility of business signage

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





The Unley Pub Rooftop greening and vine planting opportunity



EXISTING



PROPOSED CONCEPT

Opportunity for consideration by the landowner

- Rooftop vine planting
- Tall shrubs along the balcony railing
- Small trees in planters
- Green accent wall to complement business signage

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.

Clyde Street Side street tree planting opportunity

Tree proposed on a road protuberance

- Vehicle turn path movement is clear
- No impact to on-street parking

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





29 On Unley Vine planting opportunity

Vine planting proposed using existing awning

- Subject to negotiation with landowner

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





31 Unley Rd (Wealth Fusion) Tree replacement opportunity

Trees proposed on private land

- Subject to negotiation with landowner
- Proposed trees to be planted at a mature size and positioned to maintain visibility of business signage
- Not in close proximity to street's underground services

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.









35 Unley Rd (Kabuki Hairdresser) Vine planting opportunity

Vine planting proposed using existing pergola

- Subject to negotiation with landowner

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





Townsend Street Side street tree planting opportunity

Tree proposed on road protuberance

- Vehicle turn path movement clear
- No impact to on-street parking
- Existing sign relocation is required

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.

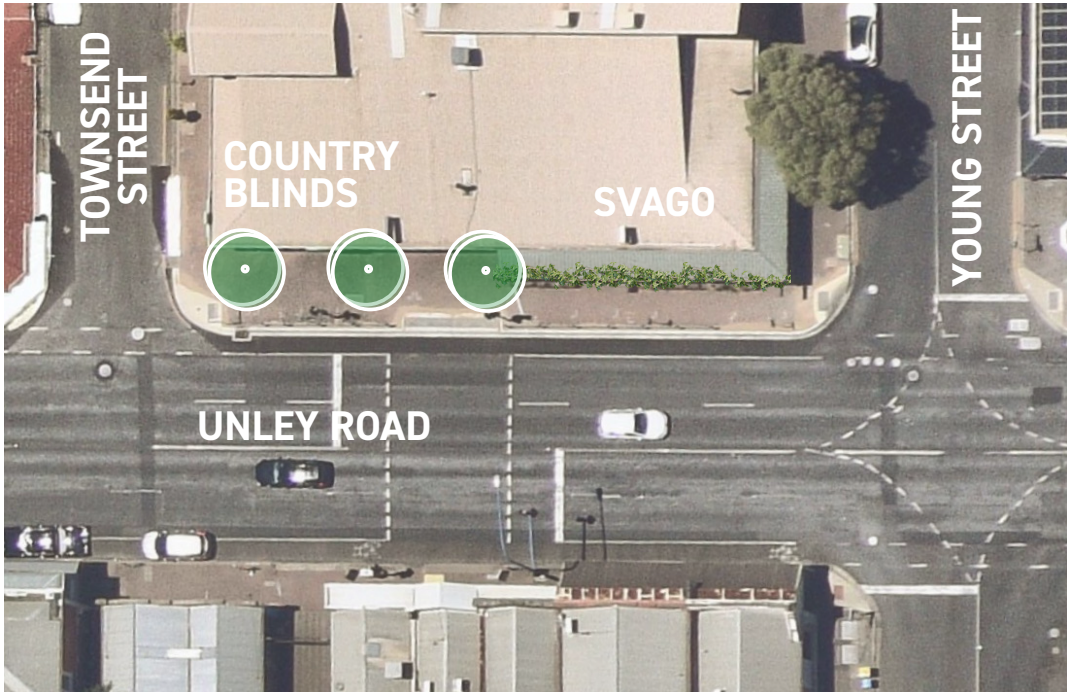




47 Unley Rd (Country Blinds) Tree planting opportunity

Trees proposed on council land

- Adjoining landowner to be informed
- Proposed trees to be planted at a mature size and positioned to maintain visibility of business signage
- Underground services clear



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SEATS WILL NEED TO BE MOVED ELSEWHERE

65 Unley Rd (Activ8 Mind) Tree planting opportunity

Trees proposed on council land

- Discussion with adjoining landowner may be required
- Not in close proximity to street's underground services
- A tree was planted in this location previously, confirmed by 2009 Google Street View image
- Proposed tree to be planted at a mature size and positioned to maintain visibility of business signage

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.







