

# TREES NOT TESLAS

MEDIA RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Community Rallies Outside of Marion Council Building to Oppose the Sale of Tonsley Green Space to Tesla

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Today a group of 27 community members gathered out front of the City of Marion council building to express their concerns over the council's decision to ignore the 95% disapproval rating – from respondents in their own community feedback report – and revoke the community status of Chestnut Court Reserve in order for it to be sold to Tesla.

Community members were invited to speak, and gave impassioned speeches about the need to maintain our natural environment, expressed their desire for public land to remain in public hands, and their concerns about both Tesla as a company and their billionaire Tesla CEO Elon Musk.

Placards were on display, stating such messages as: “95% Said No, Joe”, “Elon Musk Can Get [REDACTED]”, and one quoting Peter Malinauskus as having said “People Before Profits”.

Community member Rebecca C:

“I’m going to address the elephant in the room, this isn’t about jobs and this isn’t just about industry. This is actually about really big ethical dilemmas that we’re having now on this planet. This man, he did nazi salutes, for heavens sake. The guy is actually – he’s morally berthed.”

“What is the state government doing when they allow our councils to not represent the people and just become self-serving little businesses?”

Another community member, Margaret G, who held a sign stating “Trees Not Teslas!”:

“I’m more concerned about the mayor who put out in the City Limits yesterday how he’s “for green”, “for trees”, he put a blurb on the front page. I’d like him to answer, why?”

“That park could be something really beautiful, a reprieve to the people that are in the industry next door, the students at TAFE, they could come to that park, it could be good...the trees are struggling, they need our help.”

The rally ended with the community chanting “say it loud, say it clear: Elon Musk’s not welcome here”, “public land in public hands”, and “trees not teslas”; a call for the Council and the Minister for Local Government, Joe Szakacs, to reject the revocation and sale of this publicly owned green space and to prevent the expansion of Tesla facilities into the surrounding community, and thereby prevent the influence of billionaire Elon Musk on the City of Marion, and the Government of South Australia.

**IMAGES & VIDEO:** Phone Media Available now:

[https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/vkcs1blw00djhspooof8h/AJ\\_LCGheXi9wg9rc5Dy390o?rlkey=q7y78ejdmzxel6dt7g3mpf5qq&e=1&st=mpxv9igs&dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/vkcs1blw00djhspooof8h/AJ_LCGheXi9wg9rc5Dy390o?rlkey=q7y78ejdmzxel6dt7g3mpf5qq&e=1&st=mpxv9igs&dl=0)

Thank you very much if you came out today. If you covered us live, please send us any of your coverage!

**Trees Not Teslas**