



7 May 2024

Ask for: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern

Hobsons Bay City Council Support for Stormwater Harvesting Partnership Fund

This letter confirms Hobsons Bay City Council's in-principle support for Greater Western Water's (GWW) proposed Stormwater Harvesting Partnership Fund, which aligns with Hobsons Bay City Council's *Response to Climate Change Action Plan* (HBRCCAP) and with the strategic outcomes of the Integrated Water Management Forums.

The HBRCCAP includes an action to "seek opportunities to progress stormwater harvesting initiatives that provide alternatives to potable water use for Council open spaces".

This acknowledges that a partnership model is needed to not only overcome up-front cost barriers but to also combine capacity and capability across jurisdictions and organisations to maximise project impacts and support true Integrated Water Management (IWM) outcomes. Without partnerships, large scale, complex projects such as stormwater harvesting cannot be delivered.

Council already has a history of effective partnering on strategic partnerships including the 2023 'Investigation of alternative water for open space irrigation in the Western Metropolitan Region' which brought together councils in GWW's service area. This project delivered a portfolio of alternative water irrigation opportunities and established a shortlist of high priority opportunities, as well as a replicable documented methodology.

The Hobsons Bay community are very supportive of IWM. An engagement undertaken in 2022 found that almost all participants considered IWM initiatives to be a high priority. They also highlighted how much they value local waterways and wetlands.

If the proposal for a Partnership Fund is successful, I look forward to co-developing and co-delivering projects with GWW that support our shared objectives and those of the IWM Forums, to create a legacy of blue and green infrastructure for our community.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Paton
Coordinator Environment and Sustainability