



**PUBLIC SPACE
IDEAS COMPETITION**

2020

Presenting Partners:



**Committee
for
Sydney**





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Supporting Partners

This competition was presented by the Committee for Sydney and the Department of Planning Industry and Environment, and has been supported by our Lead Consultant AECOM, our Industry Partner, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects and our Media Partner, the Sydney Morning Herald.

Presenting Partners:



Lead Consultant:



Media Partner:



Industry Supporter:



Background

The Public Space Ideas Competition is an exciting opportunity to reimagine, inspire, create, include, and bring awareness to great public spaces across Greater Sydney. We want to showcase great ideas and spark conversations.

We invited entrants to showcase their ideas for transforming public space across Sydney.

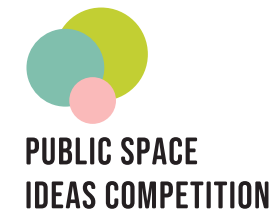
The competition was created with a simple idea in mind – to increase expectations of what public space in Sydney can be. By seeking bold, imaginative ideas from hundreds of children, students, members of the public and professional designers, this competition has shown what great public space can look like.

In the face of COVID-19, what has become clear is how important good public space is; making this objective and raising expectations of public space, which are vital to making our city work for everyone.

Brought to you by the Committee for Sydney and the NSW Government, our winners were honoured during an online event hosted at the ICC Sydney, with the People's Choice Award selected via an online poll on the Sydney Morning Herald's website.

The Public Space Ideas Competition was the first project for the NSW Government's inaugural The Festival of Place. The Festival celebrates the breadth, beauty and possibilities of NSW's public spaces through a rolling program that highlights the importance and beauty of great public spaces.

This is no ordinary festival, but one that celebrates our connection to place, 365 days of the year.



The Jury



Abbie Galvin
NSW Government
Architect



Helen Lochhead
Dean – Built
Environment, University
of New South Wales



Lisa Davies
Editor – The Sydney
Morning Herald



Susan Lloyd Hurwitz
CEO & Managing
Director – Mirvac



Alice Rummery
Youth Representative
*Also in Youth Panel



Henriette Vamberg
Partner & Managing
Director – Gehl
(Denmark)



Robyn Dowling
Head of School & Dean –
Architecture, Design
and Planning,
University of Sydney



Wesley Enoch
Artistic Director –
Sydney Festival



Elizabeth Mossop
Professor of Landscape
Architecture & Dean –
Design, Architecture and
Building, University of
Technology, Sydney



Kerry London
Dean – Built
Environment, Western
Sydney University



Sarah Abudareb
Fraser's Scholarship
recipient – Western
Sydney University
*Also in Youth Panel



Yuki Kawakami
Youth Programs
Producer – Art
Gallery of NSW
*Youth Panel



Ethan Kent
Executive Director –
PlacemakingX (USA)



Lindy Deitz
CEO – Campbelltown
City Council



Shaun Walsh
National President &
Fellow – Australian Institute
of Landscape Architects



Zoë Robinson
Advocate for Children
and Young People
*Youth Panel

Award Categories

CORE AWARDS



BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA

Turning public facilities inside out and making them the heart of their community.



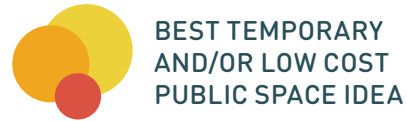
BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Identifying new open spaces and rediscovering underused open spaces.



BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA

Reimagining streets including plazas as places for people.



BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Developing demonstration, pop-up or pilot projects that challenge traditional thinking about public spaces and placemaking.



BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Demonstrating how public spaces help enhance community resilience whilst withstanding disruption through resilience.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS



STUDENT AWARD

Awarded by the University judges for the best submission from a tertiary education student.



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD

Awarded by a children and young person's judging panel for the best submission from a young person aged 18 years or under.



MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES AWARD

Awarded by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, The Hon. Rob Stokes MP.



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Awarded through a public voting program run on the website of the Sydney Morning Herald.

2020 Winners

The following competition entries were considered to be the best ideas within each category.



BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
The Modern Carpark



BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
My Street is a Park



BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
Urban Micro-Meadows



BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
30kph Limit for Non Arterial Roads



BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
Unlocking South Sydney's Newest Blue-Green Grid



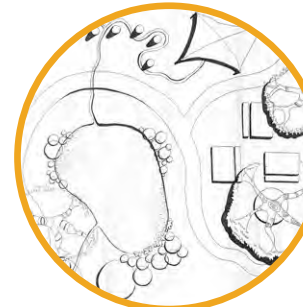
BEST STUDENT AWARD
Common(s) Utilities



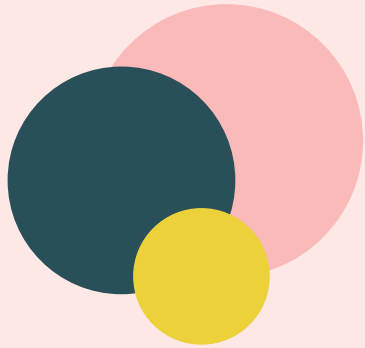
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
A Bushland Experience



MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES AWARD
Greening Pipes to Cool Sydney's West



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
A Bushland Experience



AWARDS

BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA

Turning public facilities inside out and making them the heart of their community.

“Overnight, our homes became gyms, they became schools, they became workplaces... and the importance of having other places to go, particularly around nature, just came to the fore.”

Susan Lloyd-Herwitz CEO and Managing Director – Mirvac
AECOM Talking Cities Podcast, Season 5, Episode 1

THE MODERN CARPARK

BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
WINNER



Rethinking how we perceive and utilise urban infrastructure

Many local government agencies are facing a situation where existing car parks are aging poorly, reaching their end of life and/or no longer fit into the area's streetscape masterplan. Additionally, post COVID-19, there will be a reluctance to use public transport leading to an increase in usage of car parks. Therefore, these public facilities are ideal locations to be re-envisioned into spaces greater than a place for cars to park.

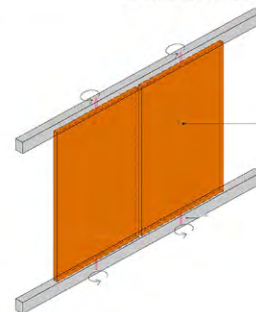
The modern carpark should be considered as an urban interchange for people to access a variety of activation zones. These activation zones will not just affect the commuter journey but also the way the surrounding precinct is portrayed and used.

The modern carpark will become a hotspot with facilities like bike and ride-sharing areas, parcel pickup lockers, community arts and culture spaces, and open space for people to socialise and relax. Our design encompasses a community-managed green space where the wall panels can swivel, offering a place for plants to grow. We feel this is a great way for community interaction, participation and a form of interactive art.

As part of this project, we wanted to understand the importance of the features in the carpark. Qualitative research was undertaken with 30 participants. Sixty-six per cent of respondents rated green space in public spaces the most important feature with the remaining 34% rating it 4/5 in importance. This research helped us understand how important green space is to the community and that it is key for delivering a great public space.



GREEN WALL PANEL DESIGN



PANELS ROTATE TO ALLOW PLANTS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS TO BE TRIMMED AND HARVESTED



Kevin Jain
Tash Velkou
Van Tran

RIVER CULTURE

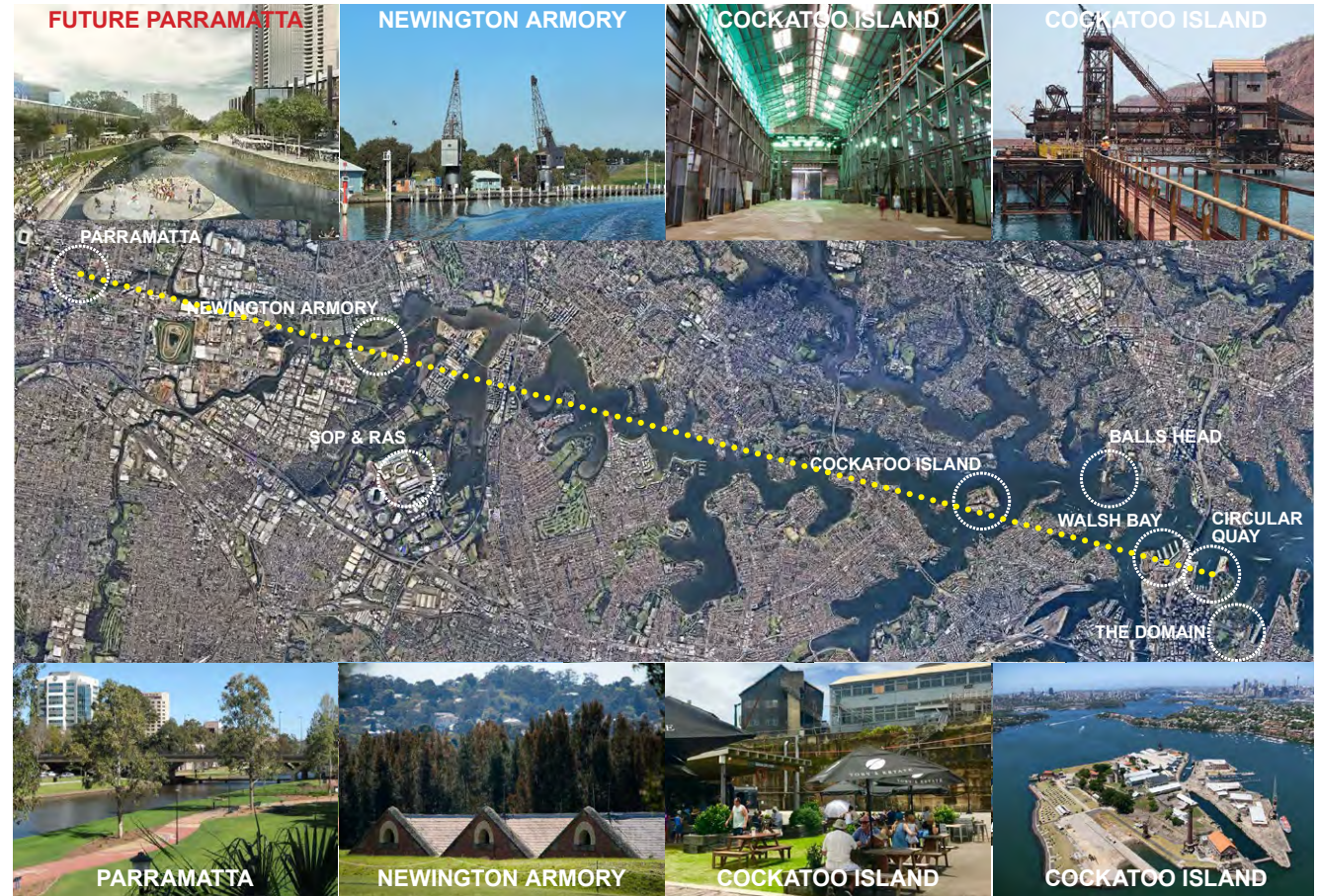
BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



The Parramatta River as the cultural spine of Sydney

Create opportunities to join and connect the great natural, heritage and cultural facilities along the Parramatta River. Be it with a Biennale, the Festival of Sydney, a future Art and Theatre Festival, or simply allowing Sydney-siders and tourists to explore our water spine via RiverCats.

Perhaps all this needs is the ability to allow dedicated RiverCats to connect these places. Can one journey on a RiverCat from the Quay after visiting the AGNSW and MCA and hop on and off at Barangaroo, Cockatoo Island, Newington Armory and the new Cultural precinct at Parramatta with the same ease as in Venice?



RAIA
Esteban Insausti

GLEBE ISLAND

BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



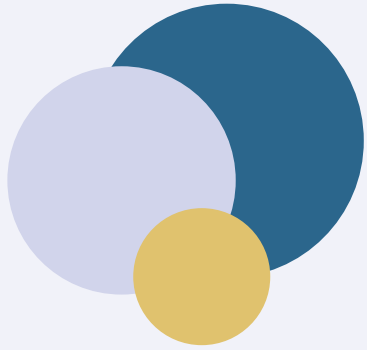
Glebe Island is the perfect destination for “The Shomb” Sydney Harbour Outdoor Music Bowl

Sydney is a city blessed by good climate and a spectacular harbour. Our summer music season is the opposite of the northern hemisphere so we attract big names and big events in the warmer months. Currently the city does not have a classic outdoor music bowl. We use public parks that are not designed for events such as Centennial park and the Domain and in recent years have become controversial in their use for big events. There is currently no purpose-built music bowl in Sydney. Glebe Island presents an opportunity to build a world-class outdoor facility which doubles as a harbourside park with an incredible harbour view and great connections to transport options.

As the Glebe area and Fishmarkets get more populated, the need for green open space is forever increasing. The ground level of this proposal functions as a concourse and could be used for shops, restaurants or even as a tech centre (like the Opera House). The roof level is an urban park designed to accommodate large numbers of people, socially distanced if required. This facility could host the best acts in the world, all performing with the Harbour Bridge as a backdrop. The SHOMB gives everyone access to green open space and world class music.



Habit8
David Vago



AWARDS

BEST STREET AND/ OR PLAZA IDEA

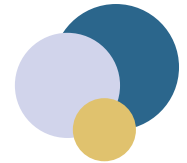
Reimagining streets including
plazas as places for people.

“... It’s about that social interaction, and as much as the current pandemic has really made us ‘cocoon’ more into our homes by necessity, I think we’ve learned that cocooning has its limits – and we’re actually social beings.”

Robyn Dowling, Head of School & Dean
– Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney
AECOM Talking Cities Podcast, Season 5, Episode 2

MY STREET IS A PARK

BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
WINNER



I look at my street and wonder why it can't also be a park

My name is Aisha. Our family bought a new apartment in Fairfield. We love our home, but we have to drive to a park for our children. It gets so hot here in summer it's almost unbearable. The heat makes it impossible for my mother to walk to the shops. I look at the street and wonder why it can't also be a park.

Aisha's family is one of millions who will buy an apartment or townhouse in the western outer ring suburbs in the next 40 years. A community who must be able to walk, in shade, to a park within 10 minutes.

This infill development is occurring now, but green space creation is not keeping pace with population growth. Our current approach to infill development means streets are becoming grayer, not greener. We must get ahead of this curve. We must transform underutilised public and private land in and around our streets into green space. We can use private developments as a catalyst to transform public streetscapes. By changing the rules, we can deliver a park to residents and provide a return to developers.

How? By looking at public and private land in our streets holistically – changing setbacks and offsets, closing roads, changing traffic movements and speeds, adopting shared permeable driveways, underground parking, median/blister, verge and private tree plantings, covered/underground powerlines and mixed tree planting to enable large trees to shade the road. The list goes on.

Will we re-write the rules to make this a reality?



Deakin University
Georgina de Beaujeu

RACE THE TRAIN!

BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED

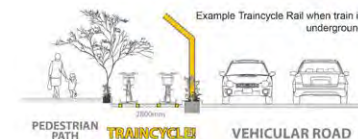
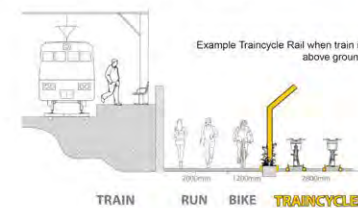
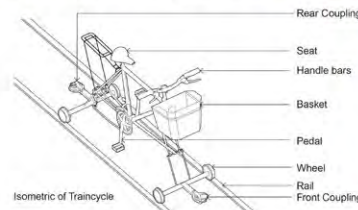
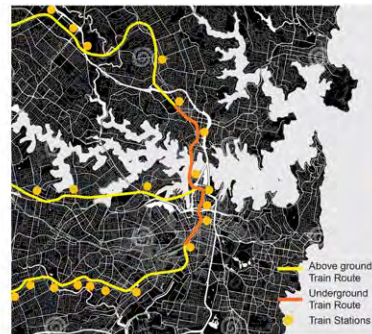


Movement networks that encourage a healthy and sustainable mode of transport

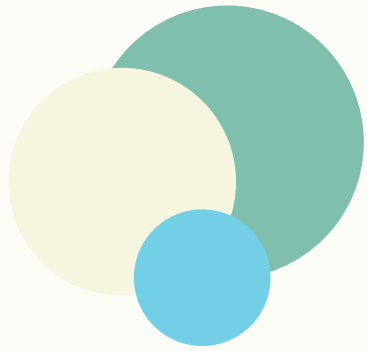
The idea reinvents the way people travel to and from work in the city. Every day hundreds of people gather in crowded train stations waiting for the train and neglecting social distancing. It is also very uncomfortable standing in a crowded train. The most common solution of alternative travel is cycling, however that entails having to push bikes up and down steep stairs, or taking ridiculous detours, in a narrow space shared with either pedestrians or cars.

This project changes this by taking the idea of the fast, static route of the Sydney metro and applying it on a bicycle – Traincycles! These Traincycles follows the route of the Sydney metro railway bringing people from station to station to and from the suburbs and the city. It promotes a fun way of travelling to work, where a commuter could potentially be able to beat the train and arrive at their destination earlier, hence the name RACE THE TRAIN. Parking stations for the traincycles will be available on all stations so commuters will have the choice of either taking the train or the Traincycles. Furthermore, each station will have small pop-up shop (such as small cafés, mini-markets or convenient stores) where a commuter could grab a coffee before continuing on their journey down the rails.

This project encourages people to be active by cycling down a safe railway track instead of waiting in a crowded train station and promoting social distancing.



GHD Woodhead (Adelaide)
Syarita Amalasar
Wani Chan



AWARDS

BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Identifying new open spaces
and rediscovering underused
open spaces.

*"If we design places for our communities,
our communities will own them, they'll care
for them, they'll love them – and they'll be
the places that we want."*

Helen Lochhead, Dean – Built Environment, University of New South Wales
Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

URBAN MICRO-MEADOWS

BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
WINNER



A Blacktown case study: Rediscovering underused open space to create resilient, connected and healthy neighbourhoods

"Our idea is to transform residual and underused open space into micro-meadows to connect to nature, protect threatened fauna and flora, beautify our neighbourhoods and improve health, wellbeing and safety for residents."

Many Sydney-siders are living in increasingly dense neighbourhoods with limited access to quality open space or opportunities to connect with nature. In some neighbourhoods, the only open spaces nearby are empty green spaces located on "residual land" that, due to their limited street frontage and location in the middle of residential blocks, serve little benefit to residents and provide limited recreational opportunities. Our idea will create a better life for Sydney-siders by turning these spaces into biodiverse micro-meadows, protecting our flora and fauna, and improving health.

A biodiverse micro-meadow will deliver a resilient public space by creating a habitat for more native flora and fauna to balance the impacts of urbanisation on our natural environments – by providing a comfortable and beautiful place accessible to the whole community to engage with nature; and providing a space where neighbours can meet, socialise and learn. A place they feel proud of.

Our idea is transformational, because it is changing the way we think about public space as areas of unencumbered green space – into areas that are beautiful, naturally established, and require minimal intervention or maintenance from humans. They are resilient places aiming to attract native bees, insects, birds and other wildlife, that are drought tolerant, increase water filtration and provide a place of respite for humans.



Cred Consulting

Abinaya Rajavelu
Sarah Reilly
Elise O'Ryan

SYDNEY QUAY

BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



The iconic Eucalyptus leaf restores Circular Quay's connection with harbour, people, nature and cityscape

Imagine a quay where you can buy fresh produce from a farmer's market for lunch as part of your morning commute to work, or ingredients for your family dinner before you board the ferry home. Imagine having a croissant and coffee lunch on a grassy rooftop, surrounded by plants used for traditional bush medicine with an unmatched view of the harbour. Imagine meeting a friend for a drink in a place where you can lay amongst the native gardens as the sun sets behind the Harbour Bridge, uninterrupted by the hustle-bustle of the CBD right behind you. Imagine stepping off a train into an expansive green sanctuary for a picnic with the family, right in the heart of Sydney. Imagine a space where the people who use it are the priority, a space designed to create a seamlessly accessible experience, and an emphasis on making the Quay a people place, a destination in its own right – a truly Sydney Quay.

Public spaces need to adapt and become more resilient to changes in climate, community and purpose. Envisioning a renewed destination that returns the public space to a human scale, the proposal prioritises pedestrians through a design focused on green, warm and ultimately shared community-based spaces and facilities while making the most of upgraded existing infrastructure locations and services of the Quay. This proposal creates a destination that facilitates bustling activity without overcrowding; green space full of sunlight with genuine connection to the CBD, an amphitheatre to harbour and cityscape.



Anonymous

LANCER BARRACKS SQUARE

BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



A new public square for Sydney's Central City

Parramatta has, and continues to transform, yet it lacks adequate public spaces for increased residents and workers. Currently only 0.03% of the Parramatta CBD has any form of accessible green space. Lancer Barracks alone will increase Greenspace tenfold in the CBD. By 2036, the population of Parramatta is forecast to increase by 65% to 154,000 people.

Hidden behind an intimidating security fence is the Lancer Barracks

– an historic but underutilised Australian Government defence site that could be repurposed as a new public square for the city.

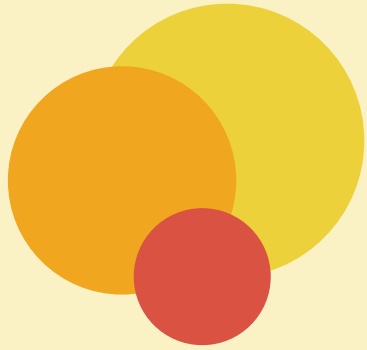
The Lancer Barracks is strategically located between two university campuses, the new Parramatta Public School and Arthur Phillip High School, Parramatta Square which will be home to thousands of new jobs, as well as Parramatta Station and future light rail and Sydney Metro West stops.

Opening up the Lancer Barracks as a new public square, alongside the new playing fields for the schools on the site of the former Arthur Phillip High School, would help to create up to 1.1 Ha of new green and public space to central Parramatta's limited public domain.

This proposal would take an existing prime location in the City of Parramatta that is currently closed to the community and transform it into a new space that would allow the community to forge a stronger connection with the site's rich military history and make it a new centre for recreation and social activity for the city.



Western Sydney Business Chamber
Chris Taylor



AWARDS

BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Developing demonstration, pop-up or pilot projects that challenge traditional thinking about public spaces and placemaking.

