this book draws on the author’s considerable expertise in land development processes and planning, and planning education. It takes a learning-by-doing studio approach and shows how to undertake a development feasibility study in three main stages: the preliminary proposal, a design, and finally, a full report with a financially appraised proposal.

Understanding Land Development shows how to tackle a real-life project where there are situations of uncertainty and where there may be multiple solutions to a problem. It demonstrates how to undertake research into a range of issues – site conditions, market conditions, development finance, sustainability, land use planning, and infrastructure – and shows how to analyse this diverse information to generate a concrete development proposal.

The book covers planning skills, including site analysis, financial analysis, spreadsheet preparation, design, plan interpretation, project planning, and strategic thinking.

By taking the approach presented here, the reader will learn to become a more effective planner by understanding how land development leads to built environment outcomes that may not be the idealised outcomes to which planners aspire.

About the author
Eddo Coiacetto is a senior lecturer in urban and environmental planning at the Griffith School of Environment at Griffith University. He previously spent several years in professional practice.

Planning Excellence 2013
Planning Excellence 2013 is a sustainable and equitable region of innovative agricultural production, valued natural environments, efficient and reliable energy, interconnected transport networks, and healthy waterways that are resilient and adaptive to climate change and rapid population growth.

PLANNING INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA QUEENSLAND AWARDS FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE
COMMEMORATIVE BOOK
The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning would like to congratulate the winners of PIA Queensland’s 2013 Planning Excellence Awards. The department is responsible for driving Queensland’s economic development, whilst protecting our quality of life and environment, and greatly values PIA’s contributions in achieving this objective.

The Planning Group has continued its focus on cutting red tape and regulation by progressing a raft of planning reforms, including: developing the single State Planning Policy to simplify the state’s interest in planning and development; implementing the State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) to streamline the development assessment process; reviewing infrastructure charges to introduce a framework that is equitable, transparent and provides certainty; and developing a number of new generation regional plans. These projects have benefited significantly from engagement with, and input, from PIA and its members.

The department has again chosen this year to sponsor the award categories which specifically recognise the achievements of planners at secondary school and tertiary levels. Nurturing this talented pool of people will ensure the future of our great state is in safe hands.
On behalf of Brisbane City Council, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate all recipients of PIA’s 2013 Awards for Planning Excellence.

Brisbane is at the centre of Australia’s fastest growing region and as a Council we recognise the importance of innovative planning that enables us to balance future growth while maintaining our subtropical outdoor lifestyle.

Over the past decade, Brisbane has undergone a significant period of change to become a dynamic and vibrant New World City. As Lord Mayor, I’m committed to delivering for the residents of Brisbane and growing our city to its full potential.

Guiding us in all policy development is Council’s long-term community plan - Brisbane Vision 2031. This vision details the aspirations for our city’s future and outlines targets for Brisbane in 2031.

From city-wide strategic planning to localised neighbourhood plans, Brisbane City Council works together in partnership with the community and industry to develop forward-thinking planning solutions. Together, we can achieve sustainable growth and encourage well-designed, integrated development for Brisbane.

For more information, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/planning

Graham Quirk
Lord Mayor of Brisbane

Ipswich City Council would like to congratulate all the finalists in the Queensland PIA Awards for Excellence. This year, Council is particularly proud to sponsor the Awards for both Planner of the Year and Robert Swider Memorial Young Planner of the Year, and in this way to give recognition and support to individuals who make an outstanding contribution to the planning profession.

The Ipswich City Council has been a long time supporter of PIA and the planning profession and recognises the key role that good planning plays in achieving great community and built environment outcomes.

Ipswich City Council is proud of its achievements in creating new vibrant urban communities whilst balancing and protecting its unique natural and built heritage.

For further information on Ipswich planning and development issues, visit Council’s planning portal at www.ipswichplanning.com.au
2013 QUEENSLAND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The 2013 Queensland awards committee congratulates all of the Award for Excellence Winners and Commendation recipients. A fantastic achievement and worthy recognition of the hard work and commitment of teams and individuals.

It seemed very fitting that we celebrated the longest running awards program in the country by coming together and celebrating on World Town Planning Day, November 8. 2013 marked the 27th year of the Awards for Planning Excellence program in Queensland. Over these years we have seen great depth and variety of our winners from all over the state.

In 2013 it was significant to see so many of our finalists acknowledged for their commitment to advancing the public interest in planning and a dedication to initiatives that were making a real difference on the ground. This year we rewarded policy into practice.

In 2013, our record number of judges had the very difficult task to select our finalists. We were yet again delivered a high calibre of nominations across our 14 categories. Queensland really is delivering exceptional planning practice and developing and nurturing highly effective planners.

