

DTI:Planning Review

From: Rebecca [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 16 December 2022 10:56 AM
To: DTI:Planning Review
Subject: Attention:Expert Panel

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Dear Expert Panel,

I am writing to you because I have become increasingly very concerned at the significant removal of vegetation in my council area due to a substantial number of houses being demolished (infill development).

Most houses that are tendered for sale in my area of Para Vista are being purchased by developers who, as a matter of course, and with no regulatory restraint, remove all vegetation from the purchased block. They then develop at least two dwellings, which leaves little or no room for revegetation.

Many houses have been demolished on neighbouring streets to where I live, including Kalina Avenue. My street of Armona Avenue Para Vista has elderly residents and when these houses are sold I anticipate that all will be demolished. Two such houses were sold recently. Developers chainsawed down beautiful established trees on one block. This week, other developers stripped the second block completely bare, destroying several large trees, bushes and all vegetation. This is occurring weekly in my suburb and local area.

This vegetation has been given no protection. No value is placed on it. No one is paying any notice to what is happening and once the vegetation is gone, it will be too late to remedy.

Our residential tree canopy cover in Adelaide is shrinking at an alarming rate.

In a time of climate change crisis, this stripping the suburbs of trees and vegetation needs to be held to account and regulated at a level higher than the Council who gains financially from subdividing blocks.

Nearly all trees on residential blocks do not meet the definition of a significant or regulated tree under planning laws.

It is a nonsense to suggest that planting a new tree will rectify the loss of an established tree that may be 30 years old, can withstand our summer climate and provides habitat for our birds as well as shelter and the many other cumulative benefits for combating climate change. Many of the young trees that are planted by the council, simply do not survive.

Asking the new owners of the new courtyard homes that are built on these blocks to plant a tree in their small yard space is impractical.

This is a terrible legacy that we are leaving our children.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Page
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