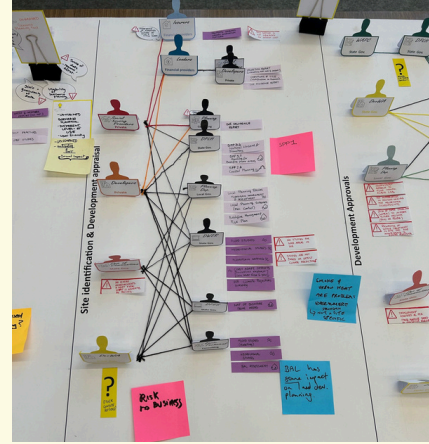


Planning
Institute
Australia

2025
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**AWARDS FOR
PLANNING
EXCELLENCE**



Convenor

Message from the Awards Convenor

It is my great privilege to welcome you to the 2025 Planning Institute of Australia Awards for Planning Excellence in Western Australia. This annual celebration stands as a testament to the dedication, ingenuity and leadership of our profession, and to the collective aspiration we share: to shape a resilient, inclusive and prosperous legacy for all Western Australians.

This year's submissions reflect an extraordinary evolution in our profession. No longer are we simply engaging with stakeholders; we are forging genuine, enduring partnerships. These projects demonstrate a transformation in how planning is conceptualised and delivered shifting from consultation to co-creation, from participation to shared ownership. This change is not only timely but essential as our world faces rapid disruption, climate uncertainty, and unprecedented social and economic transition. The projects before us this evening speak to the power of collaboration as the driving force behind innovative, implementable and commercially grounded solutions that deliver meaningful outcomes for people, Country and the environment.

As Convenor, I am continually inspired by the calibre of thinking and the creativity displayed in the submissions. The excellence showcased this year aligns strongly with the Pillars of the PIA Strategic Plan 2031, particularly our commitment to embedding sustainability and resilience at the core of planning practice and demonstrating the value of our profession as leaders in shaping Australia's future. These projects exemplify what it means to embrace complexity with optimism, using planning as a tool not only to respond to change, but to lead it.

Our nominees have demonstrated that planning excellence is not achieved in isolation. It is realised through the collective efforts of industry partners, local communities, Traditional Owners, government agencies, academics, and private sector leaders.

I extend my deepest thanks to our sponsors for their unwavering support and ongoing investment in advancing planning leadership in Western Australia. I also acknowledge the judging panel, whose expertise and diligence uphold the integrity and rigour of these awards. To PIA members and all stakeholders represented here tonight your contributions are fundamental in bringing these visionary projects to life.



Lisette Traves MPIA

This evening is not only a celebration of achievement but also a moment to reflect on the profound responsibility we hold as planners. We are curators of possibility and custodians of a legacy that will define the liveability, economic prosperity and environmental health of our state for generations to come.

As we celebrate the outstanding work on display, I invite you to look ahead with confidence. The innovation demonstrated in these awards gives us every reason to be optimistic about the future of our profession. By continuing to champion integrity, leadership and collaboration, hallmarks of the PIA Strategic Plan 2031, we are not only shaping places; we are shaping futures.

Congratulations to all nominees and winners. Your work exemplifies the very best of our profession and sets a high bar for what planning can achieve.

Lisette

President

Message from the State President

The WA Awards for Planning Excellence are more than just a celebration of great projects - they're a reflection of a profession that continues to evolve, push boundaries, and make a real difference in the places we plan and the communities we serve.

Every year, I'm reminded of the incredible depth of talent, passion, and innovation within the Western Australian planning community. This year has been no exception - with a record number of entries, new sponsors joining us, and unprecedented interest in the Gala Dinner. It's clear that planning in WA is moving with purpose, energy, and optimism.

Behind every successful program are the people who make it happen. A huge thank you to everyone who submitted an entry, to our judges who gave their time and expertise, and to our sponsors who continue to back this event and the profession more broadly.

A special acknowledgment to our Awards Convenor, Lisette Traves MPIA, for her leadership in steering this year's program. Your efforts have ensured the Awards continue to grow, evolve, and inspire.

To all of this year's winners and commendation recipients - congratulations. Your work is shaping the next chapter of planning in Western Australia. The creativity, rigour, and vision you bring to your projects lift the standard for all of us, and I have no doubt we'll see many of you making your mark at the National Awards in 2026.

The future of planning in WA is bright - and together, we're helping to shape it.

Cameron



Cameron Leckey MPIA

Sponsors

2025 PIA WA Award Sponsors

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Category Sponsors



WALGA



2025 PIA WA Division Committee

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Cameron Leckey MPIA

Vice Presidents

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Trent Will MPIA

Committee Members

Amanda Sheers MPIA

Chaz Roberts MPIA

Clement Williams MPIA

Courtney Babb MPIA

Daniel Truslove MPIA

Gordana Nestic-Simic MPIA

Ian Humphrey MPIA

Jacky Jurmann MPIA

Kanella Hope MPIA

Lisette Traves MPIA

Ross Minett RPIA

Emily Robertson PIA (Assoc.)

Joyce Chung PIA (Assoc.)

Board Director

Ray Haeren RPIA (Fellow)



LAVAN

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Shaping Western Australia's Built Environment

Lavan's Planning, Environment & Land Compensation team offers trusted expertise across planning, environmental law, land compensation and related property matters.

Our experienced team, led by partners Craig Wallace and Alex McGlue, provides practical, strategic advice to help expedite approvals and achieve commercially focused outcomes.

Lavan is Western Australia's leading independent law firm and supports clients through every stage of a project with integrated legal services for property, finance, construction and dispute resolution matters.

Our Planning services include:

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Craig Wallace
Lead Partner



Alex McGlue
Partner



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LAVAN

City of Perth, shaping a liveable,
sustainable and prosperous
capital city.



**CITY OF
PERTH**
City of Light



Proudly supporting the
WA Awards for Planning Excellence



perth.wa.gov.au

The City of Perth, the dynamic heart of Western Australia, sits on the banks of the Swan River and adjacent to Kings Park. Known as the City of Light, it's a liveable, sustainable and prosperous city of over 32,000 residents, 43 parks and a thriving business community supporting hundreds of thousands of local jobs.



WAPC

Western
Australian
Planning
Commission

LEADING A
CONTEMPORARY
PLANNING SYSTEM

The Western Australian Planning Commission is pleased to be a GOLD sponsor of the 2025 PIA WA Awards for Planning Excellence.

These awards recognise the outstanding accomplishments of those who provide quality, contemporary and sustainable outcomes when planning for the future communities of Western Australia.

