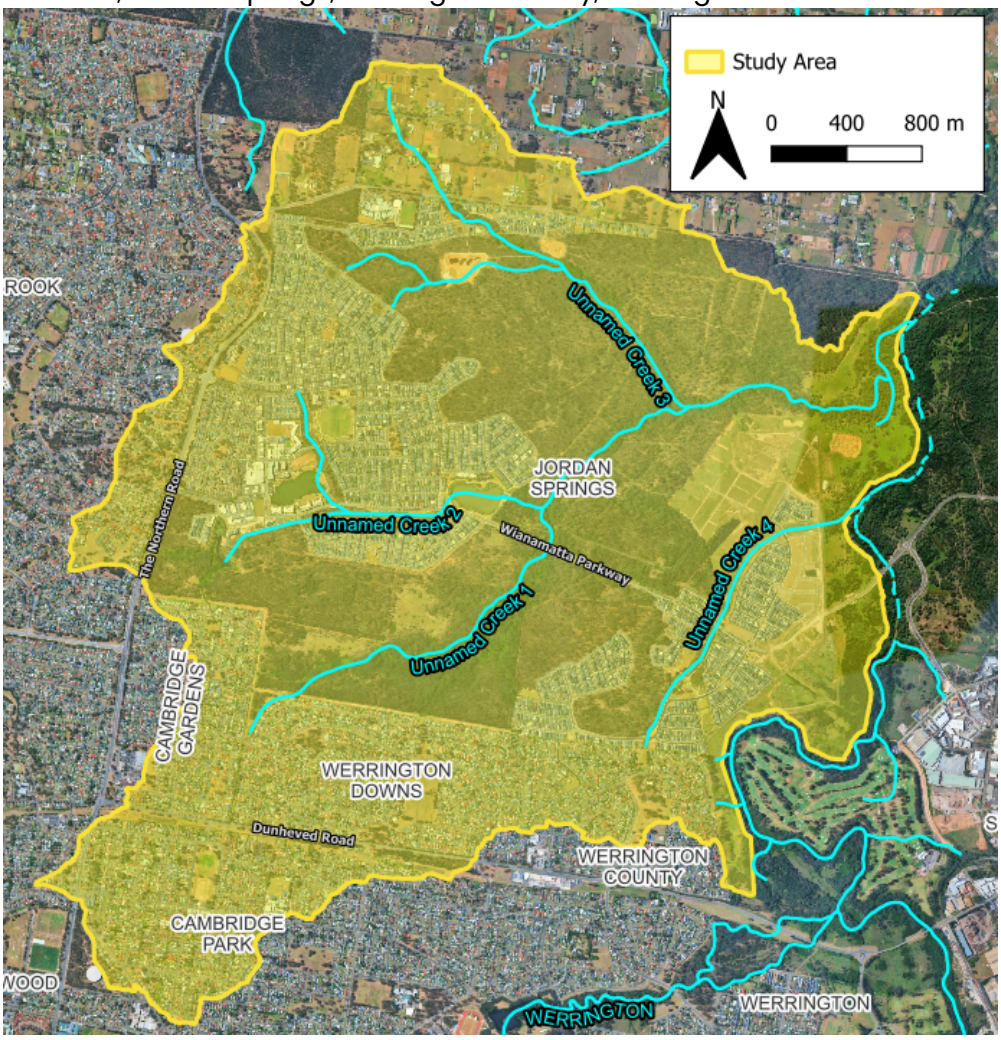
CAMBRIDGE PARK CATCHMENT FLOOD STUDY

INFORMATION SHEET

INTRODUCTION

Council is in the initial stages of preparing an overland flow flood study for the Cambridge Park catchment. The extent of the catchment is shown in the map below and includes parts of the suburbs of Cambridge Park, Cambridge Gardens, Jordan Springs, Werrington County, Werrington Downs and Llandilo.