Dunks Street Side street tree planting opportunity

Tree proposed on footpath

- No impact to on-street parking

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





67 - 71 Unley Rd Vine planting opportunity

Vine planting proposed using existing awnings

- Subject to negotiation with landowner

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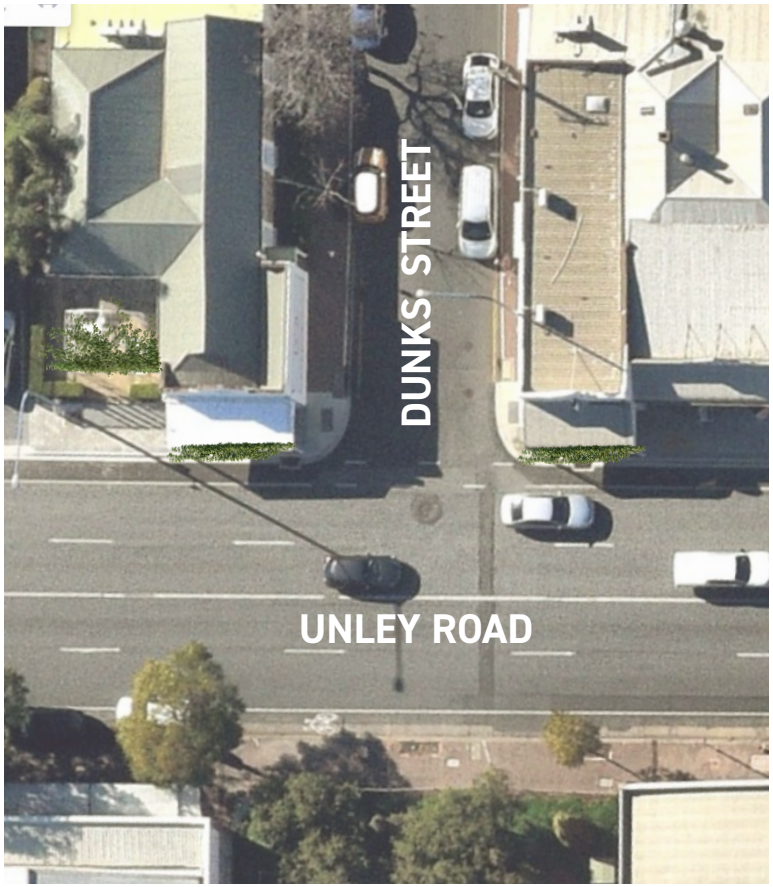



75 Unley Rd Vine planting opportunity

Opportunity for consideration by the landowner

- Vines to climb on a wire structure around the existing sign post

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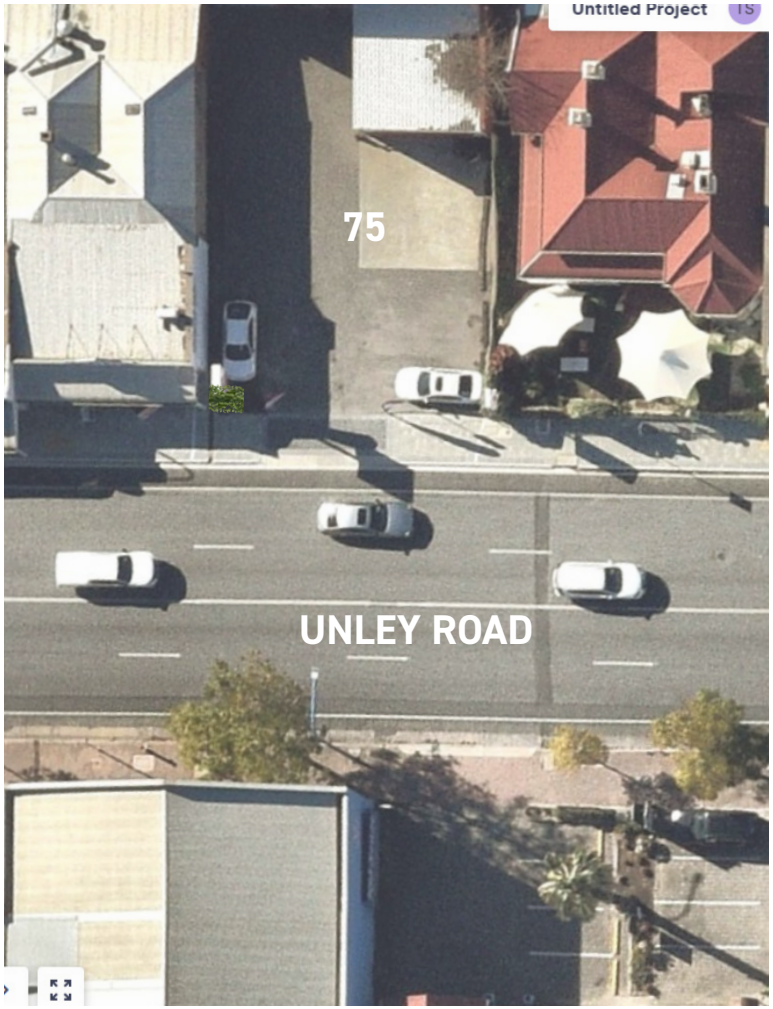




