

DTI:Planning Review

From: Rosanna Centrella <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 October 2022 2:52 PM
To: DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review
Subject: SA's Tree Canopy

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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 very concerned about the impact of both the code and our poor regulations on tree canopy right across Adelaide. I lived in Melbourne for more than 20 years and now live in Adelaide. I have to say I was totally surprised by our inadequate regulations in this State compared to Victoria and yet Victoria has more than twice the population. I actually thought Adelaide was a leader in this area and yet I am left totally disappointment with the lack of protection of our Trees. In Melbourne I walk around the city and suburbs and see so much green canopy. Although, at the same time, there is a lot of construction, the impact feels less because their Trees are greatly looked after and protected.

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, and yet they have so much to contend with - Climate Change adversaries and the unnecessary destruction because of poor planning. Our Trees 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. Our Government spends Billions a year to ensure we have a health system that is fully functional and provides its citizens with the best healthcare. Prevention should also be part of that strategy. Sometimes the simple things in life are often the best and much research has shown being in Nature, sitting under a beautiful tree, has so many positive health benefits.

Yours sincerely,
Rosanna Centrella

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