

## EVALUATION RESULTS

### Emerging Issues in Urban Planning

Tuesday 18 September 2018 – Planning Institute of Australia Planet Training Session

PIA Training Rooms, Level 3, 124 Exhibition St, Melbourne

*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.*

Urban planners need to be across many different issues, particularly in this time of rapid urbanisation and change. This course will give participants an overview of some of the emerging issues facing cities today, and how this is directly and indirectly affecting practitioners in their day-to-day work.

This session is shaped around the following learning outcomes:

- o Explore the changing shape of cities and the changing role of urban planners
- o Understand the influence that individual officers can have in recommending better city outcomes
- o Learn new information about diverse urban issues and learn how they can connect across policy and place
- o Understand the latest information on how urban form and function can support: sustainable food systems, sustainable transport via the emergence of automated vehicles, affordable housing provision, and reduced air pollution impacts in our communities.

#### Course Presenters:

**Introduction: How can we all, as individual urban practitioners, support sustainable urban futures?**

Sheridan Blunt, Loci Environment & Place Inc.

**Affordable Housing: How to scale up affordable housing in Victoria to meet the need.**

Prof Carolyn Whitzman, University of Melbourne

**Sustainable Food Systems: How can we plan and incentivise for greater food access in our growing cities?**

Jennifer Sheridan, University of Melbourne

**Urban Air Quality: What are we learning about urban air quality and how can we reduce our exposure?**

Dr Robyn Schofield, University of Melbourne

**Automated Vehicles: How can the emergence of autonomous vehicles help support sustainable transport outcomes?**

Dr Elliot Fishman, Institute for Sensible Transport

# Evaluation Results

## PIA Planet Training Seminar – Emerging Issues in Urban Planning

18 September 2018



17 people attended this training session hosted by Planning Institute of Australian (Vic) and run by Loci Environment & Place Inc. 17 evaluation forms were received, and answers are compiled below.

1. Out of 5, how likely were participants to recommend this seminar? Average 4.5
2. Out of 5, how well did participants feel the stated objectives were met? Average 4.4
3. Out of 5, how knowledgeable did participants feel the facilitators were? Average 4.7

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

Session	Rating (out of 5)
Affordable Housing Prof Carolyn Whitzman	4.6
Food Systems Jennifer Sheridan	4.5
Air Quality Dr Robyn Schofield	4.3
Autonomous Vehicles Dr Elliot Fishman	4.8

Background of attendees	No.
Strategic Urban Planning	7
Statutory Urban Planning	11
Environmental Planning	3
Landscape Architecture	1
Urban Designer	3
Sustainability	2
Engineering	1
Social Planning	3
Indigenous Planning	1
ESD	1
Architecture	2
Greenhouse Climate Change	1

\*attendees were able to select multiple disciplines

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

<b>76%</b> Increased understanding of the work of research organisations and how we can use this practically	<b>65%</b> Opportunities for questions and feedback with specialists
<b>53%</b> Recognition of the role and influence of individual urban practitioners to improve urban sustainability outcomes	<b>24%</b> Learning from, & networking with fellow participants
<b>53%</b> Considering competing urban land use pressures and appreciating ways to work through this	<b>0%</b> Other (please describe)

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

<b>18 % agreed</b> Large changes – eg new initiatives, policies, projects	<b>47% agreed</b> Small changes to your existing policies, projects & processes	<b>82% agreed</b> Information to advocate more take up of emerging issues	<b>0% agreed</b> No changes. Unconvinced.
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**Feedback and suggestions for improvement**

- ‘Great diversity in guest speakers. Good break up of speakers and breaks so didn’t feel too long.’
- ‘Excellent speakers. Great to get latest resources and references for further research. Really enjoyed question time and discussion from participants.’
- The autonomous vehicle presentation was a great session. ‘Elliot particularly engaging and very interesting topic’.
- Some sessions were too detailed for some attendees with a suggestion that the affordable housing presentation ‘would benefit from taking it up a level of detail’. Air quality presentation was ‘very dense’
- Food presentation was great, however would benefit from ‘greater linkages of food systems to inner metro municipalities’
- The agenda topics should be introduced (and not changed) earlier to help attendees select course.
- Include more ‘quick chat sessions on barrier identification and generating innovative work-arounds/leadership/brainstorms’
- ‘Would like more practical tools for how to implement. Required zone/overlay/tools etc’
- ‘More information on local Better Best Practice Notes would be useful. More discussion time on how to use information?’

**Response to feedback:**

It is agreed that more time for discussion will be beneficial for future sessions and speakers will be asked to give slightly shorter talks to enable this. It is agreed that the confusion over the agenda change needs to be avoided in all future sessions.

With the diversity of topics there will always be some presentations that are too detailed for some attendees. Loci will guide presenters to have 2-3 simpler opening slides to help those attendees most unfamiliar with that project, however detail will still be encouraged as many attendees are frustrated if the content is not detailed enough.

The requests for more practical next steps for implementation is positive, however we deliberately keep this session about diverse ideas so that attendees are exposed to a range of topics including ‘some they never thought would apply to them’. This session is about ‘seeding the idea’ and providing more time for implementation will reduce the number of topics we cover. Loci will seek to develop supporting training session that cover the requests for more practical sessions.

