

TO: The Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland

The petition of the residents of Western Downs draws to the attention of the House:

That Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) is proceeding with plans to construct a Cultural and Tourism Centre in Thomas Jack Park, Dalby, without having obtained clear public consent. A petition signed by over 1122 residents opposing this plan was presented to Council in April 2024, but ignored. Only 747 residents participated in WDRC's survey — just 2% of the population.

Council has not asked the basic question: “Do you want the Centre built in the Park?” Instead, its engagement process was complex, pre-framed, and did not provide a straightforward “yes/no” choice. The community has not been given a real voice.

Thomas Jack Park is civic and environmental heritage, a highway rest stop, and a vital shared green space. Its loss would be deeply felt by Dalby and the region.

Your petitioners therefore request the House to:

1. Investigate whether WDRC complied with the Local Government Act 2009;
2. Compel Council to ask the community directly whether they support the Park's redevelopment;
3. Protect Thomas Jack Park as vital public, cultural, and transport infrastructure.

Full Name	Residential Address	Email or Phone	Signature