Nomination Guidelines
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About the Awards

The annual Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Awards for Planning Excellence demonstrate leading practice, leadership and achievement in planning and the planning profession.

Planning strengthens communities, facilitates economic development and improves the choices available for where and how people live and work. It facilitates decision making and helps to balance private, government and community interests for net future benefit. Through their work planners identify hazards and reduce risks, while identifying and protecting environmental, social, cultural and heritage values.

The planning profession has enormously important and positive contributions to make to the future. PIA supports its members in delivering good planning outcomes and we celebrate that contribution through the Awards program. Participating in the Awards for Planning Excellence is a small but important way to demonstrate your commitment to advancing the profession.

The Awards offer the opportunity to share achievements and celebrate the value planning brings to our communities. It provides the chance for recognition of excellence and to showcase leading practice across a range of planning disciplines and sectors. Leadership in planning, particularly in the face of adversity, is acknowledged and applauded. Our categories celebrate the multidisciplinary nature of planning and the great leadership in this field. They also recognise emerging planning talent and connect with grass roots community planning.

In all, the Awards are a chance to celebrate, recognise and reward outstanding planning and planners.

As a national program, the Awards commence at the state and territory level seeking out the best of planning in each jurisdiction. Following judgement and recognition at a state or territory Awards ceremony, the winner of each relevant category is then elevated to the national stage.

The Planning Institute seeks to ensure that all sectors and disciplines engaged in urban and regional planning have an opportunity to receive their due recognition for the planning work they do.

The best from each state and territory are judged at a national level, culminating in the National Awards for Planning Excellence ceremony which acknowledges the best of the best of planning and planners in Australia. It is our chance to share the success stories and to promote the significant achievements in planning. Promoting planning success stories is a great way to show why Planning Matters – we are shaping the world today for tomorrow.
President’s Message

As with previous years, the 2017 PIA Victoria Awards for Planning Excellence provides the greatest opportunity for our State to demonstrate leading practice, excellence, leadership and achievement in planning and the planning profession across a range of planning disciplines and sectors. The Awards allow us to embrace and celebrate the outstanding planning accomplished in our State and applaud all planners involved in these successful projects.

In addition, the winners of the appropriate categories at our Victorian Awards will be automatically elevated for nomination at our National Awards ceremony, which acknowledges the best of planning and planners that the entire country of Australia has to offer.

Given this time of significant population growth in our State and transformation in our planning system, there is no better time to be showcasing some of the extraordinary work that is currently underway and has been accomplished to date. The PIA Victorian Awards continues to be one of the key events of the PIA VIC calendar, involving an increasing number of our some 1000 members in the State, all of whom bring a wealth of experience to the planning profession.

No matter your level of experience, or the size or type of project; big or small; statutory or strategic, your work is important to collectively achieving good quality planning outcomes and a positive legacy for our State. I therefore encourage everyone to participate in our awards this year and put forward your projects for nomination.

I would like to once again offer specific thanks to the 2017 Awards Convenor, Stuart Menzies; all of our judges this year; our valued sponsors; our hosts, RMIT University; the PIA Victoria staff; and all of our entrants and nominees. Without all your efforts, commitment and contributions the Awards simply would not happen.

Lastly, congratulations to all entrants who received commendations and awards. Thank you all for the hard work and dedication to our planning industry, it is certainly something to be proud of and celebrated at a both State and National level.
Convenor’s Message

Day-in and day-out, there is great work being done by skilled and committed planners across Victoria.

Whether it be small projects or big plans, planners are helping to bring change and opportunity to their local place and their local community.

Once a year, the Planning Awards for Excellence is an occasion for this good work to be acknowledged and celebrated.

The wide range of award categories gives everyone the opportunity to be recognised. No matter the size or resources of the council, firm, institution or organisation, the Planning Awards for Excellence seeks to honour good planning wherever this is achieved.

The 2017 Planning Awards for Excellence will be judged by a diverse range of recognised industry experts, selected to reflect the knowledge and skills required to identify excellence in each category.

