



Adelaide Park Lands Association

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NEWS RELEASE

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Aquatic Centre rejects win-win option

The State Government has rejected the clearly-expressed wishes of an Adelaide survey, and stamped out the opportunity for a win-win, by choosing to repeat the mistakes of the past and put a new Aquatic Centre on your Open Green Public Park Lands.

The Premier announced today that a new \$82 million Aquatic Centre would be built in the south-western quadrant of Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2)

The site identified for the new centre contains 61 trees including 11 sugar gums, eight iconic river red gums, and six Moreton Bay fig trees. See the full list below.

A survey conducted by the Adelaide Park Lands Association in July this year received 682 responses, and found overwhelming support for building a new Aquatic Centre on a near-city brownfield site, rather than on Park Lands. The most popular response was for a site close to public transport in Thebarton, Hindmarsh, Bowden or Brompton.

<https://www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/blog/2022/7/31/when-given-a-choice>

Results of the survey were provided to Infrastructure Minister Tom Koutsantonis.

APA President Shane Sody says he doubts whether anyone within the State Government has bothered to read the responses to the survey.

"If they had read what people were saying, they would have realised how unpopular it would have been to attack Park Lands yet again.

"The Government's decision, announced today, represents a win-loss. Restoring the site of the current Aquatic Centre to Park Lands is welcome, of course, but it entails inflicting a brand new wound to Adelaide's Open Green Public Park Lands. It would have been a win-win if the State Government has listened to their own voters and targeted a near-city brownfield site instead."

The Government is also targeting Park Lands sites for a new High School (in Park 11) and is reviewing plans for a new Womens and Children's Hospital and a new multi-storey car park within Park 27.

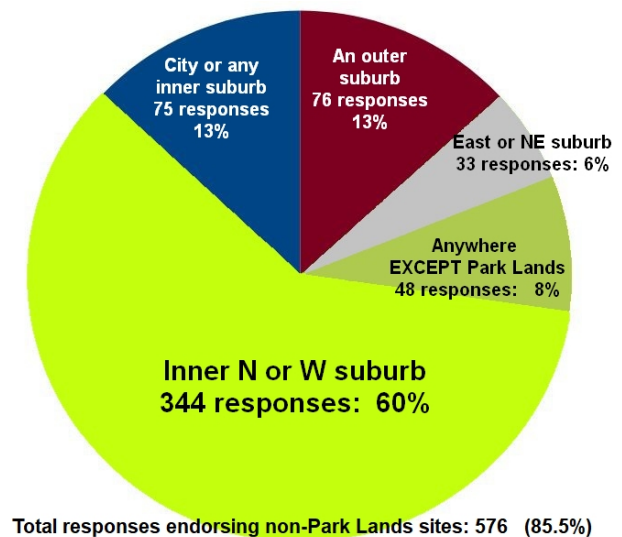
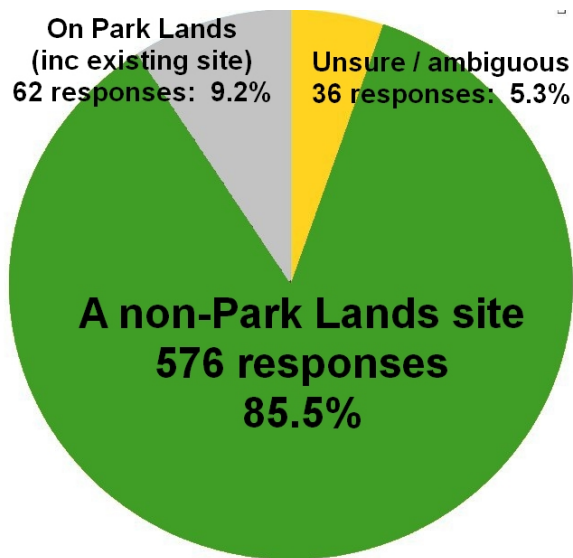
"It's long past time for State Governments to respect, and protect the world-unique treasure on our doorstep. We have the only city in the world built inside a Park, and yet this unique feature is treated, time after time, as merely vacant development sites waiting to be exploited."

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Tree – species uncertain	1
Sugar gums (Eucalyptus Cladocalyx)	11
Acacias (including golden wreath wattle)	3
Spotted gum (Corymbia Maculata)	4
Aleppo Pine (Pinus Halepensis)	4
Norfolk Island hibiscus (Lagunaria Patersonia)	3
Red box (Eucalyptus Intertexta)	2
Yellow gum (Eucalyptus Leucoxydon)	9
Moreton Bay Fig (Ficus Macrophylla)	6
other fig trees – species uncertain (Ficus)	2
Kurrajong (Brachychiton)	5
River red gum (Eucalyptus Camaldulensis)	8
Pink Gum (Eucalyptus Fasciculosa)	1
Other eucalypts – species uncertain	2

TOTAL 61

The full results of the survey, including all comments from 682 respondents, were forwarded to Premier Peter Malinauskas, Infrastructure Minister Tom Koutsantonis, and the Member for Adelaide, Labor's Lucy Hood.



The State Government has powers to acquire any land it needs. By [thinking outside the box](#), a new Aquatic Centre site could be a **win-win** for swimmers and your Open Green Public Adelaide Park Lands.

Before the State election in March 2022, SA Labor cautiously promised only that a new Aquatic Centre might be “adjacent” to the current site; leaving open the possibility of a brownfields site in a nearby suburb. The Labor party’s election promise did not openly threaten Park Lands.

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