The Commission congratulates all 2025 finalists.





Elizabeth Quay, Perth

Shaping our State's future

We are the State Government's land and property developer, leading the creation of exceptional places for Western Australia.

Our approach places people at the forefront of every project. With this understanding of an area's unique context, we can shape places that genuinely serve local communities.

We put innovation into action. Whether it's with smarter planning, better environmental outcomes or cross-sector collaboration, we're committed to turning ideas into reality.

And we plan and build for lasting outcomes with a commitment to the long game – socially, environmentally and economically – so what we deliver today continues to create value for future generations.

We're proud to support the **2025 PIA WA Awards for Planning Excellence** in recognition of inspiring planning across Western Australia.

developmentwa.com.au

**SHAPING OUR
STATE'S FUTURE**

2026

WPN WA Awards

Nominations close 19 Jan. Who will you nominate?

Achiever Award

This award seeks to recognise the contributions of an emerging female professional who is delivering outstanding achievements and building a profile as a future leader.

Proudly sponsored by:



Department of Planning,
Lands and Heritage

Leadership Award

This award seeks to recognise the outstanding achievements and leaderships by a female professional from across the planning and allied sectors.

Proudly sponsored by:



Judges

2025 PIA WA Awards Judges

Thank you to our judges for their time and expertise in judging the 2025 Awards



Sue Woolhouse
MPIA (Fellow)



Daniel Arndt
MPIA (Fellow)



Andrew Dover
MPIA



Shelley Shepherd
MPIA (Fellow)



Brett Wood-Gush
RPIA (Fellow)



Shohreh Nematollahi
MPIA



Gareth Glanville



Anna Kelderman
MPIA (Fellow)



Mathew Selby
MPIA (Fellow)



Clement Williams
MPIA



Jake Schapper
MPIA



Tim Dawkins
MPIA



Peter Wittkuhn



Stephanie Tan



Samantha Thompson
MPIA



Kathy Bonus
RPIA (Fellow)



2025
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AWARDS FOR
PLANNING
EXCELLENCE

Award Winners and Commendations

Category

Secondary Student Project

Sponsored by



AWARD

Wes Calverley, Leeming Senior High School

PROJECT

Causes And Effects of Sea Level Rise In Bangladesh

This exceptional secondary student project, completed by Wes Calverley, addresses one of the most pressing challenges of our time: sea level rise. Focusing on Bangladesh, Wes highlights the real impacts on communities, from displacement and health risks to loss of farmland and livelihoods, alongside environmental challenges like flooding and habitat loss.

The project also showcases solutions, including innovative floating agriculture, renewable energy, and international cooperation through the Paris Agreement. It demonstrates how local action and global collaboration can build resilience and hope for the future.

Wes's work reflects outstanding research, insight, and initiative, offering a clear and inspiring example of how thoughtful planning can help communities adapt to a changing world.



Causes And Effects of
Sea Level Rise In
Bangladesh

Category

Tertiary Student Project

AWARD

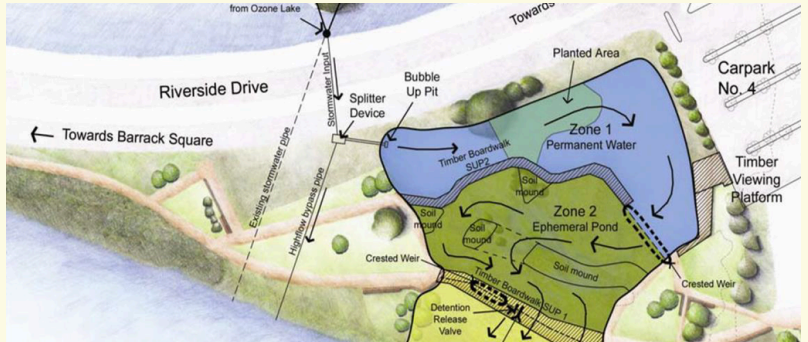
Cameron Watkins-Kerr
Curtin University

PROJECT

Blue-Green Infrastructure in Urban Regeneration – The Role of Urban Planning

This student project investigated the potential for planners to have an expanded role in coordinating Blue-Green Infrastructure in urban environments. The research included first-person interviews to illustrate opportunities for local planners, with support from state agencies, to facilitate the implementation of Blue-Green Infrastructure and associated ecosystem services.

The judges acknowledged the nomination for its research quality and for the manner in which real-world implementation was addressed.



Blue-Green Infrastructure in Urban Regeneration – The Role of Urban Planning

Category

Tertiary Student Project

COMMENDATION

Eden Rigo
Curtin University

PROJECT

Reconciling Land Reclamation: The Social & Institutional Discursive Forces Shaping Perspectives and Trends Across Maldivian Inhabited Islands

This student project investigated the social and economic factors influencing land reclamation in the Maldives. The judges commended the research for its high quality and the comprehensive discussion of research questions and methodology.



Reconciling Land Reclamation:
The Social & Institutional Discursive
Forces Shaping Perspectives and
Trends Across Maldivian Inhabited
Islands

The Eric Lumsden Award for Academic Merit for Governance in Planning

AWARD

Jackson Ballardin PIA
(Assoc.)
Curtin University

PROJECT

A Comparison of the Government and Planning System Structures of New South Wales and Victoria

Jackson Ballardin is awarded the Eric Lumsden Award for Academic Merit – Governance in Planning, in recognition of his outstanding essay on planning governance that demonstrates excellent analytical insight and synthesis. His essay skilfully compares the government and planning systems of two Australian jurisdictions, moving seamlessly from detailed factual exposition to critical evaluation. This work reveals Jackson's clear understanding of governance as a dynamic and interconnected system.

Planning System Structures of New South Wales and Victoria

New South Wales and Victoria are Australia's two largest states by population, combined being home to more than half of the country's population (Australian Bureau of Statistics [ABS] 2024). With such large populations, both states rely on effective governance structures to ensure the social, environmental, and economic wellbeing of the community. This is especially relevant to their planning systems.

With a well-organised structure, comparative analysis, and careful integration of evidence, Jackson's essay exemplifies both high academic achievement and a strong grasp of the principles underpinning planning law and governance.



Jackson Ballardin PIA (Assoc.)
Curtin University

Category

Emerging Planner of the Year

Sponsored by



Department of Planning,
Lands and Heritage



AWARD

Emily Robertson PIA
(Assoc.)



