



Hon Paul Lucas MP



**Queensland
Government**

21 MAR 2011

**Deputy Premier and Attorney-General
Minister for Local Government and
Special Minister of State**

Our ref: MC11/879

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your petition No. 1620-11 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 17 February 2011 concerning the redevelopment of the sporting fields on the former QUT Carseldine Campus.

In response to the petition, I advise that the Government established the Urban Land Development Authority (ULDA) in November 2007 under the *Urban Land Development Authority Act 2007* to assist with improving housing affordability as part of the Queensland Housing Affordability Strategy.

In consultation with the community and key stakeholders, the Fitzgibbon Urban Development Area Development Scheme (development scheme) took effect from July 2009.

The ULDA has recently proposed an amendment to a precinct of the development scheme in order to appropriately reflect land use opportunities given that QUT has formally surrendered their former campus site and education uses have ceased. Notwithstanding, the subject precinct will retain a land area of 3.7ha which is the equivalent of two soccer fields or one senior AFL field for community sporting purposes.

The ULDA publicly notified the amended development scheme between 8 November 2010 and 20 December 2010. On 22 February 2011, and following consideration of public submissions, the ULDA submitted the amended development scheme to me for my consideration. I am advised that if a submitter is not satisfied with the ULDA's response, it may provide written representations to me within 20 business days of receipt of notification that the amendments have been submitted to me. This period commenced on 3 March 2011. To date I have not received any representations.

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Development in this area is expected to occur over a long term period. It is anticipated that there will continue to be ongoing capacity to accommodate the existing users and sporting groups within the precinct as development occurs. However, as development of the site progresses, the physical location of the existing sporting fields may change over time.

I am advised that the Department of Public Works is responsible for the management of the site and has been holding discussions with the existing users of the sporting fields. The Department of Public Works together with the ULDA will arrange further meetings between existing sporting group users, to facilitate ongoing access to the sporting fields. This will assist in ensuring all existing stakeholders can be accommodated as best as possible now and into the future.


The amended development scheme also proposes to increase the area of land in the bushland and open space zone within the former QUT site and provide for a more compact village heart. The increase of bushland and open space areas will provide a range of public spaces for future residents and workers. In addition, a number of smaller parks and open spaces will be provided within the proposed Urban Village for local informal use. Effectively, the ULDA has sought to balance development in the precinct to take advantage of the site's proximity to existing and future public transport networks while retaining an appropriate area of open space for existing and future residents and community use.

Overall, the development scheme provides for a significant increase in publicly accessible open space for the Fitzgibbon and Carseldine communities. This will include active pedestrian and cycle pathways, community halls, sports and other facilities contributing to over 160ha of bushland, civic and open space.

I am advised this is greater than 55 percent of the total UDA area. Work is well underway on 2.7km of tracks and trails through the Fitzgibbon Chase area and these will provide invaluable recreation opportunities for the local community. I am also advised that Brisbane City Council (BCC) intends to develop additional sporting facilities at Bill Brown Oval on the northern edge of the UDA in the future

The ULDA is committed to supporting BCC in the delivery of new facilities in appropriate locations. Other nearby existing significant facilities include O'Callahan Park in Zillmere and Marchant Park in Aspley.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lucas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAUL LUCAS MP
Deputy Premier and Attorney-General,
Minister for Local Government
and Special Minister of State