So, have a go and nominate if you or someone you know is making a difference to planning in Victoria.

I look forward to seeing you in the crowd and hopefully at the podium on Friday 10 November 2017.
2016 VIC Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2016 VIC Award Winners

**IMPROVING PLANNING PROCESSES AND PRACTICES**
Commendation: Banyule City Council, The ESD Policy, Planning Reform for a Sustainable Future

**BEST PLANNING IDEAS – SMALL PROJECT**
Award: City of Melbourne, City Road Master Plan

**BEST PLANNING IDEAS – LARGE PROJECT**
Award: Melton Shire Council, Melton Dry Stone Wall Study and Amendment

**THE HARD WON VICTORY**
Award: Greater Bendigo City Council, Connecting Greater Bendigo: Integrated transport and land use strategy

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY PLANNING AWARD**
Award: City of Melbourne, City Road Master Plan
Commendation: CrowdSpot, BikeSpot

**FROM PLAN TO PLACE**
Award: MGS Architects & Monash University, Monash University Clayton Campus Masterplan
Commendation: City of Greater Geelong, Lara Town Centre Urban Design Framework Implementation

**CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH AND TEACHING**
Award: Stephen Rowley, RMIT University, Movie Towns and Sitcom Suburbs: Building Hollywood’s Ideal Communities

**PLANNER OF THE YEAR**
Alan March MPIA

**YOUNG PLANNER OF THE YEAR**
Brighid Sammon PIA (Assoc.)

**OUTSTANDING TERTIARY STUDENT PROJECT**
Award: Claire Boulange, University of Melbourne, The Walkability Planning Support System. An evidence-based tool to design healthy communities
Commendation: Matt Novacevski, Deakin University, Riding the Wave or Wiping Out? Factors influencing Place Identity in Victoria’s per-urban growth towns
PROMOTION OF PLANNING
Commendation: Mark Sheppard (David Lock Associates), Essentials of Urban Design

PRESIDENT’S AWARD
Award: The City of Greater Bendigo and its Counsel
Important Information

Key Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>22 May 2017</td>
<td>2017 PIA Victoria Award Nominations Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 June 2017</td>
<td>Entrants’ Briefing Webinar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 August 2017</td>
<td>Awards Submissions Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 November 2017</td>
<td>PIA Victoria Awards Presentation Ceremony</td>
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Melbourne University School of Design

Payment of nomination fees

Nomination fees are an important part of the financial structure that enables PIA to continue to provide a high-quality Awards program. The fee is payable for nominations for all categories except:

- Planner of the Year
- Outstanding Tertiary Student Project
- Young Planner of the Year
- Great Place Award

For the 2017 Awards, PIA has determined that nomination fees will be waived for projects where government agencies or non-for-profit organisations are the sole nominee. This decision has been made in recognition of the difficulties these organisations can have either meeting the expense due to budgetary constraints or because of restrictions on expenditure for governance and/or probity reasons. If your organisation meets these criteria and you wish to apply for this waiver, please tick the box on the Nomination Form stating 'I wish to apply for a waiver of nomination fee'.

The local PIA office may wish to contact you to confirm your organisation's eligibility for the waiver. Call your local PIA office if you wish to check your eligibility.
Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to be a member of PIA to enter a project in the Awards?

Unless the Eligibility Criteria for a specific category requires you to be a member, non-PIA members may enter the Awards.

Can I enter the same project in more than one category?

Yes, where appropriate projects may be entered in more than one Award Category provided each nomination addresses the specific selection criteria for each category for each project and you pay the relevant entry fee for each category.

How should I present my Submission?

The written component of your entry must address the selection criteria and be presented in A4 format. Addressing the selection criteria in a clear and comprehensive manner is essential for the entry to be competitive as the judges use the information to help with assessment. We encourage the close involvement of the project team in the preparation of the submission as the judges are closely looking at the quality and robustness of the written content rather than the presentation materials.

Whilst some entrants spend money on graphic design for the entry this has no impact on the judging process.

Is the word count and supporting evidence word/page limit strict?

