TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE URBAN PRECINCTS
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Towards sustainable precincts

This presentation:
- Context – climate change and built environment
- Broader social issues - Melbourne’s growth
- Green star communities five principles
- Future design individual buildings, neighbourhood precincts and cities
- Conclusions

Image source: The Economist magazine September 2010
Sustainable community precincts, not just the built environment

Hammarby, Sjöstad, Stockholm, Sweden
Image Source: www.cabe.org.uk

Australian buildings account for:
• 23-26% of energy
• 14% of water
• 40% of solid waste

The property industry is uniquely placed to shape our future

Melbourne CBD Skyline at night
Image Source: Tourism Victoria
Context
most Australians accept the climate is changing

100% Gen Y 91% Gen X 85% Boomers

Source: McCrindle Research January 2009

8.8 million existing Australian homes
~130,000 new ones each year

Melbourne
- Approximately 1.6 million existing homes
- Adds ~20,000+ each year
- Housing accounts for 17% Greenhouse emissions

Image Source: Monash University Museum of Art
Climate change
Increased awareness

“Australia will suffer as a result of climate change: More bushfires, floods and more intense cyclones, Increasing coastal inundation sea level rise & storm surges”

Source: Commonwealth of Australia 2009

Melbourne’s urban growth
1851 – 2004

Image Source: Victorian State Government
Melbourne at 5 million
if status quo development patterns prevail

Growth of cities is ‘good’ if managed

The ABS forecast by 2050
Melbourne will be growing on average by:

800,000 people per decade
“The growing divide between the inner and outer suburbs has spawned different visions of what it means to be Australian”

Margaret Simons

The Age Newspaper - Saturday, 7 May 2005
Preferred + cities within a city

Vibrant living city centre
reduced carbon emissions in all areas of life
How do you define a sustainable precinct? start with community!

A sustainable community…

- respects ecological limits and natural resources
- encourages prosperity and well-being
- optimises conditions for human development

Encompass

- aspirations for the future acknowledging change
- liveable, resilient, diverse, adaptable built environments
- a lower carbon and ecological footprint

GBCA Green Star Communities National Framework 2010

GBCA national principles for sustainable communities

1. Enhance liveability
2. Create opportunities for economic prosperity
3. Foster environmental responsibility
4. Embrace design excellence
5. Demonstrate visionary leadership and strong governance

Image Source: Metropol, Former St Kilda Station Redevelopment Billard Leece Partnership
Enhance liveability

Enhance liveability
social connection
Enhance liveability
join a club

- Social capital
- Child health and wellbeing
- Economic and personal wellbeing
- Societal change – community decline
  - Mobility
  - Home – work – shop triangle
  - Urban design
- Better together


Create opportunities for economic prosperity

“Forget the banking and automotive industry. Earth is the one system that is truly ‘too big to fail’.”

Source: Scientific American April 2010
Create opportunities

Can cities provide enough jobs?

Around 85% of all new employment opportunities worldwide are created in the informal economy.
Source: International Labour Organization Global employment trends for youth, 2004

Foster environmental responsibility
Home energy
NatHERS star rating - Melbourne

Behaviour change
Ecological Footprint
Suburbs

Footprint: Services 11%, Goods 23%, Mobility 12%, Housing 19% and Food 35%

Embrace design excellence
Mixed use
Adaptive integrated design

Visionary leadership
low density neighbourhood now

Maribyrnong Road, Maribyrnong, currently
Visionary leadership
Future neighbourhood density

Maribyrnong Road: Maribyrnong, possible future

Image Source: Transforming Australian Cities, City of Melbourne and Victorian Government July 2009

Adaptation
Changing the way we design buildings & infrastructure

Individual buildings
- Smaller, cooler & better designed
- Smart metered energy, water, waste
- Adaptable

Neighbourhood precinct scale
- New integrated with existing
- Walkable, local jobs, vibrant town centres
- Additional street tree planting
- Infrastructure

City scale
- Intelligent density with retrofitting
- Access to services & public transport
- Integrated mixed use
Individual buildings

Neighbourhood scale
Density & quality public open space
Cities are the answer

Close

1. Adaptation – buildings, neighbourhoods and cities
2. Sustainable precincts – part of Melbourne’s future
3. Engage with the community not just the built environment
4. Strong leadership, property sector, ngos, government sector
Thank you
Questions?

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