The winner this year, Emily Robertson, is a worthy recipient, who clearly has the hallmarks of a future leader. Emily is dedicated, professional, energetic, innovative, collaborative, championing the causes for her community. Emily has not only achieved great results in her workplace, leading projects from initiation to completion, but has also displayed empathy and compassion, particularly with other emerging planners, providing that desperately needed support for our less experienced planners.

Emily has displayed initiative, empowers others and champions the voices of other emerging and aligned professionals. Emily serves as a role model for excellence, integrity, and passion in planning. Congratulations Emily



Category

Planning Champion

AWARD

Harry Cunningham

PROJECT

The World's Longest City



Harry's tireless efforts to communicate the challenges, costs, impacts and long-term consequences of our existing model of growth are exceptional.

Rarely do we get an outside perspective of planning spread so far and wide as has been achieved with 'The World's Longest City'. His promotion of planning has gone well beyond our allied professions, with formal screenings and presentation to arts and creative sectors, youth and young people, science and health professionals, the education sector, and has been picked up and shared organically by traditional and social media.

Harry has raised the significance of good planning and made ordinary citizens shift mindsets from unthinking criticism of planners to a better understanding of the structural rehabilitation required. It is a sharp reminder of the role that we all play in the future of our places.



Harry Cunningham

Category

Leadership and Service

Sponsored by

GOUGH
RECRUITMENT

AWARD

Robina Crook MPIA
(Fellow)



Robina Crook on Healthy Active by Design

Robina Crook is a member of the WA State Design Review Panel and has been awarded WA Planner of the Year. In this video Robina shares how the Healthy Active by Design tool can be used to assess planning projects against key design features to activate communities, and achieve positive health outcomes.

[Watch the video](#)

Robina exemplifies visionary leadership through a career defined by a deep commitment to equity, collaboration, and community impact.

A tireless advocate for inclusion, Robina has empowered diverse voices across planning, design, and development. Her leadership spans statutory planning, urban design, and strategic visioning, with transformative projects including Healthy Active By Design, the WA Aboriginal Cultural Centre, and South Fremantle Power Station.

A long-standing committee member of the Urban Design Forum, Robina has led studies, presented at conferences, and championed innovation in planning practice. Robina is a progressive and inclusive leader bringing multidisciplinary teams together, mentoring young planners, training architects, and championing knowledge-sharing. Her deep engagement with Indigenous communities has enriched her understanding of Country and place, while her cultural awareness work reflects her commitment to inclusive practice.



Whether leading infrastructure strategies or co-creating parklands, Robina brings people together, empowering communities to shape their environments and deliver meaningful outcomes. Robina's enduring legacy is one of listening, learning, and lifting others, making her a truly deserving recipient of this award.

Category

Great Place

Sponsored by

LAVAN

AWARD

Shire of Waroona, SLR
and EPCAD

PROJECT

Waroona Town Centre
Revitalisation and Railside
Park

Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation and Railside Park is an outstanding example of how strategic thinking and planning as a whole community can reinvent a place to transform it into a truly great place. The creation of a true town centre for Waroona provides a transferable model of how existing assets of the established café, petrol station, and highway location, can be strategically leveraged to promote community cohesion, local identity, and economic development.

This master planned approach to placemaking integrates nature, history, art, sport, community, and commerce into a focal anchor for Waroona town centre, the impact of which extends beyond its boundaries.



Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation and Railside Park

Category

Strategic Planning Project

AWARD

Western Australian Planning Commission and Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

PROJECT

Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision



The Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision sets a new benchmark for strategic planning, reimagining Walyalup | Fremantle's Inner Harbour as a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient urban precinct. Through extensive collaboration with over 1,200 participants, including strong First Nations leadership, the project demonstrates how long-term transformation can be grounded in shared values and community aspirations. Integrating land use, transport, and economic planning, it establishes a 50-year framework for 20,000 new homes, 45,000 jobs and a 70:30 sustainable mode share target.

The Judges commend the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for its exemplary process of co-design, cross-agency collaboration, and values-led planning that delivers a bold and enduring vision for intergenerational renewal.



Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision

Category

Strategic Planning Project

COMMENDATION

City of Greater Geraldton and LK Advisory

PROJECT

Geraldton Industrial Lands Study



The Geraldton Industrial Lands Study demonstrates a visionary regional planning shaped by community input and cultural values. Guided by the principles of “Farming First” and “Flexibility,” the study delivers a robust, spatially driven framework to accommodate emerging industries while safeguarding agricultural productivity, environmental values, and community well-being.

The Judges commend the City of Greater Geraldton and LK Advisory on their progressive and collaborative approach.



Geraldton Industrial Lands Study

Category

Improving Planning Processes

Sponsored by



AWARD

City of Subiaco

PROJECT

Park Street Heritage Area: Achieving Heritage Outcomes Through Community Engagement and Empowerment



The City of Subiaco's Park Street Heritage Area project exemplifies how inclusive planning can transform heritage protection. Through a staged, precinct-based approach and a resident-led Heritage Reference Group, the City delivered a model that earned overwhelming community support, protecting 109 properties with only three objections. Creative engagement, including storytelling, walking tours, and resident-led videos, reframed heritage as a shared asset. Incentives and advisory services supported conservation, while strategic alignment with state and local frameworks ensured lasting impact.

The Judges commend the City for its leadership in heritage planning, delivering a replicable, community-centred process that sets a benchmark for good planning practice.



Park Street Heritage Area: Achieving Heritage Outcomes Through Community Engagement and Empowerment

Category

Climate Change & Resilience

Sponsored by



AWARD

Professor Peter Newman AO

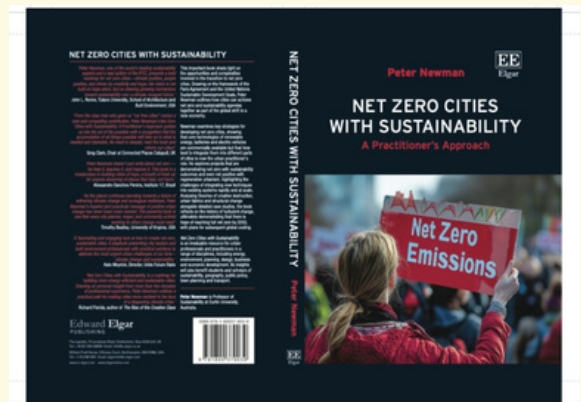


PROJECT

Net Zero Cities with Sustainability: A Practitioner's Approach

Professor Peter Newman AO is recognised for his lifelong contribution to climate-resilient urbanism through Net Zero Cities with Sustainability. Drawing on five decades of pioneering research and practice, he presents a visionary yet practical roadmap for achieving net zero cities that are equitable, productive, and sustainable. Integrating transport, energy and urban design systems, the work translates global climate goals into tangible local action.