Yes. Any words that are over the word count/page limit will not be viewed by the judging panel.

Will my submission materials be returned?

No. Entries receiving awards become the property of PIA and will not be returned.

My project is not geographic/location specific and/or involved input from people around Australia. Which State or Territory Awards should I enter?

You are able to choose any State or Territory to enter a project that is not geographic or location specific and/or involved collaboration with people from a number of
different locations but you can only submit one entry in one State or Territory. Multiple entries are invalid.

Types of projects that might fall within this scenario include books or academic papers.

**Can I submit an International Project?**

International projects can only be accepted on the condition they have been undertaken by an Australian project team/or individual based in Australia.

You are able to choose any State or Territory to enter an international project but you can only submit one entry in one State or Territory. Multiple entries are invalid.

International projects completed by project teams/or individuals that do not reside in Australia are ineligible to nominate.

**Conditions of Entry**

- All nomination materials must be submitted electronically. No hard copy submissions will be accepted.
- The Judges may not confer an Award in all categories.
- No more than one Award Winner will be granted in each general category and then elevated to the PIA National Awards.
- The Judging Panel may select more than one entry across eligible categories to receive Commendation Awards.
- The Judging panel has the right to consider an award nomination in an alternate or additional category.
- Contact with members of the judging panel to discuss an award nomination is strictly prohibited.
- Any material provided as part of the nomination may be used by the Planning Institute of Australia for promotional purposes.
- By submitting a nomination you agree that PIA is entitled to use information and images contained in the nomination to promote the awards and that the information and images provided have the appropriate internal copyright clearances.
- Nominees who have been misleading in their submissions or whose activities are not compliant with current relevant legislation may be withdrawn from the judging process or have Awards revoked.
• All nominations must be received by the published deadline. Nominations received after this date will not be considered.
• By submitting your application for the Awards you agree that you have read, understood and accept these conditions.
2017 Award Sponsors

Please contact PIA Victoria Executive Officer Carmel McCormack on carmel.mccormack@planning.org.au or 03 9653 3777 to discuss sponsorship opportunities.
Award Categories

There are two Awards categories comprising:

**GENERAL CATEGORIES** - offered at a state level, with award winners (excluding commendation winners) being elevated to the National Awards for Planning Excellence.

**STATE ONLY CATEGORIES** - offered only at state level, with the winners not being elevated to the National Awards for Planning Excellence

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

- 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; and
- ‘Leading Practice’.
Young Planner of the Year

**OBJECTIVE**
This Award recognises the outstanding contribution or achievement by a Young Planner.

This award is intended to seek out and acclaim the brightest younger planners who represent balanced qualities in advocating for young planning professionals and high quality planning outcomes in the workplace. The individual shows particular promise and emerging capabilities in leadership, planning practice, innovation, enterprise or thinking.

**ELIGIBILITY**
- A planner who has no more than 5 years post graduate experience
- Nominees must be a current Student, Graduate or Full Member of the Planning Institute of Australia and have been a member for a minimum of 6 months at the time of nominating.
- Nominees do not need to be a member of a PIA Young Planners Network Committee.
- Nominees should be nominated by an employer, colleague or peer, however, a nominee may also nominate themselves.
- The award judging panel for that year may identify suitable nominations.
- Previous winners are ineligible to apply

**SELECTION CRITERIA**
Evaluation will be based on:
- Demonstrated planning skills and excellence in the professional workplace, i.e. innovation, strategic thinking, high quality of work, excellent emerging communication skills and a high capacity for problem solving;
- An activity or project that furthers the practice of planning or improves planning processes and makes a valuable contribution to team work;
- The individual's commitment to continuing professional development and involvement with professional institutes, networks, events, outreach work or relevant voluntary activity; and
- The extent to which the individual serves as an advocate and high quality example for other young professionals in the industry or in the workplace, and demonstrates future emerging leadership qualities.
NOTE

No nomination fee is required for this category
Cutting Edge Research and Teaching

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises an outstanding achievement in planning scholarship, research or teaching.

