



## We the Peoples of South East Queensland (SEQ) United Nations Habitat 3+5 Declaration UN Habitat benchmarking 2022 SDG 11

### The New Urban Agenda (SEQ progress report, benchmarking)

In memory of Narelle Townsend and Bill Chandler for two lifetime commitments to Urban Design

#### Contents:

1. Statement of Intent
2. Acknowledging the Journey (legal triggers and SEQ policy)
3. Urging Implementation **recommendations** (rights and responsibilities foreseeable future)
4. Redesigning Systems for participatory governance for ongoing iterative reform
5. Recognising Contributions (panellists and provocateurs, youth and indigenous input)
6. Definitions, working papers, and transparency from 6 roundtables community input mechanisms

#### We the peoples of South East Queensland declare:

- We care about our environment to support healthy youth futures, indigenous peoples, all vulnerable peoples, and economic well-being for all given our proud reputation for safer, fairer, and sustainable lives and livelihoods.
- We care about our natural and cultural history and need to retain our identity and “soul”
- Our population grows at 200 more permanent residents per day from a base of about 4.3 million adults (ABC report: 2022)
- A rough bio-regional area encompasses 250 kilometres (north to south) by 200 kilometres (east to west) including islands. This is similar in size to the whole of the Netherlands, one of our benchmarking partners (NRG4SD)
- We seek to continue our good quality of life, through sound participatory governance and strengthening performance towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities).
- With the Olympics in 2032 and City Deals, we have the opportunity to globally showcase better practices.

#### Intent:

The intent is for an honourable legacy from significant capital investments aligned with SDG 11 for sustainable communities. We the peoples are concerned for the future of South East Queensland (SEQ), comprising 6 cities, 47 urban centres, 137 towns, and many rural villages. We are experiencing a burgeoning population that is stressing housing adequacy, environmental stewardship, food security, and long-term economic wellbeing after covid disruption. Despite increased funding for the Olympics in 2032 and SEQ city deals for better infrastructure, we seek assurance of a better future.

#### The journey

In 1865, visionary Abram Fitzgibbon planned railways systems of 92 stations across South East Queensland's diverse terrain, servicing both freight and workers in an era when private transport was horseback. From 1904, mapping illustrated regional development towards a 'Star formation' linking suburbs. Fast forward to federal regional economic development in the 1970s, the advent of personal cars, trams, rampant ad-hoc development accommodated the post-war adult population explosion. Decades of urban drift, interstate and international migration impacted our lives.

The SEQ region became the economic engine-rooms of the 1980s and 1990s. Regionalisation recommended by the Savage Review was demonstrated in the 1994 consultation plan SEQ regional development. Implemented by SEQ Region of Councils with working groups of professionals and community leaders, this shaped legislation enabling integrated planning, and infrastructure sharing, while protecting significant values, culture and identity. Six policy areas discussed in the 2022 Roundtables are as relevant now as they were then.

In the meantime, the United Nations Habitat 1 Agenda in 1976 resulted in a 20-year plan for better urban infrastructure for healthier cities. In 1996, Habitat 2 concerned itself with better social justice for all people living in cities, suburbs, communities, towns, and villages. In 2016, Habitat 3 included environmental health, climate change (65% of major cities are on coastlines), and regenerative urban design. The original 6 policy areas remain despite nuanced definitions and emerging language.

In localising international policy, in 2001, United Nations Habitat became an independent UN Program for the 'Right to Shelter' under Dr Anna Tibaijuka, UN Deputy Secretary General, evolving from the Human Settlements Council. SEQ was one of the original regional benchmarking partners progressing from 6 headline indicators (2002) with UNH dashboard of statistics, and evaluative social and environmental mapping (Network of Regional Governance for Sustainable Development). The evolution towards storytelling for C40cities (2010) and C100 cities, lessons learned (2016), and meta-evaluation allowed for better urban decision-making. Every 5 years, benchmarking partners monitor progress across these same 6 policy areas, albeit with a different sophisticated lens highlighting criteria for emerging trends.

In 2016 the UN SDG framework articulated targets for sustainable communities (SDG 11 suite) so in January 2017 UNAAQ hosted a forum to plan desirable steps forward. After Covid, domestic migration with two hundred per day settling here, there is pressure on our common healthy futures.

In 2022, we in SEQ seek an honourable legacy from investment decisions for the 2032 Olympic games that demonstrate our lessons learned by applying collective wisdom.

### **H3+5 Methodology** benchmarking SDG11

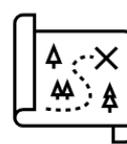
In summary, the UNH team met weekly to scope, research, select appropriate panellists, encourage conversations, encourage community participation, argue options for a better future, shape recommendations to relevant parties, document discussion, and collect evidence. This was then crafted into a *We the Peoples of SEQ Declaration* to capture the energy of 79 participants during 6 themed roundtables. The endorsed declaration will be the basis for action across sectors and professions and registered with the Secretary-General of UN Habitat.

- The 'UNHabitat3 +5 for SEQ' core team met weekly in 2022, comprising Pam Capsani, Ritva Vilppola, Elizabeth Harrison, and Dr Donnell Davis representing and reporting to the United Nations Association of Australia, UN Young Professionals, and Urban Design Alliance. The team synthesised the latest findings of reports from international conventions, NGO research, local community findings, professional bodies, and government documents as a briefing for panellists.
- Jagun [https://issuu.com/unaag/docs/24\\_feb\\_2022\\_h3\\_5\\_seq\\_interim\\_synthesis\\_paper](https://issuu.com/unaag/docs/24_feb_2022_h3_5_seq_interim_synthesis_paper) is the background synthesis paper that was shared with prospective audiences.