Building on his internationally influential research on automobile dependence, Newman demonstrates how planning can drive regenerative urbanism and deliver positive climate outcomes. The Judges commend Professor Newman for his enduring leadership and innovation in shaping resilient, low-carbon cities and for providing an inspiring, evidence-based roadmap to a sustainable and hopeful urban future.



Category

Stakeholder Engagement

Sponsored by



AWARD

Western Australian Planning Commission and Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

PROJECT

Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision



The Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision set a new standard for inclusive, culturally respectful strategic planning. Led by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, it reimagined community engagement in shaping Fremantle – Walyalup Inner Harbour's future. Central to the process was collaboration with Aboriginal Elders, guided by the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation and an Aboriginal Reference Group, ensuring First Nations voices were integral. Young people also contributed through creative workshops and student-led initiatives. The six-day Place Design Forum brought together over 300 participants to explore trade-offs and co-create the Vision.

Through its transparent, values-led approach, the Vision achieved consensus on a bold, sustainable, and equitable future, standing as a model for transformative, transferable, and culturally grounded stakeholder engagement.



Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision

Category

Stakeholder Engagement

Sponsored by



HIGH COMMENDATION

Fairplace & City of Vincent

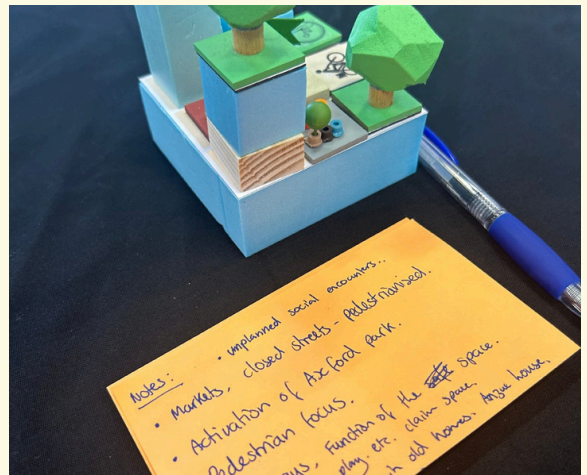
PROJECT

Mt Hawthorn Town
Centre Planning
Framework Engagement



The Mt Hawthorn Town Centre Engagement Project, a collaboration between the City of Vincent and Fairplace, earned a High Commendation for its innovation, inclusivity, and impact. Using a bespoke three-stage methodology reflection, tactile 3D co-design, and design demonstration, the project redefined engagement. Fairplace's interactive 'Balancing Act' model enabled participants to explore trade-offs and priorities in a place-specific, educational process. Complex planning issues like density and infill were translated into accessible, spatial dialogue.

The initiative fostered genuine collaboration, strengthened trust between residents and government, and delivered contextually rich outcomes. It stands as a benchmark for participatory urban planning, engaging communities not just as stakeholders, but as co-creators, with potential for broader application.



Notes:
• unplanned social encounters...
• Markets, closed streets - pedestrianised.
• Activation of Azbodi Park.
• Pedestrian focus.
• Function of the ~~space~~ space.
play etc. clear space
in old houses. Argue houses.

Mt Hawthorn Town
Centre Planning
Framework Engagement

Category

Stakeholder Engagement

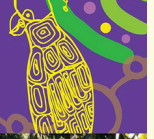
Sponsored by



COMMENDATION

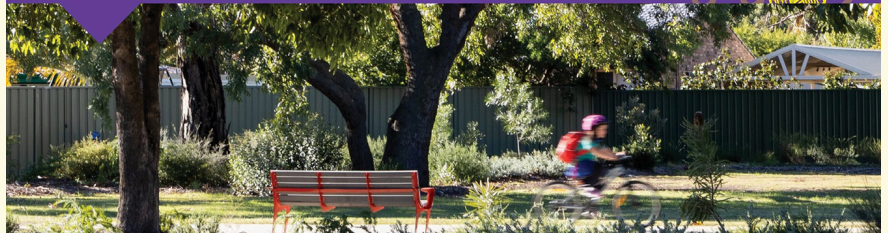
City of South Perth

KARAWARA PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ACCESS PLAN



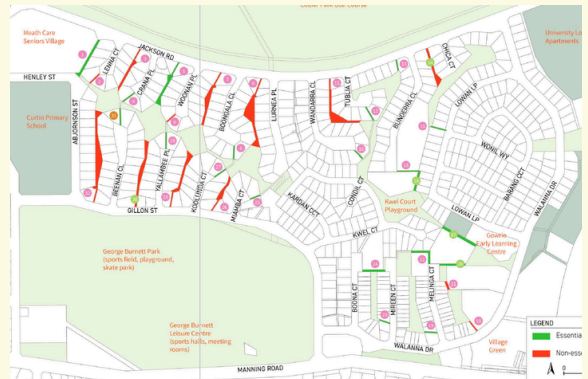
PROJECT

Stakeholder Engagement for the Karawara Pedestrian and Cycle Access Plan



The Karawara Pedestrian and Cycle Access Plan showcases the City of South Perth's commitment to inclusive, transparent, and evidence-based engagement. Faced with diverse views on 32 Pedestrian Access Ways (PAWs) in Karawara's Radburn layout, the City developed a multi-stage process blending technical analysis with meaningful community input. Innovative tools, interactive mapping, mobility data, pedestrian counts, and on-the-ground consultation, ensured decisions reflected both data and lived experience.

Creative communication methods like pavement decals, QR signage, and drop-in sessions encouraged broad participation. The resulting strategic framework balances safety, movement, and local aspirations while aligning with State planning guidelines. This project stands as a benchmark for transforming complex urban challenges into collaborative, community-endorsed outcomes.