79 Unley Rd (Kitchen Designers) Vine planting opportunity

Vine planting proposed using existing awnings

- Subject to negotiation with landowner

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





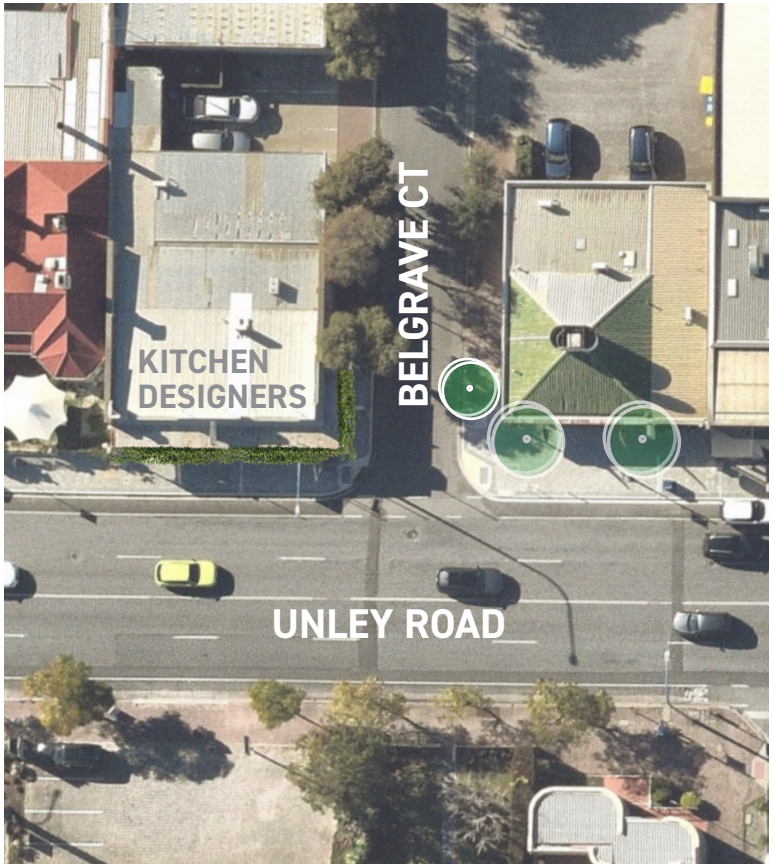
Belgrave Court Side street tree planting opportunity



Tree proposed on footpath

- A tree was planted in this location previously, confirmed by 2016 Google Street View image

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.





SEAT WILL NEED TO BE MOVED ELSEWHERE

81 Unley Rd (The Decorating Bug) Tree planting opportunity

Trees proposed on council land

- Discussion with adjoining land owner may be required
- Not in close proximity to street's underground services
- Proposed tree to be planted at a mature size and positioned to maintain visibility of business signage





Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.

83 - 89 Unley Rd Vine planting opportunity



Vine planting proposed using existing awnings

- Subject to negotiation with landowner

Note: This is a concept design only and may be subject to changes.



