

## Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

**Submission No:** 58  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

To the Committee, I write to express my strong opposition to the Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements (Brisbane 2032) Amendment Bill 2024, particularly the proposal to designate Victoria Park / Barrambin as a stadium site and to exempt Olympic developments from 15 foundational pieces of Queensland legislation.

1. **Victoria Park / Barrambin Is Not the Right Site** Victoria Park / Barrambin is Brisbane's largest inner-city park, a place of immense cultural, ecological, and community significance. Developed through years of community consultation, the Victoria Park Master Plan reflects a shared vision for open green space, reconciliation, and environmental sustainability. The sudden reversal of this plan through secretive decision-making and without genuine public consultation represents a serious breach of public trust. As a nearby resident, I personally know how important this park is for recreation, mental wellbeing, and community connection. It is a place of peace and ecological resilience in a rapidly densifying city. Replacing it with a stadium complex would permanently and irreversibly damage this space.

2. **The Legislative Changes Are Dangerous and Unjustified** The Bill seeks to override core protections under 15 pieces of legislation—including environmental, planning, water, and heritage laws. This includes stripping away access to judicial review and undermining Traditional Owner rights through a fast-tracked cultural heritage process that defaults to government control. This sets a disturbing precedent: removing the rights of communities, First Nations peoples, and the courts to scrutinise large-scale developments. Such an approach is not democratic governance—it is deregulation for the benefit of corporate and commercial interests under the guise of Olympic legacy.

3. **Broken Promises and Community Opposition** This proposal stands in direct contradiction to the election promises made to preserve Victoria Park as public green space. Community voices have been clear: we want the Master Plan honoured—not erased for temporary Olympic prestige. Stadium construction in the park contradicts the Olympic Host Contract, violates local heritage listings, and flies in the face of overwhelming public concern.

4. **Viable Alternatives Exist** Queensland has time and options. Existing stadiums—including the Gabba, Ballymore, Suncorp, and QSAC—can be upgraded at lower cost and with less disruption. If a new venue is truly required, industrial areas near public transport corridors—such as near Albion, Rocklea, or Bowen Hills—should be considered instead. These locations are better suited, more accessible, and do not involve the destruction of precious urban green space.

5. **What I Urge the Committee to Do** I respectfully request that the Committee:

- a) Remove Victoria Park / Barrambin from Schedule 1 (Authority Venues);
- b) Withdraw the cultural heritage override provisions and ensure Traditional Owners retain free, prior, and informed consent;
- c) Ensure Olympic developments are subject to the same laws and court scrutiny as all other developments;
- d) Uphold the Victoria Park Master Plan as the community's agreed roadmap for the future of this space.

This Bill represents a turning point. It asks whether our public institutions will stand for transparency, heritage, and public good—or cave to short-term corporate interests. I urge the Committee to recommend a future that respects community vision, environmental responsibility, and democratic process.