It is awarded for a substantial piece of research or a planning education program which makes an outstanding contribution to the understanding of issues relating to planning in Australia. The Award seeks to recognise work that extends planning debate with an evidence basis.

This category also includes excellence in teaching at both school and university levels.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- An individual, organisation or agency engaged in teaching or research
- School and University teachers/academics
- Community organisations
- Or a combination of all or any of the above.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Evaluation will be based on:

**WEIGHTING**

- Originality and Innovation – document how the project or research presents a visionary approach or innovative concept to address a specific planning issue. Document how the nomination is innovative or pioneering. 35%
- Discuss how the nomination has the potential to inform the wider public about the value of planning. 30%
- Illustrate how the project or research has potential application for others and how the results or methodology would further the cause of good planning. 20%
- Discuss the project methodology – convey how the work is based on sound and plausible research, analysis and evidence basis. 15%
Improving Planning Processes and Practices

**OBJECTIVE**

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

Put simply, this category seeks to award an initiative that takes planning policy and strategy into practice and in doing so achieves a great planning outcome. It is awarded for organisational arrangements or planning initiatives that have achieved improved planning performance and advanced the public interest.

This Award seeks to recognise the value adding that occurs throughout a planning framework or improvements in practice that lead to enhanced development outcomes. The award-winning projects will be ones that contribute to a positive planning culture.

Whilst the genesis of the outcome may be a report, document, scheme or strategy, it is the implementation, action and delivery on the ground which this Award seeks to recognise.

The award will recognise excellence in planning practice and recognises creativity and innovation in the methods involved. This category emphasises results and demonstrates how innovative and state-of-the-art planning practices help to create communities of lasting value.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- Planning professionals;
- Planning authorities and local, state and federal government agencies;
- Development companies and individuals and financiers;
- Or a combination of all or any of the above.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Evaluation will be based on:

- Discuss how the nomination addressed a need or problem in a visionary or innovative manner.
- Discuss how the project has lead or will lead to measurable improvements in efficiency.
- Illustrate how the project or process has been implemented and discuss the documentation process to help others achieve the intended outcomes.
- Demonstrate ‘on-ground’ outcomes (where possible).
- Demonstrate collaboration in development of the process or project.
- Demonstrate the effectiveness this project can have over time.

WEIGHTING

15%
20%
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15%
Planning Champion Award

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises non-planners (person, group or business organisation) for their advocacy or making a significant contribution and lasting presence to the urban and regional environment, over the last one to two years.

It’s awarded to a non-planner/s who is promoting good planning, value of planning or the planning profession to the public, such as through the promotion or reporting of planning issues that raise the positive profile of planning.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- Nominees do not need to be a member of PIA
- An individual, organisation or agency can nominate;
- Nominees could work within the political, community of business sphere
- An individual, organisation or agency may nominate a third party individual or group who has promoted planning in a positive way.

Nominations should include one or more written testimonials from a client, community group or third party involved in the project or process, and/or a peer review or statement.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Evaluation will be based on:

Nominations should address the following criteria (where relevant):

- Demonstrate how they have advocated or enabled a good planning outcome to be achieved.
- Demonstrate how they have increased the awareness in the community about the value of planners and planning.
- How has their influence had a positive impact on the community or project?
- Demonstrate how the outcome has been realistic and can be replicated
- Describe how they have built support for planning and increased understanding of planning issues and values. Describe why this effort was undertaken and the desired outcomes.
Public Engagement and Community Planning

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises initiatives in best practice public engagement or community planning that achieve an outstanding and innovative contribution to enhance built form, planning processes and social outcomes.

It is awarded for work by a planner, planning organisation, government organisation, consultants or a member of the community for a policy, scheme, project, process or event that demonstrates how a thorough understanding of the needs and aspirations of a community is integral to sound planning and social outcomes.

The awards should illustrate how a neighbourhood, community group, key stakeholder or other local non-governmental entity influenced or utilised the planning process to address a specific need or issue within the community.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- An individual, organisation or agency engaged in planning practice;
- Development companies, individuals and financiers;
- Community organisations;
- Or a combination of all or any of the above.

