CREATING PLACES FOR PEOPLE
AN URBAN DESIGN PROTOCOL FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIES

‘The key to achieving improvements in the performance of our places and spaces lies in the recognition of the significance and value of good urban design. It is the critical factor in ensuring that the urban experience is cohesive, safe and enjoyable for all people.’

—Steve Woodland, Western Australia Government Architect

A Growing State

In the past year, Perth has had the highest growth rate of any capital city. Mandurah and Bunbury are each expected to reach a population of 100,000 within the next 10-15 years.

Population growth in Perth over the last decade has mostly occurred in the outer regions of the city, with seventy per cent of total population growth being accommodated in new suburbs.

Western Australia continues to build a large proportion of its new housing as detached houses. Western Australia has more bedrooms per household than any other State or Territory, with an average of 3.26 bedrooms per household compared to 2.56 nationally.

Urban design in a growing state

It is important to consider the future environments we are building for this growing population. The way we accommodate growth today will have a significant impact on the current and future economy and environment, and the lives of West Australians.

Well designed urban environments add more than aesthetic value to the public realm - they have the potential to contribute positively to social interaction, economic activity and cultural vitality and deliver improved environmental performance. Exemplar projects both locally and globally point to the significant dividends, both quantitative and qualitative, that good urban design can deliver to communities.

Quality urban design in Western Australia comes from a collaborative commitment by many people, including land owners and managers, developers, built environment professionals, infrastructure providers, government and community.

Award winning urban design in Western Australia

- One40william, 2011 AIA Walter Burley Griffin Award for Urban Design and 2011 AIA John Septimus Roe Award for Urban Design (WA)
- Northbridge Piazza, 2010 Australian Institute of Landscape Architects award for urban design
- Broome North, 2010 AIA Award for Urban Design (WA)
- Parliament House Fountains and Forecourt Redevelopment, 2009 AIA Award for Urban Design (WA)
- Sorrento Quay Boardwalk, 2009 AIA Award for Urban Design (WA)
- Point Fraser Development, 2005 Australia Award for Urban Design, Public Domain Award

Perth also has ambitious plans for its city centre with the Link and waterfront projects, East Perth and a possible light rail.
Examples of urban design charters, guides and handbooks in Western Australia

National
- COAG Objectives and Criteria for Capital Cities
- CREATING PLACES FOR PEOPLE

State
- State Policies and plans

Region
- Local Area Plan
- Greenfield structure plan

Town/District
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Town Centre masterplan

Neighbourhood
- Street-scale plan

Street
- Site Plan

Site