



## call for abstracts

## city growth, sustainability, vitality and vulnerability

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/PAPERS

This is a call for abstracts/papers reporting on research on various aspects of Australian/New Zealand cities which falls under one of the six sub-themes (over page). It is expected that papers will have a MAXIMUM length of 5,000 words (excluding references).

In the first instance, contributors to SOAC 2009 are invited to submit an abstract of their proposed paper of not more than 300 words using the online abstract submission form which can be found at: [www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac/abstracts.htm](http://www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac/abstracts.htm) or may be requested by email from [promaco@promaco.com.au](mailto:promaco@promaco.com.au). Once an Editorial Review Panel has accepted a proposed paper, authors will then be invited to submit their draft papers for presentation at the conference – following a refereeing process should the author(s) so request.

Authors must specify whether they intend to submit a (i) refereed paper; (ii) non-refereed paper; or (iii) research poster. All abstract submissions must identify the key sub-theme of their paper. Refereed papers will be anonymously, externally, peer refereed in accordance with DEST guidelines and all accepted papers will be published on the Conference CD Rom.

The option of non-refereed papers provides an opportunity for research that is of a preliminary, 'work in progress' nature to be presented and discussed. PhD candidates may also feel that the non-refereed route is an appropriate way of presenting their work to a wider audience.

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

All abstracts should be submitted on-line via [www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac/abstracts.htm](http://www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac/abstracts.htm). However, abstracts will be accepted by email as a word.doc attachment to the Professional Conference Organisers: [promaco@promaco.com.au](mailto:promaco@promaco.com.au).

Name the file **soac** followed by the first four letters of the surname of the presenting author, followed by the author's first initial. For example **soaccitij.doc** for an abstract with the presenting author Jane Citizen.

### PETER HARRISON MEMORIAL PRIZES

There will be two best refereed paper awards presented at SOAC 2009: one 'open' paper award and one for PhD candidates. The Peter Harrison Memorial Prizes are administered by the Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University, in collaboration with the Australian Sustainable Cities Research Network. Further details will appear on the conference website.



### A Conference of the AUSTRALIAN SUSTAINABLE CITIES RESEARCH NETWORK:



### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Hon. John Day (Minister for Planning, Culture and Arts)

Hon. Alannah MacTiernan (former Minister for Planning and Infrastructure)

Sir Rod Eddington (Chair, Infrastructure Australia) TBC

Professor Jeff Kenworthy (Curtin University of Technology)

Associate Professor Susan Thompson (UNSW)

Professor Phil O'Neill (UWS)

Adjunct Professor Tony Sorensen (UNE)

Indigenous Keynote Speaker TBC

### SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Final dates for the submission, review, notification, amendment and acceptance of abstracts and papers are outlined below. Prospective delegates are encouraged to submit their abstracts/papers as early as possible to ensure the efficiency of the review process.

#### Abstracts submitted by Friday 6 March 2009

Abstracts reviewed/contributors notified Friday 21 March

#### Draft papers submitted by Friday 5 June 2009

Papers reviewed/contributors notified Friday 10 July

#### Final Papers submitted by Friday 9 October 2009

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Promaco Conventions

Tel: 08 9332 2900 Fax: 08 9332 2911 Email: [promaco@promaco.com.au](mailto:promaco@promaco.com.au)

CONFERENCE WEBSITE

[www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac](http://www.promaco.com.au/2009/soac)



## call for abstracts

### city growth, sustainability, vitality and vulnerability

Following the highly successful previous State of Australian Cities (SOAC) Conferences in Parramatta (2003) Brisbane (2005) and Adelaide (2007) the 4th SOAC Conference is to be held in Perth from 24-27 November 2009.

The 2009 conference is being jointly hosted by the University of Western Australia, Curtin University of Technology, Murdoch University and Edith Cowan University and will be held at the University of Western Australia.

The Conference will focus on the contemporary and future form and structure of Australian/New Zealand cities in light of the recent global economic downturn and recent political changes at the national level in both countries. The over-arching theme of the 2009 Conference is: **CITY GROWTH, SUSTAINABILITY, VITALITY AND VULNERABILITY**

## CONTEXT

Until the emergence of the US-based sub-prime housing crisis in 2007 and the 'credit crunch' of 2008, Australia had enjoyed more than a decade of continual economic growth, with most of Australia's major metropolitan areas expanding outwards to and beyond the urban fringe and upwards in inner city areas, in order to satisfy the search of the great Australian dream or more dynamic and convenient lifestyles and living spaces.

Many Australians have, until recently, enjoyed the benefits of economic growth and easy access to credit. Ultimately, however, questions hang over the sustainability of our ever increasing consumerist and materialistic way of life. Whilst this growth has brought many benefits, these have not been universally experienced across and within Australian capital cities. Surging property prices fueled by a complex mix of factors have given rise to a housing affordability crisis within the public and private housing sectors. Relatedly, the middle and outer ring suburbs are increasingly characterised as 'dumping grounds' populated by residualised and socially excluded communities that lack adequate access to social services and infrastructure. Urban expansion towards the fringe and along the coastline have also had environmental consequences, as well as raising policy questions about the provision and consumption of hard and soft infrastructure within new outer suburban areas.

Ultimately, the dynamic changes that have taken place during the long boom and the changes taking place now and into the future as the current global economic downturn solidifies raises a plethora of academic and policy questions and challenges as to the direction, extent, location and nature of urban sustainability within Australia/New Zealand. It is clear that sustainability is high on the national policy agenda of Kevin Rudd's Labor Government. There are also emerging signs that 'urban policy' is creeping its way back up the national policy agenda with the establishment of Infrastructure Australia chaired by Sir Rod Eddington (an invited keynote speaker for SOAC 2009), which has identified urban sustainability as a key goal of the Major Cities Unit.

It is within this context of global economic and national (and state) political change that we invite papers (peer and non-peer reviewed) and research posters from academic researchers (established and early career) and policymakers/researchers that explore what has happened, what the future might hold and what can and must be done by policymakers, the free market and society in general to enhance vitality, reduce vulnerability and improve sustainability across and within metropolitan Australia and New Zealand.

Papers/abstracts should relate to ONE of the following streams:

- CITY ECONOMY
- CITY SOCIAL
- CITY INFRASTRUCTURE
- CITY ENVIRONMENTAL
- CITY GOVERNANCE & STRUCTURE
- CITY HEALTH

Further details as to the type of issues that might be explored within each of the aforementioned streams can be found by visiting:



## AIMS/OBJECTIVES

The Conference has several broad aims/objectives:

- To review the condition and prospects of the contemporary Australian/New Zealand city, based on empirical evidence, as a means of better understanding the patterns, processes and drivers of change in a time of economic and political change.
- To identify and showcase policy relevant research.
- To provide a forum for dialogue between researchers, practitioners and policy makers.
- To identify research gaps and suggest areas that should be given priority for future research funding.
- To provide a forum for early career researchers to assist them develop links with their peers and senior academic researchers and policymakers.

## NOTE TO AUTHORS:

As a commitment to attend and support the conference, presenters of accepted submissions are expected to register for the full-time program or the day of their presentation. All costs to attend the conference, including the registration fee, must be met by presenters.