Our 2013 recipients have again shown the high quality of planning occurring in Queensland by Queenslanders. The work of Queensland planners is raising the public interest in planning and importantly building the understanding of why planning matters and the role of planning in creating great spaces and places.

In 2013, we are again grateful to the loyal support of all our sponsors and supporters including the Queensland Government’s Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning who are again our Gold Sponsor. The Awards program is also dependent on many stakeholders including considerable input by our entrants and judges. We thank you all for your time, enthusiasm and commitment to this worthwhile program. With this strong support, the future of the awards as one of the major public activities of PIA Queensland is assured.

In 2014, we look forward to further improvements in our awards program and innovations to make the nomination process easier for all to access.

Well done to all those involved and we wish our 2013 Queensland Award for Excellence Winners the best of luck for the 2014 National Awards for Planning Excellence.
Mr Leo Jensen FPIA CPP
Leo is an exceptional leader, manager and planner. He has served the Institute with distinction over a 22 year period and demonstrates exemplary leadership through his positions as an awards and conference convenor; committee member; Secretary, Queensland’s President; National Councillor and President of the Queensland Division. Leo was also instrumental in establishing the Central Queensland branch of PIA and has represented PIA and the profession on a number of steering committees including the Local Government Careers Taskforce, the Transit Oriented Development Taskforce and Iconic Places Panels for Noosa, Douglas and the Blackall Ranges.

Leo’s passion for education and professional development is also evident through his support for the LGAQ’s Diploma of Local Government Planning and active involvement in the Sunshine Coast University’s Regional and Urban Planning Advisory Committee.

In a professional capacity, Leo has held management and senior management positions for over 15 years in the local government areas of Rockhampton City, Capricorn Shire, Moreton Bay Region and Lockyer Valley and as Principal of Leo Jensen Consulting where he has led projects such as planning scheme drafting and review, master planning, structure and local area planning, environmental planning and a variety of planning studies.

Mr Peter Tabulo FPIA
Peter Tabulo has been a town planner for 30 years and in 2013 was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Cairns Regional Council. Prior to this, Peter held the role of General Manager of Planning and Environment at Cairns Council. During this time Peter has overseen the implementation of traditional land use planning documents, such as CairnsPlan 2005 & 2009, through to the innovative Cairns Style Guide and more recently a range of climate change and sustainability programs.

Peter has also been on a number of LGAQ & DSDIP working groups for planning and governance. Peter has served for 3 years on the JCU Planning Advisory Board. Peter has been the mentor to senior planners through to student planners and was responsible for re-establishing the TNQ Branch of PIA in 2000. Peter’s quiet and methodical approach to planning has enabled him to promote planning within the Council and community.

Ms Andrea Young FPIA
Andrea Young is one of Australia’s leading social planners. Her work has helped pioneer the integration of social and cultural considerations into the nation’s urban planning in several states. She demonstrates personal and professional qualities of the highest moral calibre. Andrea is a strong supporter of fairness, integrity, equity and social justice, and as such, a credit to the town planning profession.

Above all, through demonstrating and leading these practices by example, Andrea Young is nominated for her enormous contribution to progressing acceptance of the discipline of social planning as a valued and respected part of the core planning process. Andrea also helped to raise this profile by becoming the founding convenor of the PIA Social Planning Chapter in Queensland. Under her guidance and energy, the network and discipline grew substantially and the voice of social planners in policy development and planning scheme development increased several fold. All the while Andrea encouraged and mentored young social planners, making their path ever much easier than had been her own.

Andrea Young has helped to bridge the divide between statutory planning and social planning in a way that no other social planner in Australia has done. Combining her ‘roots’ with her extensive knowledge of statutory planning, she has remained passionate about community and has consistently promoted the ways in which planning can protect and support the rights and needs of people in the community. She has succeeded in providing robust and practical planning solutions while empowering and strengthening communities, no mean feat.
There are three Awards categories:

- **General Categories** - offered at a state level, with winners being elevated to the National Awards for Planning Excellence.
- **State Categories** - offered only at state level, with the winners not being elevated to the national awards.
- **National Categories** - offered at the national level only – nominations for these categories will be called later in the year.

In addition to satisfying the specific criteria required for each category, the judging panel sought nominations that demonstrated:

- Principles that could be applied nationally;
- Community benefit, particularly a positive impact in as wide a section of the community as possible;
- Originality or uniqueness;
- Resourcefulness, innovation and creativity;
- A high level of professionalism;
- A high level of technical competence / accuracy;
- A high level of relevant / appropriate research;
- Detailed methodology;
- Good quality documentation and attractive presentation;
- User friendliness, i.e. is it able to be easily read and understood;
- A realistic implementation program - possibly including a budget, and staging details;
- Sustainability and the achievement of improved environmental quality;
- ‘Best practice’.