Stakeholder Engagement for the Karawara Pedestrian and Cycle Access Plan

Category

Planning Research

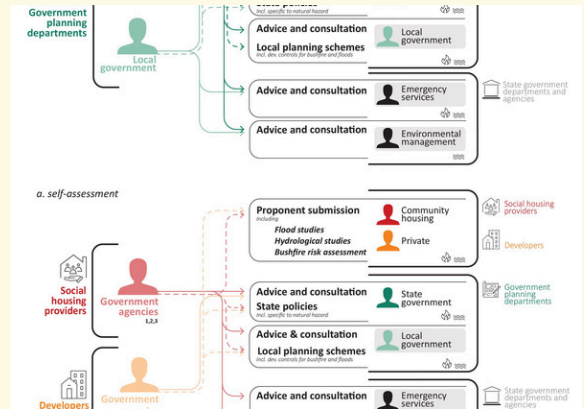
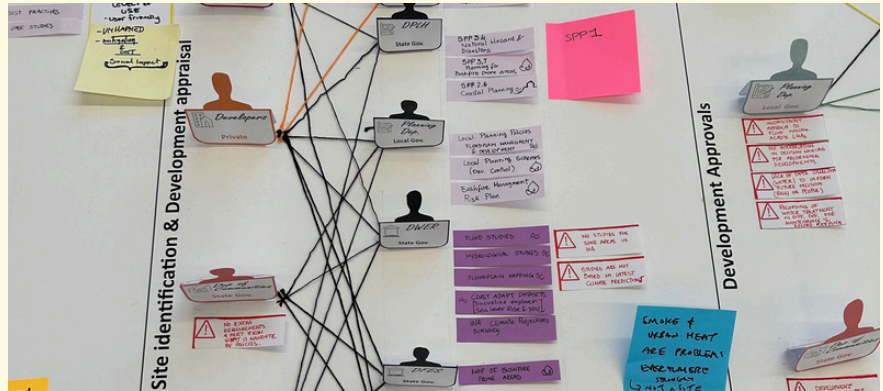
AWARD

Dr Francesca Perugia
PIA (Assoc.), Dr
Courtney Babb MPIA, Dr
Rebecca Scherini, Prof
Steven Rowley - Curtin
University, Dr Callum
Logan – RMIT University,
Dr Sara Shirowzhan
MPIA, Dr Yi Lu, Prof
Christopher Pettit MPIA
– UNSW, Australian
Housing and Urban
Research Institute
(AHURI)

PROJECT

Improving coordination of
data and actors for
disaster-responsive
housing and safer
communities

Through a highly
collaborative effort of a
multidisciplinary
research team led, the
Nominees have aligning
the research with the
lived experiences and
operational realities and
advance the
coordination of data to
strengthen disaster
responsive housing and
build safer communities.



By reframing planning as
a proactive tool for
disaster risk reduction,
the project delivers
practical,
evidence-based
strategies, from adaptive
legislation to streamlined
approvals and
standardised risk
assessments, that
strengthen resilience
and safeguard lives.
Drawing on national and
international best
practice, and grounded
in extensive stakeholder
engagement, this work
positions planning at the
forefront of disaster
preparedness and
community safety.

By mapping
decision-making
processes in housing
delivery and examining
how data is accessed
and applied, the research
offers a user-centric
perspective that
enhances the relevance
and applicability of its
findings. Drawing on
national and international
best practice, the project
contextualises global
insights within the
Australian planning
context, ensuring
recommendations are
tailored to local
governance, legislative
environments, and
community needs.

The Judges recognise
the nomination for its
methodological rigour,
and its delivery of
actionable strategies
that strengthen
resilience and improve
housing outcomes in the
face of disaster risk.

Category

Planning Research

COMMENDATION

WSP

PROJECT

Going Pink



Through a bold and collaborative approach, the Going Pink research initiative has reimagined the future of public transport planning in Perth by addressing gender-based disparities in usage and experience. Led by WSP in partnership with the Public Transport Authority, Transperth, Department of Transport, Curtin University, RAC and other stakeholders, the project integrates unique gendered datasets with advanced analytics to uncover systemic inequalities and unconscious bias in transport systems.

The research delivers actionable recommendations to improve gender-sensitive transport planning in Australia. By drawing on international best practice and tailoring solutions to the local context, providing a model for advancing equity and are inclusive, safe, and accessible for all.

The Judges recognise the nomination for its originality, commitment to advancing equity in planning, as well as it's a tool kit to provide practical implementation options that can influence policy and practice across Australia and beyond.



Going Pink

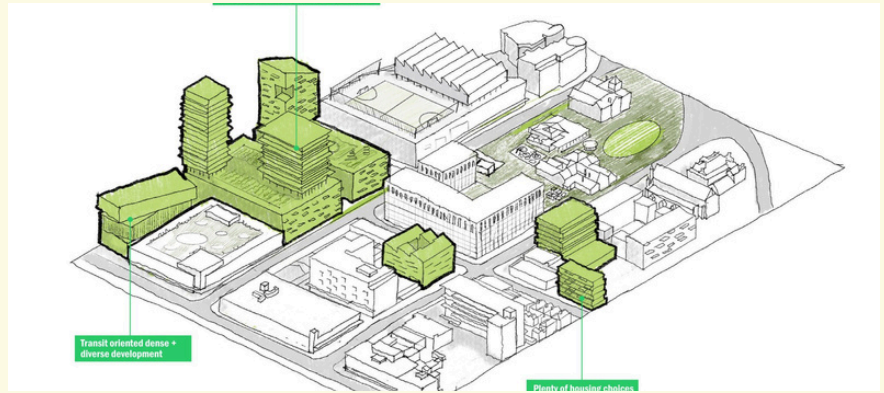
Technology & Digital Innovation

COMMENDATION

City of Fremantle

PROJECT

Fremantle 3D City Model



The conversion of two-dimensional plans into three-dimensional visualisations offers significant benefits for community engagement. Although the model represents an advancement of existing technology, maintaining a precise open-source 3D model supports collaborative efforts within a digital twin framework, enabling applications to be presented in both current and planned contexts. As this initiative remains in its initial phase, further improvements are anticipated as the model develops.

The judges commend the City of Fremantle for pursuing the integration of 3D tools into its development assessment process.



Category

Performance and Innovation in Development

Sponsored by

LAVAN

AWARD

City of Subiaco, together with Westbridge Funds Management, Space Collective Architects, Planning Solutions, and the Regal Theatre Foundation.

PROJECT

Regal Subiaco

The Regal Subiaco project sees a private developer provide significant funding to work in tandem with the neighbouring Regal Theatre to deliver much-needed universal accessibility, new storage and facilities, improved staff amenity and expand the activation of the theatre through an adjoining bar space, certain to be well used by theatre patrons.

Designed to seamlessly blend the internal fabric of the theatre and the new development by 'breaking through' a wall, the proposal delivers revitalisation of both a commercial site and the adjacent heritage listed building.



The City of Subiaco worked proactively to facilitate the partnership in the spirit of what could go right, rather than what could go wrong. Supported by more than 75% of submissions in this heritage loving community, this first-of-its-kind project provides an easily transferrable roadmap for other local governments and the private sector.