- Monthly Public Roundtables addressed six enduring policy themes as a young provocateur asked curated questions of panel members from diverse backgrounds. After Acknowledgment of Country and an introduction to set the scene, panellists educated and inspired audiences, so that the thoughts of the Peoples of SEQ could be captured.
- Participation online was (1) documented on video, (2) on slido technology: 3 questions about location, actual words to be used in the Declaration, and personal recommendations, (3) chat-box, (4) questions and answer time (recorded), and (5) through a virtual pub (unrecorded).
- Themes were: February-keeping our identity & soul, March-housing, April-urban ecology & climate, May-long-term economic well-being, June – spatial justice, July-participatory regional governance. Some panellists took immediate action in their day-to-day roles.
- The results were analysed through Program Evaluation techniques for rapid assessment (Guba, Stufflebaum) : (1) What is, (2) What should be, (3) why is this so? (4) So what? Consequences of doing nothing, (5) what can we do? (Evaluating options for the preferred recommendation). The results of public participation along with evidence from respected panellists built the case for action now for the preferred future of SEQ beyond 2032 (Olympics), within the UNH3 agenda (2035).

The legacy of this work **We the Peoples of SEQ Declaration** endorsed by 79 individuals and organisations, is shared with UN agencies, South East Queensland (SEQ) councils, State Governments, all panellists' organisations, urban professional bodies, and community groups.

### Urging implementation: summary of final recommendations



### Our Common Future - saving our soul: that

- **State Government** demonstrates principle-based leadership for protection, preservation, prohibition, and prevention, through non-conflicting legislation, clear policies, performance regulations, and Ministers' call-in reasons that demonstrate respect for SEQ identity and collective soul.
- **Local governments** implement changes within planning that respect long-term resilience and identity for their unique jurisdictions. Say no.

### Housing. That:

- 1) **State and local governments** embrace findings of the Queensland Housing Summit and the draft federal reforms (except recommendation 13) to demonstrate the human right to shelter. Federal government implement the well-being budget in the spirit of "fair go for all"
- 2) **Communities** continue to express diverse needs and work in conjunction with local and state governments to find innovative solutions.
- 3) **Charities and government** and most impacted people articulate pathways to secure shelter.

### Urban Ecology and Regenerative Stewardship: that

**Community action:** (list from roundtable)

1. Pay attention, 2. Get informed – identify quality, reliable and trusted sources with expert professionals. 3. Get involved – community groups, professional associations, organisations,

your spheres of influence personally and professionally, and the like. **4. Team up, Join Us!** **5. Speak out** **6. Spread the word** – board diverse engagement and transparency matters especially in times of integrity commission reports and findings **7. Advocate relentlessly**. No-one is too high or mighty not to be able to talk to them. **8. Hold Representatives accountable** **9. Exercise your vote**. Vote in which way is best to vote that you generally think will send a message to the elected government.

#### **Governments:**

- Honour principles of COAG agreements, international obligations for biodiversity, climate, sustainable cities, SDG 11 targets, sisters city objectives
- Strengthen ‘one-health’ legislation to ecosystems’ health for human well-being, and enforce compliance (not condition away) and re-introduce the word ‘prohibit’ in high value cultural spaces and landscapes
- Evaluate past plans before publishing new ones - get better
- fund programs with professional and dedicated staff, technology and evaluative support systems
- Showcase design excellence through small pilot projects, to enhance replication
- enforce ongoing onus on developers to design, plan, and comply with standards for regenerative outcomes
- Strengthen court systems to deter recurrence and recidivism by errant developers
- Re-introduce and fund through collaborative multi-level agreements, for greening frameworks like the Flinders-Greenbank-Karawatha corridor, green belts, green wedges, inter-urban breaks, net-positive development and beyond-zero-carbon buildings.

#### **Courts**

- Planning & Environment court systems steered towards UN Habitat guidelines for better design outcomes through better mediation systems and updated judicial education on ‘regenerative cities’.
- Learn from Greening the Courtroom and lessons from international environmental law to shape decisions (Australia used to lead precedents)

**Independent review:** (Auditor-general, ombudsmen, sustainability commissioners, parliamentary environmental commissioners)

- Empower review roles to recommend to parliament amendments to legislation. This includes policy and regulation to prevent recurrence of undesirable behaviour
- Lead interdepartmental and multi-level collaboration for designing reforms under good governance responsibilities (Transparency International models)
- Infrastructure Australia, Infrastructure Queensland, Queensland Reconstruction Authority to collaborate with other professionals.

#### **Developers and industry bodies**

- Consult, engage, determine future user needs for optimal futures
- Demonstrate leadership in training for UN Habitat design principles
- Industry bodies report progress and benchmark Urban regeneration post occupancy
- Discipline errant developers
- Showcase pilot projects with regenerative design excellence
- Establish award for best regenerative practices in the industry

#### **Professional bodies**

- Find a backbone - demonstrate leadership in climate, ecological policy with regenerative design and biomimicry practices
- Advocate for innovation, members continuing professional development, sharing world best practice, documentation, guidelines, professional standards
- Discipline for breaching codes of conduct
- Strengthen outcomes by collaborating with others who benefit from better outcomes (eg. engineers and landscape architects)
- Raise the game to meet community expectations for future
- Prevent the need for retrofitting projects by proactively designing desired outcomes collaboratively (eg. Olympics projects)

### Long-term Economic Well-being: that

#### Collaboratively:

- Stop Injurious Affection (Mike Hefferan and team)

#### Community:

- Request state and federal departments to analyse the benefits and life-cycle costs of any proposed infrastructure for SEQ (Olympics or City Deals) for public scrutiny and review with the expectation of amendments.
- If not fulfilled, then request the Auditor General, Ombudsman, and Integrity Commissioner to undertake a special audit of matters of concern to the public.
- Requests all integrity mechanisms to cooperate to design an analytical audit of decision-making systems and requests the Treasury to provide a holistic lens (*and gain support from our speakers to do so*).
- Be vigilant, is money being spent in the best interest of existing and future generations of residents?

#### Auditor-General:

- Determine the long term impacts on the social legacy and cultural well-being of such proposed infrastructure investments for Olympics. For example, demonstrate the cost per capita (of the existing population) allocated to Olympic projects.
- Request the Treasury and Premiers (cabinet) to report to the community, local government and federal government, and parliament on the findings.