Our thanks is also extended to Herbert Geer for the use of their office during the judging process.
Exceptional Planning Achievement Award
2013 Queensland PIA Overall Winner

From all of the Award for Excellence recipients this entry particularly stood out to the judging panel. SARA is a response to repeated calls by industry and PIA congratulates the Queensland Government and in particular the Department of State Development Infrastructure and Planning for finally taking this policy into practice.

SARA is making a difference and presents a whole-of-government approach to the plan implementation process and provides a valuable precedent that could and should, in the judges’ opinion be applied to government strategic planning and plan-making.

SARA is a significant and positive step forward in centralising State referrals and State assessment. The judges particularly acknowledge that through SARA, DSDIP is again the central agency for planning matters. The benefits of SARA are being seen State-wide providing stakeholders with more certainty, transparency and consistency in relation to the assessment of applications. It is a model that could easily be adopted within other jurisdictions.

Congratulations to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning on being awarded this year’s Exceptional Planning Achievement and therefore the PIA 2013 Queensland Overall Winner.
This award recognises an entry that does not win an Award of Planning Excellence but is innovative and shows the greatest promise of achieving the vision of excellence in Queensland.

Wendy Chadwick was a senior and respected member of the Queensland planning profession. Through a 27 year career with Brisbane City Council, Wendy left a significant legacy in city and regional planning. She made a major contribution to the transformation of Brisbane from its historical role as a state capital to that of a major international city well placed to participate in the global economy of the 21st Century.

Wendy joined the Brisbane City Council as a town planning officer after her graduation from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning. From 1996 to 2001 she was manager of Development Assessment and later she assumed the role of Regional Planning Co-ordinator representing Brisbane’s interests in the development of the SEQ Regional Plan. Wendy was universally regarded as a dedicated and thoughtful professional with a passion for Brisbane and planning for its future.

Wendy contributed a great deal of her time to PIA as a speaker, organiser and advocate. The PIA acknowledged her enormous contribution by elevating her to Fellow of the Institute. Wendy was a generous mentor to young planners and had a significant influence on the career development of many.

This spirit of selfless support is reflected in the establishment of the Wendy Chadwick Memorial Trust, which she orchestrated prior to her untimely death from melanoma in 2007. The Wendy Chadwick Memorial Trust was established to support the mentoring and education of young planners and others involved in Brisbane City Council’s multi-disciplinary Development Assessment teams.

In 2008, the Queensland Division supported the request from Brisbane City Council to change the name of the Encouragement Award to the Wendy Chadwick Encouragement Award.

Quandamooka Action Plan 2012, Future Land Use Proposals for Minjerribah
Urban Research Program, School of Environment Griffith University
Quandamooka Yooloooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC).

The Quandamooka Action Plan, Future Land Use Proposals for Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) results from a year-long collaboration between the Yooloooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation and the Griffith University Urban Research Team. The Quandamooka People are the traditional owners of Minjerribah and for centuries they have cared for Country using traditional land management practices. The Plan had its genesis in the wake of the Quandamooka People having their Native Title claim recognised in the Federal Court of Australia in July 2011.

The Action Plan is a consolidated and unified view of the Quandamooka People’s aspirations and specific land use proposals for their Minjerribah guided by their traditional knowledge of Country.

This is a robust and comprehensive vision and implementation plan that provides a secure foundation for the local community. It is also an excellent model for other communities confronted with complex and difficult decisions about the future and may also facilitate contemporary planning to access and be guided by traditional knowledge on land management.

This clear and inclusive Action Plan produced by the Quandamooka People and Griffith University Urban Research Team is deserving of wider recognition and acknowledgement as a landmark achievement. The judges believe this practical example of how to manage complex planning challenges will be of great value to other communities across Australia.
2013 Queensland Planner of the Year Award

This Award recognises a planner who provides visionary leadership.

It is awarded for clear and focused leadership, outstanding quality of work, effort and/or achievement by a planner. The winner’s work will be inspirational; a planner’s view of the future.

Joanne Pocock

The 2013 Queensland Planner of the Year is Joanne Pocock. Jo has and continues to make an outstanding contribution to leading planning practice in Queensland and particularly for Ipswich City Council. She is known for her passion, drive and commitment to deliver quality planning outcomes through the plan implementation process. The judges consider Jo to be an outstanding development manager – passionate about planning and supporting and encouraging her high performing team to be the best they can be.