“One thing that I’m really passionate about is the reuse of poor or disused public spaces... We have so many places around the city that could be amazing public spaces but because of licensing or ownership or just a lack of imagination, they’re not able to be accessed.”

Eamon Waterford, Deputy CEO and Policy Director – Committee for Sydney
AECOM Talking Cities Podcast, Season 5, Episode 4

30 KPH LIMIT FOR NON ARTERIAL ROADS

BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW
COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
WINNER



Regaining a large part of the public realm for humanity

I am embarrassed offering the proposal to introduce 30kph to city streets as an entry in an ideas competition. After all, it is not a new idea and is already adopted in many cities around the world and even in Australia, including the central area of Manly and parts of Melbourne.

The ideas competition will come up with beautiful and inventive ways to make our streets more liveable as public spaces with, no doubt, a range of price tags attached. If, however, it is possible to reduce traffic speed down as low as 30kph the gain in truly public space will be considerable.

Streets become able to be enjoyed by young and old. Roads that were barriers become places of community interchange. At these speeds it is possible to judge gaps in traffic when it is safe to cross and drivers have the width of vision to spot children at the side of the road. At these speeds it is not necessary to build expensive separated bike lanes as cyclists are comfortable sharing the road. Front gardens and shop footpaths become places to linger and converse.

Of course it is not enough just to post a new speed limit sign but at lower speeds roads can be narrower allowing more room for footpaths and tree planting among other measures that together can change the feel of the space so that it becomes 'self-explaining'.

See the recent book *Slow Cities: Conquering our Speed Addiction for Health and Sustainability*, Elsevier 2020.



The Walking Volunteers

**Ian Napier
Paul Tranter
Rodney Tolley**

PUBLIC SCHOOL SPACE

BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW
COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Use of public school grounds on weekends and holidays

Most public schools have playgrounds, sheltered/unsheltered open spaces, sporting fields and toilets that may be utilised outside of normal school hours. By opening these areas on weekends and school holidays for use by the local community, it would mean that existing facilities would see greater usage and reduce the need to provide discrete areas in other parts of the locality.

Given that most school facilities have been designed to be highly accessible for all attending students, they would naturally also be accessible to most members of the public and would not need to be modified to suit.

For children who attend a school that volunteers to open its spaces, the grounds would serve as a meeting place that can be considered familiar and safe. By allowing children the use of these spaces outside of an educational context, it may possibly foster a stronger connection between the child and school.

By extension, opening the grounds for community use would also promote the school's image amongst the public, possibly increasing awareness, participation and cultivating a sense of value for the school and education.



Lawrence Huang

SYDNEY'S GUERILLA ART DAY

BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW
COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Capturing the mood of the city through art

If public space is everybody's business, then we have invited them into it and have collective conversations in this forum.

Guerilla art is for everyone, not just for just the privileged. We have the opportunity to turn under-utilised assets/public spaces into celebrated assets.

A Guerilla Art Day is designed to promote public art in redundant/under-utilised public spaces. It is an invitation for all artists – professionals, students and amateurs – to participate in this event across Sydney.

Concept: Artists/Groups of Artists/Art Schools/Universities/Colleges/Art Galleries are invited to create public art in public places on a nominated day. Artworks can then be photographed and put up on a specified social media platform and the public can vote to nominate their favourite work for awards, and money could be granted to the winners to support their artistic endeavours and make the ephemeral permanent.

Materials used must be biodegradable and not have any permanency. Chalk or other materials could be allocated to groups to ensure that all artists can contribute and not be limited by lack of resources. Emphasis to be place on re-using, re-interrupting materials to create installations.

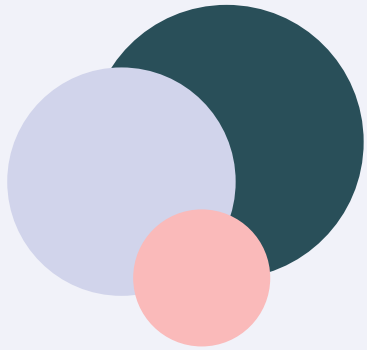
The idea is the transitory nature of art, events and place, a moment in time capturing the heart of the city through its art.

Public spaces could be allocated, alternative spaces could be excluded, otherwise footpaths would be allocated for inclusion.



*Indicative photography.
Competition image
available on the Public
Space Ideas Competition
2020 website.*

Kate Hannaford



AWARDS

BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Demonstrating how public spaces help enhance community resilience whilst withstanding disruption through resilience.

"To me, they're very much at the foundation of our democracy and this kind of easy, open access to a broad range of public spaces and facilities... is relatively unusual. It's a distinguishing piece of Australian culture and it's an incredibly important part of the life in cities and in towns."

Elizabeth Mossop, Professor of Landscape Architecture & Dean
– Design, Architecture and Building, University of Technology, Sydney
Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

UNLOCKING SOUTH SYDNEY'S NEWEST BLUE-GREEN GRID

BEST RESILIENT
PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
WINNER



Formed by the riparian parklands of Botany Bay, Sydney's active mobility network is now complete

The Botany Bay Blue-Green Grid rethinks how we use open space and water in South Sydney. The proposal unlocks 42km of continuous walking and cycling trails along the Wollie Creek, Cooks River and Botany Bay corridors. This concept reimagines a network of waterside, greener places with a diversity of programs and place activation opportunities.

The proposal enhances South Sydney's blue-green network by creating more publicly accessible blue-green space within South Sydney and Inner West. The corridors inform the creation of a variety of open spaces, linking local, neighbourhood and district level green spaces.

The Botany Bay blue-green grid revolutionises and repurposes the function of the existing underutilised and inaccessible creek areas and reveals their potential value in contributing to mobility, wellbeing, recreation and economic benefits; particularly through the opening of safe and active access routes to jobs and the innovation economy. A district waterside cycleway will connect the Inner West/South to the City of Sydney via the Alexandra Canal.

The South Sydney Blue Green network will be cherished and loved by locals and tourists alike, particularly as Greater Sydney experiences growth challenges over the coming decades. It seeks to increase the number of homes within 10 minutes walk to quality green, open and public space, in areas of Sydney where open space is already deficient or inaccessible. The proposal will contribute to creating cooler, happier and healthier communities in Sydney.

This proposal opens the door for precinct scale opportunities to reimagine a series of water oriented urban villages.



RobertsDay
Stephen Moore
Antonio Pozzi

Charlie Chen
Marc Tarca
Oleg Bilotserkevych



Reimagining roads as open spaces, where cycling is celebrated to become a major transport mode

Greater Sydney's Green Grid seeks to increase open space and encourage active transport. Yet the 2019 National Cycling Participation Survey shows the number of Australians who regularly cycle is declining, with NSW one of the worst performers.

While recreational use is comparatively high, transport use is relatively low despite high bicycle ownership.

At the same time, Greater Sydney's population is projected to grow into a mega city of 8 Million people by 2050, with the introduction of more tollways and 12 & 24 hour clearways across Sydney.

This effectively induces more traffic. Adding to the challenge, the Covid-crisis has the potential to lock in motor vehicle use over the longer term.

To encourage active transport use, a circuit breaker is needed.

In response, Sunday.Green is proposed. Aimed at encouraging Sydneysiders to take up cycling, Sunday.Green is initially celebrated once a month, with behavioural change achieved through longer term structural reform where cycling becomes a significant and sustainable transport mode.

While the detail is finessed in consultation with agencies, businesses and wider public, the concept is for key roads closed off once a month, to enable Sunday.Green cycling days.

The lane closures could be coordinated with local festivals and events, with Transport for NSW facilitating access via trains, where carriages are set aside for cyclists to encourage participation.

A pilot program could initially be rolled out for the City of Sydney and key centres.



Jeanette Brokman

GREENING PIPES TO COOL SYDNEY'S WEST

BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Creating the backbone of Western Sydney's green grid: expanding backyards, restoring waterways and connecting communities

Our vision to naturalise the 10km pipeline from Pipehead to Potts Hill reservoir restores the corridor to form a flourishing riparian landscape and interconnected green spine for Sydney's western suburbs and communities. Containing potable water pipework, this pipeline is a largely fenced off, long and wide corridor that homes 3 large pipelines of which only one is operational. Opening the reserve surrounding this pipeline and decommissioning the inoperable pipes will revitalise this linear landscape into community-loved infrastructure.

Continuing the success of the heritage-listed Lower Prospect Canal reserve, this new connection will engage with its surroundings and provide new opportunities for the local environment, economy and population. It will also be a corridor where community co-design is utilised to deliver a series of locally significant places that directly respond to the needs of the surrounding residents.

The length of the corridor provides opportunities for:

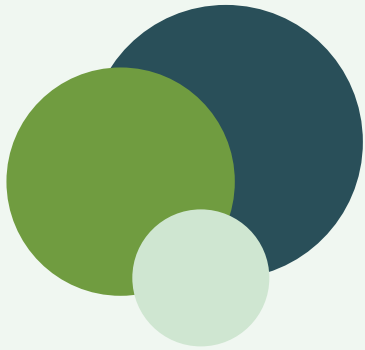
- Promoting cycling and walking within a connected cool and shaded open space network
- Localised and accessible food production to support increasing population in the area
- Flooding mitigation and sustainable water management
- Biodiversity improvements through extended connections for local and endemic flora and fauna
- Connection with Country and indigenous storytelling and education
- Art installations and story-telling of industrial heritage and water infrastructure
- Children's play spaces for a range of ages

Importantly, it will need to feel and be safe and provide equitable access for all its users. CPTED will be embedded to maximise use.



Arup
Lidia Lewis
Tessa Colclough

Glenda Yiu
Samyukth Pillai
Victor Caringal



AWARDS

STUDENT AWARD

Awarded by the four University Dean judges for the best submission from a tertiary education student.

“The Competition entries were wildly... different. You got a sense that these young kids were using their imagination to just go, ‘I want a pool on wheels!’, all the way through to ‘We actually have to think about the Cahill Expressway in a very different way’”

Wesley Enoch, Artistic Director – Sydney Festival
Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

COMMON(S) UTILITIES.

STUDENT AWARD
WINNER



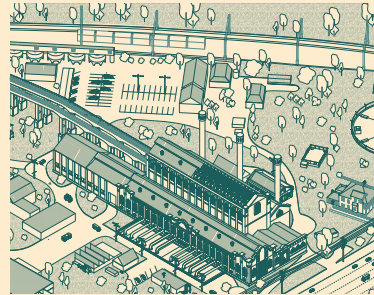
Re-imagining the civic potential and public ownership of Sydney's historic urban utility infrastructure

Utility infrastructure often occupies historic, strategic and contextually-significant sites within our cities, as anchors of civic density and transportation. It is within the satellites of pumping stations, plants and substations that the city's skin is punctured – its strange systems made visible.

Foregrounding both sustainable and civic aspirations for Sydney's future, Common(s) Utilities celebrates the historic beauty of country and the city's urban memory. The obsolescence of these sites is untenable and must be revisited in order to solicit greater value for the communities they service, accommodating not only new technical requirements but hybrid programming and clean energy.

Our civic ambitions need not be founded on a tabula rasa approach, but may instead seek the transformation of existing infrastructure to renew our communal supply of spaces of joy, social inclusion and culture, enhancing our ever-densifying urban fabric with a corresponding uplift in public amenity. These facilities will be nodes of a single cultural organism demonstrating exemplary standards in design, creativity and sustainability, an opportunity for a singular and visionary programme for the public re-development of state-owned urban infrastructure.

The proposal seeks to engage local built-environment practitioners through council-led open competitions, and community and indigenous consultation. It is more important than ever to focus our attention and resources on the communal spaces in which we gather. Renewed architectural engagement presents an opportunity to preserve these historic spaces in public trust, re-tuning them with good design for ongoing community use, inclusive access and cultural offerings to engage within a broader urban transformation.

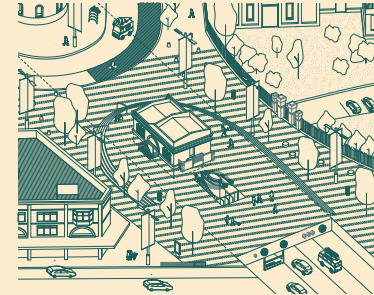


ryde pumphouse

Urban space program

- housing
- commercial
- culture
- recreation
- sports
- playground

The Ryde Water Pumping Station was completed in the years 1921-1923, and is of a high cultural significance for the role it served in the history of Sydney water supply. The site began as a steam-powered water pumping station in 1851, water was delivered from Pitts Hill Reservoir to a balance reservoir at West Ryde railway station, serving Sydney's northern distribution system until 1930. By 1982, the conversion to electrification was complete, greatly increasing the station's capacity. The site contains important landscape elements, such as a dedicated reservoir and elevated railway, and has the ability to demonstrate important and distinct phases of its history, as well as the course, or patterns, of cultural or natural history in New South Wales. The Ryde Water Pumping Station remains one of the largest and longest-operating water pumping stations in Sydney.

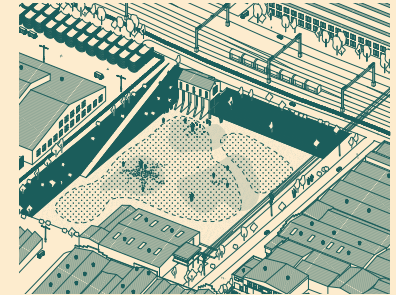


taylor square substation

Urban space program

- commercial
- art
- culture
- education
- food/bev
- recreation
- health/fit

The Taylor Square Underground Conduittes and Substation No. 6 were completed in the years 1904-1907. Together, they are part of a rare group of public utilities from Sydney's youth that first brought utilised infrastructure to public streets. Designed by Robert Hargreave Broadrick in an Edwardian brick style, these civic buildings have defined the identity of Taylor Square for generations. They have provided a setting to developments of national significance, such as gay pride activism since the first pride march in 1978, and as a continuing focus of annual Mardi Gras events. In recent years, the buildings have also hosted temporary art installations and events including the Cycle in Cinema by Magnificent Revolution and Camp Storewell by Annie Kennedy as part of the Taylor Square Temporary Art Program running from 2009-2015.



sydenham drainage pit

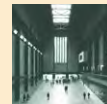
Urban space program

- housing
- commercial
- culture
- recreation
- landscape
- recreation
- art

The Sydenham Stormwater Pit and Drainage Pumping Station 1 were completed in the years 1925-41. Built in response to increasing urban expansion since the 1870s in an area prone to flooding, the construction of the basin was also a part of the government's Unemployment Relief Scheme, which provided critical jobs and income during the Great Depression. Whilst staunchly utilitarian in function, it was designed to deliberately generate an abundance of labour through work-intensive construction methods. Over a brick structure, the basin itself was lined in sparrow-pecked and dry-packed ashlar sandstone, whilst the pumping station perches atop a small corner of the pit on dramatic concrete fins. Today, the Pit and Pumphouse remain as major landmarks of the industrial landscape of Sydney, particularly as viewed from the railway.



landscape history
high line
new york



culture hub
late modern
london



housing
basins a flot
bordeaux



landscape art
superkilen
copenhagen



cafe and retail
substation extension
sydney



marketplace
monumenta
paris



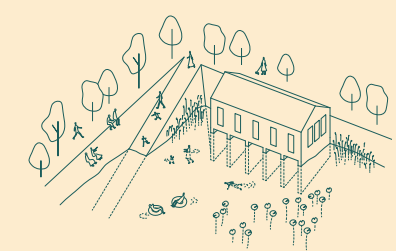
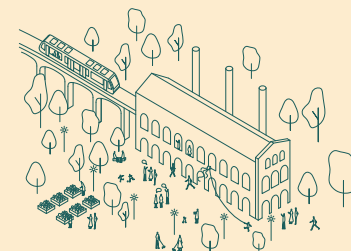
meeting place
civic square
bonn



water landscape
retention basin
sydney



temporary installation
ridley's pop up market
london



Janelle Woo
Gracie Grew

FLOAT

STUDENT AWARD
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Future learning of agricultural techniques

SYDNEY'S FOOD SECURITY IS UNDER THREAT!

Unprecedented changes to our climate have threatened the resilience of our most valued crops. Yet, despite the ever-increasing importance to grow and supply food locally, competing priorities have resulted in Sydney's land to be favoured for development rather than agriculture.

Evidently, in the event where major transport routes into Sydney become disrupted, it "could leave Sydney with only days worth of fresh produce"! (UTS 'Sydney's Food Futures', 2016).

Yet, unprecedented climate change is causing the sea level at Sydney to rise. Despite being a contentious issue, the havoc it will cause may instead be a 'blessing in disguise'. Sea level rise will happen and will provide Sydney's coastal landscapes with the opportunity to adapt to create innovative alternatives for agriculture and farming.

Testing the waters for something great, 'FLOAT' aims to transform Sydney's coastal communities into dynamic centres for modern agriculture and farming. Using innovative technologies such as aquaponics, 'FLOAT' will secure Sydney's future food system by moving it to our next most accessible asset – the water!

'FLOAT' will do this by providing a network of public open space to farm, research, and engage with the local community on such an innovative alternative for agriculture and farming. It will also provide places for Sydneysiders to be healthy, socialise, learn, and gather for local farmer's markets.

Therefore, the time is now for Sydneysiders and our coastal communities to 'just go with the flow', and embrace climate change to create resilient, yet productive working waterfronts.



Isabel Peng
Sara Curukovska
Elnaz Talebi

SYDNEY'S BIOPHILIC ALLEYS

STUDENT AWARD
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Adapting to climate and living with nature in an urban setting

What is to come of Sydney when climate extremities hit our living conditions? Past Sydney summers, we have relied on staying cool at home, and in air-conditioned spaces. These uses can affect power outages, heat waves, and cause further chaos. What if we could learn of a new way to experience cooler temperatures without the need for air-conditioning?

This design idea proposes a simple, ecological, and economical way of adapting to heat conditions in an urban environment such as the surrounds of Sydney's Central Station. Focusing on the Tunnels of the Goods Line South (stretching to the exit adjacent to the Bus Stops on Lee/Regent Street) and the Devonshire Street pedestrian tunnel.

By giving access to pockets of unused/derelict sites; knocking down barriers and opening these spaces. Allowing permanent shops to operate daily and frequently. Binding these ideas together through the form of passive ventilation cooling. Integrating permeable green barriers to entice the mental state.

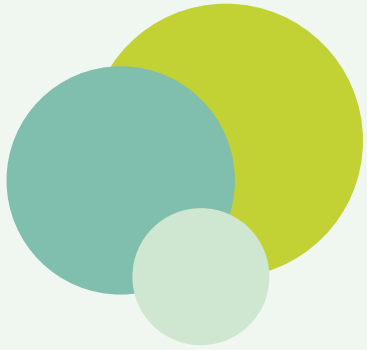
This project aims to better living conditions by reducing carbon emissions. Raising awareness and showcasing adaptability uses at a small scale: passive ventilation.

This project will deliver great public spaces by putting idea to practice. By collaborating with stakeholders on the value of intimate public spaces around Central Station. To create a network that can work under the model of an environmentally conscious business.

This idea is transformational as it instigates change in operations, businesses, culture, and self. For central station, the importance for living amongst nature in this uncertain climate.



Hao Tu



AWARDS

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD

Awarded by a youth judging panel for the best submission from children and young people aged 18 years or under.

“It was diverse... of ideas from low-scale to larger-scale. Everyone took the idea of innovation really well.”

Sarah Abudareb – Frasers Scholarship recipient,
Western Sydney University

Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

A BUSHLAND EXPERIENCE

CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE'S AWARD
WINNER



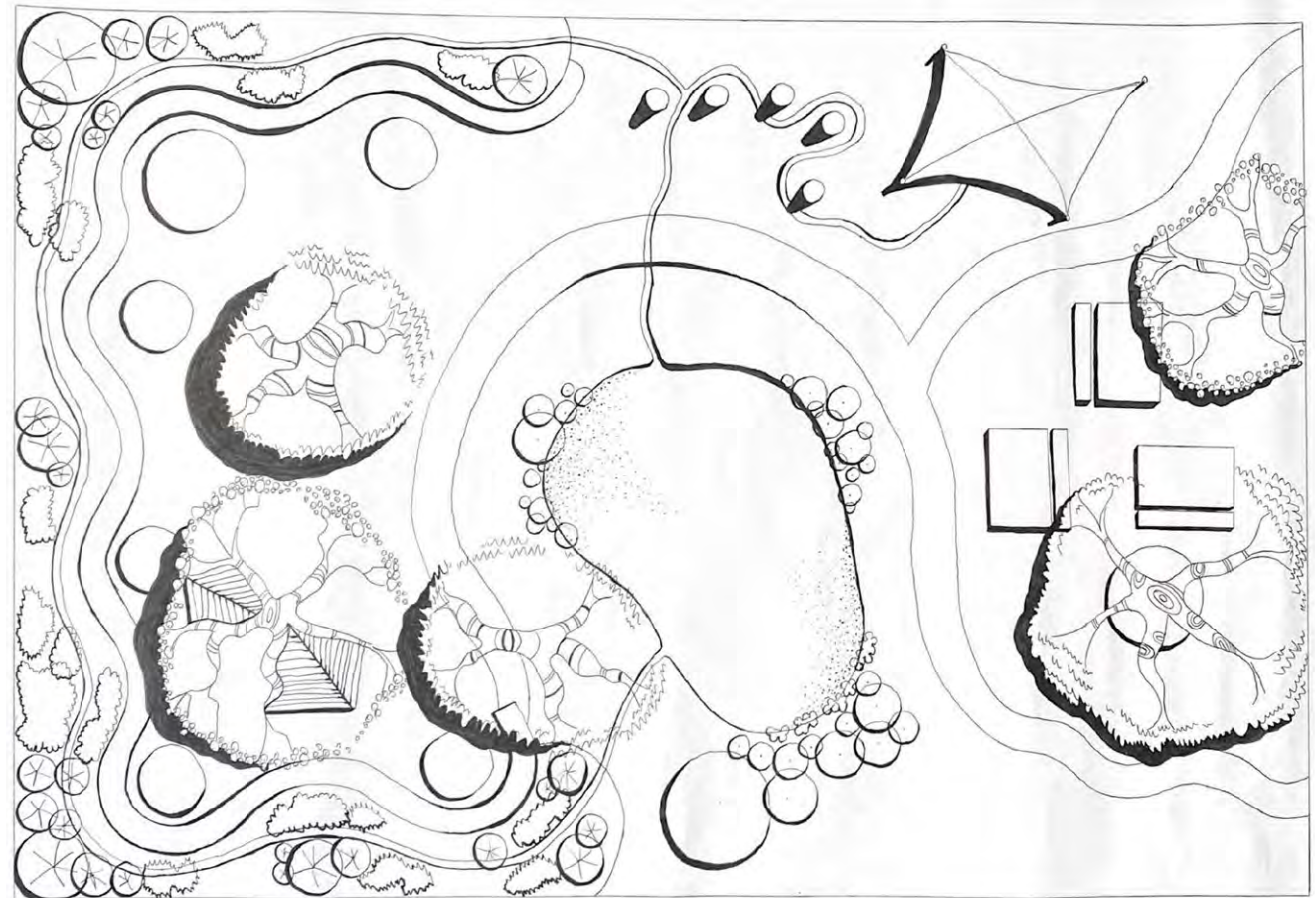
A bushland design by Bianca Hales and Molly Flanagan

By promoting an environmental appreciation, this design, 'A Bushland Experience', modifies the lifestyle of Sydneysiders.