An individual, organisation or agency may nominate a third party individual who has promoted planning in a positive way.

Nominees may self-nominate or be nominated by an employer / client / colleague or a PIA member.

**NOTE**

Positive consultation that facilitates good planning outcomes will be preference over that which seeks to impede.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Evaluation will be based on:

- Explain how sound principles and processes were used to gather knowledge about the community (for example, public engagement, social and health impact assessments, social research etc).

- Demonstrate how your approach aligned with broader strategic frameworks at a local, regional, state or national level.

- Demonstrate how the community’s needs and aspirations were reflected in the project.

- Demonstrate how your public engagement or community planning process enhanced social outcomes (for example, built community capacity, improved social connections, enhanced knowledge of planning, created inclusive public spaces, improved community infrastructure, built form etc).

- Effectiveness and results. State how your entry addressed the need or problem in a visionary or innovative manner that prompted its initiation. Be explicit about how the results have made a difference in the lives of the people affected. Convey the level of effectiveness your entry can have over time.

- Education and capacity building- Demonstrate how your entry has encouraged community leaders and stakeholders to revise their opinions about the varied uses and broad applications of the planning process. State the influence your entry has had on public awareness beyond those immediately affected. Demonstrate the connection between the effort’s success and increased awareness in the community of planners and planning.

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**Best Planning Ideas – Small Project**

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises outstanding planning ideas.

Best Planning Ideas Small Project - Represents a project that has a site or local place/ neighbourhood benefit.

It is awarded for planning documents, programs, policies or projects that advance current planning practice within a localised setting.

Nominations can address any of the planning interests such as urban and regional planning, social planning, environmental planning, transport planning, urban design, economic development planning and planning law.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- An individual or organisation engaged in planning practice;
- May be self-nominated, nominated by an employer/ client or by a PIA member;
- Nominations from rural, peri-urban and regional areas, in addition to urban areas, are encouraged.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Evaluation will be based on:

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<tr>
<td>Originality and Innovation: Demonstrate how your nomination presents a visionary approach or innovative concept to address specific need/s or issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation and Transferability: Discuss what step have been taken to build vigour and public support. Illustrate how your nomination has potential application for others and how the use of the nomination’s elements and methodology can further the cause of good planning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation: Explain the level of public participation in this effort. Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viability: Discuss how the nomination successfully proposes realistic and achievable outcomes.</td>
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Best Planning Ideas – Large Project

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises outstanding planning ideas. Best Planning Ideas Large - Represents a project that has town or city, regional, state-wide, national or cross-jurisdiction benefit. It is awarded for planning documents, schemes, policies or projects that advance current planning practice with broad application.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- An individual or organisation engaged in planning practice;
- May be self-nominated, nominated by an employer/client or by a PIA member;
- Nominations from rural, peri-urban and regional areas, in addition to urban areas, are encouraged.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Evaluation will be based on:

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<td>Originality and Innovation: Demonstrate how your nomination presents a visionary approach or innovative concept to address specific need/s or issues.</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation and Transferability: Discuss what steps have been taken to build vigour and public support. Illustrate how your nomination has potential application for others and how the use of the nomination's elements and methodology can further the cause of good planning.</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation: Explain the level of public participation in this effort. Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viability: Discuss how the nomination successfully proposes realistic and achievable outcomes.</td>
<td>25%</td>
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From Plan to Place

**OBJECTIVE**

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 geographic region, in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning. It should demonstrate the implementation from plan to place that makes an outstanding contribution to advancing planning practice.

This award recognises achievement on the ground. It sees a plan come to life and result in a quality planning outcome. The outcome needs to have been operational for at least one year from completion.

Nominations should address the relevance of the project to one or more planning interest such as urban and regional planning, social planning, environmental planning, transport planning, urban design, economic development planning and planning law.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- An individual or organisation engaged in planning practice;
- May be self-nominated, nominated by an employer/client or by a PIA member;
- Projects in rural, peri-urban and regional areas, in addition to urban areas, are encouraged.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Evaluation will be based on:

**WEIGHTING**

The project must have been operational/ on the ground for at least 12 months from its completion.

