



International
Olympic
Committee

Olympic Games Department

Confidential

Marina Menardi,
President of Comitato Civico Cortina
Lausanne, 15/01/2024

Subject: Response to the Comitato Civico Cortina regarding the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 sliding track in Cortina d'Ampezzo

Dear President Marina Menardi and Members of the Comitato Civico Cortina.

Thank you for your letter dated 31 December 2023 expressing your concerns regarding the reconstruction of the "Eugenio Monti" sliding track in Cortina d'Ampezzo for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.

We appreciate your engagement and commitment to the well-being of Cortina d'Ampezzo and your dedication to the sustainable development of the region.

As you rightly noted, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has maintained a clear stance on the sliding track, emphasising that the construction or reconstruction of a new venue is not deemed essential for the bob, luge, and skeleton competitions of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.

In line with Olympic Agenda 2020 recommendations, the IOC has been unequivocal that no permanent venue should be built without a clear and viable legacy plan. This position was initially identified as a concern by the IOC Evaluation Commission for the Olympic Winter Games 2026 in their [report](#) in 2019, and has continued to be reiterated during all discussions concerning this venue.

The IOC firmly believes that the existing number of sliding centres, globally, is sufficient for the current number of athletes and competitions in the sports of Bobsleigh, Luge, and Skeleton. Furthermore, as affirmed during the IOC Session in Mumbai, only existing and already operating tracks must be considered due to the very tight timeline remaining.

Ensuring athlete and spectator safety and respecting the timeline outlined in the Milano Cortina 2026 dossier is paramount for the IOC. In this regard, we recognise the importance of homologation and test events in guaranteeing the safe and effective

implementation of all necessary measures for complex sport facilities, and for the safety of the athletes.

Considering all of this, it is crucial to reiterate that the potential realisation of a sliding track, along with all infrastructural works, is rooted in public investment, falling outside the competences of the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee.

We do however assure you that the IOC, the respective International Federations and the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising committee are working closely together to thoroughly evaluate the proposed solutions, taking into account safety, environmental impact, and legacy considerations.

An exhaustive analysis of proposed solutions for the sliding track, including international options, is ongoing within the agreed timeframe, slated for completion by the end of January 2024. We are confident that a resolution will unfold through a cooperative approach, emphasising sustainability and legacy not only for the sliding track but for the entirety of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Games project.

Thank you once again for your attention and dedication to the success of these Games.

Yours sincerely,



Kristin Kloster
IOC Coordination Commission Chair
Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026