

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

**Submission No:** 373  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I do not support this bill, for the reasons outlined below. The argument that this bill is required to build infrastructure necessary for the successful delivery of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and to meet the requirements of the host city contract, does not hold considering Brisbane won hosting rites for this event based on widely publicised promises of economic and environmental sustainability and the use of existing venues. Indeed, in the pre-election Games bid Victoria Park Barrambin was singled out as a site for preservation, increased greening and potential re-wilding. This park is a significant First Nations cultural site, which the host city contract also specifies should not be contemplated for the construction of permanent Olympic venues. Ironically, it appears the government is proposing to drastically change Queensland's law in order to flout rather than meet the requirements of the pre-election bid and the host city contract. It has been argued that these new laws are required to expedite development to ensure important infrastructure is delivered for Queensland communities. However this argument obfuscates the reality that these new laws are primarily needed to allow the government to pursue hitherto illegal developments in protected, heritage-listed public parkland. Most other major state infrastructure projects that will form part of the Olympic legacy can be delivered using existing legal pathways available to the government, without the need for heavy handed legislative changes that restrict human rights. With this in mind, the proposition that this bill is required in order to secure important infrastructure for our city's legacy is also not viable. If the Olympics were not being held in Brisbane, the idea of overriding 15 pieces of legislation developed over many years by both sides of government, primarily to reclaim large swathes of irreplaceable parkland for multi-billion dollar stadiums that are largely geared towards profit, would not even be contemplated. The state and the sporting codes would need to consider alternative site options, such as a restored Gabba, Chandler swimming complex, or other brownfield sites that could be rejuvenated to host stadium infrastructure and provide a true legacy for our city. They would need to abide by existing legislation, and pay heed to proper planning processes and safeguards against mismanagement and corruption, ensuring that the projects are economically viable and suitable for Brisbane. Essentially, this bill proposes that the needs of a four-week Olympic/Paralympic event should take precedence over Brisbane's environment and cultural heritage, and our commitment to the rule of law and democratic processes. As the bill itself acknowledges, it will significantly limit our human rights, namely our fundamental right to freedom of expression and the right to fair hearing. This type of governance will never result in positive outcomes. In a true democratic society, community participation must not be legislated away to ram through ill-conceived and short-sighted developments that privilege a few, over the rights of many. 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.