

16 October 2018

Mr Mark Goldstone  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Adelaide  
GPO Box 2252  
Adelaide 5001

Dear Mark,

SECRA's attention has been drawn to concerns about the Council decision on 24 July 2018 to remove two healthy trees along the footpath at the north eastern quadrant of Hurtle Square.

It would appear that this decision was made as a result of the lodgement of a petition from a number of Hurtle Square residents containing 27 signatories indicating yes and 8 signatories indicating no to the replacement of all the trees along the eastern side of the north eastern quadrant of Hurtle Square.

The following concerns have been raised with SECRA:

- Some signatories may not have been aware that the petition was asking for the removal of two healthy trees as well as those trees that needed to be replaced because of their poor condition and not all residents and owners were made aware of the petition.
- It would appear that residents in the adjacent Windsor Apartments, that also overlook the north eastern quadrant of Hurtle square, were not consulted about the removal of the trees.
- The Council decision was not in accordance with Council's policy of removing as few trees as possible, particularly when trees are in good health and unlike young trees provide a habitat for fauna.
- The two trees in question were assessed to be healthy and in good condition by the Council's arborist and they would continue to be monitored over the coming years.

SECRA is of the view that healthy trees should not be removed unless they present a safety hazard and even then only after an extensive investigation is undertaken to ensure that removal is the only option. There is no such justification for the removal of the two healthy trees along the footpath at the north eastern quadrant of Hurtle Square.

In view of the above SECRA requests that the new Council be asked to rescind the Council decision made on 24 July 2018.

Regards



John Underwood  
Chairperson, South East City Residents Association  
Ph. 0428 232 418