#### Olympics Committee:

- Share proposals on plans demonstrating compliance integrating inherent ecological, climate, and social imperatives (not offsetting elsewhere).

### Spatial Justice: that

- Government needs to prioritise its principles for intergenerational equity in planning.
- Local councils need to share any proposals within the town plans, community plans
- Professional bodies demonstrate ethical innovation in designing, planning, delivering, and evaluating public places.
- Community needs to keep vigilant to ensure inclusiveness.

### Participatory Regional Governance: that

1. **Communities** articulate high expectations of transparency and accountability to local, state, and federal governments, industry, professional bodies, and independent reviewers. Expect better.
2. **Governments** collaborate to design and deliver quality integrated outcomes
3. **Parliament** empowers all players, to make processes, analysis, and expected outcomes transparent.
4. **Independent reviewers** - Auditor-General, Ombudsman, integrity commissioner, and others evaluate and report results to parliament and the public.
5. **Local councils** are accountable to constituents.
6. **Professional bodies** show brave ethical leadership and independence
7. **Industry bodies** - ethical frameworks review and amend their training programs.

**Recognising contributions:**

<p>Identity Imagining Our Common SEQ future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is so special about SEQ that we want to keep those aspects?</li> <li>• What is your vision for a preferred common future for SEQ?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Claire Moore (President UNAAQ) <b>Panellists:</b> Kerry Doss (State Planner), Darren Mew (BlueCHP), Nicholas Kamols (Qld Young Planner of the Year 2021)</p>
<p>Housing</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many impacts over the last 5 years prevented ideal outcomes, from your professional perspective - where are we now?</li> <li>• How can we house our most vulnerable? What is your vision for universal housing in SEQ?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Palani Thevar <b>Panellists:</b> Emma Greenhalgh (National Shelter), Rachel Watson (Housing Lab), Ritva Vilppola (UNYP Qld, Maleny Neighbourhood Centre)</p>
<p>Urban Ecology, regenerative design</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where should we prohibit development?</li> <li>• How can "we the people" change the pace and trajectory to enhance the capacity of our natural systems in SEQ in the next 15 years?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Elizabeth Harrison <b>Panellists:</b> Aunty Ruby Sims (Elder, Mununjali and Wangerriburra people), Chris Walker (SEQ Community Association), Prof. Anne Roiko (Environmental Health), Rod Welford (UNAAQ, Former Minister and Attorney General)</p>
<p>Long-term Economic Well-being</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you define and work in SEQ economic well-being?</li> <li>• What honourable/ viable outcomes do you seek for our region by 2035 and how can the community advance that? (Beyond Olympics)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Claire Moore <b>Panellists:</b> Kerry McGovern (Public Sector Governance and EAROPH Treasurer), Mike Hefferen (Pro Vice-Chancellor USC), Kerriane Meulman (Urban Economist)</p>
<p>Spatial Justice</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where do the children play?</li> <li>• What should be our intergenerational and ecological legacy for South East Queensland?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Pamela Caspani <b>Panellists:</b> Ross Elliot (Lord Mayor's Better Suburbs Initiatives, Suburban Futures), Tobias Volbert (Landscape Architect, 7 SENSES Foundation), Dr Piet Filet (International Water Centre)</p>
<p>Participatory Regional Governance</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governments need a social license to operate, so how should residents shape local plans and regional outcomes?</li> <li>• Please share personal examples where participatory decision-making accelerated desirable outcomes. How can we embed such practice?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provocateur:</b> Cameron Gordon <b>Panellists:</b> Kerry Doss (Planning Expert), Dr Anna Svendsdotter (Australian Institute of Architects), Leah Lang (Qld Govt Architect), Dr Chris McGrath (Qld Barrister in Environmental Law, Adjunct Professor UQ).</p>

## Program Evaluation rapid assessment (Guba and Stufflebeam methodology)

### Roundtable 1: imagining our preferred future: Keeping our identity

Provocateur: Claire Moore (President UNAAQ)

Panellists: Kerry Doss (State Planner), Darren Mew (BlueCHP), Nicholas Kamols (Young Professional)

What is?	Concern that development without proper planning makes SEQ look like every other urbanised region, so we are losing our subtropical identity and culture. Some call that 'losing our soul'.
What should be?	We need to protect our values and uniqueness by appreciating what is so special about South East Queensland and the quality-of-life we all enjoy.
Why is it so?	The developer-led evolution saw quick cookie-cutter designs, materials, and neighbourhood plans from other jurisdictions, which may not be appropriate for our climate, our heritage, or our laidback lifestyle. Developers were incremental, not evolutionary for innovation to suit SEQ identity. Implementation saw SEQ Regional Plan objectives compromised.
So what? Consequence of doing nothing?	Without adequate interventions, inappropriate housing, neighbourhoods, towns, cities, and the whole region will result. Our uniqueness is lost, our sense of place is diluted as we lose the reasons we chose to live in this place. Our natural advantages and investment differentials are squandered. The Olympics allows us to showcase our region so we need to honour our identity in future development.
What can we do? options	Review and stop inappropriate development and redesign for optimum outcomes by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● determining highest value icons, cultural landscapes, scenic amenity (i.e. peri-urban, rural, green belt, rivers), Queensland housing, identifiable streetscapes, and favourite public places, and keep them securely protected</li> <li>● preserving our unique SEQ lifestyle so that we have a subtropical atmosphere, less-strict dress code, friendly manner, welcoming attitude, and inclusive multicultural presence</li> <li>● preventing poorly planned, cookie-cutter (i.e. lazy, opportunistic) development</li> <li>● mandating climate-sensitive housing in places that are at risk of natural hazards (inundation, floods, sea level rise, erosion, drought, bushfires) through designing for hazards, susceptibility to harm, coping capacity, evacuation options, and ongoing resilience challenges.</li> </ul>
How & who? Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>State Government</b> demonstrates principle-based leadership for protection, preservation, prohibition, and prevention, through non-conflicting legislation, clear policies, performance regulations, and Ministers' call-in reasons that demonstrate respect for SEQ identity and collective soul.</li> <li>2. <b>Local governments</b> implement changes within planning that respect long term resilience and identity for their unique jurisdictions. Say no.</li> <li>3. <b>All Developers</b> including "Mum and Dad" developers honour those principles with safe, deliberative, justifiable, and green criteria.</li> <li>4. <b>Community groups</b> to act, be vigilant in caring and report concerns.</li> </ol>

