

DTI:Planning Review

From: GARY BELDER <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Friday, 16 December 2022 4:20 PM
To: DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review
Subject: Protecting South Australia's Tree Canopy

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

I am concerned about the impact of both the code and SA's inadequate regulations on tree canopy right across Adelaide and SA. There is a significant body of work published by the Conservation Council of SA and partner organisations over recent years. Using an evidence-based approach, these reports highlighted how watered down the laws have become since 2011 when significant exemptions were added to them. This was despite protests from both the community and experts.

The Conservation Council and partner organisations have compiled a list of their priorities for reform. Support of these improvements will help make our state's tree regulations best practice, a Labor election promise. 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 2022. It is imperative to support these changes.

The important role that trees play in our daily lives cannot be underestimated or indeed overstated. We need them more than they need us. By doing so our mental & physical health improves. Trees clean the air that we breathe, remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, help cool our homes and streets, make our city/state more livable and help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Yours sincerely,
GARY BELDER

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