Category

WA Regional Project

Sponsored by



AWARD

Shire of Waroona, SLR and EPCAD

PROJECT

Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation and Railside Park

Railside Park, nestled in the heart of Waroona Town Centre, has revived the pulse of a once-quiet community. Like many regional areas, struggling to build resilience through economic diversification and public space activation, this simple park that was completed in two years since its initial design concept development in 2022, welcomes not only kids, but the whole community to celebrate their environment, culture and togetherness.



Through the thoughtful upcycling of materials and buildings, the park breathes new life into the old, weaving history into the fabric of today and tomorrow. The judges recognise the nomination as a regional project that achieved a great outcome beyond its physical transformation, celebrating a community togetherness around a place at the heart of Waroona.



Category

Small Consultancy of the Year

AWARD

RFF Australia



RFF Australia pioneers an imaginative, regional-first model, successfully integrating Native Title and cultural values as substantive land uses to unlock transformative projects across WA's Pilbara and Kimberley regions. Operating as a small, high-impact multi-disciplinary team, RFF manages complex land access, planning, and economic development from concept to completion. Evidenced by decade-long partnerships with Aboriginal corporations, they demonstrate exceptional client satisfaction and commercial resilience.

RFF furthers the future of the profession through the Kaartdijin Booja Scholarship and PIA involvement. Internally, their unique culture prioritises work-life balance (enforcing a "no overwork" KPI) and invests in rigorous cross-disciplinary training, ensuring planners can build sustainable regional careers. RFF sets the benchmark for ethical small consultancy excellence in WA.



RFF Australia

Category

Large Consultancy of the Year

Sponsored by

MCLEOD
FISHER &
HAMDORF

AWARD

Hatch EP&P



Hatch EP & P is a leading large consultancy, with a strong and long-lasting presence in Western Australia. The team has continued to successfully deliver on behalf of their clients, contemporary and leading-edge projects, using successful public engagement techniques, using evidence-based design to support their clients projects, with a focus on future fit for purpose planning.

Hatch EP&P demonstrates a deep and structured commitment to staff development through a comprehensive training strategy focused on four key areas: leadership development, project and customer-specific training, corporate systems and individual career growth. Well done Hatch EP & P!



Category

Local Government Team (Band 1)

Sponsored by



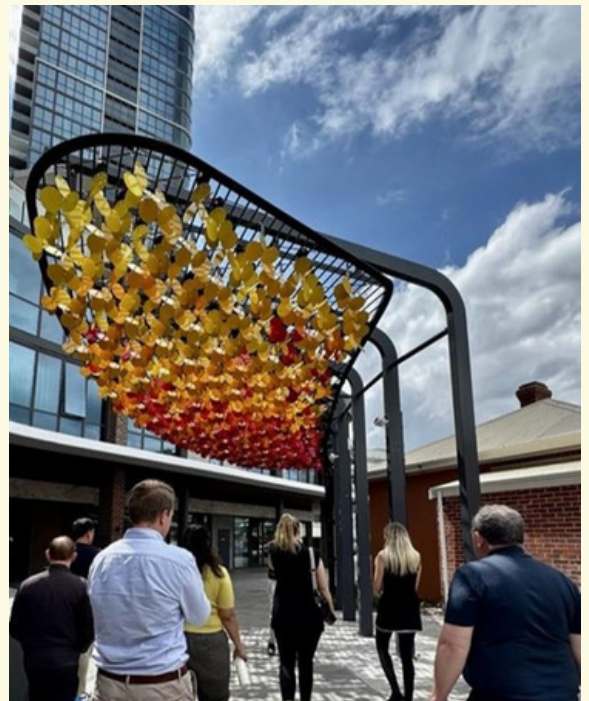
AWARD

City of Belmont



The City of Belmont's planning team has been recognised by the judges for their implementation of innovative planning reforms which has resulted in the City exceeding its interim infill targets and achieving outcomes of state-wide significance within a complex urban environment. Their approach has enabled more creative and feasible development, expanded developable sites, and streamlined assessment processes, seamlessly integrating feasibility, design quality, and pragmatic reforms to foster innovative development and bolster community confidence.

Belmont's evidence-based and transparent approach emphasises commercial feasibility through independent testing of planning frameworks and the use of clear visual scenarios. This strategy effectively engages the community and developers, promoting clarity and flexibility in design.



Local Government Team (Band 1)

Sponsored by



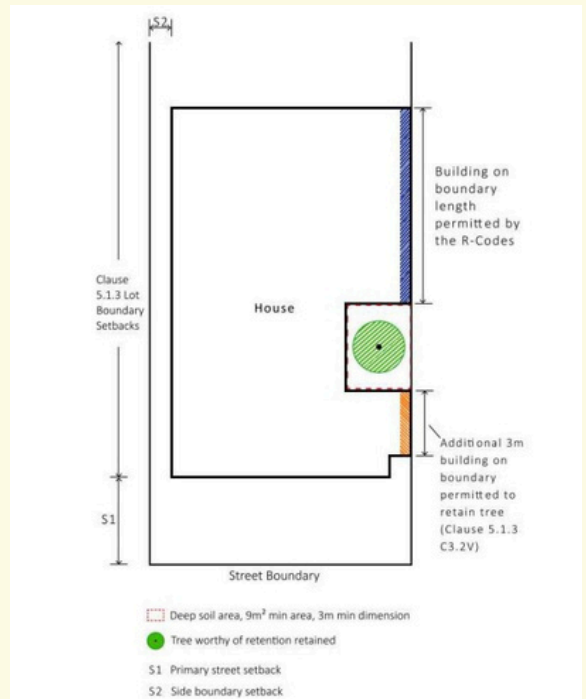
COMMENDATION

City of Canning
City Planning Team



The City of Canning's planning team has demonstrated leadership in evidence-based planning over the past year by pioneering sustainability measures, introducing innovative digital services such as the Residential Development Trends Dashboard, and achieving operational efficiencies.

Their accomplishments include a comprehensive review of the planning policy framework, new digital services, team restructuring, local structure plan review, formulation of a housing strategy, and completion of four scheme amendments, reflecting a modern, collaborative, and innovative approach to metropolitan local government planning.



