

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

Submission No:	457
Submitted by:	Rethink the Gabba Inc.
Publication:	Making the submission and your name public
Attachments:	See attachment
Submitter Comments:	



20 May 2025

State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee

Re: Inquiry into Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Dear Committee Members,

These legislative changes are supposedly being done in the name of "efficiency," however it is a fairly thinly veiled attempt to limit not only the ability of any dissenting voices to have their say, but to have any meaningful consultation.

It may seem like this is a good way to "get things done" more quickly, but we would like to remind you what happened when the previous State government tried to impose massive changes on the community of East Brisbane and Woolloongabba in 2023. When it was announced that the Gabba stadium was going to be the main stadium for the Olympics, this was done without any community consultation.

The state government assumed they could close down 2 local schools, destroy 2 local parks, demolish homes, close major roads, force the relocation of professional AFL and cricket, all without any input from the community or relevant stakeholders.

It seemed that the government of the time thought that the public would accept any and all inconvenience in the name of the Olympics. However, had they bothered to talk to the community, they would have understood that the true value to the community came from practical, every-day infrastructure, such as schools, parks and small businesses.

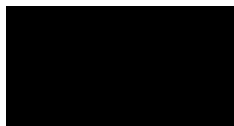
As has been well-publicised, the community protested, with our message gaining more and more national and international attention, until the State government had to back-track on its decision and publicly admit that its decision-making was flawed.

If the current State government tries to override planning laws in the mistaken belief that communities are willing to prioritise the Olympics over everything else, they risk suffering the same consequences. In short, when you exclude communities from essential decisions impacting their future, they will push back, sometimes with devastating political consequences.

As such we would urge you to reconsider this decision to override so many laws, and instead adopt a more collaborative approach.

We will never arrive at outcomes that please absolutely everyone, but by following due process and consulting with relevant stakeholders, at least all parties will feel they have been heard, and issues that may have been previously overlooked can be addressed.

Yours sincerely,



Austin Gibbs

Co-founding Member

Rethink the Gabba Inc.

Appendix 1: About Rethink the Gabba

Rethink the Gabba inc. is a non-profit, non-political, member-based community organisation that advocates for community issues impacting the Woolloongabba, East Brisbane and Kangaroo Point communities.

Appendix 2: List of Panning Laws To Be Circumvented By the Current Proposal

- (a) the City of Brisbane Act 2010;
- (b) the Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995;
- (c) the Economic Development Act 2012;
- (d) the Environmental Offsets Act 2014;
- (e) the Environmental Protection Act 1994;
- (f) the Fisheries Act 1994;
- (g) the Integrated Resort Development Act 1987;
- (h) the Local Government Act 2009;
- (i) the Nature Conservation Act 1992;
- (j) the Planning Act 2016;
- (k) the Queensland Heritage Act 1992;
- (l) the Regional Planning Interests Act 2014;
- (m) the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009;
- (n) the Vegetation Management Act 1999;
- (o) the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008