Whittam Street Side street tree planting opportunity

Tree proposed on footpath

- Existing sign relocation might be required

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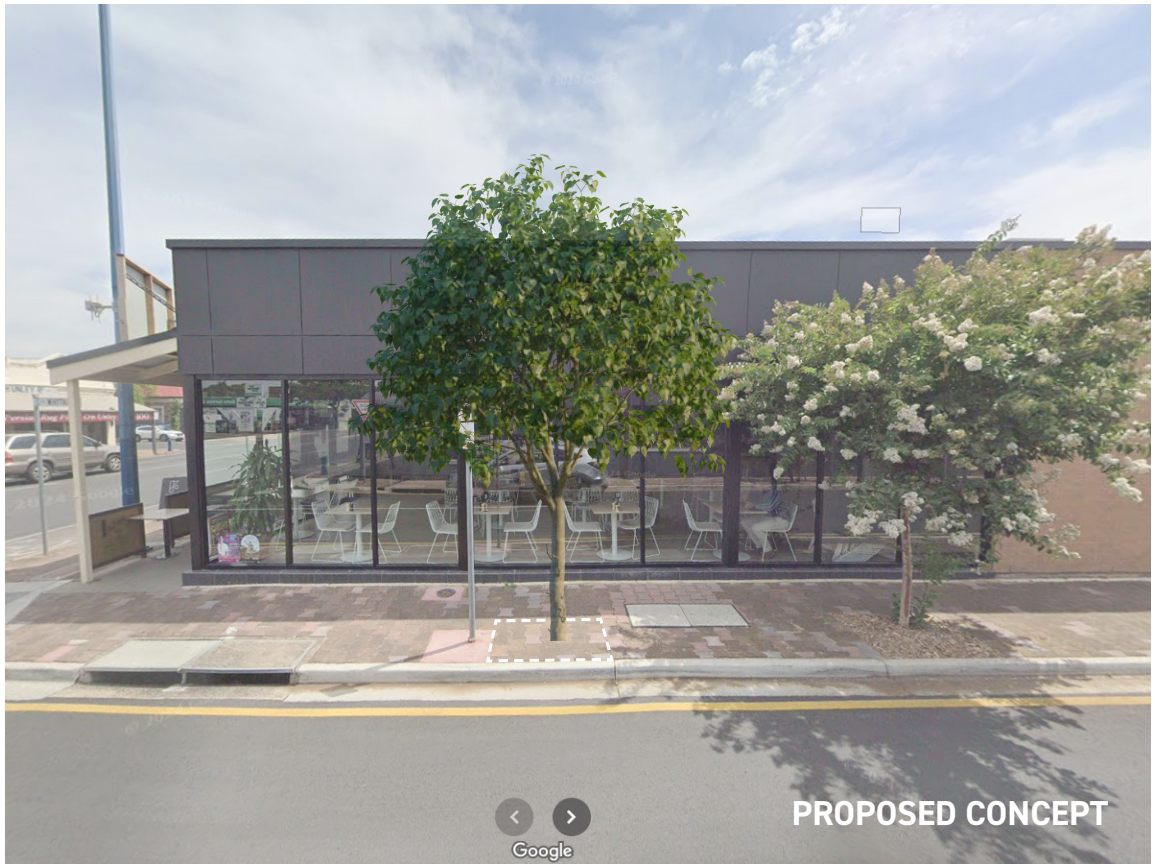


Footpath Treatments Around Trees and Vines

TREE SURROUNDS
Unley Road Footpath



Silva Grate
- **Dimensions:** 1210x1210mm
- **Material:** Cast Aluminium Powder Coated