The design transforms the traditional perception of public spaces, linking them to the wellbeing of communities and the environment. In this area of publicly accessible bushland, the path equitably accommodates wheelchair accessibility and bikes. The path intentionally curves to direct attention to the bushland, encouraging every Sydneysider to enrich social and mental health outdoors. Various seating areas, immersed in greenery, form a sanctuary from dense urban Sydney.

These interconnected communal areas contribute to a sense of community and place identity. Our design engages with children and encourages them to develop a connection to environment. A circuit of water extends around the poles in the children's area, using a sensory experience to create a playful realm, amplifying the social benefits of this public space. The water becomes an irrigation system as it spreads along the raised garden beds, ensuring our design delivers the environmental benefits of great public spaces.

Our selection of native plants encourages biodiversity and resilience, embracing the local climate and reducing overall maintenance. The overhead trees such as the Teddy Bear Magnolia, Brush Box and Snow Gum provide a cool canopy to combat the heat-island effect. Ultimately, 'A Bushland Experience' transforms the perception and purpose of public spaces, connecting people with the environment. Our design delivers great public spaces by prioritising environmental health and creates a better life for Sydneysiders by prioritising their wellbeing.



**Bianca Hales
Molly Flanagan**

FARMI-TECTURE

CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE'S AWARD
HIGHLY COMMENDED



Distributed local farming meets architecture to foster a thriving and resilient local food system using public open spaces

Once upon a time, people used to share their bounty with their neighbors and eat what they grew within days of harvest. It's an old school romance between production and consumption.

Today – most produce arrive at supermarkets 10-12 days after harvest, travelling thousands of miles, losing vital vitamins, nutrition, & freshness along the way. We have lost 30% of the farming land to unsustainable large-scale farming. Agriculture has taken up 70% of the world's freshwater and 70% of the food have traces of harmful pesticides.

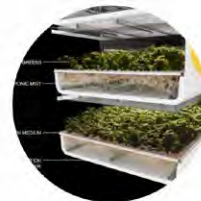
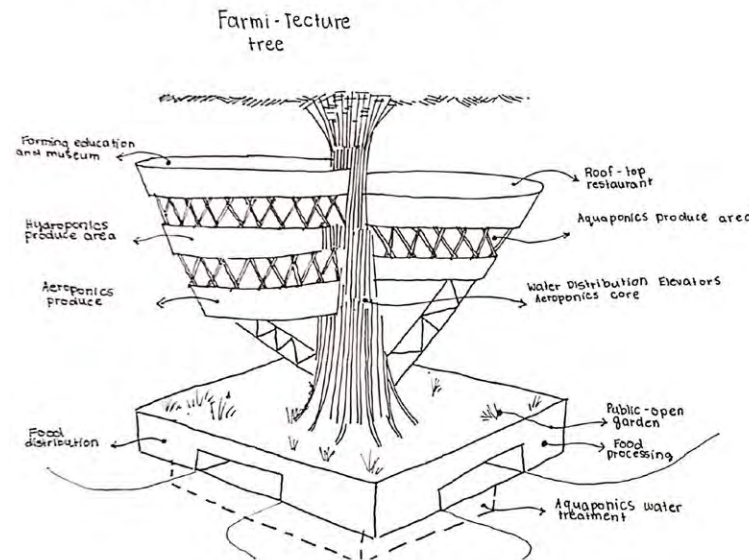
By 2050, we need to produce 70% more food to feed an estimated world population of 10 billion. Our current agricultural system cannot feed that many people, most of whom will be living in urban areas. To feed the future, where we farm and how we farm needs to be re-imagined and transformed especially post COVID 19.

Farmi-Tecture aims to bring cutting edge farming technologies such as Aeroponics, Hydroponics and Aquaponics that use less water, need less sunlight and minimal land into a commercially viable real estate urban structure.

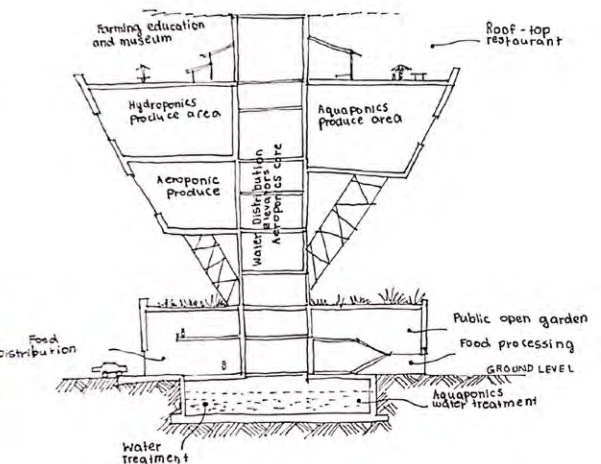
We aim to use unused public lands, under-utilized car parking spaces and under-threat retail shopping centers to build aesthetically pleasing light weight Mass-Timber based Farmi-Tecture Trees above them. Farmi-ecture will become a great public space as it will offer Sydney-siders easy access to healthy food by being located strategically near transport hubs.

These Farmi-Tecture trees are not only self-contained urban farming trees producing fresh vegetables but also an attractive third place beyond home and work for Sydney siders.

Farmi-Tecture



Farmi-Tecture cross-section



Baulkham Hills High School
Siddharth Shasidharan

Matthew Pearce Public School
Sahana Shasidharan

BOARD OF EXPRESSION

CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE'S AWARD
HIGHLY COMMENDED



A place to share your dreams, feelings and wishes

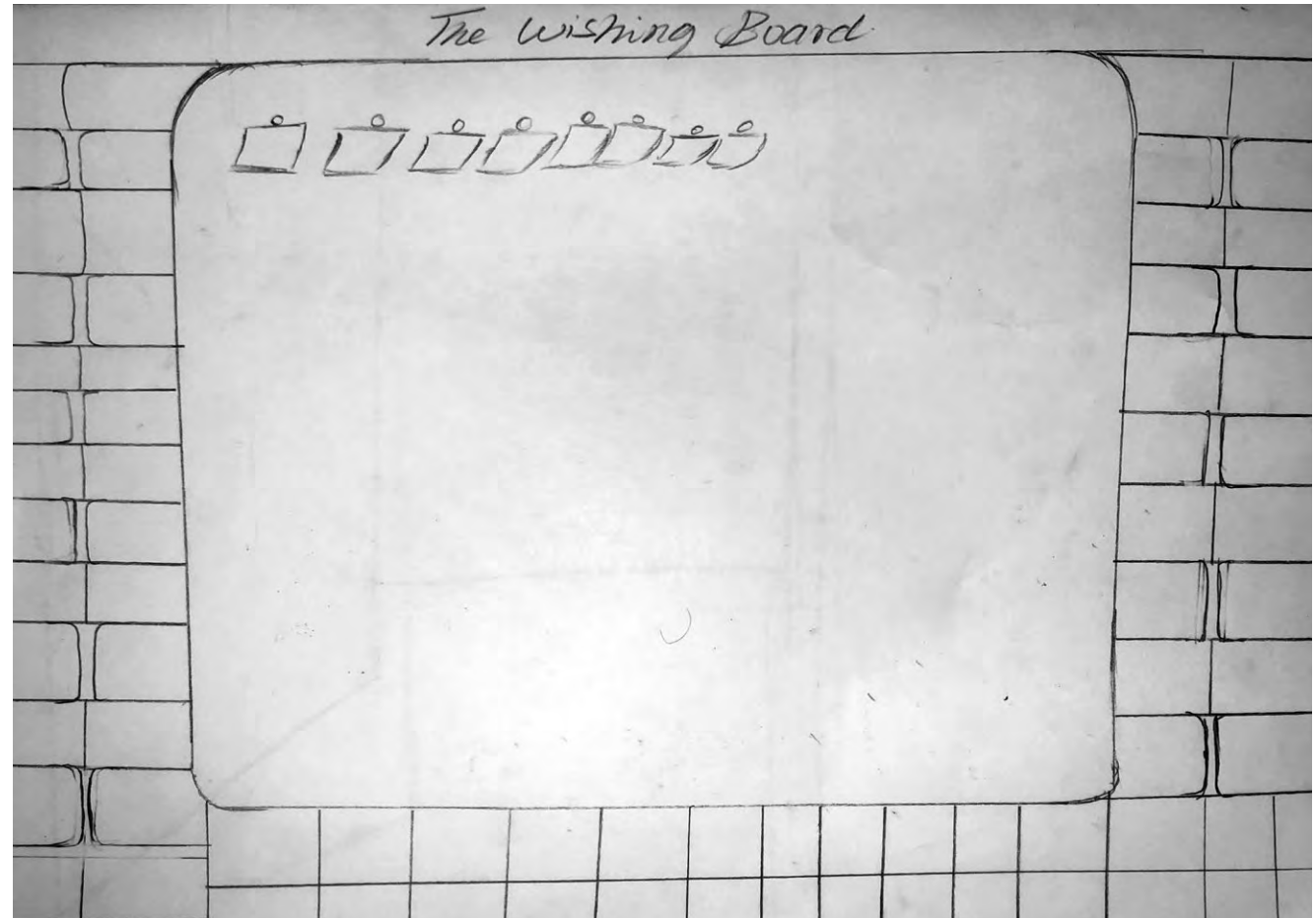
Do you feel lonely? Do you feel like speaking up? Do you want to be heard, and express your emotions? Mental wellbeing encompasses a wide range of conditions that can affect your mood, thinking and behaviour.

To address this problem, we have designed a "Board of Expression". The board can be used by the public for several purposes including: writing down feelings, a wish (hoping someone will read it and fulfill it), a quote, joke, a thought (something you think) or motivational comment to put a smile on someone else's face. Expressing your feelings helps change your mood and can improve mental wellbeing. Reading what other people have written on the board can also have an impact on your thinking and approach towards life.

The board will provide the community with economic opportunities as entrepreneurs may start setting up small businesses nearby to support the board (eg selling whiteboard markers, chalk, dusters etc to people who want to write on the board).

The benefit to Sydneysiders will be an increased awareness of wellbeing, mental health as well as a sense of community connection along with the opportunities for an increase in social and economic activities.

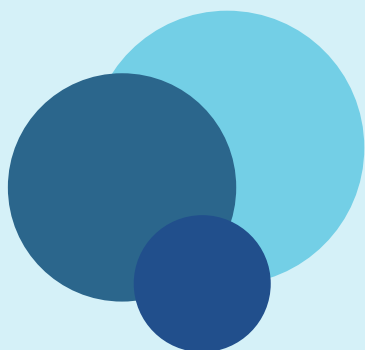
To prevent vandalism and abusive language there will be cameras operated and monitored 24 hours a day to maintain security. There will also be shelters to prevent the board from getting affected by weather. These boards can be located all over Sydney but this one is going to be in the park.



Wiley Park Girls High School
Iqra Adrees
Saniya Alam
Simran Akbar Ali
Merna Bakkour

Saleha Bano
Chahed Dennaoui
Farzana Farzana
Muniba Mehvish
Aishah Binti Mohamad Nazri

Shab Noor
Aayusha Subedi
Laiba Usman



AWARDS

MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES AWARD

Awarded by the NSW Minister
for Planning and Public Spaces,
The Hon. Rob Stokes MP.



“The Public Spaces Ideas Competition has been about capturing this incredible enthusiasm for local environments and turning it into ideas we can develop to reinvent and restore our neighbourhoods across the length and breadth of this amazing city.”

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP, Minister for Planning & Public Spaces
Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

GREENING PIPES TO COOL SYDNEY'S WEST

MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES AWARD
WINNER



Creating the backbone of Western Sydney's green grid: expanding backyards, restoring waterways and connecting communities

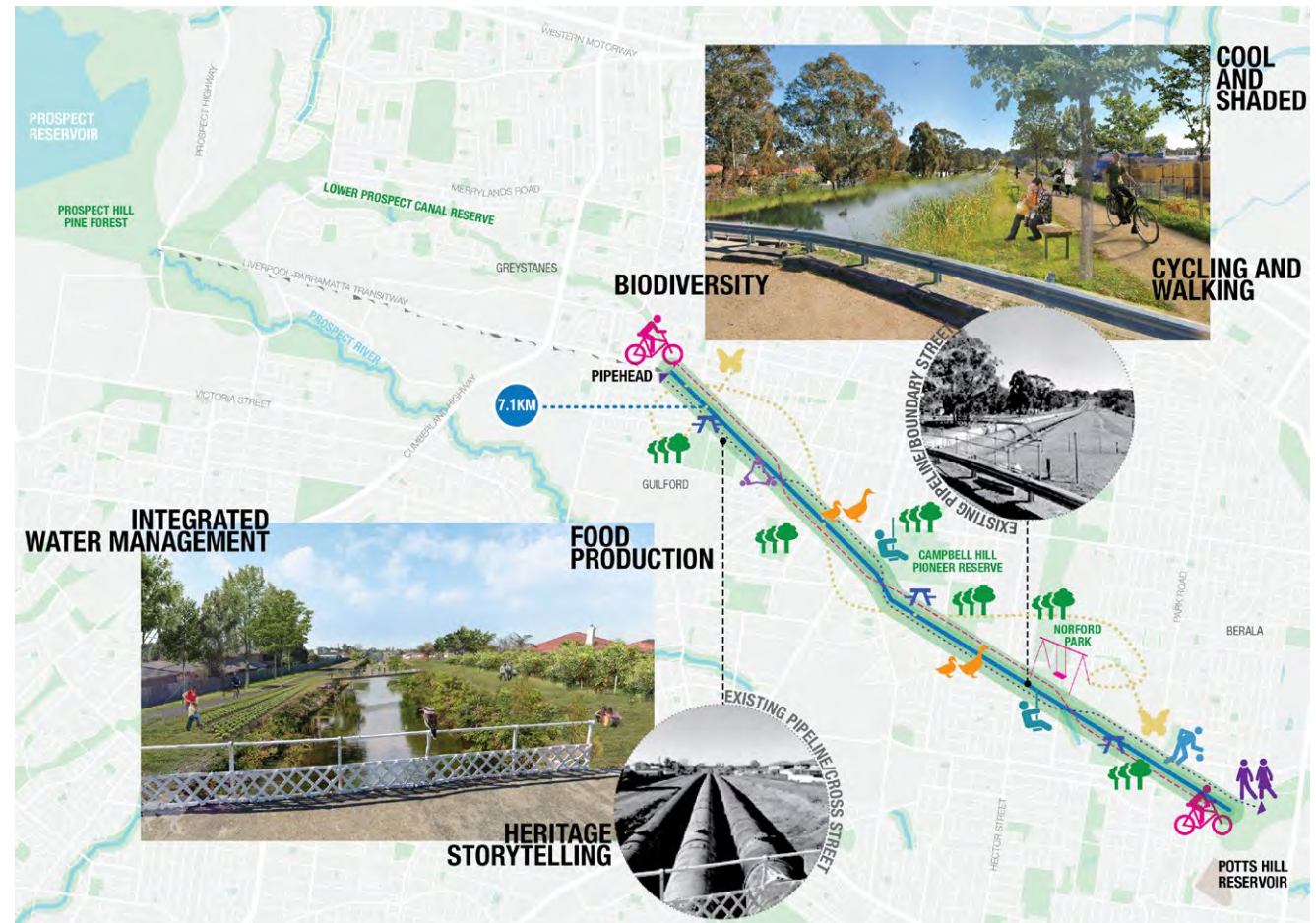
Our vision to naturalise the 10km pipeline from Pipehead to Potts Hill reservoir, restores the corridor to form a flourishing riparian landscape and interconnected green spine for Sydney's western suburbs and communities. Containing potable water pipework, this pipeline is a largely fenced off, long and wide corridor that homes 3 large pipelines of which only one is operational. Opening the reserve surrounding this pipeline and decommissioning the inoperable pipes will revitalise this linear landscape into community-loved infrastructure.

Continuing the success of the heritage-listed Lower Prospect Canal reserve, this new connection will engage with its surroundings and provide new opportunities for the local environment, economy and population. It will also be a corridor where community co-design is utilised to deliver a series of locally significant places that directly respond to the needs of the surrounding residents.

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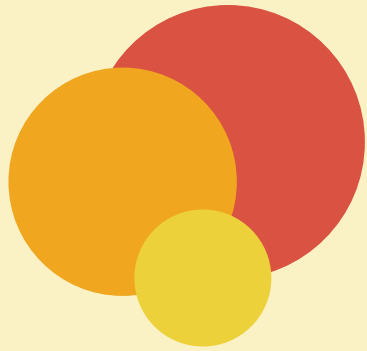
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- Biodiversity improvements through extended connections for local and endemic flora and fauna
- Connection with Country and indigenous storytelling and education
- Art installations and story-telling of industrial heritage and water infrastructure
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Arup
Lidia Lewis
Tessa Colclough

Glenda Yiu
Samyukth Pillai
Victor Caringal



AWARDS

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Awarded through a public voting program run on the website of the Sydney Morning Herald.

"Places don't have to be immaculate... People often love spaces that aren't technically perfect but because there's a sense of charm or character about them or because of the experiences people have had in those places, especially those shared experiences that create community."

Alex O'Mara, Group Deputy Secretary, Place, Design and Public Spaces
– Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

A BUSHLAND EXPERIENCE

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
WINNER



A bushland design by Bianca Hales and Molly Flanagan

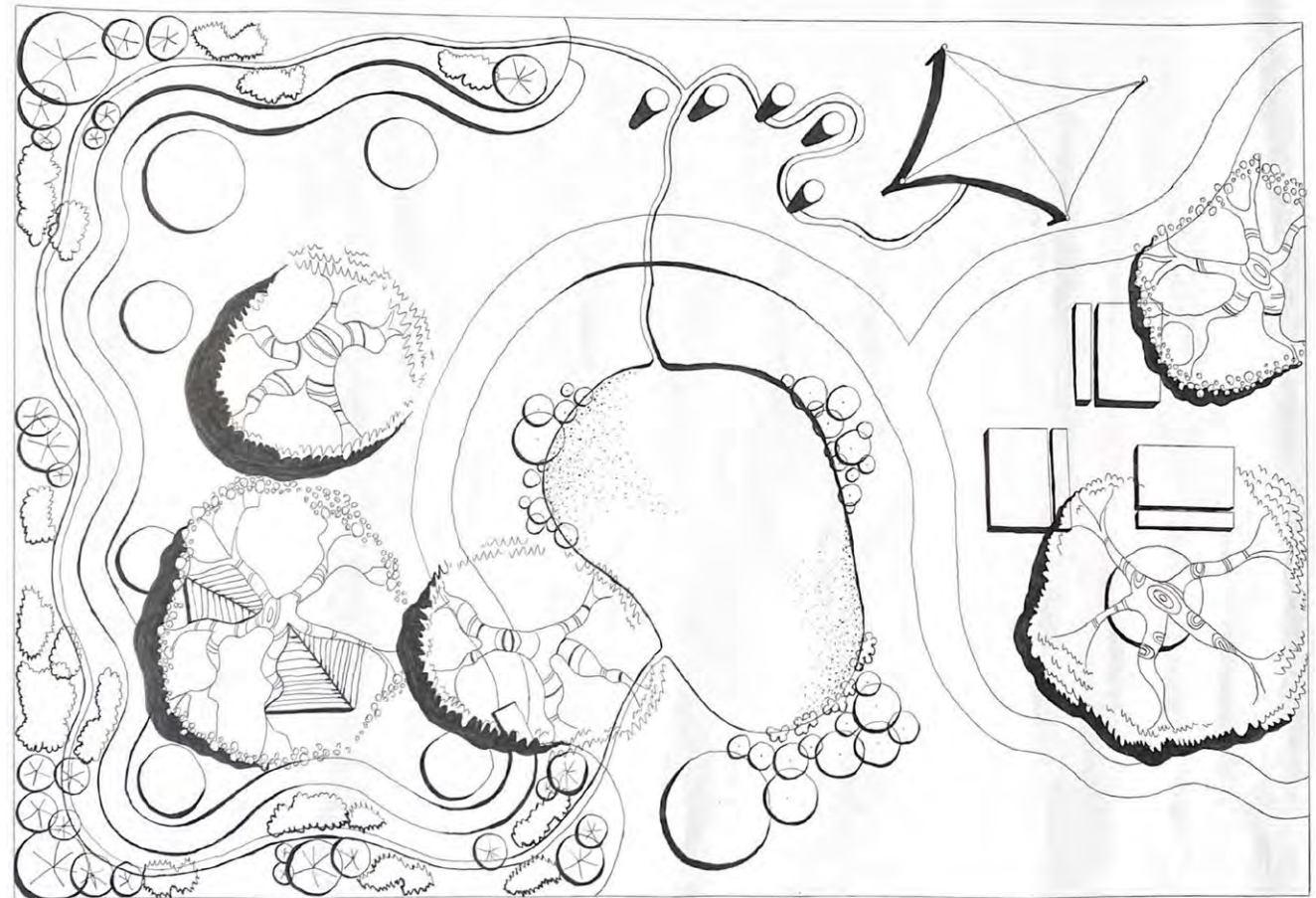
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Bianca Hales
Molly Flanagan



IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Entries that were additionally well-received by the Jury during the judging process.

“The competition was created with a simple idea in mind: to increase expectations for public space. To create a wider awareness and a bigger conversation about what public space in Sydney can be. And to seek bold and imaginative ideas...”