- Contribution to planning – illustrate the extent to which the project contributes to planning practice in addressing planning issues and opportunities. Discuss how the project has responded to the relevant social, environmental or physical opportunities and/or problems. 25%
- Transformation of the plan to place – discuss how the intended outcome/s 25%
advances the original plan/policy objective. Discuss the evidence or research that shows the place is important to the community or its users, or that the project has broadened or strengthened the identity for this place.

- **Implementation and Application** – excellence in implementation and application of established techniques, and/or significant innovation in planning.

- **Engagement of Stakeholders** – discuss how the project team has engaged with the people and organisations likely to be affected (directly or indirectly) by implementation or outcomes of the project.

- **Sustainability** – how successfully the work incorporates sustainability principles to the objectives in the planning.
The Hard Won Victory

OBJECTIVE

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 projects that have applied innovative solutions and application of planning tools/techniques to planning challenges, which have resulted in outcomes that have had significant community benefits beyond what may have been otherwise realised.

ELIGIBILITY

- A member of the public;
- An individual or organisation engaged in planning practice;
- May be self-nominated, nominated by an employer/client or by a PIA member;
- Projects in rural, peri-urban and regional areas, in addition to urban areas, are encouraged to nominate;
- Projects that provide a broader benefit across regions or jurisdictions are also encouraged.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Evaluation will be based on:

- Challenges or barriers - what obstacles, whether physical, natural, social, or a combination thereof, was faced and addressed by the nominated effort? What is the extent of these challenges and what steps were undertaken to meet the difficult circumstances?
- Available resources - what resources were available and how were these resources (financial, personnel, consultants etc.) managed, leveraged and deployed?
- Progress and positive effects - what are the lasting outcomes the effort has had or is likely to have on planning in the community and importantly building resilience within the community? Has the effort removed or mitigated the barriers and obstacles? How has or will the effort shape the future in the community or locale? What influence has the

WEIGHTING

- Challenges or barriers - 35%
- Available resources - 35%
- Progress and positive effects - 30%
nominated effort had on community leaders and their views about the value and effectiveness of planning?

NOTE

This Award category is not intended to recognise planning initiatives, efforts and outcomes that are deemed to have ‘circumvented’ the process, rather that the nominee has worked with the various partners in a complex or constrained setting to achieve mutually beneficial and positive outcomes.
The Great Place Award

**OBJECTIVE**

This Award recognises a great place, street or neighbourhood in Victoria.

Great places have a true sense of place, cultural and historical interest, community involvement and a vision for tomorrow.

A Great place is one that attracts people, inspires people and motivates people. It has a great atmosphere. It's a place that people are proud of and bring their international visitors to. It sparks an individual sense of pride and contributes to the overall community wellbeing. It brings people together whether to eat, drink, sleep, play or work.

A Great Place might be a single building, a precinct, a neighbourhood.

**PLACE**

A public space may be a gathering spot or part of a neighbourhood, downtown, special district, waterfront or other area within the public realm that helps promote social interaction and a sense of community. Possible examples may include such spaces as plazas, town squares, parks, marketplaces, public commons and malls, public greens, piers, special areas within convention centres or grounds, sites within public buildings, lobbies, concourses, or public spaces within private buildings.

Characteristics of a great place can include:

- Promotes human contact and social activities;
- Is safe, welcoming, and accommodating for all users;
- Has design and architectural features that are visually interesting;
- Promotes community involvement;
- Reflects the local culture or history;
- Relates well to bordering uses;
- Is well maintained;
- Has a unique or special character.

**STREET**

A street comprises the entire three-dimensional visual corridor, including the public realm and how it relates to the adjacent land uses. Submissions should document the street's character across this realm. Streets of different types are eligible, ranging from pedestrian realms through arterial roadways, but each should have a definable
beginning and end. Special emphasis is placed on streets that are complete, that is, streets that service and take into account all users — not just motor vehicles.

