

Opinion Piece

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Beyond 2032: A Bigger Vision for Brisbane's Gabba Precinct

As the Deputy Premier meets with potential investors in the US this week, we encourage him to channel the bold vision shown in the 2032 Delivery Plan and continue his focus on delivering generational legacy for Queensland.

Through siting the major venues for the 2032 Games within walking distance of the CBD, the Government's Delivery Plan has cemented the importance of the inner city and reinforced the value of major investments in public and active transport connections.

The location of the major venues has focused many stakeholders on the opportunity to shape the future utilisation of spaces that are either adjacent to- or can be connected to- the venues. Alongside this, the new plan should also prompt a considered view as to what we do with the spaces and places that were originally earmarked, but will no longer be required for, the Games.

Siting the arena- needed now, not for the Games- on the former Go Print site will make the most of existing transport investments and provide an anchor for the broader precinct.

But alongside the arena, what else will a growing Brisbane city-region need from this precinct in 10, 20, 30 or more years from now, when the stadium is no longer standing? And how will the vision for this precinct link with the now-uncertain future of the Visy site (South Bank 2.0)? Or Roma Street?

Over many decades, huge investments have been made in Brisbane's knowledge corridor, starting at the PA Hospital and Boggo Road innovation and biotech cluster, heading north through Woolloongabba, Albert Street and Roma Street, ending at the RBWH and Herston Health Precinct.

This eight-kilometre corridor physically connects the state's leading universities, hospitals, research institutions and businesses- through the new Cross River Rail and Metro- thereby promoting a culture of innovation, collaboration and place-making initiatives across Queensland's largest collection of knowledge-intensive industries.

Each precinct has unique fields of specialisation, with the Gabba earmarked to focus on health, sport and entertainment, alongside providing a variety of housing and recreational opportunities. A green heart is at its core.

With the Gabba Stadium to remain in use until post-2032, there is an opportunity to consider how this strategic site- and the many others now under consideration- sit alongside existing plans, such as Brisbane's Knowledge Corridor.

Bold initiatives that will drive our city's future connectivity, liveability and productivity are always welcome. But it's important to understand how they fit together within the bigger, bright picture of Brisbane's future.

Comments attributable to:





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