Michael Rose – Chairman, Committee for Sydney
Public Space Ideas Competition 2020: Official Awards Ceremony

The Australian Backyard

An Australian native community garden, the heart of every community laneway

Australian native community gardens will help link heritage and culture with social goodness. These community gardens will grow indigenous produce, which will be donated to either local food banks, or community members in need.

The Australian native community garden will partner with local schools to teach children about our indigenous heritage and agriculture methods. The project will also work with First Nations community to develop the vegetation concept and science program. This will enrich the education of children and provide a stronger Australian identity. Senior groups will also contribute to the indigenous community gardens, as an activity outlet, offering them participation within the community and interactions with local children, garden helpers and food bank helpers. Senior community member participation will further the social value of the garden and ensure that the young and old are able to earn, share ideas, engage in cultural experiences, and help their local community prosper.

Our idea has taken an unused area of a park or laneway, into a community hub where the young and old can offer their time and services to help others in their community. Individuals who help in the indigenous community garden will also learn about our heritage and new cooking ideas. Our idea will provide more social value to the park, improve community sustainability, and connect individuals within their communities in an educational manner.




The transformational aspect of the Australian native community gardens is its ability to bring together our indigenous heritage, learning, community connection, with social goodness.



Sally Hsu (Crone)
Sarah Zhang (Aurecon)

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Bondi Beach

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Imagine a Bondi Beach with no cars! Where the park meets the sea

Bondi Beach is Australia's most famous beach and is an extremely busy city beach. The beachfront is under utilized and cars dominate the landscape. The area currently consists of a number of disconnected elements that "collide" on site include two parking areas, a road, parkland, promenade and beach wall. This new vision for Bondi looks at re-establishing the natural topography of the area with rolling hills down to the sand. (referencing the old sand dunes)

The beachside road and parking has been relocated underground and the parkland flows down to the promenade increasing in area. The promenade then connects to the beach through long runs of steps and ramps. Built into the parkland hill are a few new restaurant offerings which providing a greater diversity of food and drink options, beachside and some spectacular opportunities for outdoor dining.

The parkland above the roof of the restaurants will provide a great surf check viewing area. Our vision for Bondi Beach brings the beach to the park and activates the shoreline similar to other European city beaches. A transformation like this would increase the soft landscape to create more useable green space for people, a better and more fluid connection to the beach and enhance the scenic beauty of Australia's most famous beach.



Habit8
David Vago

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Bush Food Public Spaces

Let's fill our public spaces with indigenous food

Let's fill up our public parks and green spaces with plants that can provide a backup source of food available to anyone. Plants that are resistant to pests and drought, and that can also teach us about our indigenous citizens.

Examples include: native grasses like Kangaroo Grass that can be used to make flour, berries like the Midgin Berry or Pepper Berry that could replace blueberries, grapes, tomatoes and pepper. Citrus alternatives such as the Finger Lime. Fruits like the Davidson Plum, nuts like the Macadamia and Bunya, green leafy plants like Warrigal greens and Pigface that could be used in salads, and so many more.

As well as providing an indigenous educational experience, filling our public spaces with native foods will provide an outdoors activity for foraging groups, and habitat for native animals.

These gardens would be low maintenance, drought tolerant, and engaging. They would also have the architectural features similar to many public gardens now being developed.

It embraces a part of our heritage that has been ignored for many years, and begins the conversation on how our food can change to suit the environmental conditions found in Australia now and in the future.

A simple google search will find hundreds of native substitutes for the foods we eat.



David Buckley

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Open Glenbrook Tunnel

 BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
 BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

To activate the old Lapstone to Glenbrook rail tunnel

The old Lapstone to Glenbrook Rail tunnel is currently closed to the public and is an important piece of local history. It started as a railway up the Lapstone Hill connecting Sydney to beyond the Blue Mountains. It was also used during World War 2 as storage to the nearby RAAF Base. Most recently it was used for commercially growing mushrooms.

It currently sits dormant and is the missing link to safely once again safely connect Penrith and the Blue Mountains. There is significant cultural and heritage connections to the local community and amazing benefits to open it to the public.



Adam Podolski

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Bondi Rescue

 BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
 BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Campbell Parade becomes a new park to connect Bondi's urban edge to the beach.

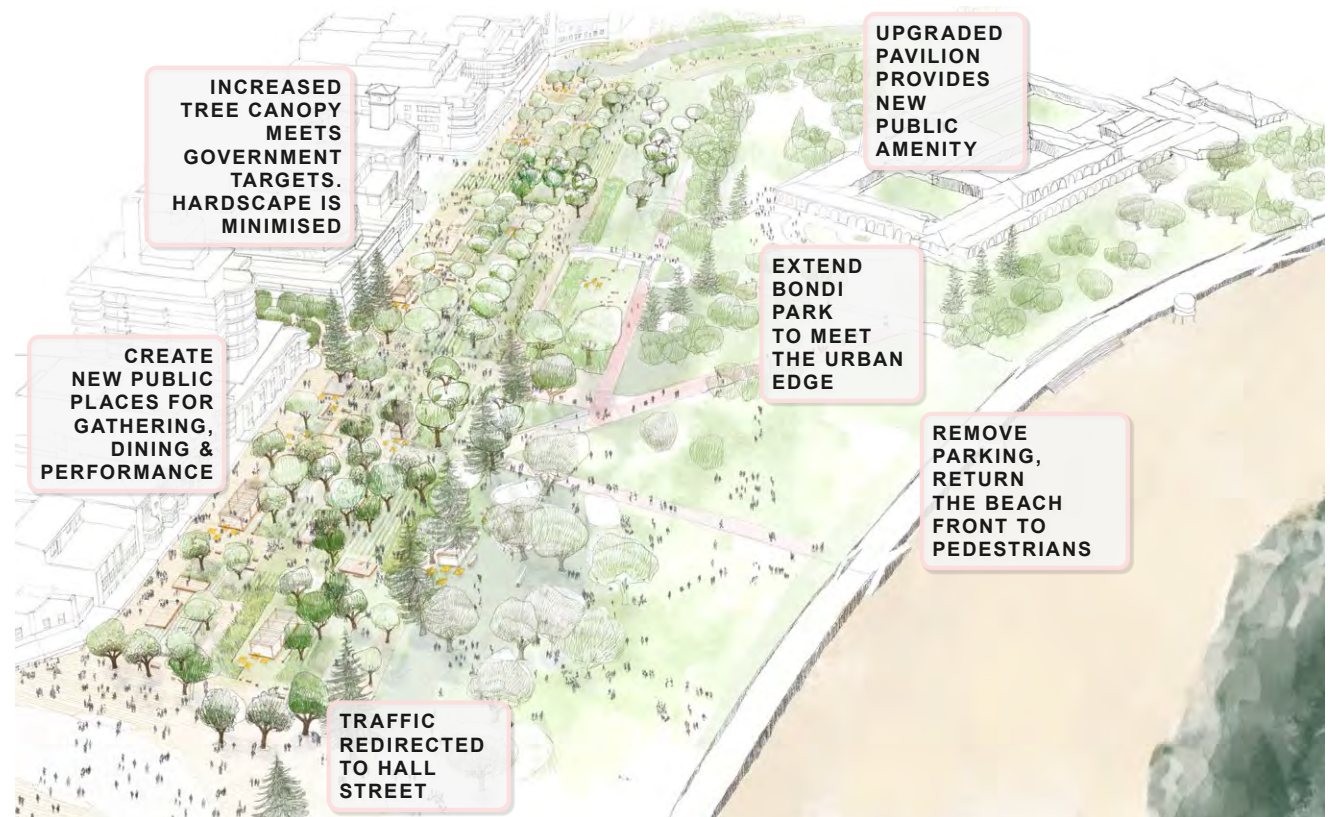
Campbell Parade provides the street address to the world-famous Bondi Beach. It is the place where Urban Sydney meets the Coast.

Bondi Beach attracts over 2.9 million local and international visitors every year, yet the public space that adjoins it is dominated by hardscape, lacks trees, has poor public amenity and is choked with traffic. The traffic is self-generating. Vehicles are stuck in an endless loop searching for parking – creating a hostile environment for pedestrians and cyclists. The street, historically designed to be a connector, severs the flow of pedestrians to the beach and ultimately results in a public experience that is uncomfortable, uninhabitable and unsustainable.

By re-imagining the role of the street there is great ability to enliven the social, economic and environmental vitality of Bondi and its surrounds.

To achieve this, Campbell Parade is closed to traffic between Hall Street and Beach Road. The park is extended to the shops to create a truly democratic pedestrian and cycle centric public space. The street will be returned as a platform for the theatre of life. People dine, gather and perform in a realm that is not designated by cars or zones paid for by businesses. Planting replaces asphalt, trees replace barriers. People occupy the park, beach and sea.

This bold transformation of one of Sydney's most important streets will establish Bondi as truly a unique place. A place to remember and revisit.



ASPECT Studios
Jessica Hodge
Keegan Lovell

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Woolloomooloo Way

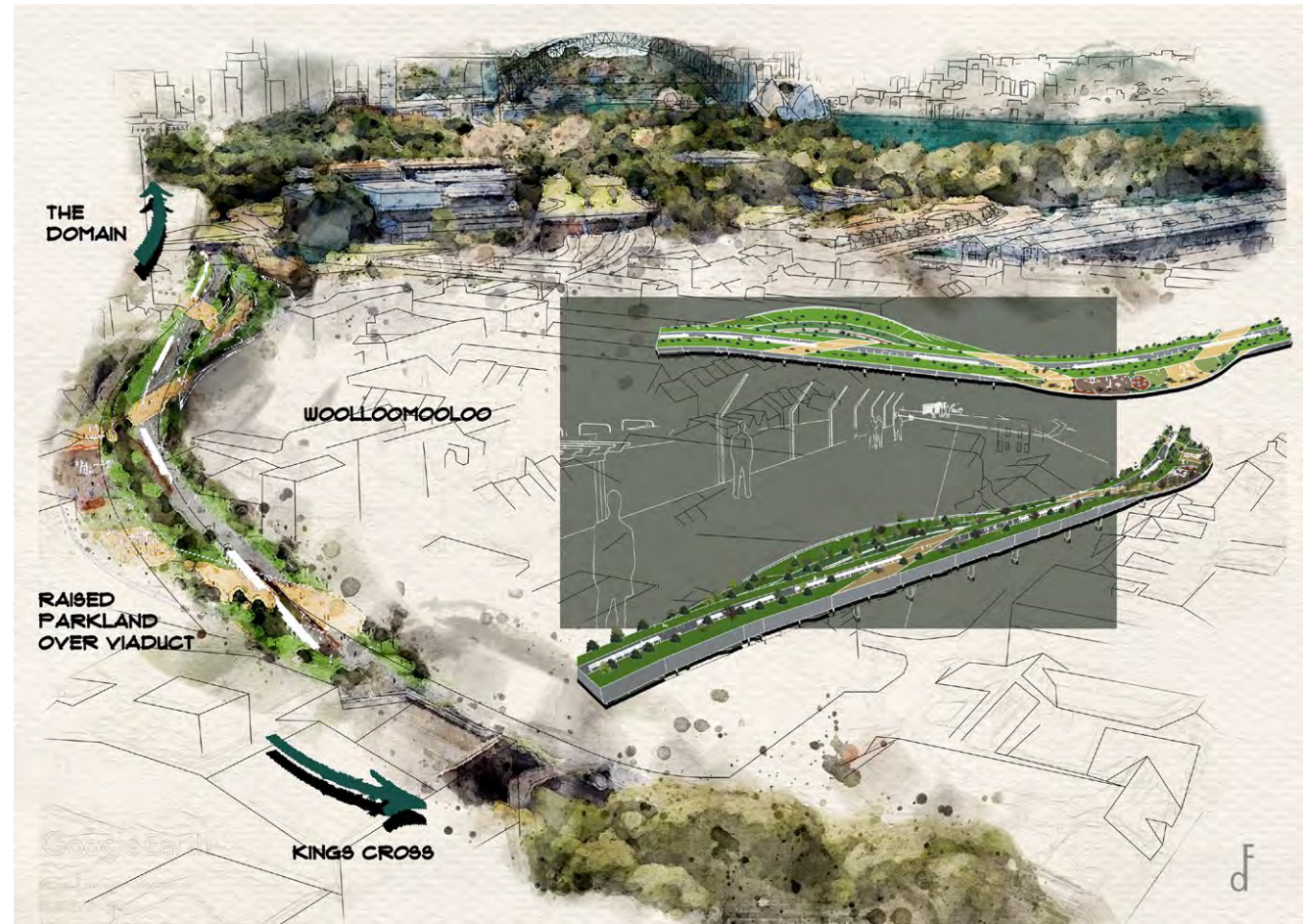
-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

A linear parkland over the existing viaduct between Kings Cross and The Domain

The life of a city is not derived from individual destinations, but by the nature of the fabric woven between. The quality of this fabric permeates the lifestyle patterns of the occupants producing an outcome which is greater than the sum of its parts. Woolloomooloo Way is a proposal to create a linear parkland over the existing viaduct between Kings Cross and the Domain, feeding into Woolloomooloo along its route. This path would encourage active transport within densely populated Potts Point and the CBD, increasing the health of its occupants, health of the transport network, the health of adjoining businesses and the health of the City.

Active transport networks have the ability to nourish and restore its users through the natural effects from biophilia and exercise. As they're often used daily, this accumulative affect can have a transformational influence on the life and wellbeing of its users. Woolloomooloo Way is an egalitarian, beautiful, green, and comfortable parkland which stitches Kings Cross, Woolloomooloo and the CBD together in a way which encourages people out of their cars and homes and into the public realm, the lifeblood of our cities.

This idea will transform the interaction between the Eastern Suburbs and the CBD, offering a beautiful and enjoyable pedestrian and cycling alternative to William Street; opening the gateway to the Art Gallery, Royal Botanic Gardens and the Harbour beyond.



David Forward

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Streets are Shared Spaces

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

#togetherapart #peopleovercars #staylocal

Being together apart, prioritising people over cars and staying local are core to the 2020 lifestyle.

The global pandemic (unprecedented for many in this generation) has fast-tracked the inevitable shift from car-dominated cities to people-centric spaces and places. If anything, this isolation period has highlighted the appetite for Sydneysiders to fall back in love with their locale, and swap driving for walking. The five-minute city puts high streets back into focus and reprioritises them within Sydney.

Shared streets can be achieved through a series of easy steps. From replacing carparking with temporary active lanes, movable planting, parklets, markets or Sunday street fiestas, Sydneysiders can make small changes with a big impact. Ideas can be implemented quickly, tested and adapted to suit. The proposed steps can be used to curate high streets to the needs of Sydney locales, with the end goal of successful permanent shared streets.

The idea focuses on what it means for a street once filled with cars to be now mostly filled with people. A full re-balance of users where the community takes centre stage. It builds upon what Sydney already has and leverages on existing community assets: our high streets.

STREETS AS SHARED SPACES #TOGETHERAPART #PEOPLEOVERCARS #STAYLOCAL



Urbis
April Tehan
Lorena Garcia Martin

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

A Jungle in my Pocket

BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA

Do you want to try to overturn the concept of Urban Jungle?

Is the urban jungle an unpleasant place? Our proposal wants to contradict this statement by putting it upside down!

How we do that? We intend to develop plant-inspired strategies. By integrating them into a plant-based project that makes design sustainability a goal, shareable by all on the ground users.

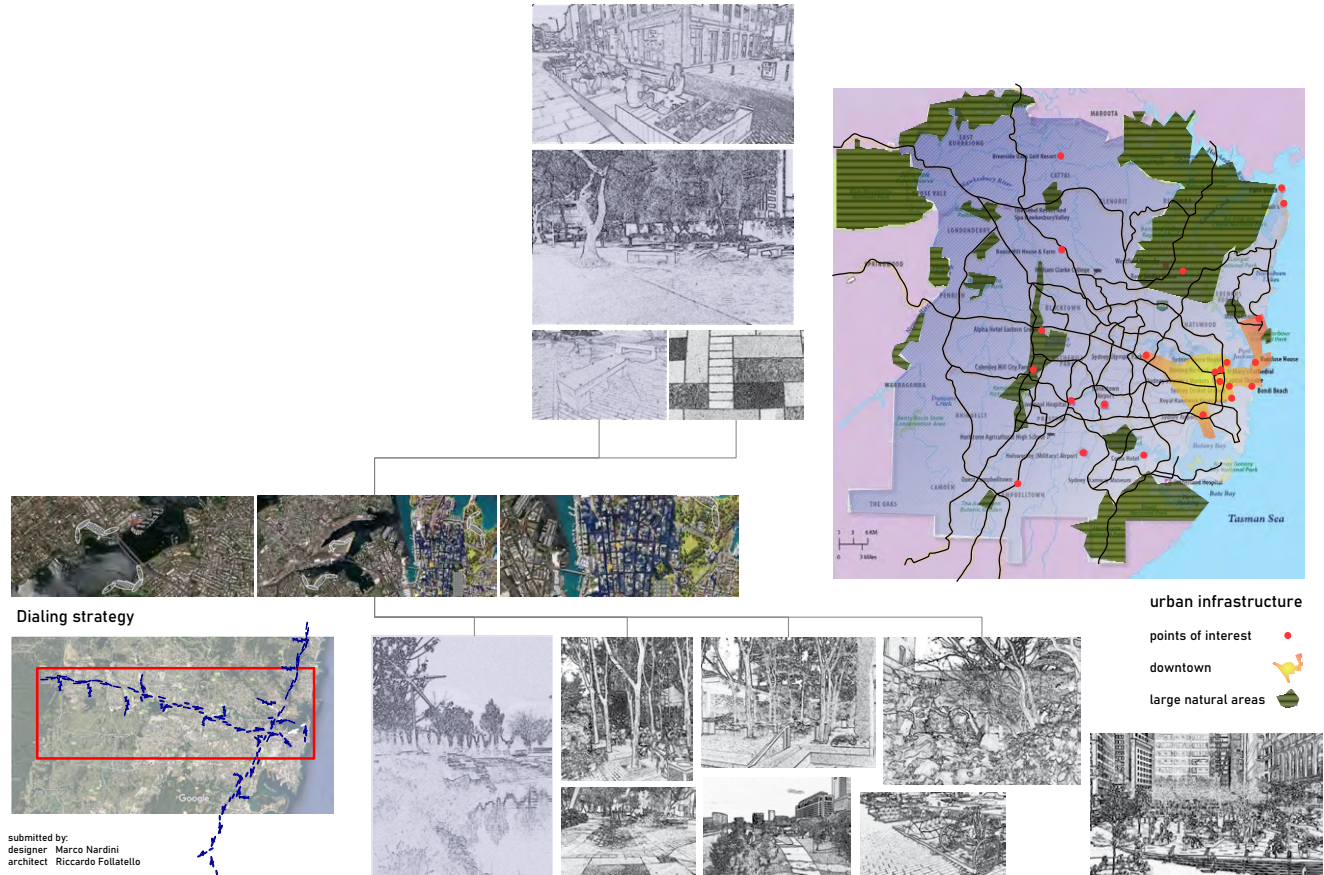
Keywords of this proposal are: urban forestry, air quality, green sewing, plant resource management, urban gardens, waste cycle assessment, biomass management. Something that hosts a maximum of biodiversity, just like a jungle.

Our POCKET JUNGLE is achieved by planting trees and plants in strategic areas, with a phytopurification of contaminated parts and a build of productive gardens.

Converting mineral surfaces into plant walls, redeveloping abandoned or degraded areas, implementing awareness, disseminating and co-designing projects aimed at the involvement of inhabitants.

What else? Interstia, reductions, relocations, distance points, contaminants, spread, gentrification are definitely warning signs. A risk profile but also perhaps a potential cure.

Finding a way to their transformation into something that's positive it's everyone's duty.



submitted by:
 designer Marco Nardini
 architect Riccardo Follatello

Marco Nardini
Riccardo Follatello

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Skinny School Streets

Eliminating parking within a 650m radius around schools to enforce a 10-minute walk to school

In 2018, a survey from Heart Foundation's Live Lighter suggests more than two in three Australian children and teenagers are being driven to school. NSW had the highest proportion of parents who said there was too much traffic on the roads for their children to walk to school (69 per cent). Other research is now suggesting where you live affects your health and how our neighbourhoods can encourage environmental-induced inactivity.

Safer, wider, shaded, and playful pedestrian areas around all schools can be created by eliminating parking (bus and disability parking exempted) within a 650m radius around the school to enforce a 10-minute walk from the car to school. These new skinny streets are created by converting parking lanes into new pedestrian areas with tall shade trees, wider footpaths and playful tactical features to encourage a daily journey of nature discovery.

The school then becomes a green centre of the neighbourhood. These skinny streets can extend as green corridors that could connect schools to shops, preschools as well as public transport and other services. These green hubs could have 40% more tree canopy cover, and this in turn would benefit entire community.

In this modern world reducing convenience through forced behavioural change is an unconventional approach, however the skinny school streets will have a strong and positive impact on all aspects of children's health and well-being. At the same time improving each of the neighbourhoods involved.



FRD
Eve Bartolo

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Community Park(ing)

What if we built carparks as adaptable structures that evolve as our community does?

Carparks in central locations are an opportunity to rebuild resilient long-term structures for public and community benefit. 101 Goulburn Street has great potential in Sydney's CBD, a Council-owned carpark located over a railway line.

This carpark should be rebuilt with prefabricated massive-timber elements, topped with a lush, rooftop park. This community rooftop will add an elevated public space in the city. The proposed elevated park should contain a productive and cultural landscape garden, in light of the successful precedent that Yerrabingin has set for sharing Indigenous tacit knowledge. Loops of external circulation will ensure that the rooftop can be accessed from Castlereagh, Elizabeth and Goulburn Streets.

Due to the limiting nature of low ceiling heights in carparks, the carpark will be designed to enable the removal of every second floor, easily achieving 4.5 metre ceiling heights. As private vehicle usage subsides, the prefabricated structure can be infilled with day-lit community spaces including: a multi-purpose hall, indoor sports, recycling workshops, technology hub, Indigenous youth centre, maker-space, co-working studios, and vehicle-sharing hubs.

