

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

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Submitted by: Eloise Clare
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Submitter Comments:

The destruction of Victoria Park - a green space that has operated as the lungs of Brisbane City for decades (even as a golf course) - is shortsighted. It will deprive future generations in this city of beautiful, usable public space for a two week long event, when we already have more appropriate places to rebuild our sports stadiums (such as the Gabba). The better longterm investment would be to rebuild the Gabba, moving the Lions to Springfield for the short-term, and invest in the road infrastructure around the stadium. The bus and rail stations are already in place and the businesses and restaurants around the Gabba rely on the stadium to stay afloat. There is no such infrastructure or commercial restaurant business around Victoria Park - to build there would disrupt a lot of homeowners and deprive the local community of beautiful public space. The point of hosting an Olympics is to shine a national spotlight on our beautiful city - how foolish will we look if we destroy one of its best features? What will people visit if we set out to destroy our public spaces? Every major city in the world is renowned and lauded for its public green space - think Hyde Park, Central Park, Golden Gate Park, and Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. If we wish to stand on the global stage, we must make sure we have globally significant places of interest to compete. Finally the unprecedented scrapping of 15 laws without adequate public consultation or a mandate from the electorate to do so is a disgraceful breach of trust. It removes any legal avenues to scrutinise and publicly test the idea of a stadium at Victoria Park, which means the public will never have any assurance that this was the right course of action. It also goes against the ethos of the Olympic spirit to treat the population of the host city with such disregard. I am asking the committee to please remove Victoria Park from the list of authorised venues, maintain the existing Heritage and Cultural Protection Laws that are under threat, and treat the construction of new Olympic venues like any other development.