## Roundtable 2: Urban Housing



Provocateur: Palani Thevar Panellists: Emma Greenhalgh (National Shelter), Rachel Watson (Housing Lab), Ritva Vilppola (UNYP Qld, Maleny Neighbourhood Centre)

Item	Rapid Assessment
<b>What is?</b>	<p>Housing is a basic human right (shelter) and provides security. Australia has declared that we are living in a housing crisis. It is a topic area that many organisations throughout Queensland and beyond are concerned about with the growing affordability crisis. This includes QCOSS, Q-Shelter, Blue-CHP, and Oxfam reports on housing and homelessness.</p> <p>SEQ has the greatest wealth disparity between the working population, youth and aging populations. Working adults in Queensland are among the richest in the world and vulnerable populations are currently being left behind by the housing market.</p>
<b>What should be?</b>	<p>We need to be able to link our data and statistical analysis with storytelling and engage with our vulnerable populations and understand the barriers they face. Governance is required to ensure the housing stock and design appropriately cater to all the different needs. <b>SDG 11.1</b></p>
<b>Why is it so?</b>	<p>Decisions are being made on an immediate reactionary and ad hoc basis instead of appropriate and necessary long-term needs and predictions. The current housing resource is considered a commodity rather than a necessity therefore, private investment properties are an attractive way to generate passive income and increase wealth whereas public housing is not being developed fast enough to accommodate the demand.</p>
<b>So what? Consequence of doing nothing?</b>	<p>The human right to shelter is being eroded and more of our population will be at risk of being homeless. With the rapidly changing climate and ecological disasters communities are facing, the housing crisis is going to become more aggravated as time continues.</p> <p>The SEQ population is increasing quickly as more people migrate to the region while the increasingly frequent severe weather events are reducing the amount of livable housing infrastructure.</p>
<b>What can we do? options</b>	<p>The cooperation and collaboration between different scales of community and government is imperative. We should encourage more First Nations knowledge when planning for where housing should be built to ensure the ecological environment is appropriate and reduces risks of potential hazards. We need to rethink the current housing business model that is geared towards profiteering and tax avoidance by supporting more alternative approaches that provide renters with a voice. This includes more funding for housing cooperatives as well as more investment from the government toward social housing solutions. Additionally, we need to ensure local planning schemes and national construction codes acknowledge the housing crisis with the inclusion and clarity between immediate, mid-term, and long-term solutions.</p>

Item	Rapid Assessment
<b>How &amp; who? Recommendation</b>	<p>(1) <b>State and local governments</b> embrace findings of the Queensland Housing Summit and the draft federal reforms (except recommendation 13) to demonstrate the human right to shelter. Federal government implements the well-being budget in the spirit of "fair go for all"</p> <p>(2) <b>Communities</b> continue to express diverse needs and work in conjunction with local and state governments to find innovative solutions.</p> <p>(3) <b>Charities and government</b> and most impacted people articulate pathways to secure shelter.</p>

### Roundtable 3: Urban ecology, regenerative design



Provocateur: Elizabeth Harrison

Panellists: Aunty Ruby Sims (Elder, Mununjali and Wangerriburra people), Chris Walker (SEQ Community Association), Prof. Anne Roiko (Environmental Health), Rod Welford (UNAAQ, Former Minister and Attorney General)

Item	Rapid Assessment
What is?	<p><b>Concern</b> that development without proper planning makes SEQ look like every other urbanised region, so we are losing our <b>subtropical identity and culture</b>. Clean beaches, clean air, outdoor living, outdoor recreation, UNESCO biosphere, diverse landscapes (islands, wetlands, mountains, rangelands, temperate tablelands, subtropical rainforests, and productive agricultural lands) abound. SEQ has 6 cities, 47 urban centres, 137 towns, and rural centres. Developers disproportionately steer decision-making and no longer have to obey local and state regulations because the word <b>'prohibit'</b> is no longer in the current planning Acts. Lack of respect for environmental values means sprawling unhealthy human settlements. This contravenes all the international policy and professional body principles for codes of conduct for urban planning and development. <b>Concern</b> for greenwashing.</p> <p>Despite covid, <b>a significant population increase</b> per annum in South East Queensland, (2% over the average of world population increase) contrasts against countries in decline. Logan, Ipswich, Redlands, Moreton Bay, Gold Coast, and Brisbane rapidly developed into the green belts over the last decade. There is no longer a community plan in place for rationalising urban planning. Insufficient or ineffective attention to the <b>community needs</b> results in poor development decisions. Planning schemes may not consider holistic aspects for effective long-term health, wellness or continued quality-of-life beyond short-term economic returns. <b>Concern for private short-term gain</b> at the cost of social and environmental well-being.</p>
What should be?	<p>SDG 11.4 11.5 11.7 We should be smarter and cognisant of international leading practices and regenerative policies. We should protect our values and uniqueness by protecting what is so special about South East Queensland and the quality-of-life we all enjoy.</p> <p><i>"Country is the land we breathe, as well as the land we walk upon. What we do to [land &amp; sea] country, we do to each other and to ourselves."</i> Aunty Ruby</p>
Why is it so?	<p>Developing <b>greenfield sites</b> are: (1) continuing from the historical past to environmental decline in liveability and hotter climates, or (2) demonstrating net</p>