Jo demonstrates outstanding leadership in planning, improving planning processes and enhancing the profile of planning. Jo supports and empowers her staff within an overall culture of continuous improvement. This approach is appreciated and acknowledged by the wider development industry. Her dedication to Ipswich City Council is well known and she has fostered a positive workplace which is clearly evident through her staff retention.

Above and beyond her “day job”, Jo has undertaken a strong leadership role with the SEQ Development Assessment Managers Group and as part of the Council of Mayors South East Queensland (CoMSEQ) Planning Reform Taskforce. Over the past year this group has gone from strength to strength actively contributing to a positive planning culture.

The judges consider Jo to be an excellent role model and mentor for young planners and therefore a very worthy winner of the Planner of Year.

Proudly Sponsored By

City of Ipswich
This Award recognises the outstanding contribution or achievement by a Young Planner:

**Brittany Lauga**

Following her graduation in 2009, Brittany has progressed quickly in her employment with Rockhampton-based CQG Consulting to now lead their Planning, Approvals and Community Engagement Team in the delivery of complex projects such as the Great Keppel Island Revitalisation Plan EIS, Fitzroy Terminal Project EIS and redevelopment of Rockhampton’s Grand Hotel.

As a passionate representative of her region, Brittany was elected in January 2012 as the PIA Central Queensland Branch Convener, and has since worked tirelessly to deliver new and expanded services to PIA members in Central Queensland including the inaugural CQ social bowls day, a number of technical seminars, and the first ever Central Queensland Planning Symposium with over 70 registered guests from Rockhampton, Mackay, Clermont, Emerald, Moranbah, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Brisbane.

She has also played an active role in the PIA Mackay State Conference Committee and marketing sub-committee since 2012.

The judges agreed that Brittany has enthusiastically contributed to raising the profile of both planning and young planners in Regional Queensland, and is a worthy young ambassador for the profession.

The Wendy Chadwick Memorial Trust intends to support the further professional development of young planners. The Trust has provided a bursary of $2,500 for the Queensland Young Planner of the Year winner to fund their attendance at the next National or Queensland State Conference.
OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT - SECONDARY

This Award recognises outstanding planning work by a secondary student.

It is awarded for a substantial project, report, book, thesis, article or piece of research which makes a significant contribution to issues relating to rural, regional and/or urban planning. Nominations may address one or more of the PIA chapter disciplines such as social planning, environmental planning, transport planning, urban design, economic development planning and planning law.

2013 QLD COMMENDATION

Traffic Congestion Investigation on Waterworks Road

Lilian Tamas
Stuartholme School

This project demonstrated a sound understanding of broad planning issues associated with the study of congestion along a section of Waterworks Road, The Gap.

Lilian produced a well-presented report that was logical and thorough, focusing on a range of traffic and land use issues of local concern. Her recommendations could benefit the local community and the research supports the issue.

The judging panel commends Lilian on her research efforts and practical approach to this land use planning issue.

2013 QLD AWARD FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE WINNER

An investigation into traffic congestion and safety issues identified at Kenmore intersection

Evlyn Menzies
Stuartholme School

The judging panel congratulates Evlyn on undertaking a thorough and practical investigation into local traffic congestion and safety issues in the Kenmore area. Her research findings and analysis is exceptional for a secondary student.

The report structure was well presented, clear and succinct with her findings representing practical outcomes based on sensible criteria. The judges were impressed by Evlyn’s approach to inform her research including traffic counts and interviews of local residents.

Her research and recommendations were very well considered and represent a common sense approach to this local land use planning issue.

Proudly sponsored by Queensland Government
OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT - TERTIARY

This Award recognises outstanding planning work by a tertiary student. It is awarded for a substantial project, report, book, thesis, article or piece of research which makes a significant contribution to issues relating to rural, regional and/or urban planning. Nominations may address one or more of the PIA chapter disciplines such as social planning, environmental planning, transport planning, urban design, economic development planning and planning law.

2013 QLD AWARD FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE WINNER

Browns Plains Centre Strategic Plan 2033

Jessica Crane, Christina Hill, Michelle Squires, Hayden Gianarakis, Brylee English Genevieve Denny

The University of Queensland

The judging panel considered this project as a standout nomination. The project is considered to be a useful planning study on seeking to improve the connectivity of the centre both within and external to its locality.

The Strategic Plan seeks to guide development over a 20 year planning horizon. The Plan identifies 14 centre making actions with particular focus on public realm improvements. The team has also come up with a range of conceptual design options for a number of areas within the study area aimed to integrate with other actions in the plan.

As part of the importance of implementing the plan, the team have also devised a stakeholder engagement strategy that seeks to assist in translating the plan into reality over time.

