



10 January 2025

The Authority Board
Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority
Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: 100DayReview@gvlda.au

Dear Board Members,

We appreciate the opportunity to make a submission to the 100 Day Review of Games infrastructure and planning.

Outdoors Queensland is the peak body for the outdoor sector in Queensland. We represent outdoor organisations and individuals in Queensland, consisting of a range of outdoor industry stakeholders, covering the five broad pillars of outdoor activities:

- outdoor recreation,
- outdoor education,
- outdoor health,
- nature-based tourism, and
- associated support services.

The mission of Outdoors Queensland is to ensure that all people have opportunities to create connections with Queensland's outdoors. Our vision is to create a world where the outdoors is a vital part of every healthy life - a healthy world comes from a balanced life, incorporating outdoor activities for all people.

Outdoors Queensland serves as the industry peak body for the outdoor sector, with a focus on building capacity and capability of outdoor people and outdoor organisations to help all people make connections with Queensland's outdoors.

Outdoors Queensland actively contributed to the development of Elevate 2042, including through attendance at the Brisbane 2032 Legacy Forum in March 2023. We look forward to seeing delivery of the legacy outcomes – that by 2042, we will live in an inclusive, more sustainable, and connected society, with more opportunities in life for everyone.

We wish to comment on the widely publicised proposal to construct a new stadium or stadia within the Victoria Park/Barrambin precinct for the 2032 Games. Outdoors Queensland objects to the proposal to construct stadium/stadia within that precinct. We understand that the scope of this 100 Day Review is “to focus on delivering the right projects in the right places with the right governance”, and we submit that Victoria Park/Barrambin is not the right place for what is being proposed.

Outdoors Queensland welcomed the transformation of Victoria Park golf course into much-needed parkland in the centre of Brisbane. We contributed to the master planning process undertaken by Brisbane City Council. The resulting parkland is a valuable community asset, and should not be seen as a blank slate for the construction of stadia. The suggestion that constructing stadia within this precinct is a productive use of this land ignores the inherent value of the current use of this land.

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Brisbane (and Queensland) needs more greenspace, not less, and the 2032 Games legacy should not involve reducing greenspace within the city. Regardless of clever accounting by the proponents of these projects, community parkland cannot be replaced through provision of landscaping and gardens around a stadium or stadia.

The proposed construction of new stadia within Victoria Park offends several of the guiding principles established for the 100 Day Review, including:

- maximising use of existing venues,
- value within the agreed funding envelope (a reported \$6B stadium price tag would leave only \$1.1B for all other Games infrastructure needs),
- legacy-focus (loss of the parklands would leave a negative legacy outcome), and
- benefits for rural and regional Queensland (it is difficult to see how an additional stadium in Brisbane would deliver benefits for rural and regional Queensland).

Principle 2 of the Brisbane City Council *Future Blueprint* identifies that “More greenspace will make our city liveable and sustainable for our children, and their children to follow. More greenspace will mean a healthier city with new places to relax as a community.”

The impact of a stadium/stadia would be contrary to the Queensland Plan which states that integrated communities and green spaces are part of our long-term plan (Goal 23).

At a global level, the World Health Organisation released a report in 2021 titled Green and Blue Spaces And Mental Health: New Evidence and Perspectives for Action (<https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/342931/9789289055666-eng.pdf>). The opening statement in the Foreword to that WHO report is as follows:

Natural environments and accessible green and blue spaces play a direct and indirect role in health and well-being. They can mitigate climate change impacts and lower the risks of disasters, as well as support active recreation; they provide a place to relax and leave daily stress behind for a while.

We suggest that the addition of a stadium or stadia would mean that Victoria Park/Barrambin would no longer be a place to relax and leave daily stress behind.

We understand that this submission may be published as part of the consultation process.

If you have any queries, please contact Executive Officer, Dom Courtney, on 0419 976 800 or eo@outdoorsqueensland.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Dom Courtney
Executive Officer / Company Secretary