Item	Rapid Assessment
	<p>positive development - being an exemplar for brighter healthier cities through regenerative development.</p> <p>The developer-led evolution saw <b>quick lazy cookie-cutter</b> designs, materials and neighbourhood plans from other jurisdictions, which may not be appropriate for our climate, our heritage or our laidback lifestyle. Developers were incremental without considering the <b>cumulative regional impacts</b>. The governments need to be accountable.</p> <p>Implementation saw SEQ Regional Plan objectives <b>compromised</b>.</p> <p>Planning and Environment Court fell from ecological stewardship to the lowest common denominator in mediation, joint expert statements, and resulting decisions.</p>
<p>So what? Consequence of doing nothing?</p>	<p>Without adequate interventions, inappropriate neighbourhoods, towns, cities for the whole region will result. Our uniqueness is lost; our sense of place is diluted as we lose the reasons we chose to live in and travel to this place. Our natural advantages and investment differentials are squandered.</p> <p>The Olympics allows us to showcase our region so we need to (1) honour our identity in future development (2) establish what our legacy with the 2032 Olympics means for the consequences beyond the economical benefits it may bring – going beyond the short-term gains of improving GDP that is not a measure of the health, wellness or quality of life for the peoples of SEQ.</p> <p>Relentless urban development and growth in SEQ region adversely impact basic ecosystem services upon which our healthy life depends. Hence, maintaining our current quality of life is not possible. The big productive backyard has shaped our SEQ (Australia's) uniqueness in the past but now, the gross floor area of housing is a bank loan determinant. With the current model of unsustainable urban development on greenspace to address the increasing population, the consequential 'harm' can be measured. Cumulative impacts on human well-being and ecosystem health further burden our existing services and support systems.</p> <p>Future generations inherit ecological debts( intergenerational inequity). Koala extinction.</p> <p>Roundtable Participant (Elizabeth Handley) <i>Are we adversely affected by the disconnect between Federal Govts setting immigration numbers and State/Local governments actually paying to settle the people? Our Planning legislation could now virtually be called development legislation. There is very little community involvement allowed by any level of government. It is now almost impossible to speak to the relevant minister. The community is seen as very much less important than developers. We have tried for five years.</i></p>
<p>What can we do? options</p>	<p>Review and stop inappropriate development and redesign for optimum outcomes by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re-establish the use of prohibiting development of SEQ's <b>natural spaces and reserves</b>, especially the green belt. Prohibit urban development on the best agricultural land.</li> <li>2. <b>Regenerate</b> development areas to greener spaces promoting integration in all proposed development with the ecosystem health, and improved wellness of people and wildlife. <b>Climate-sensitive</b> development means cooler areas reversing the large expanding heat sinks created from rapid widespread development and reduced green coverage.</li> <li>3. Re-develop and integrate green spaces with building development to establish <b>rewilding practices</b> into designated green corridors.</li> </ol>

Item	Rapid Assessment
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Develop measures for prohibiting development and guiding planning to <b>the highest-value</b> use of the land and <b>waterways</b> for sustainable and environmental outcomes as well as economics for the region.</li> <li>5. Establish clearly defined sustainability and environmental outcomes SDG target 11.6 into our SEQ Planning laws. <i>Reduce environmental impacts of cities (air quality, energy use, water resources, municipal waste)</i></li> <li>6. Embed development <b>performance criteria</b> and standards, and enforce them throughout the life cycle of the development from <b>the initial proposal phase</b> to the decommissioning, abandonment, and repurposing of such urban and regional space. (SDG 11.3 and 11b.)</li> </ol>
<p>How &amp; who? Recommendation</p>	<p><b>Community action:</b> (list from roundtable)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pay attention</li> <li>2. Get informed – identify quality, reliable, and trusted sources with expert professionals.</li> <li>3. Get involved – community groups, professional associations, organisations, your spheres of influence personally and professionally, and the like.</li> <li>4. Team up</li> <li>5. Speak out</li> <li>6. Spread the word – board diverse engagement and transparency matters, especially in times of integrity commission reports and findings</li> <li>7. <b>Advocate relentlessly.</b> No-one is too high or mighty not to be able to talk to them.</li> <li>8. Hold Representatives accountable</li> <li>9. Exercise your vote. Vote in which way is best to vote that you generally think will send a message to the elected government.</li> </ol> <p><b>Governments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Honour principles of COAG agreements, international obligations for biodiversity, climate, sustainable cities, SDG 11 targets, sisters city objectives</li> <li>● strengthen 'one-health' legislation to ecosystems' health for human well-being, enforce compliance (not condition away) and re-introduce the word 'prohibit' in high-value cultural spaces and landscapes</li> <li>● evaluate past plans before publishing new ones - get better</li> <li>● fund programs with professional and dedicated staff, technology and evaluative support systems</li> <li>● showcase design excellence through small pilot projects, to enhance replication</li> <li>● enforce ongoing onus on developers to design, plan, comply with standards for regenerative outcomes</li> <li>● strengthen court systems to deter recurrence and recidivism by errant developers</li> <li>● re-introduce and fund through collaborative multi-level agreements, for greening frameworks like the Flinders-Greenbank-Karawatha corridor, green belts, green wedges, inter-urban breaks, net-positive development and beyond-zero-carbon buildings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Courts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● P&amp; E court systems steer towards UN Habitat guidelines for better design outcomes through better mediation systems and updated judicial education on 'regenerative cities'.</li> </ul>

Item	Rapid Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Learn from Greening the Courtroom and lessons from international environmental law to shape decisions (Australia used to lead precedents)</li> </ul> <p><b>Independent review:</b> (Auditor-general, ombudsmen, sustainability commissioners, parliamentary environmental commissioners)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Empower review roles to recommend to parliament amendments to legislation. This includes policy and regulation to prevent recurrence of undesirable behaviour</li> <li>● lead interdepartmental and multi-level collaboration for designing reforms under good governance responsibilities (Transparency International models)</li> <li>● Infrastructure Australia, Infrastructure Queensland, Queensland Reconstruction Authority to collaborate with other professionals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Developers and industry bodies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● consult, engage, determine future user needs for optimal futures</li> <li>● demonstrate leadership in training for UN Habitat design principles</li> <li>● Industry bodies report progress and benchmark Urban regeneration post occupancy -</li> <li>● discipline errant developers</li> <li>● showcase pilot projects with regenerative design excellence</li> <li>● establish an award for best regenerative practices in the industry</li> </ul> <p><b>Professional bodies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Find a backbone - demonstrate leadership in climate and ecological policy with regenerative design and biomimicry practices</li> <li>● Advocate for innovation, members continuing professional development, sharing world best practices, documentation, guidelines, professional standards</li> <li>● Discipline for breaching codes of conduct</li> <li>● Strengthen outcomes by collaborating with others who benefit from better outcomes (eg. engineers and landscape architects)</li> <li>● Raise the game to meet community expectations for future</li> <li>● Prevent the need for retrofitting projects by proactively designing desired outcomes collaboratively (eg. Olympics projects)</li> </ul>

