

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Transurban joins forces with Council to enhance the local environment

Transurban, owner of Hills M2 and major owner of Westlink M7, has joined forces with Blacktown City Council to support Council's annual Tree Giveaway Program which includes; the *Local Government Week Free Tree Giveaway*, *Travelling Ward Tree Giveaway* and the *Greening Blacktown City Program*.

Through the exclusive partnership with Council, Transurban will assist Council in giving away over 90,000 FREE trees and plants each year.

The partnership will also allow Council to provide environmentally friendly re-useable 'Enviro Bags' instead of plastic bags used previously to carry the FREE plants and trees. The use of 'Enviro Bags' will eliminate an estimated 40,000 bags previously used by Council on an annual basis to meet the demand of the Tree Giveaway program.

'As a long term owner and operator of toll roads, Transurban places great emphasis on its responsibility to protect and enhance its neighbouring communities, as well as minimise the impacts of our operations on the environment. Planting trees is a simple but effective way to beautify the community, and also, neutralise greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles. We're pleased to be partnering with Blacktown City Council on this important environmental initiative and hope all residents make the most of this opportunity', said Transurban's Group General Manager of Operations, Brendan Bourke.

Residents are reminded that their next Rates Notice will entitle them to collect two free plants or trees from Council's Nursery. There will also be another opportunity for residents to collect trees during Local Government Week in August.

For further information or for dates on the upcoming Tree Giveaways keep an eye out for Council's Information Pages in the local newspapers or visit www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au

Ends

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