

SKINC NATURE STRIP RENEWAL

FIRST THOUGHTS
TUESDAY 09/05/2015
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n e e d s

- resilience
- the ability to **showcase** indigenous plants
 - low maintenance

challenges

- small, linear area
 - weed control from adjacent land and soil seed bank
- Existing *Platanus × acerifolia* taking water from soil, blocking sun in summer and smothering ground with deciduous leaf shed in winter
- footy crowd and people getting out of cars stampeding plants and using area as thoroughfare
 - litter
 - surrounding impervious surfaces of roadside, footpath
 - no irrigation
 - cars
- shade; plane tree, fence and larger trees behind fenceline
 - compacted, heavily modified urban soil profile
 - compounding impact of failed and dead plantings



Above and below: litter trapped in landscape degrading the aesthetic



*Above: trampled plants from foot traffic
Below: tough conditions at tree base*



*Above: weeds and bare ground from foot traffic
Below: groundcovers smothered by leaf fall & weed penetration*



o p p o r t u n i t i e s

- free plants!

- free labour!

- ongoing on-site maintenance input, stewardship & feedback of interested parties

- extensive plant knowledge and sources, both working and expert

- availability of rare plants and local forms

- genetic provenance suited to area

- demonstration of value to public of indigenous plants in areas like resilience, aesthetic and cultural value

- advertise business

- provide seed and plant material for propagation

- enriching biodiversity of area, habitat value for fauna



*Above: local high quality indigenous landscape
Below: local self-sown *Austrostipa elegantissima**



Above and below: some existing plantings provide aesthetic value & clues to future plantings



*Above: indigenous plants have significant potential to be "showcased"
Below: engaging the community & improving biodiversity*

