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Green bins on way for mall

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CLARE PEDDIE

GREEN bins are coming to Rundle Mall in the latest move to reduce food waste sent to landfill.

The pilot program is believed to be a national first for a retail strip or mall. If successful, the Adelaide City Council is likely to expand the program throughout the CBD.

The council worked with the state's waste-reduction and resource-recovery agency Green Industries SA on the redesigned multi-bin system, which will add green organics collection to the city's top shopping district. Lord Mayor Sandy Verschoor believes this is an important step for the environment.

"Increasingly, the community expects to be able to recycle and compost materials beyond their home, so expanding this service into our public spaces is a simple way we are improving resource recovery in our city", she said.

"Trialling this program in Rundle Mall demonstrates the importance of recovering food scraps and compostable material and positions the City of Adelaide as a leader of environmental initiatives." The council has committed \$115,000 with additional fund-

ing of \$72,000 from Green Industries SA to the pilot.

Environment Minister

David Speirs said the program would support the efforts of retailers moving away from single-use plastics to compostable products.

"There are three times as many jobs created for every tonne of waste recycled or reused instead of going to landfill, which is why we are providing support to local councils as well as the private sector to continue South Australia's nation-leading approach to waste management," he said.

"As it stands, as much as 40 per cent of the material in SA

household waste bins sent to landfill is food and organics which could be diverted through the green bin."

Nikki Govan, chairwoman of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency, is pleased "Australia's retail precinct of the year" has been chosen for the trial.

"The pilot program will strategically place the green bins along the mall at key spots," she said.

The pilot program will run for 12 months, with the new bin systems expected to be installed in May 2022.



Siblings Miles, 10, and Mia, 5, at a Rundle Mall waste bin.