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

Submission No: 298

Submitted by:

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Submitter Comments:

As a Queenslander who grew up under the corrupt Bjelke-Petersen government, that ran roughshod over environment and heritage laws, wantonly destroying much of Brisbane's heritage, I am shocked to yet again be living under an LNP government prepared to sacrifice culture, environment and heritage to profit. The Crisafulli government is using the law just as destructively as the Bjelke-Petersen government used the bulldozers of the Dean Brothers under cover of midnight. Today they are more brazen and less ashamed of their disrespect for the law, order and process, rather blatantly distorting it to fit the shape of their greedy desire for property development profit over publicly-owned green space and Indigenous heritage. The 15 Queensland planning, environmental and heritage laws the Crisafulli Government is brushing aside were put in place precisely to protect cultural, environmental and heritage values and avoid the loss and destruction of important places and spaces. What a shameful episode in our history this is and one on which we will all look back on with sadness and disbelief, at the greed and short-term vision of this LNP government. The proposed Bill will remove access to the Courts in relation to the construction of Olympics venues or villages. It will override First Nations cultural heritage protections using a new process which railroads Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people into a default plan if they don't agree in the timeline specified by the Bill. Victoria Park / Barrambin is Brisbane's largest inner-city park, a rare green space for recreation, ecology, and cultural heritage and a deeply significant sight to Aboriginal peoples. The Victoria Park Master Plan was developed after almost four years of community consultation so the shock announcement of Olympic venues in Victoria Park is a damning betrayal of community trust on the part of the Crisafulli Government.. A Stadium in Victoria Park is a violation of Olympic Host Requirements: Constructing a stadium would breach the Olympic Host Contract, which mandates avoiding permanent structures in protected areas and prioritizing previously developed sites. Traffic Congestion: The area already experiences significant traffic from nearby hospitals, schools, and universities. A stadium would exacerbate this.Loss of Green Space: Victoria Park provides vital green space. There are mature native trees in this park which pre-date European settlement and date to pre-1750. The park serves as a natural cooling area, mitigating urban heat. Development would increase heat retention and reduce air quality. Victoria Park holds deep cultural importance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Development risks disturbing sacred sites and erasing historical significance. Every inch of Victoria Park is heritage listed at the local or state level. This land is part of the story of Brisbane and has a rich WWII and depression era history. I respectfully ask that your report to Parliament recommend that:1. Victoria Park / Barrambin be removed from Schedule 1 (Authority Venues); 2. The cultural heritage override provisions be withdrawn; 3. Olympic developments be subject to existing Queensland laws like all other developments; 4. The Victoria Park Master Plan be upheld as a reflection of the community's vision for the park. Thank you.