

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

**Submission No:** 536  
**Submitted by:** Sarah Martin  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

To the committee, I am dismayed at having to make this submission. I am appalled that, in 2025, I am writing to the Queensland Government to ask them not to override 15 Queensland laws. Laws such as the Environmental Protection Act, the Nature Conservation Act and the Queensland Heritage Act. Laws that exist to protect Queensland's First Nations' heritage, Queensland's natural environment and Queenslanders' right to protest via the courts when development decisions don't align with the public good. I was a teenager during the Bjelke-Petersen era. The Crisafulli government's plan to override the rights of the individual Queenslanders to make life easier for politicians and developers is right out of the Joh Bjelke-Petersen playbook. Exempting this development from public scrutiny and removing the right of Queenslanders to protest via the courts is a very concerning proposition and makes the risk of corruption very likely. Access to the courts is a basic right of all Queenslanders. Removing this right with by overriding 15 existing laws is an extraordinary move for any government to make and does not align with any of the democratic ideals we celebrate in Australia. The fact that the Crisafulli government is proposing to remove my right to protest this development in the courts suggests that the Premier and his Ministers realise there is NOT broad public support for this decision. Removing access to the courts is right out of the fascist playbook and is NOT something I ever expected to occur in Queensland. Victoria Park is Brisbane's largest inner-city park. My family and I love it there. I enjoy wandering up and down the hills, examining the plants and admiring all the hard work being done by the landscapers and gardeners there. I love the enormous trees in the park, some of which I was surprised to learn pre-date European settlement. My boys attend Brisbane Grammar School. They do their cross country training through the park and love the chance to immerse themselves in nature while running. The Victoria Park Master Plan was developed after several years of public consultation. It is ASTONISHING to me that now this plan is being thrown away in favour of concrete developments that will NOT be in use most of the time and which will NOT be available to all Queenslanders to use.

Additionally, I am an emergency physician and I have grave concerns about how this massive development will impact access to the RBWH Emergency Department. The Olympic Host Contract mandates that new permanent structures in protected areas should be avoided and that all Olympic-related developments should be undertaken on previously developed sites. Digging up a unique and precious green space does NOT align with the goals of the International Olympic Committee. I, a long-term and usually proud Queensland resident, respectfully ask that your committee's report to Parliament recommend that: 1. Victoria Park 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. In 50 years' time a "new" stadium will be old and tired and need replacing. In 50 years' time a beautiful green space will still be a beautiful green space, as long as it is protected for all to enjoy. Yours sincerely, Dr Sarah Martin [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]