Category

Local Government Team (Band 2-4)

Sponsored by



AWARD

City of Subiaco
Planning Services team



The City of Subiaco Planning Services Team has transformed the local planning landscape through imagination, collaboration, and commitment to community trust. In a city once defined by militant activism opposing higher densities, the team rebuilt confidence by co-designing policies with residents, engaging openly, and demonstrating that high-quality development and heritage character can coexist. Their creative, inclusive approach has delivered strong planning outcomes, streamlined processes, and fostered genuine satisfaction among applicants, partners and the broader community.

Staff are active contributors to the planning profession through PIA involvement, mentoring, and conference participation, while the City's strong emphasis on professional development has ensured every team member continues to grow through training, leadership programs, and peer learning. The team champions emerging planners through mentoring, nurturing the next generation of professionals. As an employer, the City of Subiaco offers a workplace culture defined by respect, flexibility, innovation, and wellbeing, ensuring high staff retention and a shared sense of purpose.



The Judges recognise The Planning Services Team has set a high benchmark for trust-based, people-focused planning that delivers lasting benefits for both the city and the profession.

Category

Local Government Team (Band 2-4)

Sponsored by



COMMENDATION

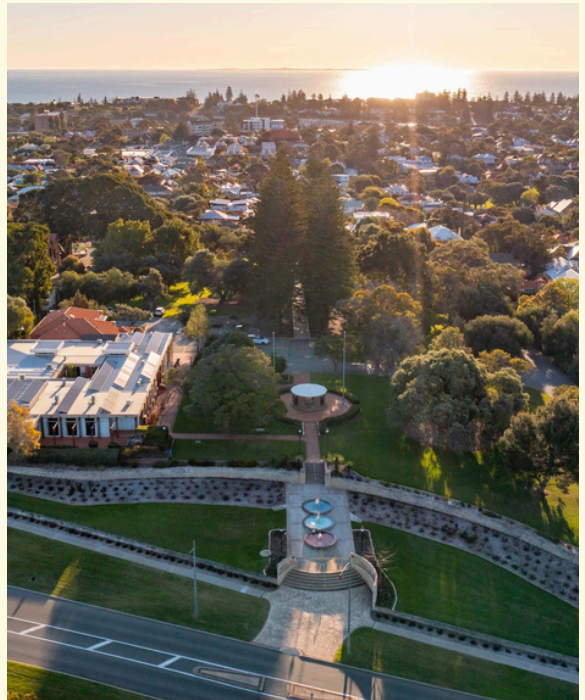
Town of Mosman Park
Planning Services Team



The Town of Mosman Park Planning Services Team receives a commendation for its strong, professional, and well-rounded approach to planning and town management, exemplifying excellence in collaboration and delivery. Through its work on the Glyde Street upgrade project, the team demonstrated a clear commitment to forging positive relationships with stakeholders, balancing community aspirations, local business needs, and high-quality urban design outcomes. Their proactive engagement, attention to detail, and commitment to creating a vibrant and accessible public realm have trust between the Town, the community, and project partners.

The Town of Mosman Park Planning Services Team is strongly committed to both work-life balance and professional growth. Staff are encouraged to pursue ongoing professional development through training, mentoring, and active involvement in the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), where several team members contribute to forums, events, and professional networks. Combined with a genuine emphasis on wellbeing and flexibility creates a positive, well-performing workplace that values both people and progress.

The Judges commend The Mosie Park Planning Services Team for their professionalism and commitment to the Planning Profession.



Category

PIA WA State President's Award

AWARD

City of Subiaco, together with Westbridge Funds Management, Space Collective Architects, Planning Solutions, and the Regal Theatre Foundation.

PROJECT

Regal Subiaco

The Regal Subiaco stands as a benchmark for collaborative planning excellence. Through an innovative and authentic partnership between the City of Subiaco, Westbridge Funds Management, and the Regal Theatre Foundation, the project transformed a complex urban renewal challenge into a shared triumph. Together, they forged a first-of-its-kind funding and governance model in Western Australia, linking private development to the revitalisation of a beloved State-listed cultural landmark.



This sustained, transparent collaboration bridged heritage and development objectives, overcame structural and jurisdictional silos, and secured the Regal's long-term accessibility and viability. The outcome delivers enduring community, cultural and design benefits, proving how genuine partnership can achieve outcomes far greater than the sum of its parts.



Category

Planning Ministers Award

AWARD

City of Subiaco, together with Westbridge Funds Management, Space Collective Architects, Planning Solutions, and the Regal Theatre Foundation.

PROJECT

Regal Subiaco

The Regal Subiaco project is a remarkable example of vision, collaboration and innovation in revitalising one of Perth's most loved cultural landmarks. This outstanding development delivers new housing and density in the heart of Subiaco, while safeguarding the future of the iconic Regal Theatre. It shows how good design and strong partnerships can bring heritage and modern living together to create a lively, connected precinct that supports local business and community life.



Vibrant, high-quality developments like this breathe new life into our urban centres, and I congratulate everyone involved in this project.



Regal Subiaco

Category

The W. E. Bold Memorial Medal

AWARD

Lex Barnett MPIA
(Fellow)



Lex Barnett is a Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia and former PIA WA State President (2018–2020) who has dedicated more than 40 years to shaping communities and advancing the planning profession in Western Australia. Lex has made a significant contribution to the planning profession in Western Australia over many years of dedicated practice in this field. His work reflects the essence of good planning practice, a focus on long-term outcomes, careful consideration of community needs, and the ability to adapt as our State has grown and evolved.

Lex has been the example of what it means to be a good planner: technically brilliant, strategically insightful, but above all deeply committed to the community and to the profession. His legacy is not only in the projects that shape our state, but in the countless planners he has guided and inspired along the way. Lex's commitment to creating sustainable, liveable communities and reflect William Bold's principle that planning must improve life and living, making him a most deserving recipient of the W.E. Bold Memorial Medal



Lex Barnett MPIA (Fellow)

Nominations

2025 Award Nominations

Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation and Railside Park

Shire of Waroona, SLR and EPCAD

Napoleon Promenade - Vasse Village Centre Main Street

Vasse Joint Venture, City of Busselton, Hatch, On-Q Projects, Hanson Property, Emerge Associates, Stantec, Lloyd George Acoustics, Uloth, CODA, Thompson Surveying, JBS&G (Bushfire), Lease Equity, Meyer Shircore, Castledine Gregory, Rare

Jindee Coastal Village

The Estates Development Company, Hatch and the City of Wanneroo

Rockingham Strategic Centre Precinct Structure Plan

City of Rockingham in association with Hames Sharley, Hatch, Shape Urban, Stantec and UDLA

City of Subiaco Planning Services team

Town of Mosman Park Planning Services Team

Regal Subiaco

City of Subiaco, together with Westbridge Funds Management, Space Collective Architects, Planning Solutions, and the Regal Theatre Foundation.