The team members of Urbanplanit are congratulated on their creative and innovative approach in devising the Browns Plains Centre 2033 - Strategic Plan.
SEQ is a sustainable and equitable region of innovative agricultural production, valued natural environments, efficient and reliable energy, interconnected transport networks, and healthy waterways that are resilient and adaptive to climate change and rapid population growth.

Climate Change Management Plan 2013 – 2033

Proudly sponsored by Queensland Government

The judging panel commends the Griffith University team on a very comprehensive and innovative planning report, designed to explore a suitable strategic policy framework for the future management of the regional landscape in a climate change regime for South East Queensland.

The plan could very well be applied in a practical sense and used to facilitate public discussion and deliberation on a range of strategic level options for addressing key issues associated with managing the regional landscape in response to climate change challenges. The third year Urban & Environmental Planning students have demonstrated a thorough understanding of the issues at hand.
Understanding Land Development
A Project-Based Approach

Understanding Land Development
Eddo Coiacetto
Discipline of Urban & Environmental Planning
Griffith University

The judging panel congratulates Eddo on producing an educational document that provides a comprehensive introduction to the interaction of land development issues with planning theory within a studio learning environment.

The document teaches planners to influence the people who build cities, not to simply impose idealised outcomes to which planners aspire, and teaches planners to influence real world developments for the greater public good.

It was a unanimous decision of the judging panel that Eddo produced a document that can be used as a wider teaching tool across built environment courses nationally.
The Best Planning Ideas Award
2013 QLD Award for Planning Excellence Winner
Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council Planning Scheme

Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council
Buckley Vann Town Planning Consultants
AECOM
Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs

This award recognises the outstanding consultation and plan-making process undertaken by the consultant team in conjunction with the Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council.

The submission demonstrates the ability to empower a community that was previously inexperienced with the statutory plan-making regime through a consultation process with a strong educational component aimed at engaging members of the community at all ages to develop a vision and forward plan.

The judges were particularly impressed with the scheme’s ‘Care for Country Code’, triggers for particular proposals to be referred to community elders, the user-friendly use of multiple colours in the scheme (drawn from local murals) and the innovative use of ‘ownership language’.

This award recognises a pioneering approach that has resulted in a unique and accessible planning instrument that seeks to champion community consultation in the future planning and development of the area.

This Award recognises outstanding planning ideas.
Best Planning Ideas Small Project - Represents a project that is limited to a site or local place/ neighbourhood.

It is awarded for planning documents, reports, schemes, policies or projects that advance current planning practice.
The ‘Developing Heritages Places’ document is a clear and rigorous checklist of assessment criteria and considerations for stakeholders involved in site-specific development proposals relating to a Queensland heritage place.

The checklist is supported by more detailed case studies and recommended (as opposed to required) actions to inform the development of proposals, preparation of better development applications and pre-lodgement meetings with assessment authorities.

The document is well presented, and as a result, will be accessible to multiple stakeholders. The judges were particularly impressed by the inclusion of photographs of example cases studies, the comprehensiveness of the checklist from scoping through to construction and the ‘road-testing’ of the checklist undertaken by the Department with local government.

‘Developing Heritage Places’ has been endorsed by the Queensland Heritage Council and the judges believe represent a model to be implemented in other jurisdictions moving forward.

This commendation recognises the exceptional consultation and plan-making process undertaken by the consultant team in conjunction with the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council to produce the first planning scheme for the area.

The scheme seeks to capture and utilise historical and cultural information not previously recorded as the basis for forward community planning. The judges were impressed by the scheme’s ‘Places of historical importance map’ as a recognition of the cultural diversity of the Cherbourg community and the consultation process undertaken, which involved local radio engagement and extended stays by the consultant team with the community.

The Cherbourg scheme will contribute to the sustainable planning and development of Cherbourg, articulates a strong sense of place and acknowledges the cultural heritage and diversity of the community.
The management of agriculture in the land use planning context remains a significant and important rural and regional policy and planning issue affecting Queensland. The Planning for Healthy Agriculture project has achieved significant and innovative progress in understanding and addressing the matter.

This significant study identifies the issues and importantly the options in a comprehensive and clear manner. The judges were impressed by the project’s practical application through the inclusion of definitions, planning principles, planning questions, case studies, planning guidelines and guides for primary producers and graziers.

Clear, readable and soundly-based, the project is incredibly user-friendly by encouraging use by farmers, graziers and rural landholders who need to participate in the planning process as well as by planners and decision-makers at all levels.

The focus on users other than planners and decision-makers is particularly commended. This project has the potential to make a real difference and is a very worthy winner of the Award for Excellence.
The judges commend this project for the wide range of issues considered and the way they have been synthesised into a soundly based and simply structured plan for the future development of the Gympie Region.

