



EVALUATION RESULTS

Thursday 20th September –

Green Infrastructure and Urban Planning

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: [Green Infrastructure and Urban Planning](#)

Time: 9.30am-4.30pm

Venue: 3/124 Exhibition St, Melbourne 3000

Attendees: Strategic urban planners, statutory planner, environmental planners, horticulturalists, arborists,

Content

Green infrastructure planning is about trees, open space, green roofs and waterways. And more importantly it's also the way that these natural elements fit together via our urban planning to maximise environment, health and liveability benefits.

It has been argued that 'with its focus on being multifunctional and integrated, green infrastructure reverses traditional planning practices'. This course explores this notion in a practical way.

The course is designed to be a conversation-starter for practitioners new to the idea of green infrastructure, before extending into practical policy, plan and design guidance to supporting resilient city shaping based around green infrastructure and ecosystem services.

Learning Outcomes

- Introduction to green infrastructure (and ecosystem service) issues and how these can be supported across public and private land through urban planning, environmental planning and local action
- Be able to bring different urban specialists together from planners, engineers, landscape architects, water, soil and tree specialists, asset managers, conservation officers, placemakers and community groups to maximise green infrastructure implementation.
- Understand the rapidly emerging evidence base supporting green infrastructure including policy and design recommendations for addressing urban ecology and urban heat island impacts in policy; water, soil and air quality improvements in masterplanning, and community-led design in engagement.
- Examine the role of urban planners in setting targets, frameworks, links and direction to support developer and open space contributions to implement strategic green infrastructure implementation.

We want attendees to leave the event:

- Knowing that green infrastructure planning is holistic for urban planning (and not just an add on)
- Having some next steps to further support green infrastructure solutions in their own work.

Course Presenters:

Sheridan Blunt, Loci Environment & Place

Lester Townsend, Planning Panels Victoria

John Rayner, Green Infrastructure Research Group, University of Melbourne

Meg Caffin, Urban Forest Consulting

Amy Hahs, Urban Ecology in Action

Evaluation Results

PIA Planet Training Seminar – Green Infrastructure and Urban Planning

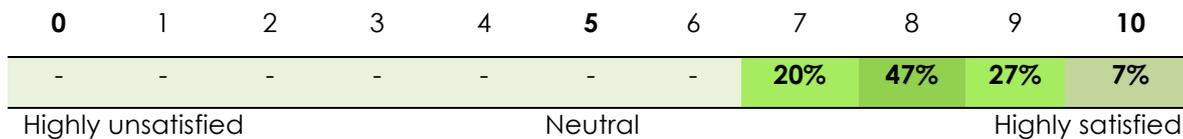
26 September 2017



22 people attended this training session hosted by Planning Institute of Australian (Vic) and run by Loci Environment & Place Inc. 15 evaluation forms were received and answers are compiled below (in green).

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

Average 8.2



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

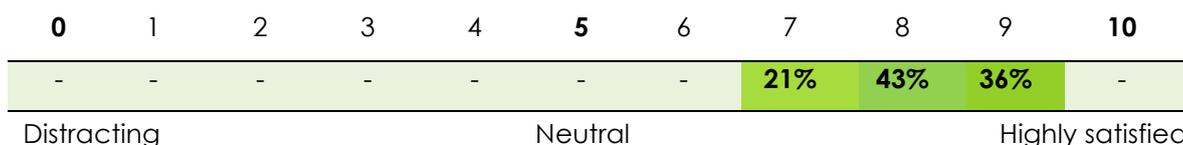
Session	Rating (out of 5)
Growing Vegetation in the City – John Rayner	4.4
Role of Cities in Urban Ecology – Amy Hahs	4.4
Tutorial - Green Infrastructure & VPP's Sheridan Blunt & Lester Townsend	4.2
Urban Forest and Urban Heat Island – Meg Caffin	4.6
Tutorial - Trees on Private Land Sheridan Blunt & Lester Townsend	4.1
Links to contribution schemes - Lester Townsend	3.6

Background of attendees	No.
Strategic Urban Planning	7
Statutory Urban Planning	5
Environmental Planning	7
Horticulture	2
Arborist	1
ESD Planning	1
Engineering	1
Water	1
Community Development	2
Urban Ecology	1
Education	1
International Development	1

*attendees were able to select multiple disciplines

3. On a scale of 0 to 10, how did you find the idea of having diverse speakers ranging from practical applications to links to new research?

Average 8.1



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

67% General understanding of green infrastructure	25% Opportunities for questions and feedback with specialists
25% Changing roles for future urban planning (transformative policy, global context etc)	75% Learning from, and networking with fellow participants
17% Learning more about the existing Victorian planning system and considering new controls	0% Other (please describe below)

5. What could we have done better?

- 'Would have preferred slightly broader view re open space planning- too much focus on stat outcomes & trees.'
- 'A bit more info on types of green infrastructure and maintenance'
- 'Use different Council examples to show what is effective for tree controls.'
- 'Include more focus on green infrastructure outcomes for new development (eg roof gardens on apartments) and how to foster good outcomes (eg advocacy, standards, processes)'

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

60% agreed The session provided me with information and momentum to pursue green infrastructure initiatives in general (community projects, local analysis/modelling, policy updates, asset management etc)	50% agreed The session provided me with information and momentum to pursue local planning controls that support the multiple benefits of green infrastructure	10% agreed The session has promoted no changes for me, but will seek out more knowledge about green infrastructure for future possibilities.	0% agreed 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.

Quotes from participants

- 'Good training. Gave me a lot to think about and take back to my Council.'
- 'Good to see some new research. This is very helpful when trying to get strategies and new planning policies'
- 'We are currently developing multiple strategies for urban forestry, habitat connectivity & ESD so this training was very timely and helps support that.'
- There is 'not enough research yet on consensus of effective approach'