

# The Hon Steven Marshall MP

#### PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

B574459

Mr Shane Sody
President
Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association Inc.
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NORWOOD SA 5067

Email: secretary@adelaide-parklands.asn.au

Dear Mr Sody,

I write to thank you for your recent letter on behalf of the Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association Inc (APPA) regarding motorsport in the Adelaide Parklands.

I acknowledge the point you have raised regarding the disruption the Superloop Adelaide 500 causes to the city. This however must be weighed up against the significant economic impact the race brings to the State, as well as the profile the event provides both domestically and globally as an iconic street circuit.

The State Government is committed to hosting the Superloop Adelaide 500 in the streets of Adelaide as a city-based circuit through to 2021 and beyond. The Bend Motorsport Park has however received significant State Government investment, through the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC), to host international and national events. This includes the State's second Supercars event, which is a 'SuperSprint' and a different format to the Superloop Adelaide 500 street circuit event.

I note your comments regarding reducing the build and dismantle process of the Superloop Adelaide 500. Please be assured the event's management team continually reviews the infrastructure and operations of the event.

Attached to this letter is a list of actions the event management team has undertaken over the years to reduce the impact of the car race. These improvements have been undertaken in consultation with the community and with the purpose of minimising disruption.

I also note the request to reduce the build and dismantle time to two weeks either side of the race. Given the significant work that has already been undertaken to reduce the build time by six weeks, I am advised this request is not currently feasible, unless there was a permanent community mixed-use facility that could be occupied as a pit pavilion for the Superloop Adelaide 500. This is not something the State Government is currently considering.

Please be advised, in 2020, more than 206,000 patrons attended the Superloop Adelaide 500 over the four days and it remains the largest domestic motor sport event of its kind in Australia. The Superloop Adelaide 500 has consistently delivered a positive economic impact for South Australia and within the context of a four-day event, is considered a major event of significance to the State. Like any event the government invests in, we will continue to monitor this investment and gather information to make informed decisions.

I also thank you for bringing the Rainbow Circuit proposal to my attention. Please be advised I have shared this proposal with the Hon Rob Lucas MLC, Treasurer for his information in the context of State Budget preparations.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to write to me and I trust the information alleviates some of your concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Steven Marshall MP

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/ 2020

Encl: Actions undertaken by the Adelaide Superloop 500 event management team in recent years

# Actions undertaken by the Adelaide Superloop 500 event management team in recent years

- Parkland occupation has been reduced from 24 weeks in 2016 to 18 weeks in 2019 and 2020.
- Britannia Roundabout remains functional during the race period, when previously it was closed.
- On Fullarton Road, two southbound lanes and one northbound lane have been retained during the event, as opposed to a single lane contraflow in previous years.
- Fullarton Road's slip lane and footpath have also been removed from the event precinct.
- Dequetteville Terrace's contraflow to build Brabham Grandstand is no longer installed 12 days prior to event. The build now commences after Saturday's road closure, five days prior to the event.
- Rymill Lake, the Rose Garden Path and Tandanya Park have all been removed from the event precinct.
- The Pirie Street Grandstand has been removed.
- Modifications have been made to Turn 7 layout, to avoid annual kerbing and traffic island removal and reinstatement.
- Hutt Street road closure pre-event has been postponed from 6am Saturday to 10am Monday.
- Infrastructure has been consolidated within Park 16, significantly reducing the event's footprint.
- All infrastructure is removed from Park 14 and 15 by Friday COB post-event.
- Hutt Street's western footpath and Wakefield Road's southern footpath have been removed from the event precinct.
- Fullarton Road contractor compounds have been relocated to ensure more open access to the Parlk.
- Concert precinct has been relocated into Park 16, reducing remediation and providing a quicker handover for community and sporting use.
- Reduced Hairpin runoff to remove encroachment with central bike path.
- Back straight is closed for one week during build and dismantle to reduce public interface and safety risk.
- Removed Gate 1 entrance from the eastern end of Halifax Street and moved perimeter fencing away from the edge of the Park.



## Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association, Inc.

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Steven Marshall MP Premier, Minister for Tourism GPO Box 2343, ADELAIDE SA 5001

**Dear Premier** 

### Motor sport and a proposed Adelaide Rainbow Circuit

I am writing to you in your capacity as Minister for Tourism and as the Minister to whom the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* is committed.

South Australia has an enviable world-wide reputation as a "clean, green" state. Our primary producers benefit from this reputation in securing exports. South Australia also enjoys a deserved reputation as a world-leader in take-up of renewable energy, combined with battery storage.

These reputational benefits are complemented by the world-unique, National Heritage Park Lands garlanding Adelaide – something that no other city in the world could ever hope to match.

As South Australia emerges from the shadow of COVID-19, I note that your Government has been examining options and potential projects to re-start economic growth, and prepare for a resumption of interstate and international tourism.

The Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association (APPA) urges you to take this opportunity to investigate two potential, complementary actions that would emphasise and build upon this State's strengths.

## **Motor sport**

For decades, the Adelaide community has patiently tolerated the annual months-long takeover of the eastern Park Lands to facilitate a four-day motor sport event. In recent years the popularity of the event has been waning. Doubts have emerged about whether even the supposed short-term private economic benefits outweigh the substantial public costs. It seems incongruous that in a world reeling from the effects of human-induced climate change, South Australia is still actively promoting an event that celebrates unnecessary fossil fuel combustion. For up to five months every year, the intrusive Adelaide 500 motor race also compromises the public's enjoyment of a large swathe of Adelaide's greatest asset, the Park Lands.

Accordingly, APPA urges you to consider whether the time has come to withdraw Government support for motor racing in the Adelaide Park Lands. If Government support for fossil fuel motor racing is to continue, then I urge you to consider moving the event to the new circuit at Tailem Bend. Alternatively (or in the interim), I urge you to use your powers under the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984 to* require the annual build time and dismantling time for the motor race to be substantially shortened. No more than two weeks either side of the event should be required. This would minimise disruption to public access and enjoyment of the eastern Park Lands.

#### **Adelaide Rainbow Circuit**

APPA is one of many organisations helping to promote a proposal to link Adelaide's garland of Park Lands in an unbroken, colourful, illuminated cycling, walking and running loop.

The idea is being promoted privately by local resident Jason Redman. Mr Redman's proposal encompasses a number of worthwhile goals: encouraging active tourism, highlighting Adelaide's Kaurna and European heritage, promoting better health, and encouraging connections between Adelaide's existing near-city attractions.

The proposal would include a network of new bridges and/or tunnels to take runners, pedestrians and cyclists under or over each of the roads that cut through the Park Lands. The proposed circuit would also feature sustainable solar-driven lighting and luminescent materials on the pathways, to encourage its use both day and night

An opportunity to run, walk or cycle around a major city (day or night) entirely within a world-unique Park setting, and without the hazards of dodging traffic would be a drawcard that, if properly promoted, could attract international tourists in its own right. It would also add value to local residents as well as anyone who might be visiting Adelaide for other reasons.

Apart from APPA, the proposal also has in-principle support from the Adelaide City Council, Business SA, Kaurna Warra Pintyanthi, Bicycle SA, Walking SA, the Bicycle Institute, the SA Road Runners Club and Athletics SA.

The Adelaide Park Lands enjoy National Heritage status under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection* and *Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Therefore, it might be possible for the State Government and the Adelaide City Council, working in co-operation through the Capital City Committee, to leverage partial funding from the Commonwealth for such a project.

As a first step, we support Business SA's recommendation to include in this year's State Budget, a feasibility study for this globally-unique proposal.

Although these are separate issues, I suggest that the Adelaide Rainbow Circuit would be much more in keeping with Adelaide's world reputation as a "clean, green" city than continued State sponsorship of an anachronistic disruptive fossil fuel event.

Yours sincerely

Shane Sody, President

1 June 2020