Development of the planning scheme encompassed the careful identification and review of the planning challenges facing Gympie and the development of clear strategic and statutory planning directions for the future.

From the outset, the Council committed to a strong policy framework, regulatory efficiency, reducing red tape, encouraging housing affordability and economic development. By analysing the key drivers of development and identifying opportunities for the planning scheme and planning processes to encourage “good development” in line with the planning vision for the region, the planning scheme provides an innovative approach to plan-making that contributes to Queensland planning practice.

Particularly noteworthy is the rigour demonstrated in the framing of the final planning document, in the consideration of the levels of assessment and the approach taken to codes and overlays.

The extensive involvement of key stakeholders, including users of the planning scheme, in the research and development of the planning scheme, adding to its practical application, is also commendable.
From Plan to Place Award

This Award recognises the implementation of a plan into a successful place.

It is awarded for an effort that demonstrates a significant achievement for an area, either a single community or a region, in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning. It should demonstrate the implementation from plan to place within a 10 year span within an urban, peri-urban, regional or rural context that makes an outstanding contribution to advancing planning practice.

Santos GLNG: Integrated Project Housing Strategy

Santos GLNG
Buckley Vann Town Planning Consultants
Briggs & Mortar Pty Ltd.

The plan addresses the challenges and opportunities presented by major infrastructure projects for the future of host communities, particularly with respect to housing. It reminds us that the quality of place is related to the way it serves its community and how planning must account for social and economic factors.

The project is based on rigorous research and provides a complex and multi-pronged approach to a complex and substantial problem currently encountered across a number of Queensland communities.

Substantial achievement is demonstrated against the plan objectives. Comprising six separate strategies that address issues such as remote construction, rental support and housing affordability, this multi-pronged approach has obvious potential learnings for other centres around Australia facing similar challenges.

In establishing a strong connection between issues, stakeholders, objectives and outcomes an innovative and comprehensive solution to a difficult and important problem has been developed; among other things, this plan will deliver new people to regional locations in a framework considerate of host communities.

The project implicitly rejects more simplistic traditional approaches to providing housing in resource regions and highlights the difference that planning can make in the delivery of place outcomes.
THE HARD WON VICTORY AWARD

This Award is for a planning initiative, effort or leadership that has resulted in positive planning outcomes in the face of difficult or trying circumstances.

This award is intended to recognise professional planners or citizen planners (or both) who have developed innovative solutions to planning challenges, which have resulted in outcomes that have had significant community benefits beyond what may have been otherwise realised.

2013 QLD AWARD FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE WINNER

Blackwood Street Affordable Housing

Brisbane Housing Company
Buckley Vann Town Planning Consultants

The Blackwood Street Affordable Housing project demonstrates how important the community is and can be to the success of a project. The judges were impressed by the proactive approach undertaken by the project team to actively engage with the community throughout the entire process. Public notification was not required however the team recognised the importance to take the community on the journey and they were rewarded for their efforts.

Housing affordability remains a complex and significant planning challenge. Through this considered approach the community input reshaped the project resulting in one that was strongly opposed to one that gained widespread acceptance. This project demonstrated best practice community engagement that went above and beyond and allowed significant benefits to be realised. The mixed-use project has now been delivered and is a lively and welcomed addition to the growing Mitchelton neighbourhood.
THE HARD WON VICTORY AWARD

This Award is for a planning initiative, effort or leadership that has resulted in positive planning outcomes in the face of difficult or trying circumstances.

2013 QLD COMMENDATIONS

The project team is to be commended for the innovative approach to the bridge funding which has enabled a good project to become a great project. As a result of the project team’s inventive strategy, additional benefits have been realised including delivery of smaller more affordable housing product. In a tough economic climate this project demonstrates that with commitment and willingness to overcome constraints a positive planning outcome can be delivered.

Riverbank
Moreton Bay Regional Council
PEET
THG

The Cardwell & District strategic ACTION PLAN 2012-2030 (an initiative of the Cardwell Community)
19th November 2012
Urban Research Program, School of Environment, Griffith University
Cardwell & District Community Futures Forum

In February 2011, the largest severe tropical cyclone in recent memory made landfall leaving a trail of devastation. Out of this tragedy emerged a visionary project that is unique and very worthy of acknowledgement. The judges were impressed with the breadth, dedication and energy applied to this project. A sustained and committed engagement program commenced only weeks after Yasi has resulted in a long term 20 year vision that can guide future decisions and investment for the region. The panel were particularly impressed with the cooperative partnership between the community and the university.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

LOGAN CITY COUNCIL
This Award recognises the achievements of planners, planning authorities and development entities in translating good planning policy into improved processes and practices in the workplace and ‘on the ground’.

