



Adelaide Park Lands Association

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NEWS RELEASE

Friday 17 March 2023

“Splash Out for your Park Lands” Saturday 18 March at 10am

Flippers, goggles, snorkels and boogie boards will come out tomorrow, Saturday 18 March 10am at the old West End Brewery Site, underneath the huge FOR SALE sign.

The Adelaide Park Lands Association has called on the Government to explain why it is not purchasing the old West End brewery site, nor any other brownfield site, for much-needed infrastructure.

APA President Shane Sody says the State Government has given lip service to a push for World Heritage listing of the Adelaide Park Lands. “However, words alone will not protect and restore your Adelaide Park Lands” Mr Sody says.

“The Government can show it’s serious about UNESCO World Heritage for your Park Lands when it decides to protect and restore them. This means finding OTHER sites to put new infrastructure. The Government needs to SPLASH OUT to purchase brownfield sites for new facilities like schools, hospitals, police barracks and even an Aquatic Centre.

“The Government is splashing out to buy **524 properties** to upgrade South Road. But so far, it hasn't tried splashing out to buy even ONE brownfield property to protect nor restore any part of your Park Lands.

“**This event is a PRO-development rally.** The Adelaide Park Lands Association wants to see new schools, new hospitals, and a new Aquatic Centre. We support SA Police and their mounted operations too. But we REJECT the false narrative that all this needed infrastructure must always be sited on your world-unique Open Green Public Park Lands.

“New Yorkers wouldn't tolerate sacrificing their Central Park like this. Adelaide can do so much better.

“Park Lands supporters will be gathering at the old West End Brewery site on Port Road, underneath the huge 'For Sale' sign. Many of those coming will be wearing or carrying swimming gear, such as flippers, goggles, snorkel, floaties or boogie board, to encourage the Government to “splash out”.

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BACKGROUND FOR MEDIA

The Police Commissioner wants a secure fenced site of 8 hectares in your public Park Lands, for not just 40 horses, but also stables, offices, and storage facilities.

Coincidentally, the old West End brewery site (currently for sale) is 8.4 hectares.

It is just one of many potential sites in the City, Hindmarsh or Thebarton area that would benefit from the rejuvenation that could be sparked from any new large-scale State Government investment. In particular any brownfield site on or near Port Road would be much more convenient for patrons of a new Aquatic Centre, with the tram-line nearby.

It would also be easier for police horses to get to the entertainment precinct of Hindley Street via Bonython Park, rather than having to come across all streets in the City from the suggested new barracks site in Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W).

More than 2,500 people have signed a petition calling for the State Government to choose a brownfield site for its proposed new Aquatic Centre. In a separate survey conducted last year, more than 85% of respondents wanted the Government to choose a non-Park Lands site for a new Aquatic Centre.

The State Government so far has refused to respond, to explain why it's not splashing out.

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