<https://auth.slido.com/eu1/api/latest/the-auth/user/lifecycle-process/shareable-link/init?token=2a01a93c0068387ca341299e6242bf535fe1d660ec22e6077589497b70e5b531>

## Roundtable 4: Long-term Economic Well-being



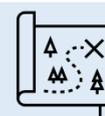
Provocateur: Claire Moore

Panellists: Kerry McGovern (Public Sector Governance and EAROPH Treasurer), Mike Hefferen (Pro Vice-Chancellor USC), Kerriane Meulman (Urban Economist)

Item	Rapid Assessment
What is?	Over the next decade, there will be a significant focus on economic growth in SEQ linked to Olympics 2032, carrying with it a risk that individual and event-based interests get prioritised over the long-term economic well-being of the region and its inhabitants. 80% of the life cycle cost of infrastructure is borne by the community and local government. Only 20% of the cost might be provided upfront by federal and state governments as incentives for infrastructure.
What should be?	Optimise the opportunity. Transparency in decision-making. Seek diverse input into draft plans for determining impacts (indigenous) in place-based. Stop Injurious Affection, which remains after 100 years, where residents and local government pay damage to the developer when the project is rejected. There needs to be a focus on local connection for long-term economic well-being of the region and investment needs to deliver enduring benefits, be productive, and be viable for the local communities. Governments need social license to operate (act in the best interest long-term)
Why is it so?	The momentum of the Olympics with fixed timelines for delivery will bring increased pace to investment processes, in a short-planning period. This pace will bring time pressures for decision-making which could reduce levels of local engagement with reduced opportunities for collaboration to shape a future vision for long-term economic well-being of the region.
So what? Consequence of doing nothing?	Without a focus on the long-term economic well-being of the region, opportunities to address local connections will be lost and there is a risk that investments will result in societal expenses such as increased housing pressures, more people experiencing homelessness, and increased ongoing asset management costs. Without appropriate planning, all our green space is at risk, undermining the capacity of carbon sinks and long-term climate resilience.
What can we do? options	Understand, prioritise, determine, foster, invest, realise When planning for this growth and a thriving SEQ the local economy and the desired future state must <b>first be understood</b> . This means <b>prioritising</b> the long-term interests of the local economy to <b>determine</b> local markets in sustaining <b>legacy projects</b> and <b>fostering local connections</b> . We must know our local economy and market otherwise we will not realise the benefits of <b>investment in infrastructure</b> .
How & who? Recommendation	<b>Collaboratively:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stop Injurious Affection (Mike Hefferan)</li> </ul> <b>Community:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request state and federal departments to analyse the benefits and life-cycle costs of any proposed infrastructure for SEQ (Olympics or City Deals) for public scrutiny and review with the expectation of amendments.</li> </ul>

Item	Rapid Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If not fulfilled, then request the Auditor General, Ombudsman, and Integrity Commissioner to undertake a special audit of matters of concern to the public.</li> <li>● Requests all integrity mechanisms to cooperate to design an analytical audit of decision-making systems and requests the Treasury to provide a holistic lens (<i>and gain support from our speakers to do so</i>).</li> <li>● Be vigilant that money is being spent in the best interest of existing and future generations of residents.</li> </ul> <p><b>Auditor General:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Determine the long term impacts on the social legacy and cultural well-being of such proposed infrastructure investments for the Olympics. For example, demonstrate the cost per capita (of the existing population) allocated to Olympic projects.</li> <li>● Request the Treasury and Premiers (cabinet) to report to the community, local government and federal government, and parliament on the findings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Olympics Committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Share proposals on plans demonstrating compliance integrating inherent ecological, climate, and social imperatives (not by offsetting elsewhere).</li> </ul>

### Roundtable 5: Spatial Justice



Provocateur: Pamela Caspani

Panellists: Ross Elliot (Lord Mayor's Better Suburbs Initiatives, Urban Land Institute Qld, Suburban Futures), Tobias Volbert (Landscape Architect, 7 SENSES Foundation), Dr Piet Filet (International Water Centre)

Item	Rapid Assessment
What is?	<p>Only 13% of greenspace remains in Brisbane City. This was reduced from 41% in 2002. Public spaces have also been diminishing rapidly over time with an ever-increasing issue around the 'pseudo' public space and private ownership and management rights. This has in turn led to consequences where places for people to play- particularly children- are becoming more limited to streets dominated by car dependency with prioritisation of the motorised vehicle. Rapid change, growth, and development in SEQ are reducing the amount and quality of open space, greenspace, public realm, riparian waterways, and community use which is impacting the fair and equitable distribution of socially valued areas and opportunities to use them.</p>
What should be?	<p>CSIRO recommends 43% of natural places are required to be resilient. The quality of and access to socially valued places of SEQ needs to be protected and enhanced to enable equitable access to these important areas and spatial justice for existing and future generations. This complies with the principles of intergenerational equity and planning. <i>SDG 11.7</i></p>
Why is it so?	<p>Rapid growth and development bring increasing and competing pressures on a finite land area. These pressures mean that decisions are being made with a short-term focus on addressing immediate needs with limited consideration of long-term cumulative impacts.</p>