This idea challenges the notion of a carpark from being a static, single-purpose-built facility to a transformative framework that can accommodate several community uses in a strategic location. Although we currently rely on private car ownership, technology and co-sharing platforms will enable alternative modes of mobility in the future. Through resilient structures, we can provision for future community spaces in place of cars, exchanging private ownership for increased collective agency.



Tiffany Liew

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

A Harbour for All

BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

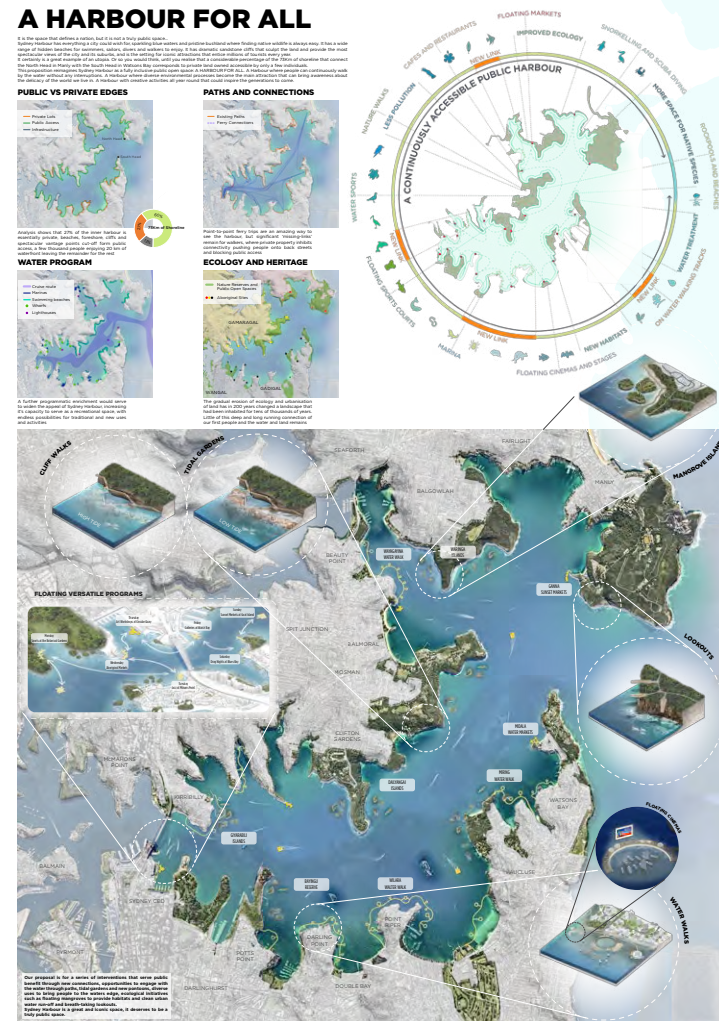
Sydney Harbour is a great and iconic space. It deserves to be a truly public space.

It is the space that defines a nation, but it is not a truly public space...

Sydney Harbour has everything a city could wish for, sparkling blue waters and pristine bushland where finding native wildlife is always easy. It has a wide range of hidden beaches for swimmers, sailors, divers and walkers to enjoy. It has dramatic sandstone cliffs that sculpt the land and provide the most spectacular views of the city and its suburbs, and is the setting for iconic attractions that entice millions of tourists every year.

It certainly is a great example of an utopia. Or so you would think, until you realise that a considerable percentage of the 73Km of shoreline that connect the North Head in Manly with the South Head in Watsons Bay corresponds to private land owned accessible by only a few individuals.

This proposition reimagines Sydney Harbour as a fully inclusive public open space: A HARBOUR FOR ALL. A Harbour where people can continuously walk by the water without any interruptions. A Harbour where diverse environmental processes become the main attraction that can bring awareness about the delicacy of the world we live in. A Harbour with creative activities all year round that could inspire the generations to come.



e8urban pty ltd
Joe Rowling
Javier Arcila

Connie Yan
Florencia Vespasiano

Nura

An interactive app heightening cultural awareness and celebrating Sydney's Indigenous community and history.

Defining characteristics in establishing a sense of place, are one's connection to the environmental, social, visual and cultural aspects of the land they reside on. 'Nura' in the Gadigal language translates to 'place or country'. 'Nura' is an opportunity to re-imagine the public spaces of Sydney through a digital overlay, using augmented reality, geolocation, imagery and soundscapes to revive the unspoken and dormant Gadigal language and awaken the stories cumulatively contributing to the Eora Nation's vibrant history.

'Nura' contributes to Sydneysiders' and visitors' Indigenous cultural competency, allowing for the understanding and establishment of connections to places, artwork, artefacts and midden sites which they may be unaware of.

The app presents the opportunity to engage with Sydney's Indigenous community; elders, artists and organisations who will be invited to share their insights and stories, adding a richness and vibrancy – a virtual trail transforming Sydney's public spaces, both suburban and within the CBD.

'nura'
 no-rar
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'nura' uses geolocation and has a search feature pinpointing sites of Indigenous significance throughout Sydney.

featuring artwork by Indigenous artists and works of Indigenous significance.

identifying Sydney landmarks...

presenting information about midden sites, artefacts and places with evidence of inhabitation by Indigenous mobs and tribes.

an educational tool using augmented reality to recognise objects, providing a translation and explaining the Gadigal language.

celebrating the work of Indigenous organisations.

...and providing the cultural significance of these sites. Using augmented reality to show how sites look prior to European settlement.

suburban

city fringe

CBD

PUBLIC SPACE IDEAS COMPETITION

Submitted by: Stephanie Austin & Joanna Ahtypis from architectus

Architectus
Stephanie Austin
Joanna Ahtypis

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Could the Community Develop + 'Own' their Local Parks?

Park Foundations enable residents to collaborate to improve their existing parks + create new parks

What's the issue?

We need more parkland if we are to ensure every Sydneysider can access quality open space within 10 minutes. This means investment. To meet this challenge, we need to look at innovative ways to fund the management of existing parks and develop new parks.

What is a Parks Foundation?

Active in the US and UK, Park Foundations are one way to enable residents to collaborate to improve existing parks and create new parks. These independent, non-profit, organisations are set up to support parks across an area, such as a suburb, with time, expertise and privately raised funds. While land remains government property Foundations and Councils work together to evolve greenspaces in an area (Nesta, 2020).

Why could they improve access to quality green space?

Imagine if a Parks Foundation could assist a community to close part of their street to make it into a park, transform underutilised space into a community garden, or improve park maintenance and activation. A Parks Foundation Board incorporates landscape architects, managers, local business owners, and the local community – a powerful mix of skills, expertise and emotional investment focused on improving green space access for their community.

Let's explore what a Parks Foundation could do for our community.

www.nesta.org.uk/toolkit/how-set-parks-foundation/

www.nesta.org.uk/feature/rethinking-parks-parks-foundations/



.....IS TRANSFORMED INTO A COMMUNITY HUB BY LOCAL RESIDENTS THROUGH A PARKS FOUNDATION



Georgina de Beaujeu

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Cliff-top Public Walking Track Adjacent to HMAS Watson

A new cliff-top walking track showcasing the extraordinary beauty of Sydney – its coast and Harbour

The 80km Bondi to Manly Walk connects the existing coastal and harbour-side public walking tracks between Australia's two most famous surf beaches.

The Walk is the product of unprecedented collaboration between Aboriginal Traditional Owners, fourteen landholders from three levels of Government and our very small not-for-profit charity. This proposal fixes the missing link in the Bondi to Manly Walk by continuing the trail from The Gap through to the South Head Heritage Trail, along the clifftop eastern boundary of HMAS Watson.

This land is currently owned by the Royal Australian Navy and the proposed walking track would be designed to have no impact on HMAS Watson – ensuring Base security and privacy. A clifftop path between Gap Bluff and South Head would rank as one of the most scenic and dramatic walking tracks in the world.

It would help protect, preserve and enhance the natural environment and public land traversed by the Walk. It would enhance understanding of the area's extraordinary environmental, cultural, indigenous and heritage values. And walking promotes health!

This idea would provide an unparalleled walking experience for Sydneysiders and visitors to Sydney alike. Substantial economic benefits would follow. Establishing a walking track along South Head's clifftops would be of immense significance to Sydney.

It would open up an extraordinarily beautiful part of Sydney, transforming an area which has been closed for generations. This proposal would be hugely beneficial in assisting to make the Bondi to Manly Walk the world's greatest urban walk. It would be a towering legacy.







*The Walking
Volunteers,
Bondi to Manly
Walk Supporters*

**John Faulkner
Elle Pacholski
Ian Napier**

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Cartwright Agriculture Hub

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Transforming Cartwright's green spine to a place of community pride

The idea is to rejuvenate the connected pedestrian and cycling pathways within the Cartwright housing development in Liverpool LGA with a community lead agricultural hub.

Cartwright is Radburn style neighbourhood with a series of cul-de-sac roads to the back of the house and a shared front lawn connecting to open space. Like many Radburn style neighborhoods, the vision didn't eventuate. The lack of use has led to poor passive security and safety issues which is being exacerbated with residents installing high front yard fences.

The idea transforms the underutilised open space to a place of local community pride with a unique agricultural hub, a community garden and an area for beehives and biodiversity to thrive. It gives the open space a purpose and can be used by all members of the community whether it's for an agricultural hobby, to collect free herbs and honey, a place for children to learn about the agriculture or to simply enjoy the place. Excess produce could also be sold to generate money to reinvest in the space. The idea will provide an enjoyable, direct connection for pedestrians and cyclists to their local shopping centre and facilities in Miller. Improved wayfinding, it will also encourage sustainable travel behaviour for short local trips. This idea brings activity to the space increasing the passive surveillance of the space improving the perceived safety of the area.

Other features could include interactive lighting along the path, a children's and elderly low impact play areas and stalls for the agricultural hubs produce.



Rachel Kohan
Ed Steane
David Petrie

Jo Carmichael
Tim Atkinson

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Bridgeridoo



An annual weekend Aboriginal arts festival on the bridge – it’ll be Sydney’s biggest ‘do’!

The Sydney Harbour Bridge is a symbol of connectivity extending far beyond the two shores of the harbour. It also joins the Eora and Ku-Ring-Gai Aboriginal Nations. Its many thousands of hand-driven rivets speak of its origins as a depression-era recovery scheme, as does its immortal thirst for yet another coating of cold steel-grey paint.

Today, the vast black roadway is constantly crawling with cars and congestion. What if we could reimagine our city’s streets as places for more joyful activities?

This is Sydney’s greatest public realm opportunity. Let’s create an annual weekend-long reconciliation-themed festival. Giving the bridge back to the community for this event would enable us all to come together in one great space between the sea and the sky, helping us to bridge the gaps between our countries, peoples, and cultures. Such an event for people and the arts could also contribute to the local economy as a covid recovery scheme.

Painting would be the theme of the festival – reimagining the bridge as a giant immersive art gallery. We could chalk or paint the roadway in indigenous-inspired designs, and paint the many faces of the people in all their diversity. Come nightfall, fires could be lit in drums for gathering, storytelling, and dreaming.

It wouldn’t matter if these vivid colours fade with the passing of time, because the bridge will all get painted over again next year!

Let’s call it “Bridgeridoo”? It’ll be Sydney’s biggest ‘do’!

*Subject to Aboriginal community consultation.



Murray Active Design
Peter Murray

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Cahill Park

 BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
 BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Once there were parking lots, Now it's a peaceful oasis, You've got it – David Byrne

The Cahill Expressway is unnecessary and obsolete! It serves as another route to the Eastern suburbs when a faster one already exists. We rally that it should be given back over as public space that gives everyone access to one of the most coveted views in the world.

We need public outdoor space, for our emotional, physical and mental health. The Covid 19 Pandemic has demonstrated the importance of access to urban parklands with the search for outdoor and climatic human needs has become more valuable than ever. With more people working from home, and likely to stay that way, public parks are increasingly required as a breakout space from the home. WHO considers ventilation (as well as social distancing) as one of the strongest mitigation against transmission of Covid. More well planned and central urban spaces are required to maintain the overall health of our citizens.

Just as the High Line has done for New York, we propose that the Cahill Park become an internationally loved and highly visited landmark to Sydney Harbour. Its elevated platform above the train lines sets the perfect viewing platform for the performance of Circular Quay, The Harbour Bridge and Opera House.

This 500 meter long new park will be heavily greened space that accommodates both pedestrians and cyclists. It will included external exercise parks, lawns for leisure, tree canopy for solar and wind protection, have landscaping that is engaging and full of biodiversity and most importantly be an island of calm and escape.

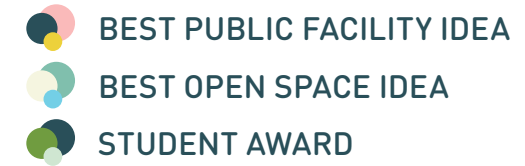


Five at Heart
Pablo Alvarado
Mark Rossiter

Jemima Manton
Lachlan McDougall

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

The Community Garden



Tumbalong Park Community Garden

The project is a proposal for a community garden located on the 90th round at Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour. The intention behind the community garden is to provide a one-size fits all plot of land for those who live or work in the Darling Harbour surrounds.

The brief for the project is encapsulated by the poem:

*An everyday destination
For those who live or work close by
Yearning for local produce
And facilities to grow their own*

*An easy stroll to the garden during your break
A market that's on the way home*

*To make a hearty meal
To give back
To contribute*

The proposed model for the community garden includes stacked floors, semi-transparent floor materiality to ensure sunlight penetration to all floors, a radial organisation of planter boxes and uniformity in planning ensuring that the structure, water and irrigation services can align between floor to floor without disrupting the spatial organisation of the subsequent floors above and below.

The "green floors" are primarily open, allowing the natural elements to aid in the growth of the crops as they would in a natural agricultural setting. Meanwhile the waste and water cycle within the community garden is characterised by its human-scaled processes. At times, their actions may seem isolated however each member of the community must understand that they are part of a larger whole. Each person is to work with the whole community garden organisation in mind.



Liezl Pajarin

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Connecting Central

Returning Sydney to Central Station

Historically, tar and tracks have eroded the public domain surrounding Central Station and have devalued much of its charm, creating exposed environments where people no longer feel safe or welcome.

To be treasured among the world's grand stations, Central must become a lively, memorable destination, that reflects Sydney's identity as a diverse and vibrant City as Part of Nature. Buildings and infrastructure cannot be dividers of public space but should support people and landscape connections that build vitality.

To start this journey, we elevated the Grand Concourse roof, providing access to a new public park above the station platforms. An extensive landscape deck with nature areas, food gardens and stalls, provides a sunny, protected vantage point with unique vistas of the Sydney skyline. The concourse invites nature, light, and air inside, creating a spectacular landscape conservatory.

The rooftop park reconnects Surry Hills to the CBD, while landscaped roof decks over the tram ramps connect Belmore Park up to the Station Podium and onto the Central Plaza tech hub making it the new green anchor tenant for the neighbourhood, providing access to desirable and healthy inner-city living. The northern façade of the station is activated to overlook a pedestrianized plaza as a much-needed Central Square for celebrations and civic events.

The Connecting Central project embraces the public domain as the green heart of Central Sydney, catalysing a revolution in city-making and sending out a connecting blue / green lattice of multifunctional infrastructure that turns public facilities into vibrant places for people.



Square One
Landscape Architects

Mark Saint Pol
Julia McLachlan
Werner Venter

Hugo van Niekerk
Luke Coughlan
Gavin Cook

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Conserving the Mulgoa Valley for Future Generations

Protecting the Western City District's scenic and cultural landscape

By 2050, the rarest asset within the Greater Sydney area will be rural landscape: simple, uncompromised farming land. Sophisticated infrastructures of public space are needed, but they are built, renewed, replaced. Rural landscape, like wilderness areas, is as necessary to urban communities' wellbeing as more structured amenities, yet it cannot be recycled, renewed or replaced.

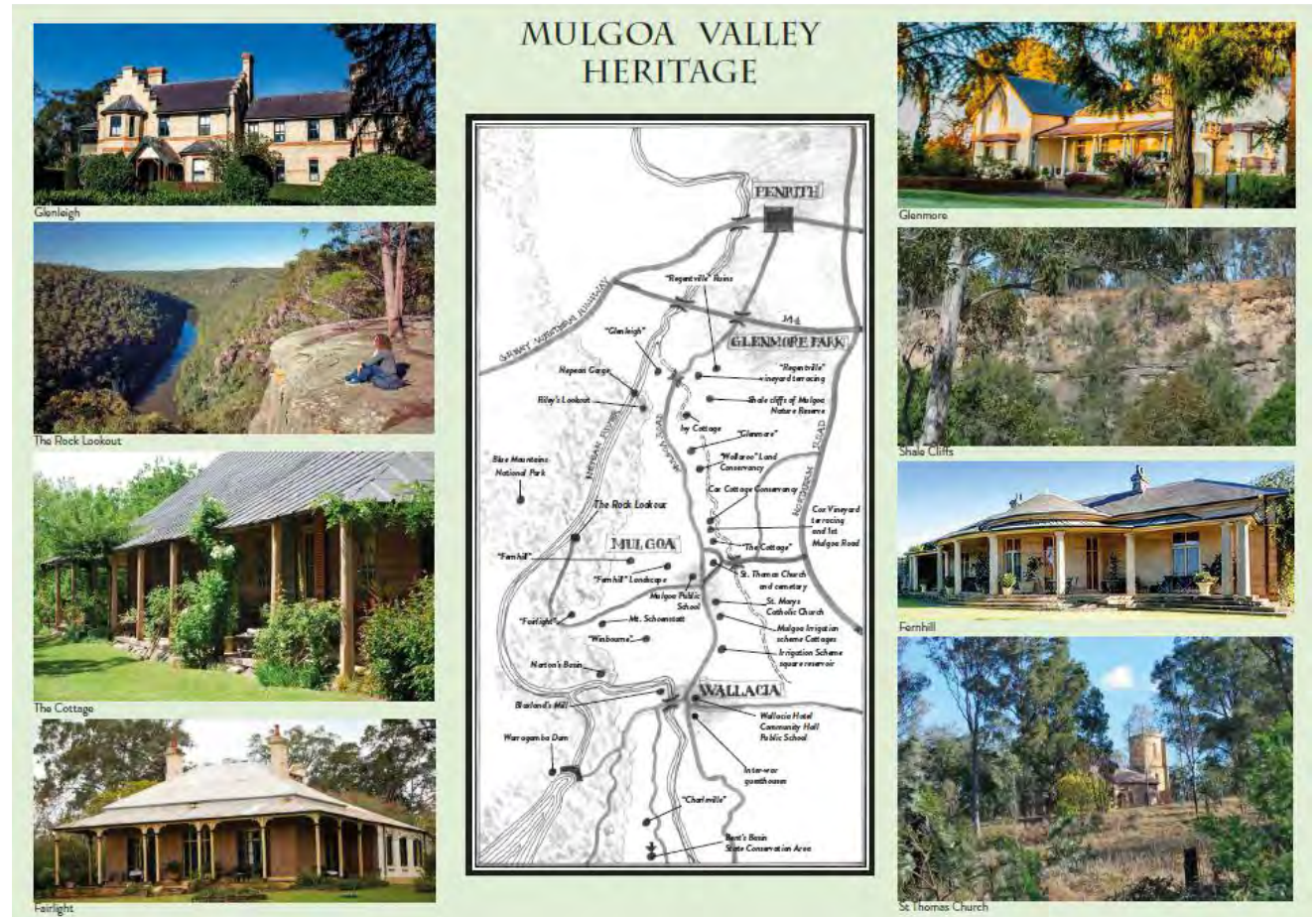
The most innovative, permanent and beneficial contribution to Sydney's public spaces would be the assured conservation and promotion of a unique area of outstanding natural and cultural beauty (AONB) for the enjoyment and health of future generations.

Mulgoa Valley is the last unspoilt rural landscape in the Greater Sydney area and the richest in historic, cultural and natural sites. Established and protected in similar ways to the AONB sites in the UK, the well-defined Mulgoa Valley offers the potential for long term enjoyment of public space, well beyond that of site-specific projects.

The potential of such an AONB for active and passive recreation – walking, cycling, bird watching, visiting historic and natural sites (e.g. Fernhill) or simply appreciating scenery, wildlife or farm animals – is immense.

The foresight to preserve the rarest of open space in the Greater Sydney area for the enjoyment of future generations and their appreciation of our societies' cultural and natural history would surely be seen (as the dedication of Centennial Park in 1888 now is) as innovative and exceptional.