**Improving Planning Processes and Practices**

The judges were unanimous in awarding this category to the State Assessment and Referral Agency. This award recognises the achievement of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning in delivering and implementing the new State referral and development assessment regime which will result in improved development outcomes on the ground and unquestionably met all aspects of the award criteria.

SARA is a response to repeated calls from industry to address timing and cost inefficiencies caused by having multiple referral triggers for development applications to multiple State agencies. SARA represents a significant step forward in centralising State referrals and provides stakeholders with more certainty, transparency and consistency in relation to the assessment of applications referred to the State by bringing assessment criteria and policies ‘out of the bottom drawer’ of various State agencies and into the consolidated and publicly available State Development Assessment Provisions.

The judges acknowledge, in particular:

- the improved accessibility of the State application process through online lodging and mapping tools;
- the relative speed at which the Department brought SARA and SDAP into operation, with the ‘buy in’ of other State agencies;
- the centralisation of the decision-making to DSDIP; and
- the ability for other jurisdictions to adopt the SARA model as a template to integrate approval and assessment processes involving the input of multiple agencies (and potentially under multiple pieces of legislation).

SARA presents a whole-of-government approach to the plan implementation process and provides a valuable precedent that could and should, in the judges’ opinion be applied to government strategic planning and plan-making processes.

**State Assessment Referral Agency (SARA)**

Department of State Development Infrastructure and Planning, DSDIP – Regional Services Group, DSDIP – Planning Group, Development Assessment Division.

Proudly sponsored by

Buckley Vann
Town Planning Consultants
This Award recognises initiatives in best practice public engagement that achieve an outstanding and innovative contribution to social planning practice and outcomes.

Brisbane Open House: Unlock Your City

Brisbane Open House
Brisbane Development Association
Office of the Queensland Government Architect
National Trust of Queensland

High quality community participation depends on the community’s willingness to engage. And the community is most willing to engage on matters that they feel passionate about.

Brisbane Open House – Unlocking Our City, has achieved this with many tens of thousands of people entering public and private spaces that demonstrate excellence in urban design and architecture.

The judging panel were incredibly impressed by the approach undertaken to take the community on a journey into the way spaces and places are planned, designed, built, and conserved. This type of engagement promotes, builds and advances the public interest in the value and importance of good planning and quality urban design.

Since the first Brisbane event in 2010, the Open House concept has expanded beyond Brisbane with similar events in Maryborough and Toowoomba. This demonstrates its success and the judges applaud this concept and its application to be rolled out further across Queensland and indeed Australia.
Ideas Fiesta
Urban Renewal Brisbane
City Planning and Economic Development
Brisbane City Council

The BCC Ideas Fiesta was an event-led engagement approach which empowered and harnessed a wide range of stakeholders from development, business and education communities to collaborate in staging consultation activities for the Brisbane City Centre Master Plan.

The Fiesta and its use of social media to create an online virtual ‘Ideas Fiesta Social Hub’ generated an extraordinary 1.2 million social media views, over 61,800 website hits and event attendance in excess of 16,400 at a very low direct cost to Council. The success of the fiesta exceeded all expectations.

It is commended for its resourcefulness and taking the use of social media in community engagement to new heights.

Quandamooka Action Plan 2012, Future Land Use Proposals for Minjerribah
Urban Research Program, School of Environment Griffith University, Quandamooka Yooloooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC).

This detailed Action Plan, resulting from year-long collaboration between an Aboriginal Corporation and a university research team, demonstrates appropriate local community planning principles that are also highly suitable for application elsewhere. Detailed and wide-ranging proposals indicate thorough and exploratory consultation with the QYAC, combined with rigorous research into the social, environmental and natural resources of Minjerribah, often known as North Stradbroke Island.

The detail and reach of proposals display both professionalism and insight. Equal regard is given to social and environmental sustainability. The action plan provides a timely demonstration of a feasible and desirable future for the iconic but often contested terrain of Minjerribah, pointing the way to collaborative management by Aboriginal representation, elective local and state governments, and environmental conservation advocacy concerns.

Gold Coast City – Transport Strategy 2031
City of Gold Coast

Successful public engagement requires extensive and inclusive consultation with all stakeholders as well as the broader community.

City of Gold Coast did this and more with the preparation of its 2031 Transport Strategy by visiting 32 locations across the City in a specially fitted out “Kombi”. The Kombi, an iconic Gold Coast image, became the face of the engagement strategy and facilitated many face to face discussions in parks and beaches which resulted in 1,000 pieces of written feedback.

