Dear Minister Knoll

I am writing to respectfully request your urgent action to preserve and protect the City of Port Adelaide Enfield’s unique heritage and character, by delaying the scheduled 1 July 2020 implementation of the Planning and Design Code.

This is needed to give time to develop a fit for purpose consultation document, correct errors in the e-planning platform, and to make both available for the community to engage in meaningful consultation about the reforms and improvements envisaged under the Code.

For me as a community member, the draft Code has been impossible to navigate and too many users are reporting errors in the e-planning platform that the system relies on. The supporting documents also on consultation indicate that the Code will either remove or weaken key protections for state and local heritage and character, and introduce greater uncertainty for homeowners and developers alike. I’m extremely worried about the failure to recognise contributory items in policy, the weakening of demolition controls, the as yet unknown quantum of costs of heritage assessment under the new scheme, and erosion of our rights to shape heritage and character into the future.

In its current form the Code presents a serious threat to heritage. I urge you to listen to the community’s growing outcry, to delay implementation and to direct your Department and the Planning Commission to work with bodies like the Port of Adelaide National Trust for better policy and a better outcome.

Yours faithfully

[Signature]

Pamela Child