Characteristics of a great street can include:

- Provides orientation to its users, and connects well to the larger pattern of ways;
- Balances the competing needs of the street — driving, transit, walking, cycling, servicing, parking, drop-offs, etc;
- Fits the topography and capitalises on natural features;
- Is lined with a variety of interesting activities and uses that create a varied streetscape;
- Has urban design or architectural features that are exemplary in design;
- Relates well to its bordering uses — allows for continuous activity, doesn't displace pedestrians to provide access to bordering uses;
- Encourages human contact and social activities;
- Employs hardscape and/or landscape to great effect;
- Promotes safety of pedestrians and vehicles and promotes use over the 24- hour day;
- Promotes sustainability through minimising runoff, reusing water, ensuring groundwater quality, minimizing heat islands, and responding to climatic demands;
- Is well maintained, and capable of being maintained without excessive costs;
- Has a memorable character.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD**

A neighbourhood can be based on a specific plan or the result of a more organic process. Neighbourhoods of different kinds are eligible — downtown, urban, suburban, exurban, town, small village — but should have a definable sense of boundary.

Characteristics of a great neighbourhood can include:
• Has a variety of functional attributes that contribute to a resident’s day-to-day living (i.e. residential, commercial, or mixed-uses);
• Accommodates multi-modal transportation (i.e. pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers);
• Has design and architectural features that are visually interesting;
• Encourages human contact and social activities;
• Promotes community involvement and maintains a secure environment;
• Promotes sustainability and responds to climatic demands;
• Has a memorable character.

ELIGIBILITY
• A member of the public;
• An individual or organisation engaged in planning practice;
• May be self-nominated, nominated by an employer/client or by a PIA member;
• Projects in rural, peri-urban and regional areas, in addition to urban areas, are encouraged to nominate.

SELECTION CRITERIA
Evaluation will be based on:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEIGHTING</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Quality of Design – Describe the place and its surroundings, the planning and design process and the outcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Discuss any research or evidence that demonstrates the place is important to the community or its users, or that the project has broadened or strengthened the identity of the place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>What research and/or design process was used that gave voice to the community or people that use the place?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discuss how well the place meets the identified (or other)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
characteristics of a great place, street or neighbourhood identified under the objectives noted above.

• What research was useful in creating the project/place, would be pertinent in evaluating it, or would help make future plans of a similar nature even more effective?

NOTE: There is no entry fee for this category
Planner of the Year

OBJECTIVE
This award recognises a planner who provides leadership and has made a significant contribution to advancing the profession in the last year or two.

It is awarded for clear and focused leadership, contribution to raising the profile of planning, outstanding quality of work and/or achievement, significant outcome of a project or value to the profession and has lead by example by a planner. The winner’s work will be inspirational; a planner’s view of the future.

ELIGIBILITY

• Division level entrants may be self-nominated, nominated by their employer or a member of PIA.

• Nominees must be current financial members of PIA and have been a member for a minimum period of 6 months at time of nominating.

• Board members, Division Presidents, Division Vice Presidents, and PIA Staff (who are also planners) are not entitled to nominate, or be nominated for the Planner of the Year Award whilst holding their positions of office or staff.

• Previous winners are ineligible to apply

SELECTION CRITERIA

Evaluation will be based on:

Requirement Criteria:

• Inspirational work that demonstrates outstanding leadership in, and commitment to, planning in an organisation, industry, public, academic or private sector or project; and

• A well-balanced exemplar planner that demonstrates a commitment to quality, professional integrity and social responsibility; and

• Individual efforts that raise or enhance the profile and value of planning in (for example) political, social/community, education or environmental spheres.

Preference criteria:

• An activity or project that furthers the practice of planning or improves planning processes; and/or achieves a significant advancement in best practice planning outcomes; and/or
• Demonstration of the outcome of advocacy at a wider level, and the work undertaken goes beyond the planner’s normal role over the last year or two.

