

Question on Notice
No. 1782
Asked on 25 November 2008

MS GRACE asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology
(MR SCHWARTEN) -

QUESTION:

What damage was sustained at the Roma Street Parklands during the recent storms that hit Brisbane?

ANSWER:

On the evening of 20 November 2008, a storm with high winds and heavy rain causing extensive damage, swept through the Roma Street Parkland.

As a result of the storm, approximately 50 trees were blown over and many others suffered broken branches. Eight mature fig trees and two mature gum trees, which were uprooted, are believed to be over 90 years old and are from the original Albert Park gardens. Despite the efforts of the Roma Street Parkland horticultural staff and industry experts, these trees are unable to be reinstated due to their size.

In addition to the damage to the plant life, infrastructure within the Roma Street Parkland, including children's playground equipment, shade sails, benches and fencing were damaged and minor flooding occurred in some of the buildings. The estimated cost to reinstate the damaged infrastructure is approximately \$90,000 (excluding GST).

The Roma Street Parkland staff and sub contractors are making a concerted effort to return the Parkland to its full functionality as quickly as possible. However, due to the extensive damage, the projected date for the completion of the clean up operations is late December 2008.