FLEXIBLE STONE PERMEABLE PAVING
Unley Road Vine Cutouts

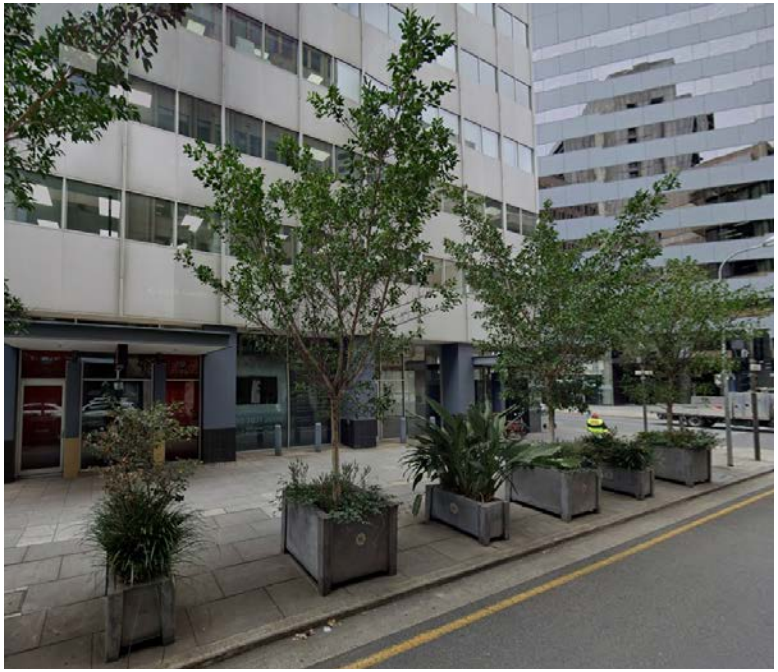




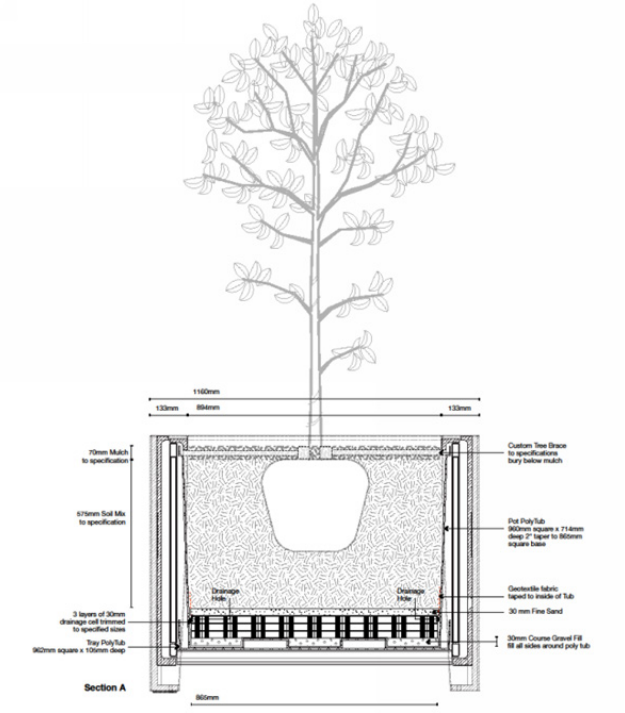
Perme Mix Permeable Flexible Surfacing
- **Description:** Flexible, permeable surface made from up to 70% recycled tyre rubber, it offers long-term durability without cracking, lifting, or water pooling and with high slip resistance.

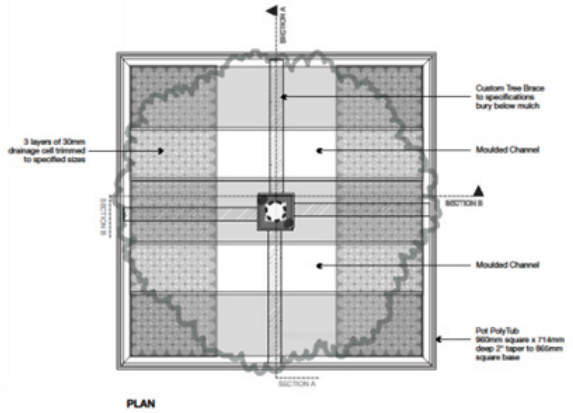
Planter Boxes for Small Trees City of Adelaide Case Study

Where in-ground planting isn't feasible along Unley Road, planter boxes offer an effective way to introduce additional trees. The specification and placement of planter-box trees should be coordinated with local businesses, the trader association, and supported by Council's maintenance team.









- **Dimensions:** 1155x1155x900mm
- **Maintenance when establishing:** Weekly watering, with season variations
- **Maintenance after established (12-24 months):** Fortnightly watering, with season variations
- **Transport logistics:** Large truck to transport accompanying forklifts to move them into place, on and off the truck
- **Successful tree species used:** Ficus Hilli (thrives in shade or part shade environments)

Planter Boxes for Flowers and Shrubs For discussion at suitable locations

UNLEY ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES DIRECTION

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Image example with planter boxes. Source: Quatro Design



Image example with planter boxes.
Source: Street Furniture Australia



Image example with planter boxes.
Source: Street Furniture Australia



Image example with planter boxes. Source: Quatro Design

THE CITY of Unley