

DTI:Planning Review

From: Patricia Ryan <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Friday, 16 December 2022 3:22 PM
To: DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review
Subject: Stronger protection for trees benefits our community

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.

Research worldwide has identified large trees as vital to healthy communities for their capacity to capture carbon and store it, reduce atmospheric pollution and prevent storm water flows and their heavy metal content. Trees with a larger trunk diameter have a greater woody biomass and a greater canopy size increases the trees' ability to intercept precipitation and air pollutants. Larger trees provide an essential regulating service for urban and rural environments, particularly, in a changing climate.

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.

Yours sincerely,
Patricia Ryan

Ref:
Large Trees are Essential for Healthy Cities The Conversation 26 May 2022 Environmental, economic and social benefits of trees. City of Tea Tree Gully (Council Publication)

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Please reply to Patricia Ryan at [REDACTED]

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