

SESSION 1 FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. What are the problems to be addressed and solved? Managing volunteers? Bend your mind toward the “people **VALUE** element” – engaged and disengaged
2. Who are the key stakeholders (institutions/ individuals /parties of interest) in resolving the problem(s)?
3. How do you know what you think you know? Where is your information coming from? (Do we know enough about what trees to plant and in what conditions)

Event hashtag: [#UrbanForestSymposium2019](#) [#CanberrasUrbanForest](#)

Summary Points – As captured verbatim

- How to get people engaged: the volunteerism, the stakeholders
- Putting old and new groups together; putting urban and rural groups together;
- Using existing groups and partnering them up;
- The urban timber harvesting: trust and social licence around the branding, the management, what people will pay for
- How do we engage and educate the public around the life cycles; how do we shape the understanding of sequestering carbon and selling material?

- Lots of trees coming from public and private lands: what can be done about it?
- How to develop a circular economy around those resources?
- How to change people's minds around social investment
- Backlash around removing trees; maybe a commemorative process around companion trees like the way they do it in Singapore
- How do you create tendering or auction around the standing trees?
- What do we do about the log dump, the markets for firewood, chip etc;
- What other high-end products such as bio-char, is there research required?
- Rachel's handwriting

- A lot of the canopy is not on public land;
- How do we consult across range of stakeholders?
- We don't have a forest to market system in place; we need a system in place
- Return of the tree/timber to its original provenance; a lot of value in the local population seeing where the tree goes;
- What is the business, what is the market? We don't know the market of the wood for the urban forest, need to look into this;
- Education in the ACT; need to work with the schools as it is a multi-generational project;
- People will retain a dead tree for habitat, or will be in fear that it will drop a limb: super polarized views with no common consensus, so need to reach some common views;
- How do we get wood to the people who want it?

- Maintaining the provenance and history through the narrative of the timber; “sell the sizzle not the sausage”.
- How the urban forest is viewed as a resource? Planning has to take a role;
- New suburbs need to incorporate trees as an environmental benefit (cooling/ warming); but need to be aware of the fire danger. Need to be informed to choose the right trees for both;
- Options for the whole life cycle of the tree, including the options for once it reaches its life span;
- Connections people have to trees, the provenance, the story, the higher added value to that timber;
- Need a system in place and communication channels, need to assess the tree as to whether it is a potential saw log prior to the removals;

- A timber grading system with criteria for furniture grade, chip, etc
- Education and timber for the schools, students learning about the whole life cycle and the resource available;
- Importance of the story from a craft point of view; lifestyle identification codes (?)
- Work with the range of institutions involved to get the best outcome for a very valuable resource;
- Black and white picture: planting and taking out, but there is a wider spectrum of situations and possibilities that need to be considered;
- Trees are not treated as a system; not thinking about all stages from the beginning. The planting, the removal, the use all seem separate problems;
- All too hard because of the scale (but shouldn't be)

- Inadequate policy and regulation around development; it isn't robust in the process of application to develop
- Communication between departments, but maybe b/c not ready to communicate, not ready for the community response or the enthusiasm for or against;
- People are a problem: both positive and negative enthusiasm;
- Education needs to start early, need to get faith in the experts, that arborists, ability to educate and inform through all stages to get social buy-in and belief in what the experts are saying;
- Pesticides and chemicals used on trees could diminish their viability for eventual use.
- Risks v Consequences: tree falling on someone's house; the perception vs the reality;

- Species choices over time, what used to be planted versus now have different uses;
- Lack of system that we don't have.
- Look at the word forest and what it means, because forest has romantic weight to it, and street trees might not fit that notion.