

## DTI:Planning Review

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**From:** Julia Wakefield <campaigns@good.do>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 12 October 2022 11:08 AM  
**To:** DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review  
**Subject:** Save our trees

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the implementation review of the Planning and Design Code. I am hopeful that the expert panel will meet community expectations by listening attentively and acting on the feedback given.

I am one of the few fortunate people living in the Adelaide suburbs who have a view of a beautiful mature tree from their bedroom. I chose my house precisely because of this tree, after moving away from the Adelaide hills. Trees can be a fire hazard, their roots can block drains, interfere with underground cables and disrupt pavements. But many mature trees have been here long before the suburbs invaded their environment. They are distinguished citizens and should be treated with the utmost respect.

I am concerned about the impact of both the code and our poor regulations on tree canopy right across Adelaide. You are no doubt familiar with the significant body of work published by the Conservation Council of SA and partner organisations over the last 2 years. Using an evidence-based approach, these reports highlighted how impoverished our laws have become since 2011 when significant exemptions were added to them, despite protests from both the community and experts.

The Conservation Council and partner organisations have compiled a list of their top ten priorities for reform. Support of these improvements will help make our state's tree regulations best practice, a Labor election practice. Many of the changes are backed up not only by the CCSA reports but also by the independent report commissioned by the State Planning Commission - I ask you to support these changes.

We cannot underestimate the important role that trees play in our daily lives. We need them more than they need us. By doing so you will improve our mental & physical health, clean the air that we breathe, remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, help cool our homes and streets, make our city more livable and mitigate the impacts of climate change for our children and grandchildren. Trees also provide shade and ecosystems for birds, insects, reptiles and mammals that would otherwise be unable to exist in our cities. They do more for our society than we can possibly understand.

Yours sincerely,  
Julia Wakefield

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Please reply to Julia Wakefield at [REDACTED]

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