During most rainfall events across the urban portions of the catchment, runoff is carried by the stormwater system and grass swales into four unnamed creeks, which, in turn, drain into Wianamatta South Creek. However, during heavy rainfall, the capacity of the stormwater system may be exceeded, leading to overland flooding in the urban areas. Floodwaters can also overtop the banks of the creeks and gullies during large floods, resulting in inundation of the adjoining floodplain. The eastern sections of the study area can also be impacted by flooding from Wianamatta South Creek. However, flooding from South Creek is not a focus of the current study.

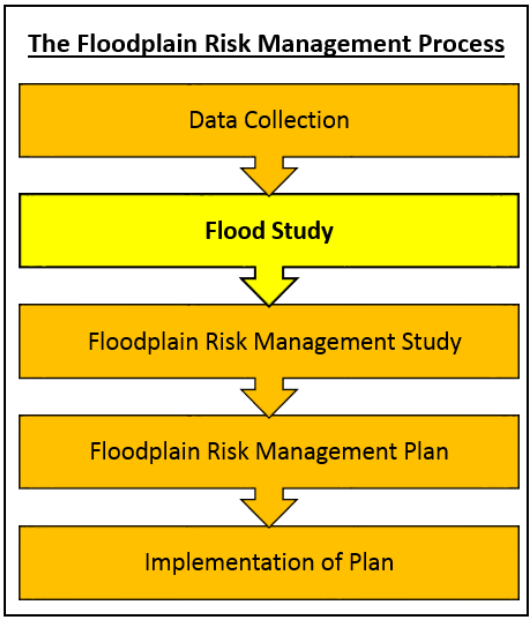
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The study will be overseen by the Penrith Floodplain Risk Management Committee and is receiving financial and technical support from the State Government under the Floodplain Management Program.

WHY DO WE NEED TO PREPARE A FLOOD STUDY?

Flooding is Australia's costliest natural disaster, causing an estimated $314 million in damage each year. Over 2,000 people have lost their lives due to floods in Australia. However, flooding is also among the most manageable natural disasters, as we can reasonably predict which areas will be subject to inundation.

Under the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy, the management of flood-prone land is primarily the responsibility of local councils. The policy specifies a staged process for managing flood risk. This includes data collection, a flood study, a floodplain risk management study and plan, and implementation of the plan (see the flowchart below).



Council will follow this staged process to manage the floodplain in your area. The "Data Collection" stage of work is in progress, and we are now in the initial parts of the "Flood Study" stage of the process.

The preparation of a flood study will help Council to understand the existing flooding problem within the catchment. It will also help to identify where flood risk reduction measures may be best implemented to reduce the cost of flooding to the community, assist with emergency management and guide future development.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN PREPARING A FLOOD STUDY?

The primary objective of the flood study is to identify the nature and extent of the existing flooding problem. The preparation of a flood study involves a considerable amount of work, including the following tasks:

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- collection and review of all available flood-related information for the area.
- development of computer flood models to simulate the transformation of rainfall into runoff and to determine how that runoff would flow across the catchment.
- calibration of the computer models to reproduce historic floods.
- use of the computer models to simulate a range of flood events from relatively frequent storms right up to the largest flood that could possibly occur.
- preparation of a flood study report and maps summarising the outcomes of all stages of the investigation.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED...

Council recognises that the community holds important information about past floods that will help identify flooding 'trouble spots' and assist in calibrating the computer flood models. The study team will consult with the community at various stages throughout the study to obtain this information:

- A **questionnaire** is available online – we encourage you to complete it to share your flood experiences (a link to the website is included at the bottom of this page).
- Once the computer model is developed, we will meet with interested residents and business owners who have experienced flooding problems to verify that the model is replicating these past experiences.
- Once the draft flood study report is prepared, the report will be placed on public exhibition, and a **community information session** will be held to give you an opportunity to review the report and associated mapping and ask questions about any aspect of the study. Any comments from the information session and public exhibition will be reviewed and addressed in the final report.

WEBSITE

A website has been established for the study: yoursaypenrith.com.au/CambridgeParkFS. The website will provide the latest available information on the study, including details of the above community consultations. An online version of the questionnaire is also available on the website.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information or to submit any information you think may be relevant to the study, please contact:

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