

Project

# Our Future Cities

Document

# 2018 Program Brief

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Our Future Cities community of practice. Not only are we looking forward to some great design ideas and discussions, we are really looking forward to getting to know you all through our inaugural 2018 Interdisciplinary Student Design Competition.

We hope you enjoy the opportunity to contribute and influence the decisions that shape our cities.

### Who should apply?

This competition is well suited to those studying and involved in urban design, sustainability and planning. However, this competition is about so much more. **We want to broaden the dialogue and create safe and exciting space for others to be involved in the design of our future cities.** This means including those working across all university faculties and departments, from the arts to the sciences, the economists to the historians and beyond.

Together we can all play a role in improving the places we live for people and the environment. We have worked carefully to curate a program that will allow this to happen.

### What do we mean by 'design'?

We define 'design' in the broadest possible sense. This could mean artistic design, architectural design, engineering design, economic framework design, cultural program design, policy design etc. **For Our Future Cities, 'design' means playing a role in shaping city outcomes.** The completion will focus is on shaping outcomes in the Arden Urban Renewal Precinct. If it impacts city life in terms of **liveability, resilience, sustainability, productivity or social equality** then we want to hear about it and see it come through in your submission.

### What do you need to submit?

The competition is broad and so are the submissions we will accept. Given the scope for exploration and experimentation it is essential that you and your team create your own boundaries and focus on your unique skill sets. To support you through this process we will (a) provide focused **workshops** after each seminar, (b) pair your team with an **industry mentor** to provide advice and oversight and (c) provide a clear **evaluation criteria** used to assess submissions (see section 7 below).

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## Why should I be involved?

You should be involved in Our Future Cities to

- Learn new skills and apply your existing expertise in a real-world scenario.
- Work as part of an interdisciplinary team with diverse skills sets and an equal interest in sustainable urban design.
- Network with the best in the business of sustainable city shaping and like-minded students.
- Have an opportunity to influence the design of one of Melbourne's key urban design precincts.
- Boost your analytical, communication and collaborative skills and improve your employment prospects.
- Be part of the Our Future City community of practice, with the chance to contribute to future Our Future Cities projects.
- Have a chance to win a share in the \$7,000 in prize money up for grabs.



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## 2. ELIGIBILITY

Our Future Cities is designed to facilitate diverse and disruptive solutions through inter-disciplinary collaboration. This will be achieved by fostering inter-disciplinary problem solving to generate new ideas and networks.

In the spirit of inclusion and collaboration, the competition is open to students from any Victorian university studying in any faculty or department.

Teams are invited to sign up, and we also invite individuals to participate. Organisers will work with individuals to place them in team that is designed to bring together different skill sets.

### Minimum requirements:

- Teams must have 3 to 5 members.
- Teams must include team members from at least three different departments / disciplines of study.
- Team members must be currently enrolled in 3rd or 4th year of undergraduate studies, Master degree or have graduated from either an undergraduate or Master degree within the last 6 months.

### 3. THE SITE

The [Arden Urban Renewal Precinct](#) is located less than three kilometres north-west of the central city of Melbourne.

Arden will be planned to reflect best practice in resource management, urban design and place making. The Moonee Ponds Creek corridor will be upgraded and new public spaces, including neighbourhood parks and plazas, will be introduced.

**This unique city-shaping opportunity will revitalise the industrial areas of North Melbourne, creating an exciting new commercial area and vibrant neighbourhoods.**

It is envisioned that this area will be developed gradually, over the next 30 years.

#### **The Challenge:**

In your interdisciplinary team, develop a design concept for the Arden Renewal Precinct that achieves the Our Future Cities objectives. See section 5 below on page 8 for more details.



*Artist's impression of Arden central (<https://vpa.vic.gov.au/project/arden/>)*

**Key notes:** Student teams can decide the scale of the challenges they address in the Arden Urban Renewal Precinct. Submissions may focus on a single site or the entire precinct. Your team's choice should be based on the interests and skills of each individual team. The Competition Organisers and your industry mentors will be able to support you in making this decision. Regardless of the scale of the challenges your team tackles, you must address the evaluation criteria (see details below).

#### 4. SUBMISSION DETAILS

In order to allow student teams to bring their own unique skills to the fore there is considerable flexibility in the form of competition submissions. Submission forms may include, but are not limited to:

- Print e.g. reports, portfolios or posters
- Physical e.g. sculpture, models or products
- Electronic e.g. models, tools or simulations
- Audio visual e.g. films or projections
- Other e.g. performance, textiles or painting

#### Minimum requirements:

Submissions must meet the following conditions (as applicable):

- **Word limit:** Maximum of 1000 words (no minimum).
- **Physical size:** If a physical submission is made, it must be easily transportable by one person (consider both weight and volume). All physical submissions must be delivered by the student team to the Competition Organisers (CBD location).
- **Electronic file size:** If a file cannot be submitted via email it must be delivered by the student team to the Competition Organisers on a USB.
- **Duration:** Any audio visual submission must not exceed 12 minutes.

## 6. SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

A series of four engaging and informative **seminars** have been designed to coincide with the design competition. The seminars will provide useful examples of best practice approaches for sustainable urban design in relation to the core objectives of the competition.

At the end of each seminar, teams will participate in **workshops** to explore the content of the seminar and its application to the competition site in an interactive and fun environment. Workshops will be facilitated by industry specialists and each student team will be supported by at least one mentor as they complete a series of simple exercises that will help develop their competition submission.

