

## DTI:Planning Review

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**From:** Andrea Castle <campaigns@good.do>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 December 2022 7:54 AM  
**To:** DTI:Office of Minister Champion; Michelle Lensink; Peter Malinauskas; DTI:Planning Review  
**Subject:** Change legislation around tree protection

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I am concerned about the number of trees that are being lost in our state. They need to be better protected for all the normal and obvious reasons:

- trees bring beauty to our suburbs and can help improve mental health
- trees provide shade and help cool our streets and homes
- trees provide us with clean air and store carbon
- trees provide shelter for birds, other animals and insects
- trees provide great benefits to the soil, more than we yet know. But these include reducing soil erosion, helping water penetration, encouraging soil microbes, mycorrhizal networks.

I'm sure the list could go on, but these reasons should be more than enough to make it a top priority to protect existing trees.

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 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,  
Andrea Castle  
South Australia, 5015, Australia

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Please reply to Andrea Castle at [REDACTED].

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