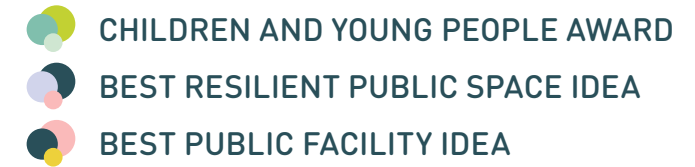
For statements of the cultural and natural significances of the Mulgoa Valley, see Penrith City Council Scenic and Cultural Landscapes Study 2019: <https://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/images/documents/council/council-business/Enclosure%203%20-%20Penrith%20Scenic%20Cultural%20Landscapes%20Study%20for%20Exhibition.pdf>



Friends of Fernhill and Mulgoa Valley
Patricia Barkley
Dr James Broadbent

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Eden's Haven



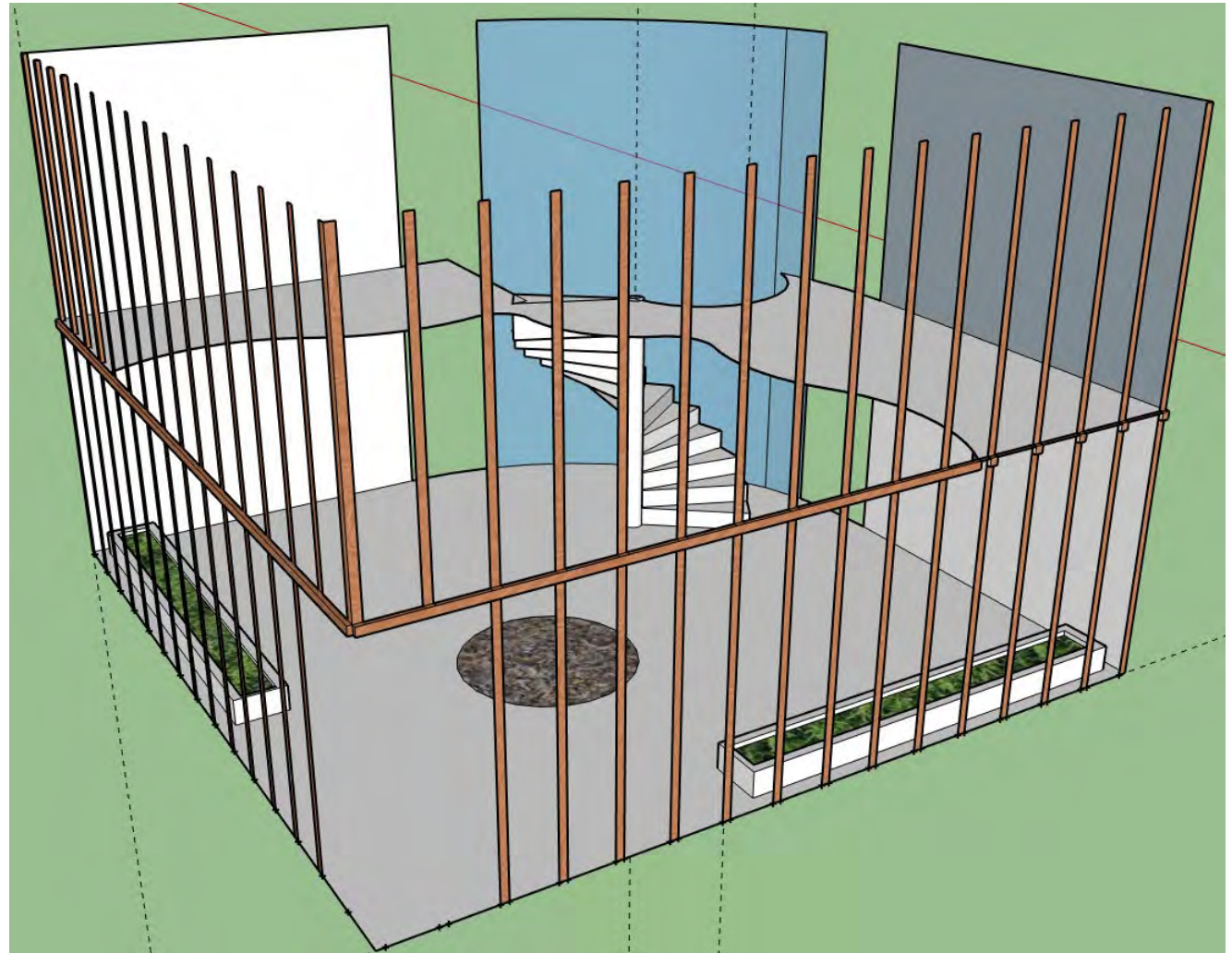
A natural space for rest, study or relief from the city outside

In Sydney's city, I feel as though there is not enough reference to nature. So, for the people who are sick of seeing big skyscrapers and pollution dousing the air, I have created a space for them to enjoy: Eden's Haven.

Although this may not be a park, it is a small space of green that can fit into the congested city allowing people relief from this. I liked this design as it can create different perspectives. It may look like a prison to some people, but I like to think of it as it trying to keep everything else away from the nature. It has a tree in the center (where the marble circle is) to make it feel more connected with nature; a balcony for more space; seating areas; many vines and plants around the edges; and it will have a glass roof overhead to allow for sunlight to come in.

This space is immersed in the ideals of nature which can benefit people in several ways. A survey performed by the University of Exeter shows that people who visit green spaces are more likely to have good health and psychological wellbeing.

This idea is transformational as it breaks the congestion apart, allowing for more nature to come through. It could be the beginning of a new type of public space, one that people can not only study and relax in but can enjoy and respect.



Brigidine College, Randwick
Lola Williams

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

For a More Productive Public Space

The street furniture design makes the public space greener and more adaptive to modern world

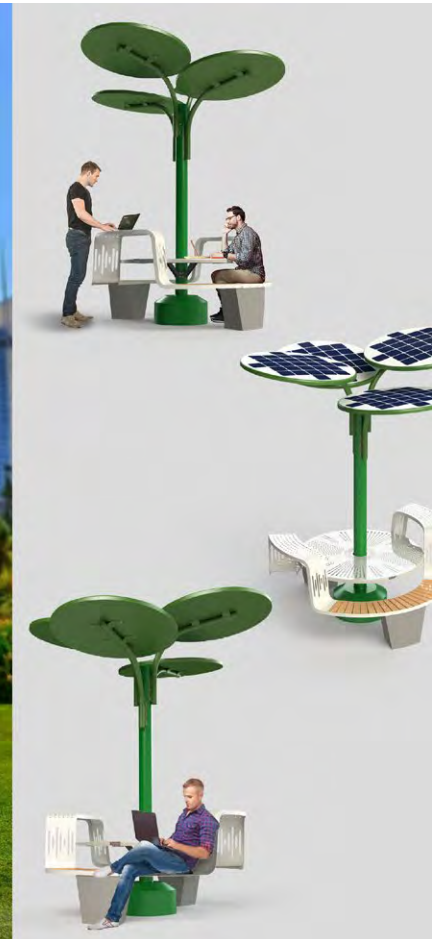
The idea stems from the undesirable situation caused by the global pandemic in 2020 when people are being separated to carry out the social distancing to secure and hopefully cease the COVID-19 infection to perpetuate while expecting the vaccination to be found.

The majority is forced to work from home through the internet for communication as the first step to take effect on helping each other to fight back the pandemic. Significantly this caused a big change on how we, human being, interact and how it affects our mental health as containing ourselves in a confined space while pressuring to perform work productively and creatively.

The natural environment seems to be a constructive element when people receives more healthy benefits from working outdoor. Cloverdesk was born to promote the human contact and social activities while still obtains the safety issue, welcomes and accommodates for all users by having a good design with architectural features and visually adorning the particular area.

The design helps to upgrade the living standards by providing a hotspot for electronic device user who can freely shelter themselves under great 'clover solar panels' supplying main green power for them to achieve their task on their handy devices. This idea conceptualises to enhance the efficiency and value of the public space use by combining its convention and modern utility to transform into a progressive and advance society for everyone.

-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  STUDENT AWARD
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA



Danny Le

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Let it Bee

A lake of wildflowers from a drainage basin

Detention basins in the flat plains of Penrith serve a purpose only in rare flood events. If not large enough for an oval, the basin is merely a sterile monoculture of high maintenance turf.

Let it bee, is a proposal to convert these spaces into attractive, biodiverse, and lively landscapes of grasses, flora, and fauna. How?

Remove turf. Sow a meadow. Let It bee.

A lake of colourful wildflowers responding to the natural elements, harvesting sunshine, supporting life within its glowing surface. Blooming flowers, shimmering grassland, dancing butterflies, native bees, and a myriad of pollinators freely provide a source of life and delight. These ecosystems provide food for fauna, nesting material for birds and support a variety of biodiversity and the systems they sustain.

Biodiverse hot spots like this are rare in the public domain and often located in left over land, with facilities facing away from the 'wilderness' in favour of formalised areas. This proposal seeks to reverse the arrangement, to include paths, seats, bridges and infrastructure to celebrate and value the re-wilding of the space, supporting recreational use in a similar fashion to a parkland lake, only a mown edge containing the meadow's 'water line'.

A place for sitting, strolling, cycling, exploring, playing, relaxing.

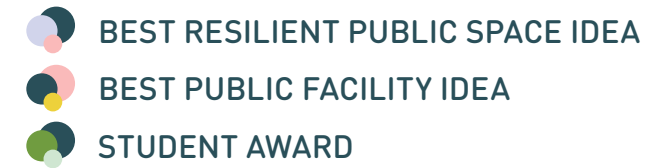
Let it bee.



Anonymous

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Lines of Fire



We will never defeat fire in this country, so we have to use it as a tool and adapt

My proposal is to create an environment that uses the very force of fire to help reduce anxiety amongst our citizens in relation to unpredictable natural events. Lines of Fire is an urban architectural intervention that provides psychological relief through the open expression of strong emotions, causing catharsis, bringing some form of positive change to an individual's life.

"Australia will have to adapt to a more flammable future" – this will require more than just new approaches to land, fire, and emergency management. It will also require new, transformative approaches to building community and personal resilience.

Lines of Fire delivers great public space by creating a place combining experience, testing, research, the community, and Rural Fire Service (RFS) under one umbrella to work collaboratively to provide solutions to deal with our emotions about our changing climate and make us better prepared for future weather events. A place that facilitates the gathering of a community that normally do not interact, allowing them to build resilience, knowledge, and a stronger sense of self-worth individually and/or collectively.



The act of burning and regeneration that makes this site unique teaches people to be ready for the unpredictable and gives them opportunities to grow from it. The program explores how human resilience takes multidimensional forms and meanings, by looking at its intuitive response to extreme adversity and/or acute stress that is observable across the course of one's life.



Rachel Moody

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

The Pavilion

 BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
 BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA

A public facility for the community that can adapt and be a platform to engage

The Pavilion looks to capture the essence of key public facilities, whether it be the library, gallery or health and wellness community centres and re-imagine how they are delivered to the public.

The Pavilion is an open facility for the people. It provides the platform to change and adapt, to be a public facility that people want to engage with by land or by sea. A facility of destination yet a facility that can be personalised to any individual needs.

At Bondi The Pavilion can be a temporary play pool for children to swim in a safe environment, outdoor fitness area for the public or an outpost for the lifeguards at Bondi.

At Barangaroo The Pavilion transforms into an Indigenous Cultural Learning Centre, where the community can engage and interact with to learn more about Australia's rich indigenous heritage.

As our cities continue to deal with urban sprawl and the challenges of growing populations the 3.5x3.5x3.5m cube can be easily transported to any new surrounding, allowing any individual, neighbourhood, community group or private organisation to engage and utilise the facility.

The Pavilion makes a difference by breaking down the historically fixed, large and expensive infrastructure that is typically associated with public facilities. Re-imagining the notion that the community needs to venture a far to engage with key public infrastructure why can't the infrastructure come to the people or at least provide an avenue to help the government realise its commitment to raise awareness of public spaces



David Cardamone

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Play Yards

Copenhagen-style, staffed play yards in urban neighbourhoods for families raising children without backyards

A Play Yard is a new type of public facility in dense neighbourhoods for the daily recreation of children (0-16 years) and their families: a backyard for families without their own.

Sydney was a global pioneer of play yards in the 1930's until depopulation of the inner-city in the 70's. Today, with 30% of apartments occupied by households with children and the top areas being Parramatta, Liverpool and Bankstown, play yards are vital again for Sydney families. Play Yards deliver great public space by filling the gap between apartment gardens – too quiet or manicured; playgrounds – too sterile or lonely, and regional facilities – too far away.

Play yards are a safe environment, offering loose parts (bikes, scooters, balls, skates and cubby materials), community events and parental support networks managed by two staff. Children over eight are welcome to use independently; children under seven with an adult. A bounded, family only place managed by trusted staff within a safe walking route of home is transformational, overcoming the parental fears currently limiting children's independent use of public space.

Spaces are 1500-4000sqm (stand-alone or corner of a larger park) with areas for games, bikes, construction play and socialising with a storage shed, toilets and all-weather room. Play Yards are messy, low maintenance spaces unlikely to win design awards: just like normal backyards!

Just as Sydney adapted public space for dog parks, communal gardens and men's sheds for adults, Play Yards will create a better life for Sydneysiders raising children.



Cities for Play
Natalia Krysiak
Tanya Vincent

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Remaking The Cahill – from Expressway to Greenway

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Linking Sydney CBD's green edges

The Cahill Expressway spans the Tank Stream Valley touching two enclosing ridgelines – Tobegully to the east (Government House Gardens) and Tarra to the west (The Rocks). It has long been criticised for severing Circular Quay from the CBD and introducing a harsh, traffic dominated environment in one of Sydney's most important gateways.

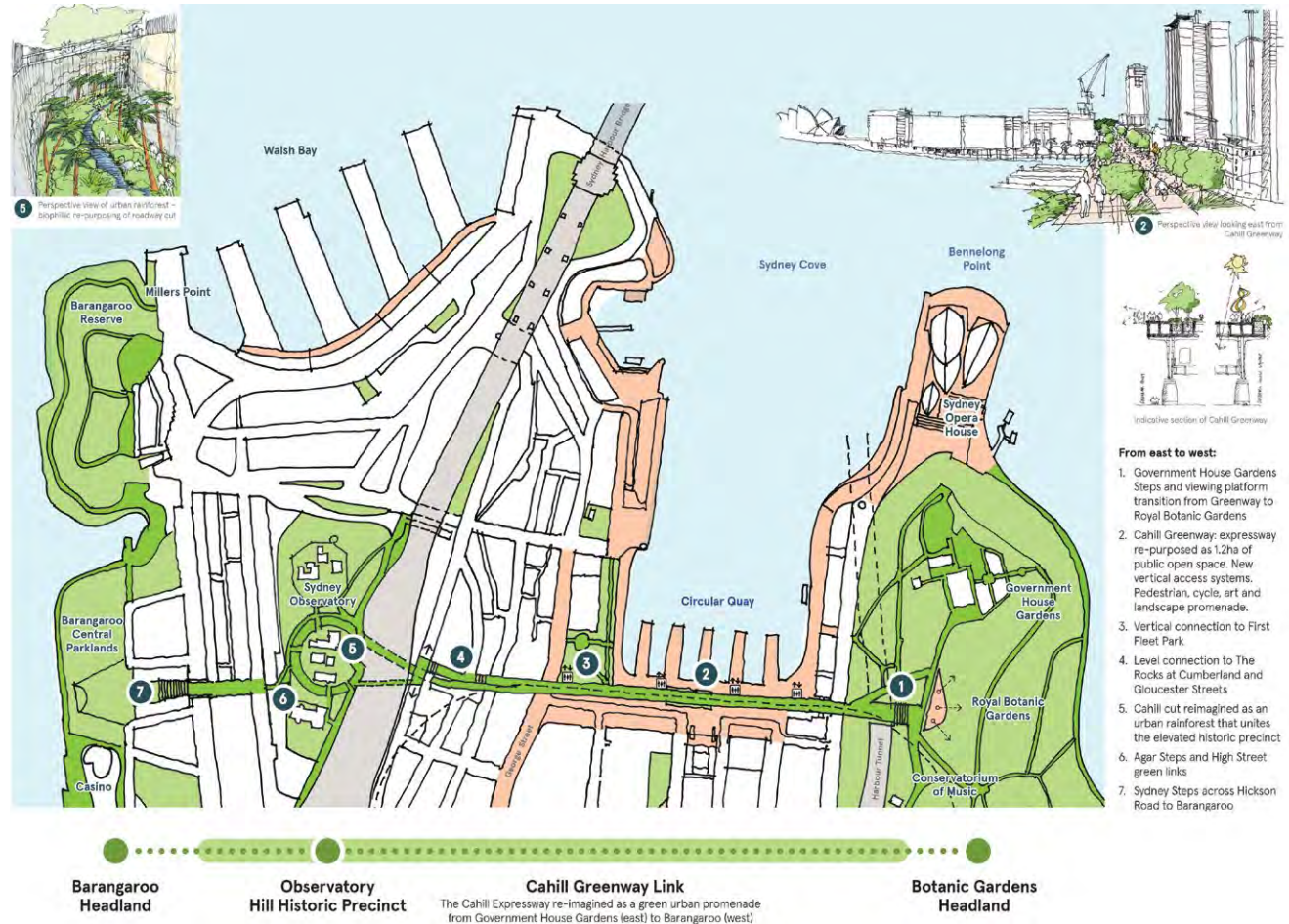
Envisaging a future where the Cahill Expressway is no longer required for automobiles, the idea is to re-consider this structure as a universally accessible, public open space asset for all.

The idea seeks to create a better life for Sydneysiders by eliminating cars from the expressway to provide a universally accessible link between Sydney's green headlands that offers a totally new passive recreation experience for residents, workers and visitors to enjoy.

The existing harshness and severing effect would be ameliorated by softening landscape, public art, cycling, and places to wander. By opening up the structure, creating alternative focal points and establishing direct sightlines through the Greenway to adjacent spaces.

The Cahill Greenway would deliver a great public space – a 1.4ha green corridor with unparalleled elevated views of water activity over Circular Quay, Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House together with a new, urban rainforest within the deep sandstone cut of the Cahill Expressway on-ramp.




The journey from headland to headland will offer a range of public open spaces and experiences. No longer a hated expressway but embraced by Sydneysiders and visitors as an expression of city renewal as a Greenway.



LFA (Pacific) Pty Ltd
Steve Anders

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Rooftop=Everything [R=E]

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

A rooftop activation incentive which benefits the public, Councils, and developers

As a team of Development Managers, Engineers, and Architects, we understand the pressure of market forces upon our city skylines. Demand for Net Lettable Area, Gross Floor Area, and efficient building services, creates inherently inaccessible rooftops.

Rooftop=Everything (R=E) is a holistic planning principle that provides more high quality public amenities to existing and new rooftops, with benefits to everyone in our community.

The incentive allows local council to own, and operate the rooftop of any building. This rooftop space is then utilised for everything Rooftop: outdoor cinema, native gardens, community centers, repair workshops, exercise track... From walking the dog, to riding your bike: Everything is Rooftopable.

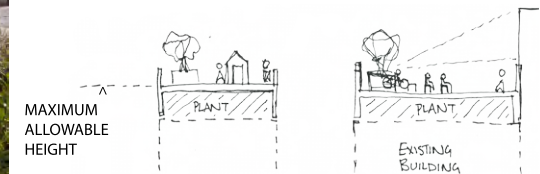
To activate this incentive, local councils allow an additional level to be constructed above the allowable building height limit. This extra space accommodates a public lift for access to the rooftop, preventing disruption to existing plant and services on the former roof level, and an extra slice of NLA. Nice.

Upon completion, the public is welcome to enjoy the best views, smells, weather, and community, from the highest vantage points in the city. This idea transcends existing stiff regulation, and focuses on putting people and community ahead of buildings, while acknowledging the role that buildings play in shaping community.

We believe in R=E, and we hope that you do too!



R=E



Woods Bagot
Investa
Arup

Samuel Butler
Hannah Edwards
Glenda Yiu

Guy Hollingum
John Caldwell

Sydney's public facilities and open spaces enhanced through digital placemaking

Let's create a Sydney where all of our public facilities are enhanced through digital placemaking. Digital placemaking boosts the social, cultural, environmental and economic value of places by using location specific digital technology.

The possibilities for digital placemaking are virtually endless:

- At Circular Quay, watch a re-enactment of the first meeting of colonial and indigenous cultures with commentary in an overseas language. There's also a version for children.
- In a library, listen to an author inspiring an 8 year old to read their book.
- Standing in Barangaroo, find out who she was through the voice of her people.
- A digital guided tour of the Parramatta CBD.
- Listen to an artist talk about their piece of public art, an architect explain the features of a building or a curator describe a floral display in the Botanic Gardens.
- Listen to the stories of people who lived and worked in different locations throughout The Rocks 150 years ago.
- Tour 100 virtual public art installations throughout the city (see image for an example).

Make all of our public facilities more accessible and inclusive, helping the visually or mobility impaired and telling the stories of our city through indigenous voices.

Digital placemaking has the potential to enhance our public facilities, making them more informative, more inspiring and more inclusive. Small digital placemaking experiments have been taking place around the world. Sydney has the opportunity to lead the world and continue to enhance its reputation as one of the world's great cities.



Russell King

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Hickson Greenway

 BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
 BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Hickson Road is reimagined as a sweep of green space connecting Dawes Point to Barangaroo

The contained space of Hickson Road will be transformed into three dimensional green space between the wharfs and waterfront buildings to the north and the sandstone cutting and elevated topography to the south. The industrial artefacts of this space, its bridges, rock cuttings and robust architecture will provide a framework for a series of lush gardens along the ground, over bridges and up walls that will reveal themselves as one moves through the precinct.

The green experience will be provided by a themed series of garden bridges linked to form a complete experience along Hickson Road. It will be a productive landscape of featuring herb gardens and fruit trees. Each bridge will be identified with a particular type of plant flowering across the seasons. Lighting and harvest events will be scheduled with the public invited to participate. The experience will unfold as people move between the water's edge and the higher levels of Millers Point streets connecting these two precincts as it connects the two headlands.

This new green space will provide a green link between the two headlands, as part of a greater harbourfront walkway system, will be a series of threads weaving between the Hickson Road Greenway, the wharf edges, Pottinger Street, Windmill Street, Lower Fort Street and across the bridges connecting these paths. This path will complement the hardscape waterfront edge along the wharfs and allow a continuous green experience to link the headlands.




