

# Public submissions for Urban Forest Inquiry close Friday

Residents in the City of Marion who wish to have their say in a parliamentary inquiry into protecting Adelaide's urban tree canopy have until 5 pm this Friday, 24 February, to make a submission.

State Parliament's [Environment Resources and Development Committee \(ERDC\)](#) launched the "inquiry into the urban forest" late last year.

The inquiry is looking at measures to assist in the selection and maintenance of site-appropriate species to improve the resilience of the urban forest and legislative and regulatory options to improve the resilience and longevity of urban trees.

Last week Council Members endorsed a City of Marion submission to the ERDC.

The submission highlights the significant issues the council is facing in meeting community priorities and expectations around tree management.

Key issues include:

- Dramatic losses of trees on private residential land with increased urban infill
- Climate change placing stress on trees with increased heat, reduced rainfall, and higher incidence of storms
- The low diversity of street trees making the urban forest vulnerable to pests, disease, and a changing climate.

The City of Marion made a range of recommendations to the ERDC including the need for:

- stronger tree protection laws in the State planning system
- increased State Government leadership and coordination around urban trees and greenspaces
- increased species diversity in the urban forest
- Utility infrastructure and trees to co-exist, rather than simply removing trees to make way for powerlines, roads, and other grey infrastructure.

You can read the City of Marion's submission in full in the agenda of the [February 14 General Council Meeting](#).

You can find out more about the inquiry on the [ERDC website](#) or email your submission to [ERDC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:ERDC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au)

*Image credit: Tree on Minchinbury Terrace, by Cath Leo.*

ENDS