



Garth HAMILTON MP

Federal Member for **Groom**

Listening. Working for you!



17 August 2023

The Hon. Catherine King MP
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: minister.king@mo.infrastructure.gov.au

Dear Minister

I write to you in relation to the proposed upgrade of the Clive Berghofer Stadium (Toowoomba Sports Ground) in East Toowoomba in my electorate of Groom. The Toowoomba Sports Ground upgrade is being undertaken to support the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

On Wednesday 16 August, I attended a community forum in East Toowoomba where sporting organisations and residents expressed concern over the lack of consultation on the project, and fears that the upgrade is not in the best interests of the Toowoomba region.

Several questions were raised during the evening, and I committed to seek a response from the Queensland Government to the following:

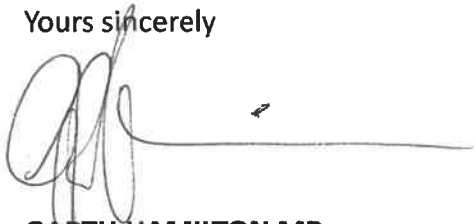
- What is the total cost of the Toowoomba Sports Ground project? How much funding is being allocated to the project from the Commonwealth Government and from the State Government?
- What are the next steps for community consultation (if any) with the local community in relation to progressing this project?
- When will detailed project plans be released as part of the consultation process?
- Which Olympic and/or Paralympic events are anticipated to be held at Toowoomba Sports Ground to justify the upgrade and allocation of funding?
- Has the historical value of the site (some parts were established in 1900) been considered in the project proposal?
- What is the expected start date for the project, and the expected completion date?

- Were other options within Toowoomba considered as alternatives to the Toowoomba Sports Ground proposed upgrade?
- What upgrades to public transport and/or road infrastructure will accompany the Toowoomba Stadium upgrade?
- How will future parking issues be addressed given current parking complaints and the anticipated increase in Toowoomba Sports Ground patrons?
- How will noise issues from the Toowoomba Sports Ground be mitigated to reduce impact on residents?
- How will impacts on residents and the local school be mitigated during the construction phase?
- How will sporting clubs who currently use the site (tennis, croquet and bowls) be accommodated during the construction phase and at the end of the Toowoomba Sports Ground upgrade?
- Noting the temporary seating proposals, what alternatives have been considered to reduce waste and maximise benefits of the investment?

Toowoomba is not opposed to investment in our community, however it is important to us that any investment is informed, has community support and leveraged to achieve legacy projects. This investment should be used to support the community for generations to come and not just to facilitate a short-term Olympic event.

Thank you in advance for providing responses to these questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hamilton', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

GARTH HAMILTON MP

Federal Member for Groom