*Conybear Morrison
International Pty Ltd.*

**Richard Nugent
Jing Li
Di Wu**

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

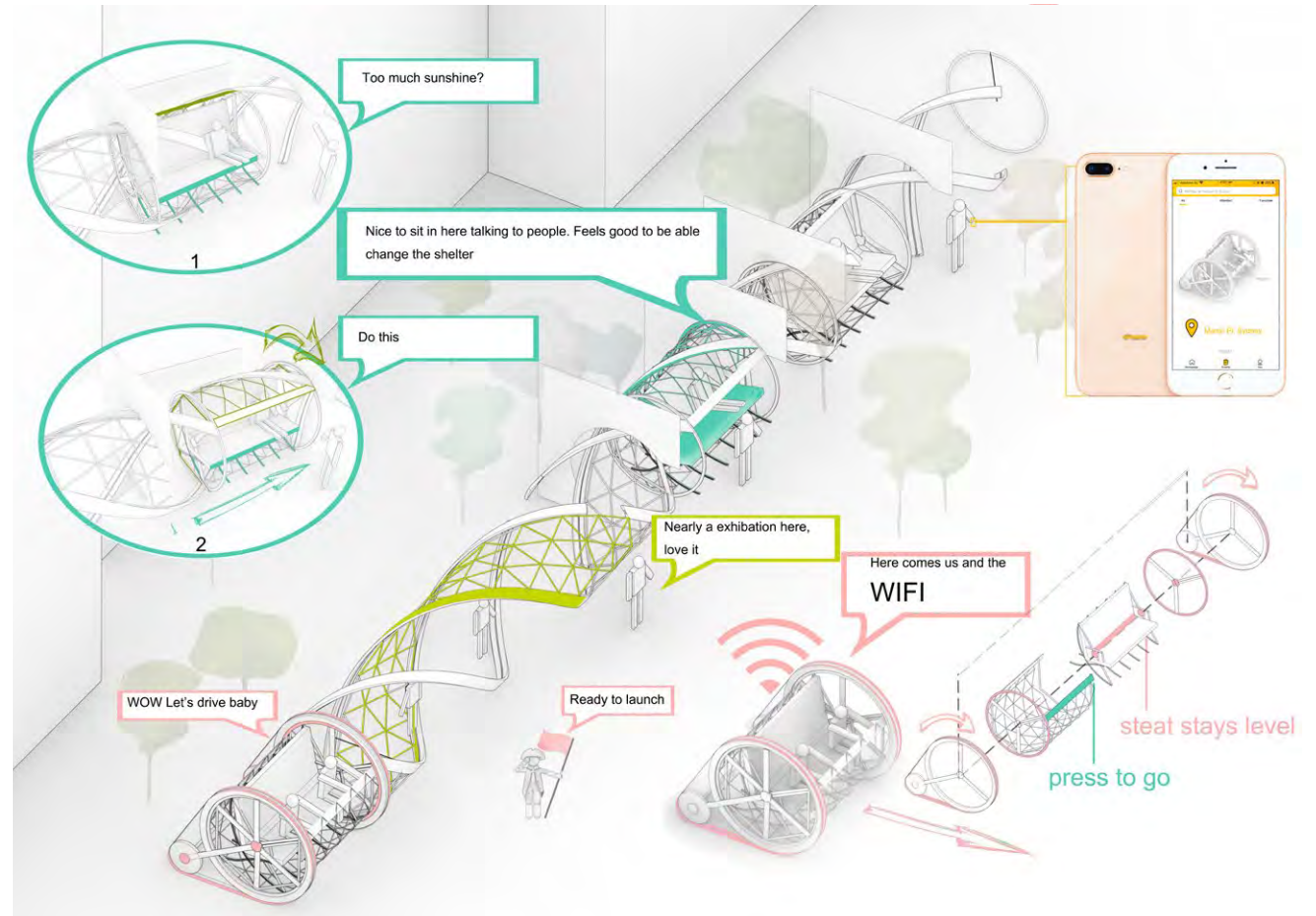
The Driving Seat System

 BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
 BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Movable social space

The movable seat system is designed as a modularization facility through out all city. By enabling the citizen to use and change the way of using it in terms of transforming it from different forms, the design can encourage the citizens to participate the public facility discussing. For example, the seat can be moved horizontally to provide shelters.

Additionally, the modula can be requested by the app on the phone, which encourages the citizens to pay attention to the public space and actually be a part of changing it. The driving seat system can also provide fun to move the seat to a suitable place within a certain area. It can be a good idea to provide WIFI and phone charger in the seat to encourage people to stay. The design assume, encouraging citizens to use and be a part of reshaping the public space is a good way to improve the quality of public space.



Attic 4
Peiran Liu

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Pitt St Mall Precinct

Public thoroughfare becomes public space

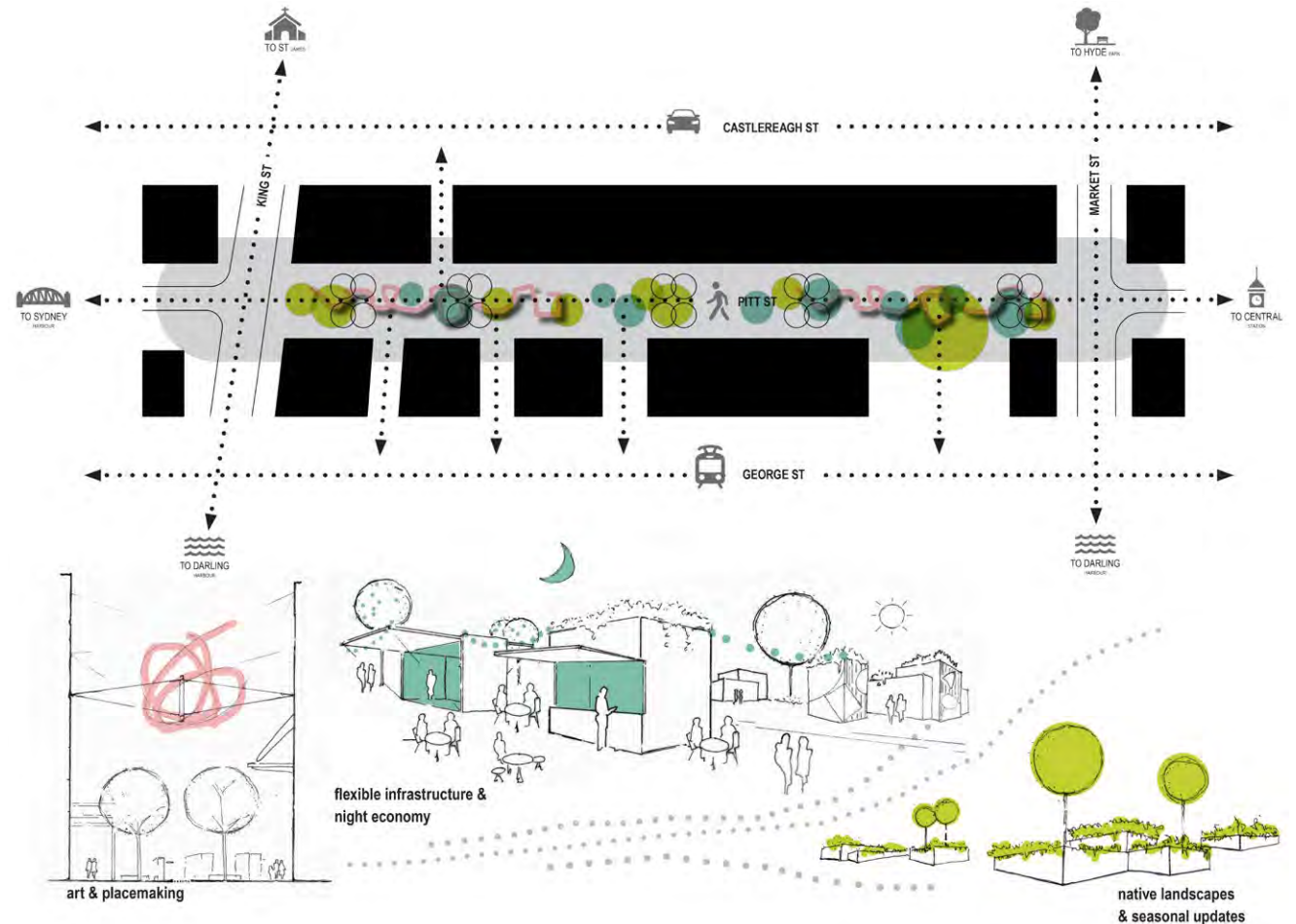
Currently used by a multicultural multi-origin community – from CBD workers and Sydneysiders, to domestic and international visitors – Pitt Street Mall is the busiest pedestrian thoroughfare within Sydney with strong, established connections to the surrounding network. Our public space concept is designed to leverage the volume of this otherwise transient community, to create a dwell space that inspires, educates, entertains and connects visitors within our globally iconic city.

The transformation of Pitt Street Mall will celebrate our unique Australian identity by recognising the indigenous significance of the site while paying homage to the traditional owners of the land. Featuring native species relevant to context, the mall will become an urban green space with a mobile planting infrastructure to allow for seasonal refreshes and events such as an Aussie Christmas – designed to encourage repeat visits.

Cleverly designed and flexible infrastructure will transform the space from commuter thoroughfare by day, to alfresco dining and entertainment by night. With regular programmed events co-ordinated with the Sydney calendar, local businesses will be given an opportunity to activate, driving a bustling night time economy.

Finally, art-based place-making will bring the concept together, completing the transformation to public space. Drawing attention upwards to the beautiful heritage buildings that flank Pitt Street, an art overlay that utilises the existing high-level infrastructure will showcase a rotation of local artists.

This concept combines culture, entertainment and nature to deliver a multifunctional and meaningful 'must experience' destination, that visitors will be captivated by and Sydneysiders can be proud of.



Pitt St Collective

Kel Foster
Amy Copley
Diego Eguiguren

Kristi Grose
Zachary Karantonis
Alfredo Medina

Stacey Nichols
Kylie Soltani
Chris Zerial

The Healing of the Hill

Becoming Sydney's foremost education precinct

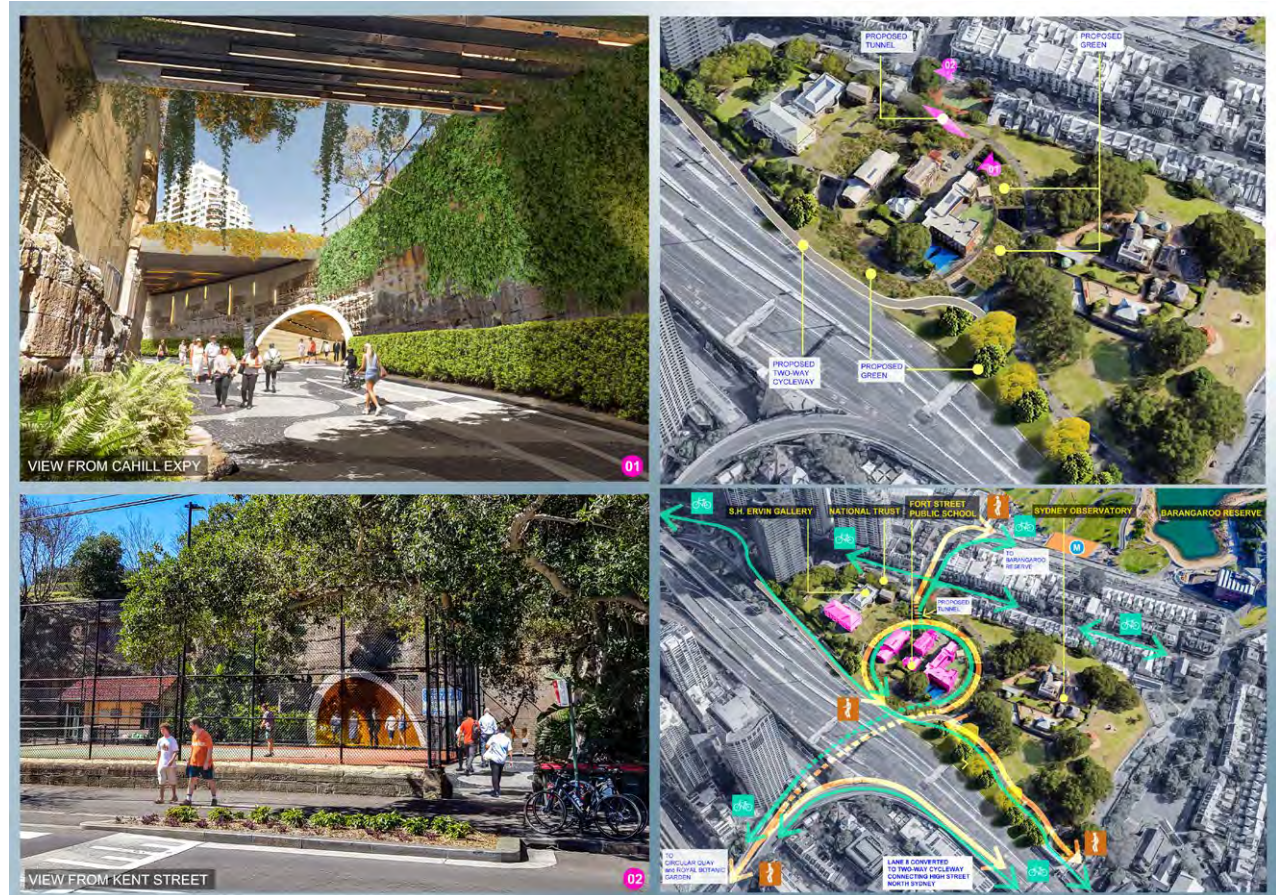
Observatory Hill, majestically rising above Millers Point and The Rocks, is a favourite spot for tourists and locals to view the harbour and the city that surrounds it.

Having been annexed and chopped about for the Sydney Harbour Bridge and then the Cahill Expressway, its cultural gems are hidden and hard to find; – the former Signal Station (1847) and Sydney Observatory (1858), now the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences (MAAS), Fort Street Public School (1848), The National Trust Centre, SH Ervin Gallery, shop and café.

Stage 4 sees Observatory Hill being healed of its deep circular gash, and united above ground by a series of green bridges covering the cut. It brings the Hill's hidden gems together to become Sydney's foremost education precinct, celebrating Science and Technology at MAAS, School Education and Environmental Education at Fort Street Public School, Arts at the SH Ervin Gallery, Heritage at The National Trust Centre and International Affairs at Glover Cottages.

Imagine the Cahill Expressway loop, once occupied by cars and trucks now becoming a sanctuary for pedestrians, cyclists and artists. Parents can bring their children safely to school, while tourists can easily access the cultural gems of Sydney from The Domain through to Darling Harbour away from Expressway traffic.

Imagine the expanding school no longer confined within the constraints of the expressway loop, but being able to re-occupy its former school buildings and grounds to the south, with the National Trust moving to Richmond Villa on Kent Street.



*Dickson Rothschild
Millers Point Community Resident Action Group (MPCRAG)
Nigel Dickson*

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Hungry Bins!

Local street art for the community using recycled rubbish




Recycled art has been increasingly popular, and my idea would harness this creative and eco-friendly way to make beautiful art for people to see. My idea is to put special bins around every area, and people would have to pick up rubbish on the ground until they reach a certain amount, after which we would call on an artist to create a 3-D recycled artwork. This would be displayed at a pre-arranged place for the public to see.

The goal is to encourage the public to pick up rubbish and litter by showing them the art they could get near them. If this happened, there could be competitions for other kids, where they could enter an idea for the next sculpture. I think this is a good idea as it helps save the environment, encourages people to pick up rubbish and also creates beautiful sculptures with low, if any cost.



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-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA



Orla Blackmore

Landcom Liveable Street

Schofields Project

Located in the Blacktown LGA, the project vision is to showcase the “missing middle” housing typologies within a precinct of liveable green streetscapes proposed within the Growth Centres of northwest Sydney.

The project is designed to deliver more than 35% green canopy, a significant increase compared with more traditional developments. This green canopy makes a meaningful contribution to the challenges of the urban heat island and micro climatic effects of western Sydney.

The liveable street, a key feature of the project, reinvents the way we use road reserves with a focus on the verges creating more opportunities for social connection. To achieve this liveable community space, the project also reduces the number of driveways increasing the amount of shared, public liveable space. This approach reduces the amount of hardstand (bitumen driveways, footpaths etc) by more than 20%.

The project supports extensive tree planting particularly on streets that can take advantage of reduced driveways. Expanded verges for low level planting, shareways with landscaped edges and permeable driveway finishes also provide additional opportunity for tree planting. This creates places for informal social interaction and incidental play and become places where communities engage and gain a greater sense of belonging – a space where neighbours connect and enjoy.

This Liveable Street concept was promoted by the Chair and CEO of WSROC as part of their presentation to the Environment & Planning Law Association Conference held in Sydney in October 2019 featuring the concept illustration as “What a better outcome could look like”.



Landcom
Jennifer Sweeney

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Layers of Adventure

BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Urban greening in a grey lane

Jamberoo Lane, once a leafy green street with tall canopy trees and a natural water course underneath, was stripped bare in 2017. This bold idea takes the opportunity to bring back the blue-green link and integrate it with layers of activity to educate the community of the original character of the laneway while providing an engaging experience for all.

The idea includes the naturalisation of parts of the Double Bay Creek; re-planting of canopy trees; active recreational activities including tree top walks, slides, zip line and climbing walls; and passive recreational infrastructure including grassed areas, street furniture, information signage and shading devices. All of these elements will be designed with energy efficiency and sustainable materials at the forefront. Public art will be integrated into the streetscape design, with solar powered artwork that collects energy during the day and lights up in the evening to ensure safe night time access.

Ideally located in the Double Bay Town Centre, the space is easily accessible by foot, bicycle, bus or car, and attracts footfall from the surrounding community and visitors to key attractions including library, cafes and shops. The lane also provides the opportunity for an improved connection between the Town Centre and the Double Bay beach.

With a range of activities to choose from, the space caters to children and adults, and people with special needs.

By reintroducing nature to Jamberoo Lane, this idea serves as a local destination for the community.



Woollahra Council
Neda Vandchali
Multi-disciplinary Council team

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Liverpool Station's carpark by day and festive market place by night

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Activating and transforming an underutilised public commuter car park space into a vibrant night market

It is a Wednesday night, the commuter car park at Liverpool Station is guarded only by the occasional car and without a soul in sight. Late night shoppers hurry from Westfield down the silent streets towards the station, bags held tight. Darkness blankets the car park, only broken by the occasional hiss of engines and the dance of headlights. Alone, a commuter ventures across the dark expanse toward the platform comforted by the dim from the streetlights at the edge of the precinct.

The next evening, as dusk breaks—the commuter car park is transformed into a vibrant night market, the weekly event is anticipated by locals, visitors and workers. The warm glow of fairy lights, soft beat of music and the hustle and bustle from the market stalls return life to the station precinct. Attracted by the light, people skip their way towards the pop-up night markets like a moth to the flame. Steam rising from the food trucks pass mouth-watering scents across the queues of people in line for a melting pot of cultural treats and flavours. Family and friends chatter at their tables whilst children play together across the asphalt art.

As the sun slumbers, the light from the Thursday night markets refuses to sleep as the beat from the buskers creates a symphony marching into the night. The chant ignites a vibrancy across Liverpool's nightlife spreading to local bars and restaurants alike.



Crossley Transport Planning
Kerry Tran
Stephanie Crossley
Lori Dean

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Play Along the Way

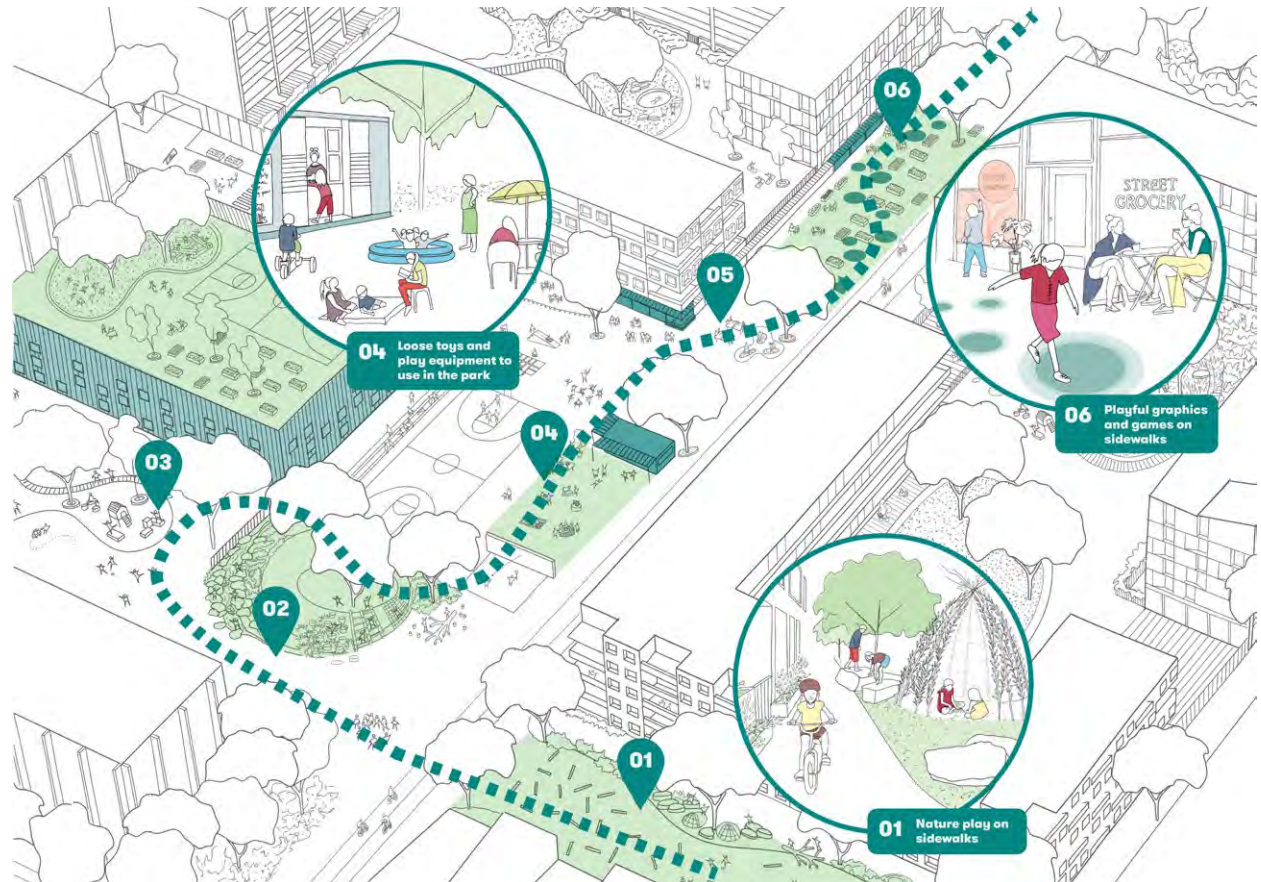
Playful travel journeys designed into our streets to encourage children's active mobility

Over the past few decades, Australian cities have seen a significant decline of children's active mobility. With just 30% of children in NSW walking or cycling to school and childhood obesity rising ten-fold in the last decade – now is the time to transform our streets and prioritize the health, wellbeing, and happiness of children.

The Play Along the Way project aims to re-envision our streets to create safe and playful journeys for children in their local neighbourhoods. Local councils will work together with children to establish children's common travel routes and create playful opportunities along the way. Interventions might include playful graphics and games painted on the ground, nature-play opportunities on sidewalks and storage boxes placed in parks with loose toys and play equipment.

The Play Along the Way project will connect facilities such as schools, play-grounds, libraries and community centres to create an accessible network of child-oriented destinations and encourage children to walk, cycle and play along the way. The project will be transformational for children living in Sydney, providing safe and engaging local journeys and diverse play opportunities. This will be hugely beneficial to children's physical health by encouraging movement, but also their wellbeing and happiness by encouraging social connections and a sense of belonging to their community.