It is highly recommended that all team members attend all seminars and workshops. This is crucial as:

- Seminars will introduce new concepts that can be applied to the competition brief.
- Seminars will facilitate collaboration by providing a common understanding of the opportunities and challenges.
- Seminar presenters will provide an overview of how they would address the competition brief and will judge competition submission.

### Minimum requirements:

- **A minimum of three team members must attend all Seminars/Workshops.**
- **Bonus marks will be awarded if all team members attend all Seminars/Workshops.**

## 7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation criteria is based on the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan. However, the management plan has also been re-imagined to encapsulate the broader elements of a sustainable, liveable, resilient, productive and socially just future city..

The evaluation criteria focuses on the following **four themes**:

1. Creating cities that connect, inspire and empower for action.
2. Fostering resilience and intergenerational equity.
3. Ensuring thriving, healthy and enjoyable environments.
4. Innovative cities developed through interdisciplinary design.

**Under each theme sits several objectives (see Table 1, below p 9).**

The objectives are sufficiently broad and flexible to allow many skills to be applied to help solve the design challenge at the Arden Urban Renewal Precinct.

### Key notes:

- For themes 1, 2 and 3 teams must choose one objective to address.
- For theme 4 students must address both objectives.
- For each objective students must provide a 200 words summary of how their design meets this objective. This does not count towards the 1000 word limit outlined in Section 4 above.

**The evaluation criteria is presented below in Table 2 (p 10).** The criteria is based on the themes and objectives, however, it also includes bonus marks for seminar/workshop attendance and exceptional performance (as decided by the judging panel).

Table 1: Design themes and objectives

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Objective</i>
<b>1. Ensuring thriving, healthy and enjoyable environments</b>  <i>Choose one objective</i>	<b>1.1</b> Conserve and restore native habitats and wildlife.
	<b>1.2</b> Reduce litter loads stormwater nutrient and/or sediment loads to the Bay.
	<b>1.3</b> Foster community stewardship for environmental protection and enhancement.
<b>2. Creating cities that connect, inspire and empower for action</b>  <i>Choose one objective</i>	<b>2.1</b> Improve the community's appreciation and understanding of environmental and cultural values of water and land.
	<b>2.2</b> Enhance community connectedness (physical, social and/or emotional) to its local catchment and the Bay.
	<b>2.3</b> Foster cultural connectedness, diversity and social inclusion.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Objective</i>
<b>3. Fostering resilience and intergenerational equity in cities</b>  <i>Choose one objective</i>	<b>3.1</b> Minimise risks from extreme weather events (heatwaves, flooding etc.).
	<b>3.2</b> Reduce, reuse and recycle resources and waste products.
	<b>3.3</b> Minimise risk to human health and improve physical and mental wellbeing.
<b>4. Principles of innovative and interdisciplinary city design</b>  <i>Address both objectives</i>	<b>4.1</b> Clearly demonstrate the application of interdisciplinary design principles and outcomes.
	<b>4.2</b> Demonstrate an innovative and creative design that is informed by leading research and practice.

Table 2: Evaluation Criteria

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Team Commentary*</i>	<i>Team Score</i>	<i>Marks Available</i>
1. Ensuring thriving, healthy and enjoyable environments	Teams to address one objective	200 words	-	20
2. Creating cities that connect, inspire and empower for action	Teams to address one objective	200 words	-	20
3. Fostering resilience and intergenerational equity in cities	Teams to address one objective	200 words	-	20
4. Principles of innovative and interdisciplinary city design	4.1 Clearly demonstrate the application of interdisciplinary design principles and outcomes.	200 words	-	10
	4.2 Demonstrate an innovative and creative design that is informed by leading research and practice.	200 words	-	10
5. Bonus marks	5.1 Attendance: All team members attend all Seminars/Workshops	n/a	-	10
	5.2 Judge's Discretion: Bonus marks for exceptional performance	n/a	-	10
<b>Total</b>			-	<b>100</b>

\* This does not count towards the 1000 word limit outlined in Section 4 above.

## 9. KEY DATES

### ***PHASE ONE: PROJECT START UP***

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Team registrations open                      Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Competition information session          Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Team registrations close                    Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### ***PHASE TWO: SEMINAR SERIES***

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Seminar 1    Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Seminar 2    Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Seminar 3    Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Seminar 4    Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### ***PHASE THREE: PROJECT WRAP UP***

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Initial ideas submission\*                      Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018

*\*This will be a short written/visual pitch where you communicate your ideas and plan for the project. This will allow the us to make sure you are on track.*

Final submission                                      Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018

Presentation night                                  Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018

*(Winners announced)*

## 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### COMPETITION ORGANISERS

- *Our Future Cities Pty Ltd.*
- *Loci Environment & Place Inc.*
- *Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning  
(State Government of Victoria)*

### ENTRY FEE

There is no entry fee for entering the Our Future City student competition.

### LIMITATION ON ENTRIES

Individuals may not contribute to more than one team. Each team is permitted to enter only one submission.

### OWNERSHIP AND USE OF COMPETITION SUBMISSIONS

Entrants own the rights to the work they submit for the competition. Entrants agree that the Competition Organisers are granted the non-exclusive reproduction rights to all entries for the Competition Organisers' advertising, promotion, exhibition, print and digital publication. The Competition Organisers shall have no responsibility for any unauthorised use of the entrant's works by any third party, including but not limited to the Organisers.

### CONTACT DETAILS

Before you contact the Competition Organisers, please familiarise yourself with all information in this document and on the [Our Future Cities website](#).

To contact the Competition Organisers please email at [our.future.cities.au@gmail.com](mailto:our.future.cities.au@gmail.com)