



17 November 2023
The Honourable Cameron Dick MP
Queensland Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment
Submission via website lodgement

Dear Treasurer,

The Queensland Chapter of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission for the 2024-25 Queensland Budget.

AILA is the peak national body for Landscape Architecture, championing quality design for public open spaces, stronger communities, and greater environmental stewardship. With our members, we anticipate and develop a leading position on issues of concern in landscape architecture. Alongside government and allied professions, we work to improve the design, planning and management of the natural and built environment. The AILA strongly recommends investment in the following three priority areas for members in Queensland which will support good design outcomes for the community:

1. Provide budget for a full-time Principal Landscape Architect in the Office of the Queensland Government Architect (OQGA).
2. Allocate appropriate funding and resources to implement the recommendation in the Ministerial Construction Council (MCC) sub-committee report into Project Leadership and Governance for a new QBCC sub-class license for Landscape Architects.
3. Allocate appropriate budget to fund research and develop an implementable 'Green Grid' strategy to support the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and provide an Urban Forest as a legacy for South-East Queensland.

Appendix One: Supporting Information for three priority areas of Funding on the following page outlines further details on the funding required to implement these areas.

Collaboration with landscape architects, urban planners, and other relevant professionals are vital. By engaging these experts throughout the planning and implementation processes, the Queensland State Government can ensure that landscape principles are integrated seamlessly into the built environment.

Prioritising green infrastructure, water-sensitive urban design, climate positive design and inclusive public spaces, sets a high standard for sustainable and well-designed urban development. We look forward to working further with the State Government and all key stakeholders to contribute to creating vibrant, resilient, and liveable spaces for the people of Queensland and believe that funding our key priorities outlined will assist in achieving this.

We look forward to engaging with you further around the 2024-25 Queensland Budget.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tessa Leggo', with a small dot at the end.

Tessa Leggo
Queensland Chapter President
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects



Appendix 1 : Supporting Information for three priority areas of Funding:

1. Provide budget for a full-time Principal Landscape Architect in the Office of the Queensland Government Architect (OQGA)

Given that the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Legacy Plan has now been released, it is reasonable to expect that demands on facilities and advice of the Queensland Government Architect's Office will increase exponentially as design briefing works for 2032 facilities ramp up. With this increasing workload it is vital that the OQGA is provided with additional resources in the upcoming state budget, with a focus on multidisciplinary design skills.

We strongly recommend that the OQGA is given a budget specifically to employ a Senior Registered Landscape Architect.

This would bring the OQGA in line with other State Government Architect Offices around the country and increase their ability to provide advisory services and design oversight related to public realm and across the Games design planning.

Budget Implication: \$250,000 per year

2. Allocate appropriate funding and resources to implement the recommendation in the Ministerial Construction Council (MCC) sub-committee report into Project Leadership and Governance for a new QBCC sub-class license for Landscape Architects

AILA received advice from QBCC and the State Government that Landscape Architects and Designers must obtain a QBCC licence to be engaged as a principal consultant for the Contract Administration phase on any project which has a built component of \$3,000 or more. However, QBCC do not offer a suitable licence category for Landscape Architects: the project management licence only applies to buildings and requires building experience. A recent MCC sub-committee report into Project Leadership and Governance recommended adding a QBCC sub-class license for Landscape Architects. This work needs to begin as soon as possible to allow landscape architects to continue to complete the important role of principal consultant on major landscape projects.

To allow for Industry consultation, legal advice and a full-time resource we recommend the following budget allocation for the next financial year budget:

Budget Funding required: \$300,000

3. Allocate appropriate budget to fund research and development of an implementable 'Green Grid' strategy to support the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and provide an urban Forest as a legacy for South-East Queensland.

- A Green Grid would develop and deliver a strategic network of open space and public realm for the region, expanding and enhancing parks, creeks, greenspace, footpaths and cycle ways.
- This would support recreation, biodiversity and waterway health for the region, and provide a lasting legacy for all Queenslanders by providing an integrated network that combines into our own Olympic Forest.



- The Green Grid should also be underpinned by Movement and Place principles, ensuring green connections between key Games venues and other centres and destinations.

Budget Funding required: \$500,000 for Design fees for an overall strategy for a Green Grid. Additionally, there could be a planning and design document that expands to the region and local centres.

Other Budget Implications: Priority implementation projects stemming from the strategy could be millions of dollars to implement (and would include additional design fees). For example. integrated shadeways along city arterials, creek corridor rehabilitation, completion of the riverwalk around the city loop, urban forest plantings into new and existing green space (including understorey), sport and recreation precinct enhancement.

We would like to highlight that the typical cost of a major road project is approximately \$5 Billion and strongly recommend that this budget is instead transferred to achieving a Green grid.