NOTE

• No nomination fee is required for this category
• Evaluation will be based on the level of achievement. The achievement must be directly attributable to the nominee and be able to be singled out or distinguished from the work of other people.
Outstanding Student Project

OBJECTIVE
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 planning and development outcomes.

Nominations can address any of the planning interests such as urban and regional planning, social planning, environmental planning, transport planning, urban design, economic development planning and planning law.

ELIGIBILITY
• An individual or group of tertiary students engaged in a planning related project.
• May be self-nominated or nominated by a university, employer or PIA member.
• Must be a piece of work completed during studies.

SELECTION CRITERIA
Evaluation will be based on:

WEIGHTING

• Innovation: Discuss the originality of concept or significant refinement of existing techniques or procedures. Nominations should illustrate the depth and scope of research. 40%
• Transferability: Discuss how the project or work has the potential application to other locations, projects, or areas of planning interest 20%
• Discuss the project methodology – convey how the work is based on sound and plausible research, analysis and evidence basis. 20%
• Referencing – Demonstrate the breadth of research 10%
Quality: Excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, and character of presentation  10%

NOTE
There is no entry fee for this category
PIA Victoria President’s Award

This Award recognises the most outstanding contribution to issues relating to urban and or regional planning in Victoria.

Nominations are not sought for this category. The President's Award is judged by the PIA Victoria President. The Judging Panel may be consulted in the determination of this Award.
Compulsory Materials

Written

All entries are to be in electronic format only and must include support material, including:

- Nomination Statement - maximum of 5 x A4 pages (approximately 2500 words) in a suitable sized font. This nomination statement must address the selection criteria and outline the key issues and ideas addressed in the project and the key contribution the project makes to best/leading practice and learning for the planning profession.
- An abstract of no more than 200-250 words using the Project Summary Sheet (Appendix A) as a template in editable format (e.g. MS Word) for use in post-award promotions and media.
- Proof of nomination being made with full consent of client or initiating body, and all entities involved in the project (i.e. letter/email).

Images

A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of seven (7) images of the project are required for promotional purposes. If you embed images in the Nomination Statement, these images must also be provided as separate and individual images.

Images must be labeled using a legible file name that briefing describes the subject matter. For example louise street piazza open day.jpeg is more informative than IMG00023.JPG.

The basic minimum requirements for the electronic images:

- File type: Preferred JPEG
- Resolution: 300 pixels per inch;
- Dimensions: 1920 x 1080 JPEG files or higher sizes are desirable.
Conditions of Entry

PIA reserves the right to retain all entries and their images and to publish (hard copy and online) the information submitted. Entries will not be returned to applicants, unless requested upon nominating. PIA reserves the right to exhibit or publish any or all of the entries.

By entering the Awards, the applicants/owners give permission to PIA to publish, exhibit and promote the content of the submission.

Entries will be excluded:

a. If incomplete, such that they do not contain all the information and images in the form required.

b. If received after the closing date.

c. If it does not fulfil the binding clauses laid down in these conditions of entry.
How to lodge your submission

Submissions, for Victoria can be submitted the following ways:

**Electronic Upload**

Step 1- Complete the Intent to Enter Form (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2QLXG8Y) before Wednesday 1 August 2017 to enable us to send you a dropbox link. **Note:** You do not need to have a Dropbox account to use the link provided. You will have until 4pm Monday 7 August to upload your files.

Step 2 – Click on the link, select your files and upload your submission including all support material and images as requested.

Step 3 – You will receive a Dropbox email confirming that your files have been uploaded successfully.

**Post or courier**

One electronic (USB or CD) copy of each entry submission

Carmel McCormack
Executive Officer
Planning Institute of Australia
Level 3/124 Exhibition St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

**Due Date**

Entries must be received by **4:00pm, 7 August 2017**. Late entries will not be accepted. PIA accepts no responsibility for delays in the postal service, or any costs associated with delivery.

**Contact Information**

Level 3/124 Exhibition St
Melbourne 3000
Tel 03 9654 3777
vic@planning.org.au
www.planning.org.au