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Government of South Australia
Department for Environment and Water

National Parks and Wildlife Service
South Australia

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Subject: Fwd: Open Space and Recreation Infrastructure 2024-2034 Draft AMP

[redacted]

To whom it may concern

This communication mentions planning for 30 by 30 so we want you to know what we said and to whom at the Charles Sturt Council.

Regards Pauline and Denys

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[redacted]

Subject: Open Space and Recreation Infrastructure 2024-2034 Draft AMP

[redacted]

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

For financial reasons, local councils are engaged in a mammoth private garden downsizing program. We are in our 80s and live on a 950sqm block with lawn and trees around our single-story four-bedroom house. For us, downsizing means a two-storey, three-bedroom house on a block 30% of the area of our current block with just enough room to walk around the sides of the house and very little space at the front or back for a garden. We applaud the plans for shared outdoor space to be provided at the nearby St James development and understand why 4-story accommodation is necessary to accommodate more and more people, but our quality of life will suffer if we lose our private garden. We know people our age should be looking for aged care accommodation but we do not want to lose even a fraction of our independence and space. We like living where we are and intend to keep living here without feeling guilty. Fortunately, we have the excuse that our families in Canberra and Hobart and swimming friends from interstate like to stay with us when in Adelaide.

What we do find unacceptable about the current process is the coastal degradation of seagrass caused by extra stormwater outflows from water-shedding suburbs. This runs counter to the standard mitigation hierarchy for preserving biodiversity from harm which lists **avoid** before **minimise**, **rehabilitate/restore** and **offset** in the order of measures to conserve biodiversity. Australia is a party to the 30 by 30 goal included in the Global Biodiversity Target set at COP15 in 2022. State and Federal governments are planning to conserve 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine areas by 2030.

It would make us very happy to hear that Charles Sturt Council is involved in this planning. Government support at this crucial time together with some of the extra rates and taxes from the private garden reduction program may avoid further degradation and even start the process of regeneration of seagrass along the beaches in our area.

PS

When we can no longer swim along the beach to witness the sea grass degradation close up we would like to cycle or push our wheelchairs, especially from Grange to Semaphore, so please finish the coastal path.

We hope our sentiments are useful for your Open Space & Recreation Infrastructure Asset Management Plans.

Regards

Pauline and Denys Smith

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