



Adelaide Park Lands Association

c/o BK Partners Pty Ltd
P.O. Box 4056
Norwood South
SA 5067
secretary@adelaide-parklands.asn.au

ABN 19 706 384 386

NEWS RELEASE

“Plant to Protect” Thousands of paper dolls on Park Lands

Sunday 9 July at midday or earlier

Thousands of paper dolls will be standing up in Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla (Park 2) on Sunday to expose the State Government’s broken promises and win-lose plans for a new Aquatic and commercial centre on Park Lands.

Each one of the paper dolls will bear the name of a person who has signed a [petition, on change.org](#) urging the State Government to find an alternative win-win location for its promised \$135 million Aquatic Centre.

The [petition](#) is about to reach its target of 5,000 signatures.¹ However the State Government is ignoring these thousands of people.

Premier Peter Malinauskas is still pushing ahead with plans for not just a swimming pool, but also shops, club rooms, a gym, offices AND a vastly expanded car park, on your Park Lands right next to what would be the soon-to-be-demolished Aquatic Centre.

Adelaide Park Lands Association President Shane Sody says the State Government’s current plans would break three promises.

1. “They reneged on a promise to consult on the location of a new Aquatic Centre. Instead, they decided, without any consultation, to put it on your Park 2.
2. “They reneged on a promise to protect Adelaide’s tree canopy. Their plans would destroy dozens of mature sugar gums, blue gums and coral gums in your Park 2.
3. “And in a blow to thousands of swimmers, they’ve reneged on a promise to keep the old swimming centre open while their new one was being constructed.”

The [petition](#) SUPPORTS a new Aquatic Centre, but urges the State Government to find a different, brownfield site (e.g. a site near the tram line at Hindmarsh, Thebarton or Bowden). That would be a win-win for swimmers and for your Park Lands.

¹ At 9am on Friday 7 July there were 4,945 signatures. <https://www.change.org/p/save-these-trees-choose-a-brownfield-site-for-new-aquatic-centre>



Planting thousands of paper people – to represent the petition signatories - all over the Government’s proposed Park attack site will make it obvious how many people the Government is ignoring.

“Your Adelaide Park Lands are listed on the National Heritage Register. This is a national issue. This campaign has **the support of the Australian Heritage Council chair, former Victorian Premier, Ted Baillieu**, and many petition signatures have come from interstate.

“The State Government is purchasing 524 properties to upgrade South Road,” Mr Sody said. “But it's been unwilling to consider any brownfield site for a new Aquatic centre.

“The Government claims that the new Centre would be no larger than the old centre and would therefore represent no net loss of Park Lands. That argument ignores the loss of wildlife habitat. It’s also a win-lose strategy; rejecting a big win-win Park Lands restoration opportunity, and rejecting these thousands of petition signatures.

“If the State Government Loved Your Park Lands then it would be looking for a win-win, not a win-lose” Mr Sody said.

Details of the event – SUNDAY 9 JULY

- **from 8.00am** – volunteers begin planting the first paper people on the southern side of the Aquatic Centre in
- **11.30am** by this time it’s expected that 4,275 paper people² will be embedded in the grass, making an impressive visual display of support for this Park
- **12 midday** – media conference alongside the field of paper people.
- **12.30 pm** -paper people will be removed to be later delivered to the Premier.

Contact: Shane Sody, President
Ph: 0414 959 125

² We should have ordered more, but under-estimated how rapidly support was growing!