Item	Rapid Assessment
So what? Consequence of doing nothing?	Without a change in approach to consider intergenerational needs for spatial justice, future generations will not have the privileges that we currently enjoy. equitable access to socially important areas, resulting in a less liveable region.
What can we do? options	We have an obligation to protect the rights of the child (UN Declaration on the Right of the child to a clean environment, endorsed Sept 2022). Over the next decade, the decisions we make about access to socially valued areas must consider our long-term legacy and spatial justice for future generations. We need to consider the long-term social importance of these areas with a holistic consideration of the value of these areas (quadruple bottom line) to enable them to be protected and enhanced. To achieve this requires improved decision-making processes that consider intergenerational needs and cumulative impacts as well as better communication and engagement with the community to positively influence decision-making.
How & who? Recommendation	Government needs to prioritise its principles for intergenerational equity in planning. Local councils need to share any proposals within the town plans, community plans Professional bodies demonstrate ethical innovation in designing, planning, delivering, and evaluating public places. Community needs to keep vigilant to ensure inclusiveness.

### Roundtable 6: Participatory Regional Governance



Provocateur: Cameron Gordon

Panellists: Kerry Doss (Planning Expert), Dr Anna Svensdotter (Australian Institute of Architects), Leah Lang (Qld Govt Architect), Dr Chris McGrath (Qld Barrister in Environmental Law, Adjunct Professor (UQ)).

Item	Rapid Assessment
What is?	Planning and development in SEQ are disjointed. Despite improvements in the mid 2000's, cumulative impacts are not considered. Priority Development Areas are not necessarily exemplary demonstration projects because the planning principles are not evidenced in either the end results or end-user evaluations. There are too many shortcuts along the way that are not managed or reviewed or penalised. Private gain for social pain. Long-term horizon is not evident in some of the short and medium-term economic decisions. The model is still 1960s urban design not 2020 methodology for net-positive-development, living index, or regenerative design by international standards. As the richest people, we are not looking like the smartest people nor the most ethical - 'caring-for-country', leaving no-one behind SDGs. Intergenerational debts as economic, ecologic, social, cultural, and spiritual assets are squandered. Opportunity missed.
What should be?	SDG 11.3. SDG 11 A SDG 11.B Transparency in planning and decision making demonstrating international better practices at regional scale not site or street level. (net-positive-development, beyond zero impacts, regenerative stewardship, ancient wisdom, biomimicry, biophilia, moral courage, honourable legacy.)

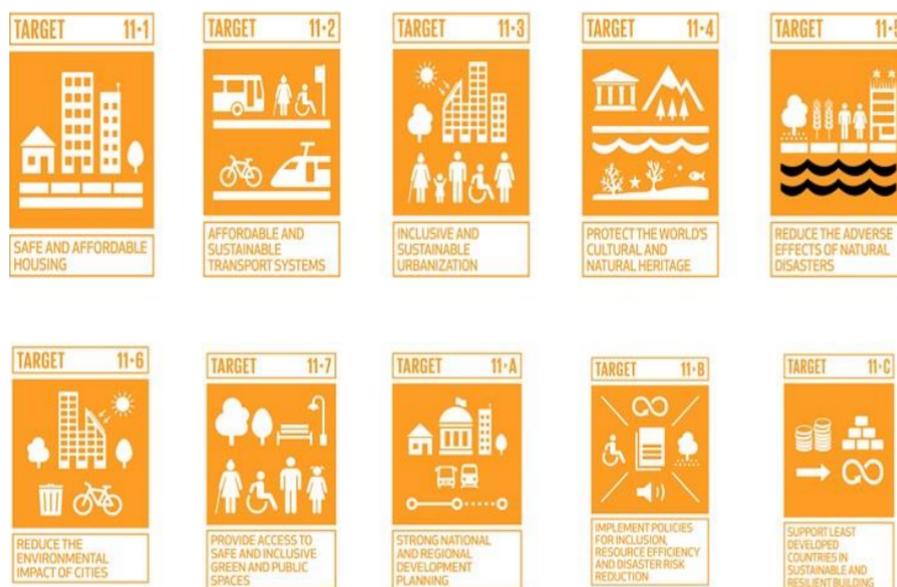
Item	Rapid Assessment
	<p>Prohibit development in vulnerable ecosystems, climate-risky ecozones, iconic places, or regionally significant cultural landscapes.</p> <p>Participatory systems to support desirable sets of outcomes.</p> <p>Community understanding that if there needs to be compromise, where and how and who is accountable for adverse or perverse outcomes.</p> <p>The Olympics provide an opportunity to showcase ethical stewardship and good regional design and planning.</p>
Why is it so?	<p>Anthropocene approach to regional stewardship continues to be rewarded. Developers receive rewards at the cost of existing communities, good quality farming land, and vulnerable landscapes. Private gain for social pain is no longer acceptable. Intergenerational pain was never considered despite rhetoric of ESD and Treasury's intergenerational equity.</p> <p>Unaware if the ongoing expense 80% of life cycle costs of infrastructure is borne by the community and local councils.</p> <p>Without a Senate and a strong independent reviewer, there is a lack of due diligence and duty of care by actors inside the Westminster system. Nobody is responsible for the whole picture. Parliament is not taking inquiry submissions into account, and legislators are not accountable for unacceptable impacts.</p> <p>Community has not strongly demanded transparency in analytical review and procedural decision-making in the wake of the loss of program evaluations from FMS and budgeting negotiations. There is a consequent lack of reporting back to affected peoples.</p>
So what? Consequence of doing nothing?	<p><i>Malthus theory that population tends to increase at a faster rate than its means of subsistence and that unless it is checked by moral restraint or disaster (such as disease, famine, or war) widespread poverty and degradation inevitably result.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The purpose of planning is to avoid worst case scenarios, before development.</li> <li>● No future generations living here.</li> </ul>
What can we do? options	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ignore at our collective peril.</li> <li>2. Expect and re-introduce good governance principles and practices by working with community, industry, professional bodies and international lessons to form locally culturally appropriate ways forward.</li> <li>3. Learn from past mistakes and be better</li> </ol>
How & who? Recommendation	<p><b>Communities</b> articulate high expectations of transparency and accountability to local, state and federal governments, industry, professional bodies and independent reviewers. Expect better.</p> <p><b>Governments</b> collaborate to design and deliver quality integrated outcomes</p> <p><b>Parliament</b> empowers all players, to make processes, analysis and expected outcomes transparent.</p> <p><b>Independent reviewers</b> - Auditor-General, Ombudsman, integrity commissioner and others evaluate and report results to parliament and public.</p> <p><b>Local councils</b> are accountable to constituents.</p> <p><b>Professional bodies</b> show brave ethical leadership and independence</p> <p><b>Industry bodies</b> - ethical frameworks review and amend their training programs.</p>

