

## DTI:Planning Review

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**From:** Joanne Baulderstone <campaigns@good.do>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 December 2022 9:41 AM  
**To:** DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review  
**Subject:** Urban tree protection law reform - in the planning and design code review

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 an ecologist, have lived in the Mitcham Hills for 20 years, and the Adelaide region for over 50, and I am extremely concerned about the impact of both the code and our poor regulations on tree canopy right across Adelaide.

Having experienced and seen extensive significant tree damage and loss in the recent storm, I am concerned at the natural loss and climate change induced loss of mature trees and their dependent wildlife. Improved protection laws will help slow this overall decline, by controlling deliberate loss of trees.

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. I have read and fully agree with these priorities.

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.

Improving protection laws to slow the rate of loss of Adelaide's trees, will - give us more time to INCREASE tree canopy cover to levels needed to help adapt to and mitigate climate change and biodiversity loss, protect existing habitat for wildlife, 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,  
Joanne Baulderstone  
South Australia, 5051, Australia

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