

## EVALUATION RESULTS

Wednesday 13th December

# Better Best Practice Note Masterclass



Loci Environment & Place Inc. is a nonprofit change agent supporting knowledge growth and sharing among practitioners involved in shaping our cities for healthier environments and people.

**Event:** Better Best Practice – Environment & Place Masterclass

**Time:** 2.30am-5.00pm

**Venue:** Room 2/3, Van Raay Centre, CERES Environment Park

**Attendees:** Strategic urban planners, environmental planners, urban designers, placemakers, project managers.

### Content

- **Cities are never finished, they will always change. And its our job to guide these changes so greater equity. Do no harm – does not mean do nothing. Each praictitioner has an important role. In fact individuals are it.**
- *Have you ever drafted a great project brief for say, a water conservation or an urban design project, and wondered how you can be sure you are also supporting other important environmental outcomes at the same time?*
- *Have you ever written a brief for a masterplan and wondered how to ask for the best environmental outcomes when you yourself are not an expert in them? Or maybe you are the consultant responding and would like your client to see that your proposal really is providing leading practice initiatives?*
- *These are the questions that Loci has been hearing from you as we work with different urban practitioners to help make our cities more liveable and sustainable.*
- *And to help fill this gap, Loci has been developing short simple 'Better Best Practice Notes' on a range of urban sustainability issues.*
- *We think you'll love them, particularly as they are a quick trusted summary for application of different urban environmental solutions, and you are welcome to freely use and adapt them.*
- *We've got some ideas for how you can freely use these resources, and perhaps you can tell us some new ways that we haven't thought of yet*

### Learning Outcomes

- How to use new Better Best Practice Notes for your projects
- How to write a 'request for quote' that seeks best environmental policies.
- How to use Loci as a knowledge sharing organisation for future events and tools

### We want attendees to leave the event knowing:

- Cities are complex and all of our work increasingly needs to seek multiple outcomes. There are inspiring specialists in other urban disciplines that are great to work alongside.
- Loci is a non-profit organisation that all practitioners can make requests for knowledge from.
- There are now simple Better Best Practice Notes that can be freely used to improve environmental outcomes for urban projects.
- Supported by DELWP as an important 'non-regulatory', 'industry-led' initiative

### Course Presenters:

Sheridan Blunt, Loci Environment & Place

One three hour session - \$48 (subsidised by DELWP)

# Evaluation Results

## Pilot Better Best Practice Environment & Place Masterclass

13 December 2017



28 people attended this Masterclass run by Loci Environment & Place Inc.  
28 evaluation forms were received and answers are compiled below (in green).

### 1. Out of 10, how satisfied were you with today's seminar?

**Average 7.2**

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
-	-	-	4%	-	4%	17%	<b>46%</b>	10%	10%	8%
Highly unsatisfied			Neutral				Highly satisfied			



### 2. Which theme from today was most enlightening, practical and beneficial?

Session	Rating (out of 5)	Lowest Score	Highest Score
Role, origin and potential of Better Best Practice Notes	<b>3.7</b>	1 (from 3% attendees)	5 (from 21% attendees)
Emerging evidence for cities and its application	<b>3.9</b>	2 (from 3% attendees)	5 (from 25% attendees)
BBPN Tutorial – Carpark scenario	<b>3.6</b>	2 (from 7% attendees)	5 (from 10% attendees)

Background of attendees	No.
Strategic Urban Planning	8
Statutory Urban Planning	2
Environmental Planning	4
Conservation/Ecologist	1
Horticulture	1
Arborist	1
ESD Planning	2
Landscape Architect	8
Engineering	7
Water	5
Transport	2

\*attendees were able to select multiple disciplines

#### Improvement suggestions:

- More time needed for discussion amongst the group
- Consider sitting in a circle and providing an Icebreaker activity
- More definitive project scope and make the questions clearer
- Make an activity to use the BBP Notes to design some requirements
- Talk to CASBE to find ways the BBP Notes can complement the SDAPP factsheets
- Find a way to help attendees find each other after the session (for continued cross disciplinary action)
- Need better explanation of session purpose at start. Session assumed too much knowledge. Would be better to focus more on building links across professions and interests

### 3. On a scale of 0 to 10, how well did the session help you understand ways you can help use and inform the BBP Note service?

**Average 7.5**

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
-	-	-	4%	4%	4%	7%	<b>25%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>21%</b>	4%
Unclear			Neutral				Very clear			



#### 4. What were the most valuable parts of this seminar for you?

<b>17%</b> Discussion of city complexity and considering ways my specialism can connect	<b>53%</b> Learning from, and networking with, fellow participants
<b>17%</b> The importance of my individual role as a practitioner and how I can more easily keep up with and use new knowledge	<b>53%</b> Learning about the Better Best Practice Notes and ways to use them

#### 5. What changes do you think today's session will generate for you?

<b>32% agreed</b> I can already think of project/s to use the BBP Notes in our work	<b>14% agreed</b> I will seek out an information session to find out more on a particular BBP Note theme	<b>42% agreed</b> I will contact Loci if I see a shared industry need for a new BBP Note	<b>28% agreed</b> Not sure, but may check BBP Notes (and their reference links) as a way to help my future work	<b>0% agreed</b> No changes. Unconvinced.
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In addition to the above, participants also valued the discussion on the importance of setting up systems for green infrastructure monitoring, maintenance and post construction work.

#### 6. Was there any information (evidence, phrase, anecdote) today that was particularly helpful to you? We are keen to learn which messages are the best to promote in future sessions.

##### The importance of good project briefs

BBPNotes as way to START with better information & rigour  
 Process of highlighting the brief and integrating sustainability was good  
 I will take away the importance of using the correct terminology when writing a project brief.  
 'Shit in shit out' for project briefs and how important effective communication is.  
 Working on the practical brief with people from other disciplines

##### Planning controls alone are not the answer

Lack of clear guidance in planning places  
 Liked message that planning mechanisms are limited. Dependent on projects. Benchmarks etc are a minimum.

##### Emerging evidence and themes

Air pollution and trees. Loved the evidence on air quality  
 Soils for urban landscapes - helpful to refer to in our landscape specification for building works.  
 All the evidence provided about underuse of car parks  
 Liked comments on how authorities in knowledge/academics are not involved in on-the-ground work because it is hard to read their work and they are not perceived as legitimate authorities  
 Community infrastructure benchmarks, Scientific aspect to urban planning  
**Cross disciplinary Integration for sustainability**  
 Like integration of objectives across subject areas - economic, social, environmental  
 Was good to just listen from other practitioners

#### 7. What topics would you like to see covered in future forums and workshops?

What topics, if any would you attend?	Yes
Traditional Owner Knowledge for Cities	<b>35%</b>
Green Infrastructure	<b>32%</b>
Urban Ecology	<b>32%</b>
Urban Forest and Urban Heat Island	<b>21%</b>
Urban Soils	<b>18%</b>
Tree Repurposing	<b>7%</b>

What topics, if any would you attend?	Yes
Stakeholder Engagement	<b>32%</b>
Sustainability and Urban Planning Controls	<b>25%</b>
Complete Streets	<b>28%</b>
Air Quality	<b>18%</b>
The Urban Well	<b>28%</b>
Other - Placemaking	<b>4%</b>