

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

**Submission No:** 691  
**Submitted by:** Linda Rose  
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**Submitter Comments:**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (the Bill)  
**Date:** Saturday, 17 May 2025 11:50:38 PM

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I'd like to add these comments regarding the Bill

## The Bill's Concerning Provisions

The Bill contains several concerning provisions that warrant rejection:

### Exemption from Critical Legislation

- The Bill proposes to exempt construction of Olympics venues and villages from 15 Queensland planning, environmental, and heritage laws
- This includes exemptions from the Planning Act, Heritage Act, and Environmental Protection Act
- These laws exist to protect Queensland's environment, heritage, and community interests
- Exempting Olympic developments from these laws creates a dangerous precedent of selective application of law

### Removal of Legal Rights

- The Bill would remove any access to the Courts in relation to the construction of Olympics venues or villages
- Access to courts is a fundamental right of all Queenslanders
- Removing judicial oversight eliminates an essential check and balance in our democratic system
- This provision significantly reduces transparency and accountability in the development process

### Override of First Nations Cultural Heritage Protections

- The Bill would override First Nations cultural heritage protections using a new process
- This process effectively railroads First Nations into a default plan if they don't agree in the timeline specified by the Bill
- This approach contradicts principles of proper consultation and informed consent
- It undermines reconciliation efforts and shows disregard for Indigenous cultural heritage

### Privatization of Public Assets

- The potential use of public parkland for commercial Olympic venues risks inappropriate privatization

- Exemptions from planning laws and court review bypass scrutiny and reduce transparency
- This approach creates concerning opportunities for corruption when dealing with valuable public assets
- Public parkland should remain in public hands for community benefit

On Fri, May 16, 2025 at 10:25 pm, Linda Rose [REDACTED] wrote:

# **Submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee Regarding the Preservation of Victoria Park/Barrambin**

## **Personal Details**

**Linda Elizabeth Rose**  
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## **Executive Summary**

This submission urges the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee to reject proposals for stadium development within Victoria Park/Barrambin and to preserve this vital land as a public green space. As Brisbane's largest inner-city park, Barrambin represents an irreplaceable community asset with significant Indigenous cultural heritage, environmental value, and recreational importance that must be protected.

## **Introduction**

As a lifelong Brisbane resident with family connections to the city spanning generations, Victoria Park/Barrambin has been a constant presence throughout my life. My regular involvement in wildlife rescue has given me intimate knowledge of the park's ecological importance. This submission presents the case against stadium development and for the preservation of Barrambin based on its Indigenous significance, environmental value, existing master plan considerations, and impractical construction challenges.

## **Key Arguments for Preservation**

## **Indigenous Cultural Significance**

Barrambin holds profound importance for Indigenous Peoples:

- York's Hollow and the broader Barrambin area are particularly important places for Indigenous People from Brisbane and beyond
- I have personally heard Indigenous elders speak about their deep cultural connections to Victoria Park/Barrambin
- The site has significant cultural heritage value that would be irreparably damaged by stadium development
- Preserving Indigenous cultural sites aligns with reconciliation commitments and cultural respect

## **Environmental Significance**

Victoria Park/Barrambin serves as a critical ecological sanctuary:

- York's Hollow and Ibis Island function as wildlife refuges in the urban environment
- My personal observations have documented at least 10 different bird species while monitoring the Ibis population
- The park provides essential habitat for urban wildlife in an area with diminishing green spaces
- The mature ecosystem supports biodiversity that cannot be easily replaced or relocated
- The park contributes to urban cooling, air quality, and flood mitigation

## **Existing Master Plan Investment**

Brisbane City Council has already committed significant resources to planning for the park's future:

- For four years, Brisbane City Council has invested substantial time and money developing a comprehensive 'master plan' for Victoria Park
- This existing plan would enhance environmental features while accommodating increased public use
- The master plan represents a community-endorsed vision that would be nullified by the stadium development
- Abandoning this plan would waste the considerable public resources already invested

## **Impractical Construction Site**

The topography and geology of Barrambin make it exceptionally unsuitable for stadium construction:

- The hilly terrain would require extensive earthworks to create a flat foundation
- Brisbane 'tuff rock' formations in the area present serious construction challenges
- Excavation and blasting would cause environmental damage and potential disruption to surrounding areas
- The challenging site conditions are likely to cause significant cost

overruns

- Alternative, more suitable locations exist for stadium development that don't require destruction of green space

## **Community Need for Green Space**

The preservation of Barrambin aligns with community priorities:

- Residents frequently express concern about the lack of green space in Brisbane's inner-city areas
- Destroying existing parkland contradicts the expressed needs of the community
- As Brisbane's largest inner-city park, Barrambin provides irreplaceable open space that cannot be recreated elsewhere
- The park offers accessible recreational opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds
- Green space has proven benefits for community mental health and well being

## **Proposed Solutions**

I respectfully request that the Committee consider the following actions:

1. Reject any proposals for stadium development within Victoria Park/Barrambin
2. Support the continuation and implementation of Brisbane City Council's existing master plan for the park
3. Recommend alternative sites for stadium development that do not require the destruction of established green space
4. Recognize and protect the Indigenous cultural significance of York's Hollow and the broader Barrambin area
5. Consider additional protections for the wildlife sanctuaries within the park, particularly York's Hollow and Ibis Island

Victoria Park/Barrambin is an irreplaceable community asset with significant Indigenous cultural heritage, ecological value, and importance to Brisbane residents. The proposed stadium development would destroy vital green space, damage a culturally significant site, waste years of master planning, and face considerable construction challenges due to the unsuitable terrain.

I urge the Committee to prioritize the preservation of this vital green space over development that could be accommodated at more suitable locations. This decision will affect not only our current community but generations of Brisbane residents to come.

Thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Elizabeth Rose  
May 16, 2025