## Systemic SEQ participatory governance: summary of recommendations: how and who

to be completed and signed.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rszem2d9vi9\\_y3XpSugV2In7NkypH2Cy/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115512740370860118673&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rszem2d9vi9_y3XpSugV2In7NkypH2Cy/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115512740370860118673&rtpof=true&sd=true)

Issuu - [https://issuu.com/unaaq/docs/24\\_feb\\_2022\\_h3\\_5\\_seq\\_interim\\_synthesis\\_paper](https://issuu.com/unaaq/docs/24_feb_2022_h3_5_seq_interim_synthesis_paper)



## Videos of Roundtables (2 hours each)

In memory of

**Narelle Townsend**  
(21/12/1927 to 28/10/2022)



Narelle was born eldest of 9 in Sydney, and worked from age 14. However, her mother was an advocate for women's education and she attended night classes to finally gain her professional recognition as an Architect, winning then College Prize and a scholarship to study in Spain in 1957. Her classmate was KC Leong former Secretary General from EAROPH. After the Spain placement and living in a convent, she worked in UK with built environment professionals ...

Her scope was limitless because she was dedicated to her career, in pursuit of best fit of functionality and design, available materials and where possible, self-build projects. She worked in Saudi and on Suez crisis population resettlement. This work led to invitations to work with UN around the world to house vulnerable people into healthy communities. Narelle reminisced sitting in the red dirt at Gigeri outside Nairobi designing the United Nations Compound with Kofi Annan which now houses UNEP, UN Habitat and UN operations. She continued her formal education with Masters in Town Planning in Columbia University NYC, where she continued to mentor until her late 80s (when she thought she should learn another language and won the art prize for writing poetry in Arabic in artistic swirls to depict flow of life).

She spent 7 years in Thailand with UNDP working on the right to shelter and sustainable human settlements for Asia Pacific countries. She was a force behind design and construction of 3 UN buildings in New York, and others elsewhere. She established UN Habitat NGOs organisation because she felt it was the best way of determining real citizens needs and keeping things accountable. It was a strong avenue for advocacy and agency for

**Bill Chandler**  
(16/12/1943 to 24/07/ 2022)



Bill was born in Leongatha (rural Australia), moving to Melbourne at 8 years old. Bill joined the Royal Australian Planning Institute in 1966, and was an officer bearer from the 1970s. His commitment to what matured into the Planning Institute of Australia extended over 56 years, only recently stepping down as Managing Editor of its monthly journal. By 1974, in addition to his day job, Bill was lecturing a room-full of future leaders in the profession who had enrolled in Melbourne University's new Graduate Diploma program. Beyond occasional formal teaching roles, Bill was a perpetual educator, through innumerable conferences, publications and conversations. He was a great communicator, and built lifelong Connections. As a vocal advocate of social justice and equality, he was diligent in ensuring female practitioners were heard and encouraged.

Bill was early to recognise that Planning alone was only part of the toolkit for enriching cities and society, so he embraced allied perspectives and professions influencing urban conditions and outcomes. Bill was pivotal to the development of urban design field in Australia. **Australian cities owe Bill a debt.** You cannot conceive how we would have got here without him, dedicating decades to the creation and promotion of the critically important national Urban Design dialogue: as activist, teacher, professional, communicator, mentor, catalyst, networker, and organiser. *Planning News*, the journal that Bill was the managing editor of for so long, features: 'truly a remarkable man who helped so many of us

collaboration on urban policy issues, human rights, climate (greenhouse effect), environmental stewardship, indigenous voices, intergenerational wisdom, safety, and more. She was elected and appointed to Chair positions including the Global Housing Foundation, Patron for Commonwealth Human Ecology Council, and others during her long and active career.

In 1976, she was on organising committee and chaired sessions in UN Habitat 1 Agenda so that youth could have a voice in design of future cities with respect to healthy and equitable infrastructure. In 1996, she was again active in UN Habitat 2 when the next 20-year agenda was for social justice. In 2016 she opened UN Habitat 3 in Quito Ecuador where she caught pneumonia while waiting in the rain to register. Oxygen depletion caused loss of eyesight which decimated her spirit. So, she returned to Australia to live in Ballina Aged Care until age of almost 95. She never married, had no children. She was tiny in stature, but big of heart and dreams. She was a true trailblazer and her life is documented into 12 chapters of diverse adventures.

In Australia, we continue her Urban Design Scholarships annually.

to share his wisdom. He was a tireless, optimistic, and always humorous campaigner for better people places, and our cities are better as a result of Bill's life's work';

'unofficial coach of planning in Victoria; not the belligerent, carping type but rather inspiring his players with his crystal clarity on what planning stands for.

'Younger planners noted how many generations of planners benefited from Bill's energy, enthusiasm, and experience. At events, you always knew when Bill was in the room—centrally positioned, more often than not with a full glass of red, with planners orbiting around him, in and out of conversation'.

He was one of the leaders of a campaign against a massive road flyover in the 1970s. He edited the Surrey Hills *Neighbourhood News* from its inaugural edition in 1982. He practiced what he preached, by converting and living in an old church school. He said, 'I see my life as a citizen first and an urban planner second.'

He's survived by his wife, Ros, and their children, Andrew, Elizabeth, and Kate.