ECU City Campus

ECU, Urbis and Lyons

Going Pink

WSP

Great Eastern Highway Urban Corridor Strategy

City of Belmont

Improving coordination of data and actors for disaster-responsive housing and safer communities

Dr Francesca Perugia PIA (assoc.), Dr Courtney Babb MPIA, Dr Rebecca Scherini, Prof Steven Rowley MPIA (Fellow), Dr Callum Logan MPIA, Dr Sara Shirowzhan MPIA, Dr Yi Lu, Prof Christopher Pettit MPIA, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)

Flyt

Lex Barnett MPIA (Fellow)

City of Canning - City Planning Team

Geraldton Industrial Lands Study

City of Greater Geraldton and LK Advisory

Future of Fremantle Place and Economic Vision

Western Australian Planning Commission and Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

Capel Integrated Growth Framework

Hatch & the Shire of Capel

Community Futures Blueprint, City of Swan

City of Swan

Fremantle City Plan

City of Fremantle

Andy Hunter

2025 Award Nominations

Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation and Railside Park
Shire of Waroona, SLR and EPCAD

South West Design Review Project - From Coast to Country: A Unified Approach to Design Excellence
City of Busselton - Gary Barbour, Joanna Wilson and Schae Haskett | City of Bunbury - Alice Baldock | Shire of Augusta Margaret River - Matt Slocomb | Shire of Capel - Isabel Fry

Emily Robertson PIA (Assoc.)

Renata Yap MPIA

Tey Priest

Robina Crook MPIA (Fellow)

Cameron Watkins-Kerr

Eden Rigo

Causes And Effects of Sea Level Rise in Bangladesh
Wes Calverley

Altus Planning

Great Eastern Highway Urban Corridor Strategy
City of Belmont

City of Bayswater

Park Street Heritage Area: Achieving Heritage Outcomes Through Community Engagement and Empowerment
City of Subiaco

Hatch EP&P

City of Swan

City of Belmont

Fremantle 3D City Model
City of Fremantle

Jackson Ballardin, PIA (Assoc.)

RFF Australia

Net Zero Cities with Sustainability: A Practitioner's Approach
Professor Peter Newman
AO

Community Futures Blueprint, City of Swan
City of Swan


Stakeholder Engagement for the Karawara Pedestrian and Cycle Access Plan
City of South Perth

Mt Hawthorn Town Centre Planning Framework Engagement
Fairplace & City of Vincent


Harry Cunningham








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2

- Women feel less safe on public transport than men

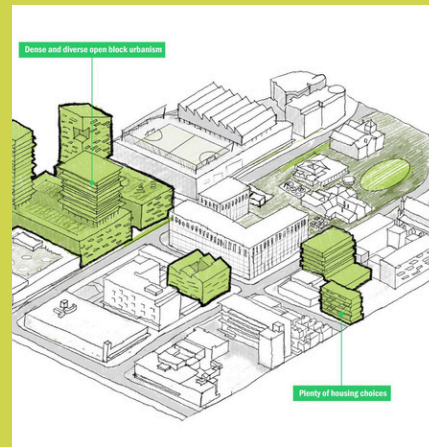
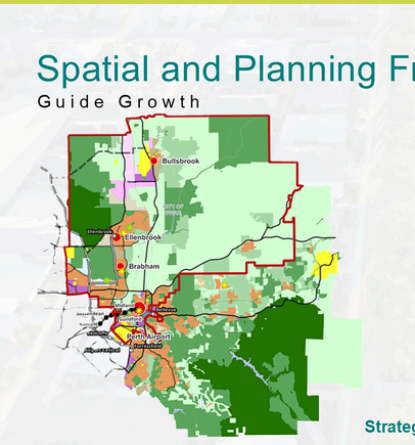
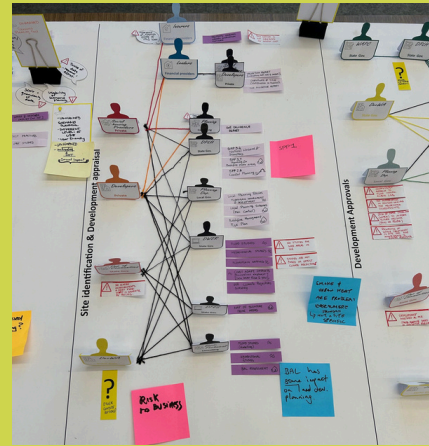
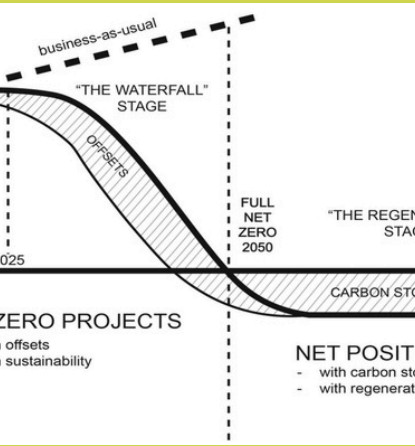


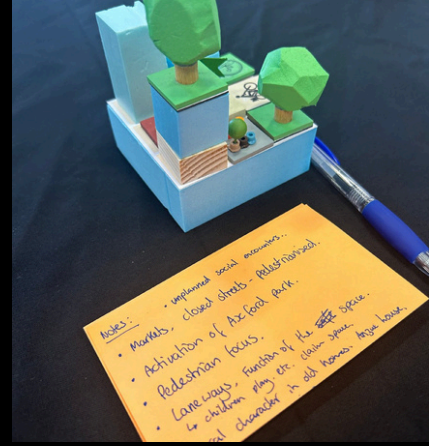
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- Rail services offer different accessibility to jobs for women and men



- W more to relie





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Planning
Institute
Australia



Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) is the national body representing planning and the planning profession. Through education, communication and professional development, PIA is the pivotal organisation serving and guiding thousands of planning professionals in their role of creating better communities.

PIA currently represents approximately 5,600 members nationally and internationally, and connects with more than 10,500 planners annually. We are governed by a National Board of Directors and managed by a professional administration. We are a member-based organisation with its management complemented by volunteers, who support and contribute to our activities on various levels.

Our mission is to champion the role of planning in shaping Australia's future. PIA will do this through strong leadership, advocacy and contemporary planning education.

Our vision is for PIA to be Australia's trusted voice on Planning.

Planning Institute of Australia
WA Division

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