

TREES NOT TESLAS

MEDIA RELEASE

03/06/2025

Say NO to Tesla! Keep green land in public hands!

In Short:

Despite receiving a **95% disapproval rating**, the City of Marion Council **has approved** plans to **revoke the community status of green space at 7A Chestnut Court Tonsley** and allow out-of-state developer MAB CCT Pty Ltd to build a **factory for tenancy by Tesla**.

We, as community members, **oppose this decision** and will be making our voices heard - once again - out front of the City of Marion Council building, 245 Sturt Road, Sturt, on Wednesday 4th of June at 12.30pm.

In Detail:

- **Public lands must stay public and green, for the health of our communities and our planet.**
- **Adelaide can't afford to lose more green spaces:** we're **only 10% parklands (compared to Sydney's 57%)** and have some of the lowest levels of tree canopy, in the driest state on the driest continent in the world.
- Clearing this public land will mean **removing at least 58 trees**, including mature trees that help cool the neighbourhood and support the reserve's biodiversity.
- These trees **actively help fight the ground contamination**, which **is larger and more spread than most realise**. **Once they're gone, they're gone**. Planting saplings in their place doesn't make up for this and paving over it doesn't fix the problem.
- Tesla is a **terrible financial investment**; their **value and sales have been plummeting** and any guarantee on returns is not secure.
- **Associating with a company like Tesla** (and subsequently **Elon Musk**) **risks bringing protests to the area**, gives the **community a bad image**, and **harms Tonsley's reputation**.
- A **huge** portion of the community (92% immediate, and 95% general) has **already made it known** what they think about this association.
- More than 100 jobs can be created in numerous other ways, that *don't* involve destroying public land and investing in a company with a **long history of union suppression, unsafe working conditions, and racial discrimination**.
- Finally, the **Council did not even consider other options** for this site, they took the first offer to rid themselves of the responsibility of looking after the land.

We're calling on the Council and the Minister for Local Government **Joe Szakacs** to:

- **Reject the revocation and sale** of this publicly owned green space.
- **Prevent the expansion of Tesla facilities** into the surrounding community.
- **Commit to consulting with Kaurna people and environmental groups** about how to deal with the contamination and how to care for the ecosystem of Chestnut Court reserve.

Visit treesnotteslas.com.au for more details and resources

Contact: treesnotteslas@gmail.com

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