This “take it to the people” approach is not just commendable but imaginative with the use of the “Kombi Konversation Van”.

P R O U D L Y S P O N S O R E D B Y

Public Engagement & Community Planning Award
2013 Commendations

Communications Group
Promotion of Planning Award

This Award recognises achievement in reporting or promoting planning issues in the public arena.

2013 QLD Award for Planning Excellence Winner

Ideas Fiesta

Urban Renewal Brisbane
City Planning and Economic Development
Brisbane City Council

The City Centre Master Plan Ideas Fiesta demonstrates, unequivocally, the promotion of planning issues in the public arena.

This innovative campaign has embraced new media and traditional media avenues to encourage the Brisbane community to explore the future of their city centre through a three-week long program of events across the CBD, supported by online channels.

The approach that the Brisbane City Council’s City Planning and Economic Development team utilised, resulted in the most successful social media campaign ever undertaken and all achieved on a small budget.

The success of the event is evident through the significant and extensive active participation of the community at the events and through social media. The approach has now caught the attention of numerous organisations from within and outside Australia, such as the UK publication Monocle Magazine and American Society of Civil Engineers.

The fiesta aimed to evoke discussion and excitement about the city’s future and to invite the community to actively participate in shaping their city centre. The judges believe there is no doubt that the team achieved this aim and so much more. The judges believe that the Fiesta has inspired many and has truly set a new benchmark for advancing the public interest in planning.
This Award recognises a ‘Great Place, Street or Neighbourhood’.

2013 QLD Award for Planning Excellence Winner

Surfers Paradise Foreshore Redevelopment

Major Projects Branch – City of Gold Coast, Aquenta Consulting, PLACE Design Group, Abigroup Contractors

The judging panel was very impressed by the major enhancement of the Surfers Paradise foreshore undertaken by Gold Coast City Council. It is always a brave move to make significant changes to ‘iconic locations’. In the panel’s view, the bold plans implemented here have delivered substantial benefits to the Gold Coast and to both locals and visitors to Surfers Paradise.

The judges believe that this project has gone a long way towards addressing the perceived negative image of Surfers Paradise as a tourist centre past its prime. Instead, the new foreshore works have promoted a strong modern design aesthetic, while maintaining obvious and playful references to the Gold Coast’s popular image as a fun destination for all ages.

The panel’s verdict is that the Surfers Paradise Foreshore is a bold and successful enhancement of a famous tourist destination. It celebrates the history of the Gold Coast, using modern design and quality materials and finishes. Best of all it promotes enjoyment of the beach and interaction between local residents and visitors. The high quality design, diverse public artworks and generous public spaces epitomise the Gold Coast and have secured the continuing status of the Surfers Paradise Foreshore as a Great Place.
The South Bank River Quay, completed in late 2011, is a recent redevelopment of the south-eastern end of the South Bank Parklands, adjacent to the Goodwill Bridge. New buildings and park areas have replaced ‘temporary’ structures remaining from the Expo period, and have provided a rare opportunity for South Bank visitors to walk down to the water’s edge and ‘touch’ the water.

The South Bank River Quay project design capitalises upon the strategic location of the site immediately adjacent to the Brisbane River and Maritime Museum. It delivers a high quality public realm that caters for a diverse range of uses and users. The development includes the integration of top end restaurants set amongst passive and active open space.

The panel is impressed by the sleek modern design of the new restaurant buildings and also notes their favourable orientation towards the river. The sloping grassed areas, open amphitheatre and the casual paving and park furniture make this a very distinctive part of the South Bank parklands. The views of the Brisbane River from the restaurants and also from the informal grassed areas are outstanding and unique.

Overall, the panel’s view is that the South Bank River Quay is unique area, with excellent and attractive landscape and building design. It displays all the required elements for a ‘Great Place’ and deserves to be recognised as such.
2012 Queensland Winners
At the 2013 National Award Planning Excellence

National Awards for Planning Excellence Winners

Outstanding Secondary Student
Alexandra Gilley

Public Engagement and Community Planning
Tablelands Community Plan 2021

Improving Planning Processes and Practices
Planning for Stronger, More Resilient Floodplains

Best Planning Ideas - Large, Regional or Urban
Gold Coast Rapid Transit 2031

Promotion of Planning
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Planning Champion
Graeme Newton

National Commendations

Young Planner of the Year
Shannon Batch

Outstanding Student - Tertiary
Josh Walker

Improving Planning Processes and Practices
Feasibility and Viability of Medium Density Development in South East Queensland

Congratulations to all of the 2013 PIA Qld recipients of Award for Excellence and Commendations.

Queensland continues to deliver and produce high quality planning practice and highly skilled and effective planners and development consultants.