With more children walking and cycling in their local neighbourhoods, communities will be re-activated with pedestrian movement, play and joy, creating vibrant and healthy communities and a better life for all Sydneysiders.



Cities for Play
Natalia Krysiak

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Project Art

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  STUDENT AWARD
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Illuminating Sydney's laneways through projected artworks

My proposal focuses on the many back alleys and laneways throughout the Sydney CBD. Poor lighting and insufficient surveillance in these spaces, can make them uninviting and heighten public domain user's sense of fear and discomfort. A simple way to activate and illuminate these spaces at night is through projector art. Projectors can be installed quite cheaply in these spaces and can display a range of artworks on the myriad of blank walls in these spaces. Artworks from local artists or galleries can be displayed in these spaces, as well as interactive displays (such as shadow casting). Projected artwork can also tie in with Sydney's Vivid lightshow event. This simple idea has the potential to re-enforce the concept that these spaces are cared for and belong to the community. This in turn can enhance user's sense of safety and deter criminal activity. The proposal has been envisioned in two laneways in the CBD – being Wilmot Street (left image) and Central Street (right image).

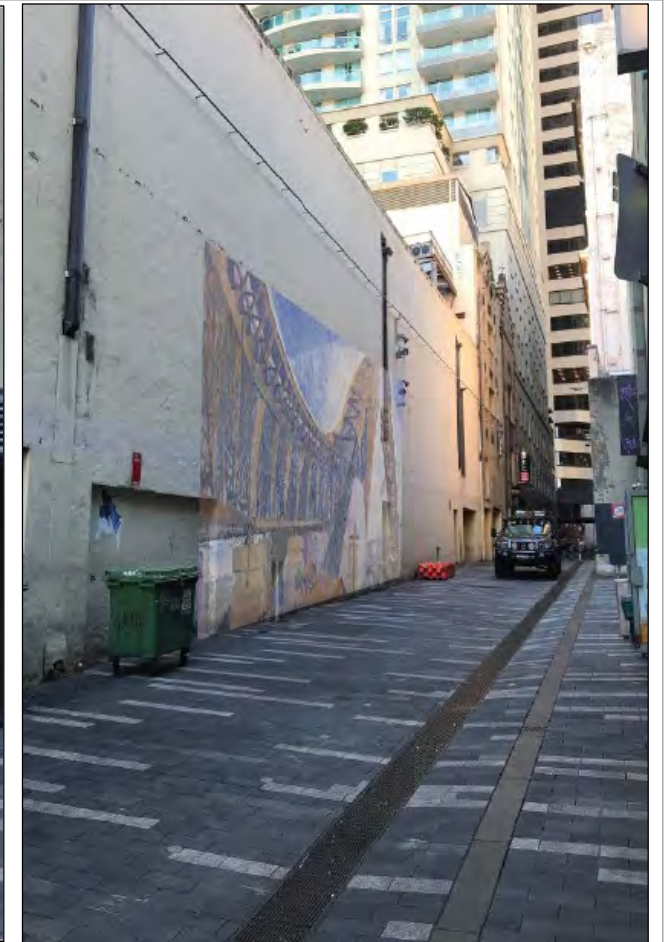
My project will enhance existing thoroughfares and alleyways after hours and make them safer spaces for pedestrians to traverse through.

My project invigorates existing public spaces in Sydney that are often avoided and associated with criminal activity. Using projector art, the identity of these spaces can be transformed into pleasant and enjoyable public thoroughfares.

This idea has the potential to transform 'undesirable' public spaces into interactive artistic havens and make Sydney a safer and more engaging city for all.



Vincent Van Gogh: *Starry Night* (1889)



Grace Cossington Smith: *The Bridge In Curve* (1930)

Douglas Bennett

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Public Seats as Public Art. Enable Social Distancing Artistically

Transform public seating into public art and enable social distancing in an artistic manner

COVID19 restrictions had the public not being able to have access to traditional art and culture locations like galleries. My proposal is to bring art to the public by transforming the humble public seat into a public work of art, using sculpture as a 'artistic' barrier to enable safe social distancing.

Our public spaces have become an eyesore with ugly decals plastered everywhere, negative messaging surrounding us, and just plain ugly barriers and tape cordoning seats and benches off, where not suitable to sit at a safe distance.

Instead of decals, barriers and tape, I propose benches or seats to incorporate a sculptural element in a seated position as a natural and artistic barrier to facilitate social distancing on public seating.

Various local artists are to paint and decorate for public display the seated sculptures incorporated onto the benches for the enjoyment of the local community and visitors alike. This can include park benches, playgrounds, bus stops, libraries, art galleries seats etc.

The seated sculptures are to transform public seating by bringing back a safe and comforting "closeness" to the current empty seats and cordoned off seating areas. A simple QR code on each bench can be scanned to open up a webpage containing the artist's name, information and story behind the artwork.

The sculptural seats and benches are an opportunity to connect with the community by means of art, solving social distancing concerns as well as beautifying the environment by eliminating ugly barriers, decals and tape.

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA



Absorbed By Light
Karoline Hinz & Gali MayLucas







The Art of the Brick
Nathan Sawaya

VANDAL
Gabrielle Filtz
Emile Rademeyer

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

The Public('s) Space

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Blank slates with only one special feature: the community can create whatever use they like

Public('s) Spaces are not prescribed any particular use at all. Instead, they are places where residents are encouraged to create whatever they desire. The functions, decision-making and maintenance is up to the people who engage with the area, allowing the encounters and unique creativity of the residents to take hold.

This gives permission to do the rarely allowed in shared spaces: to create, to build and to self-govern. They can become any combination; teaching, performing, playing, producing, relaxing or just a high-competition kid's lemonade market. The ways people can explore and invest in their community are infinite. The different uses will be inherited, built upon or replaced as residents change and grow. It encourages a local cultural expression in a way that can't be achieved by government or developer designed space; allowing the weird and wonderful of each community to manifest. Genuine, unique place-making.

It encourages a social networking and stewardship in our neighbourhoods, building resilient, connected and caring communities. Conflict over uses is great, as it means residents must meet, navigate, problem-solve and grow together. This idea encourages residents to not be passive consumers of a provided environment, but active participants in their society.

They will be places that people love, because they will be places those people built.

When I think about the most unique, loved and expressive places I've seen in the world, they are those places that the community have carved in strange nooks of a city. The places that allow people to know themselves.

Moments of Community Creation Around the World



Bangalow Billycart Derby



NDSM, Amsterdam



Street corner, Adamshoffstraat, Rotterdam



Brunnshog Koyskog, Lund



Little Napier Street, Sydney



Prinzessinnengarden, Berlin



Street Corner by Camden Collective, London



Wendy's Secret Garden, Sydney

Morgan Hannan

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Raising the Lawn

- BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
- BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
- BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Open air exhibition

This project stemmed from my observation of one of the roads at the University of Sydney, the Fisher Road. When I passed this road, I found that the pedestrians on the road, including myself, rarely stopped by this lawn. After I deliberately stayed at the site for half an hour to observe, I found that the kinds of people passing by were diverse, like runners, dogs walkers, and people passing by in a hurry on the sidewalks.

And I start to think, why don't they have a sit with friends here, as people do on the grass in front of the Law School? Or in front of the Great Hall?

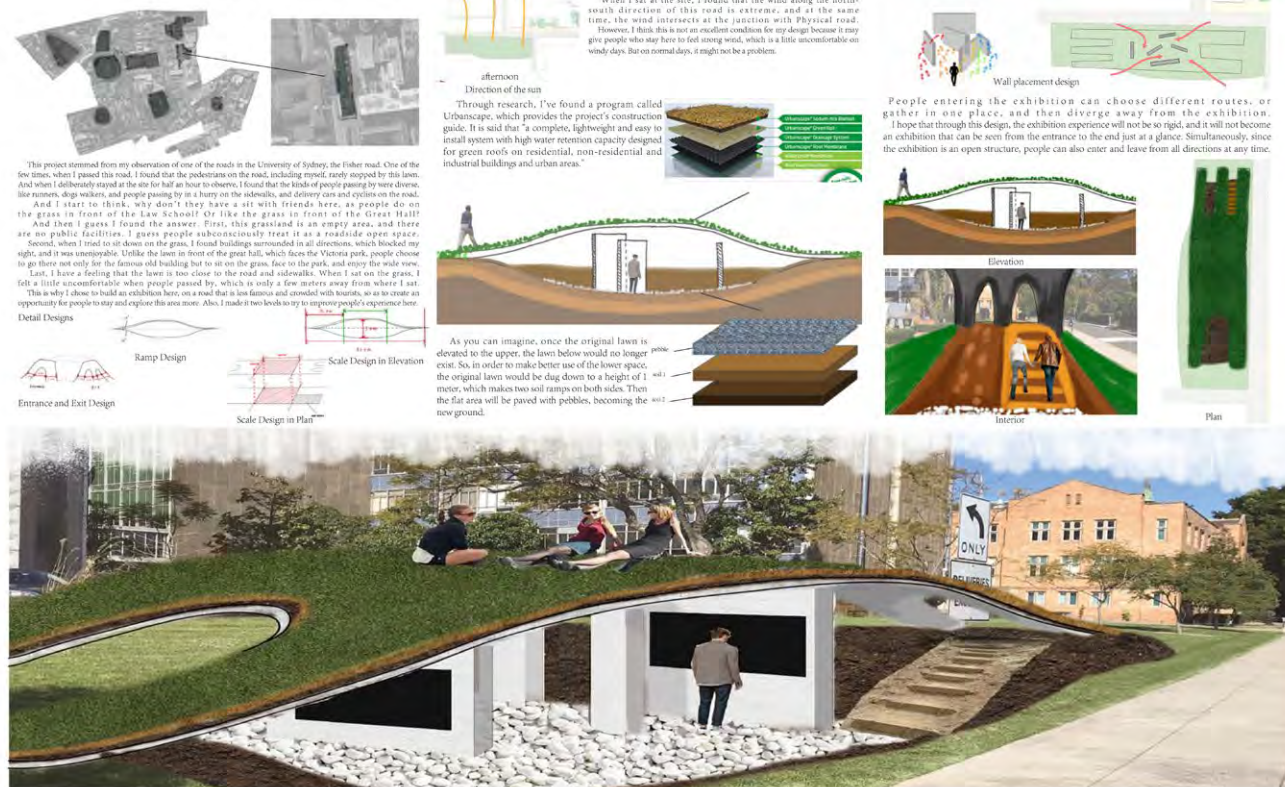
And then I guess I found the answer. First, this grassland is an empty area, and there are no public facilities. I guess people subconsciously treat it as a roadside open space.

Second, when I tried to sit down on the grass, I found buildings surrounded in all directions, which blocked my sight, and it was unenjoyable. Unlike the lawn in front of the great hall, which faces the Victoria park, people choose to go there not only for the famous old building but to sit on the grass, face to the park, and enjoy the wide view.

This is why I chose to build an exhibition here so as to create an opportunity for people to stay and explore this area more.

Raising the Lawn

Open Air Exhibition



The University of Sydney
Iris Guo

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Urban Trails

Encouraging diverse use of neighbourhood streets

As people increasingly move towards working from home, locals are relying more heavily on their neighbourhoods to exercise, seek out food and socialise. However parks and suburban centres designed to cater for social needs are not always easily accessible. So how do we enable daily interactions and activities to happen on a street that is much closer to home?

An opportunity exists to support life along streets by designating small spaces for exercise, commerce and social interaction and distributing them across existing cycle path networks. Our proposal looked specifically at Dunning Avenue in Rosebery, with its growing bike network, density and mixture of residential and commercial spaces, and consists of:

Replacing a few parking spaces with:

- Bike pit-stops: replacing one parking space with facilities to pump-tires, bicycle parking and garden planters
- Designated food truck spots: GreenSquare and Rosebery have the density and existing commerce to make these businesses viable

Enhancing the footpath and nature strips adjacent to food-truck and bike pit stops with:

- Jogging paths
- Benches offering rest stops to encourage walking
- Water stations to support exercise and dog walking
- Occasional exercise equipment that may double up as incidental play

As Jane Jacobs once noted, "only diverse surroundings have the practical power of inducing a natural, continuing flow of life and use". These small interventions could provide for diverse groups of people in order to help sustain an inclusive social street life, supporting more liveable and vibrant neighbourhoods.



Zoya Kuptsova
Rebeca Grinspum

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Sydney Summer Outdoor Co-working Spaces

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Covid-safe public space for getting work done

Earlier this year an estimated 4 million+ Australians moved from working in an office to working from home. We're more empowered than ever to rethink the nature of work, but also more isolated in our daily work space.

Sydney has an ideal climate to create outdoor green community co-working spaces. Co-working spaces are creative workplaces where people who work for different organisations, free lancers, and start-ups work side by side. Since first emerging around 15 years ago more than 10,000 have been established globally.

Adopting the co-working space idea to our public parks would provide a calm and community-focused environment for work. These spaces would increase flexibility to work locally for those with cramped or stressful home environments, and for those feeling isolated at home. It's an inspirational setting to support those wanting to apply for jobs or work on their side hustle. This will promote use of our green spaces during working hours when they are quieter. The environment would be socially distanced and COVID-safe, while allowing us to return to the concept of working in the company of others.





The main image shows an example location in Centennial Park. This location is walking distance to public transport, parking, restrooms, and existing cafes. All that is required to get started is some outdoor furniture, free wifi, and a large bottle of hand sanitiser. There are opportunities to add amenities on a commercial basis, including phone/laptop charging stations and food/coffee carts.



Alexandra Jucovic

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Unity Centre

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
-  STUDENT AWARD

Social inclusion for wellbeing. Bringing people together through activities

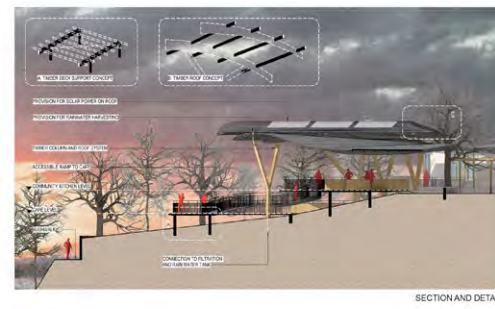
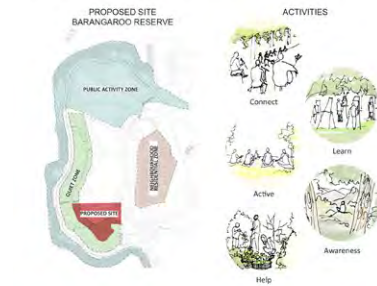
The proposed project will cater to the wellbeing of the Sydneysiders. So, the scheme aims to promote Social Inclusion for Wellbeing by bringing people together through creative, sociable, and relaxing activities. Activities which help us connect, learn, remain active and be aware of our surroundings. The centre may also offer help to the members of the community dealing with unemployment or other social disadvantages by giving opportunities to connect, get trained and employed.

The project will be based on different type of activities and will allow people to learn, exercise, exchange cultural experiences and relax in natural environment. The first group of activities are designed around community gardening, cooking, training, and dining together. The second type of activity is focused on creative learning and the third is based on relaxation, small group exercises and meditation. A public space for learning, making, and selling and involve high level of public engagements.

There is a lack of public space in Sydney that fosters community engagement, relaxation and learning under one program, promoting wellbeing. This form of a public space can be for everyone – families, friends, visitors, and people with different personalities, extroverts or introverts as there is something for everyone to do and enjoy. The space facilitates to minimise issues caused by social exclusion.

Similar schemes could be promoted in other areas where there is lack of social inclusion and wellness in the current context. The scheme was developed in a social agency design studio on a Sydney site, Barangaroo.

UNITY CENTRE
ON FOR WELLBEING - BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER THROUGH ACTIVITIES



University of New South Wales
Radia Tashkina Rifa

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Walking on Water: A New Linear Park

Dual use of Guilford pipeline land for local recreation and regional links

The water pipeline corridor from the Guilford Pipehead to Potts Hill is already partially utilised for a cycle and walking track extending the Prospect Lower Canal facility as far as Military Road, Guilford. The opportunity is there to connect to the Duck River corridor and even on through Rookwood cemetery to the Cooks River.

However, imagine how its FULL potential can be realised.

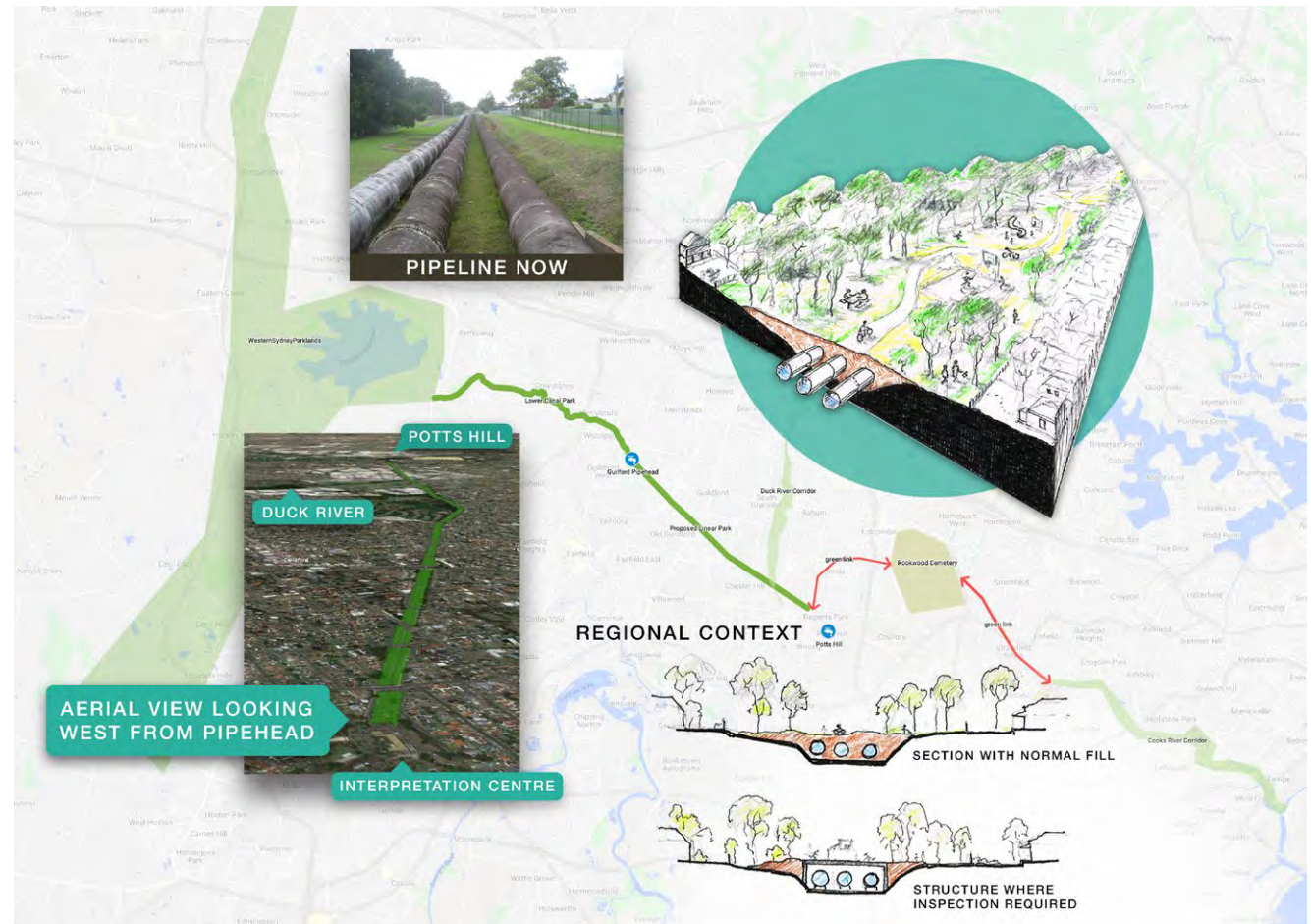
The current fenced-in ribbon of concrete is a limited functional walking and cycle link beside a vital, but visually unattractive, public utility. With public open space much in demand, especially as middle ring suburbs densify, land used for utilities must 'work harder'. By covering the pipes with a mixture of hard and soft landscaping and removing the fences, over 25 hectares of open space can be returned to the public, knitting together rather than severing communities.

The integrity and safety of the pipelines is of course paramount: burying the pipes, with appropriate physical/chemical protection and sophisticated electronic monitoring, can ensure the continuing security of our water supply.

The nature of the landscaping will respond to the adjacent land uses and local need, with active play areas adjacent residential development and more natural parkland augmenting parcels of neighbouring bush.

The concept is regional yet can be achieved incrementally block by block. The fill can be sourced from road or rail tunneling projects as available.

Starting with an Interpretive Centre at the Pipehead, the linear park can be themed as a Sydney Water Heritage Walk.



*The Walking
Volunteers*

Ian Napier

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Wonderfully Waiting: Community Living Rooms

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Darlinghurst case study: Reimagining leftover spaces as community living rooms to play and stay

“Ever waited at a hot boring bus stop? Our idea is to transform uncomfortable bus stops on leftover spaces into activated, playful community living rooms”

Bus stops are often located on busy main roads adjacent to pieces of leftover public space with little amenity, recreational or community uses. They can be hot, boring, unsafe for kids, and uncomfortable for older people or people with disability. Our idea is to turn these empty boring spaces into outdoor community living rooms or public facilities, creating a better life for Sydney-siders with places for kids to play, neighbours to connect, and for plants to grow, improving our happiness and health.

This idea delivers a great public space by providing a cool, colourful and beautiful place accessible for all; a place for incidental connections and creation of bonding and bridging social capital – in a location where there are lots of passers by. This idea bring us public facilities in the outdoors that everyone can access.

Our idea is transformational, because it is changing the way we think about leftover spaces and places where we wait. It's changing our view that public facilities (community centres and galleries) should be indoors, and it is transforming our grey public infrastructure into colourful public community living rooms bringing joy and laughter into our days.



Cred Consulting

Abinaya Rajavelu
Sarah Reilly
Elise O’Ryan

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Swim to You

- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
- BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
- BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

A mobile pool if your hot and sweaty or need a snack

Making Pools Accessible for Everybody.

BRINGING THE WATER TO EVERYONE

It has a hot tub and an indoor pool with an outdoor roof pool with a small indoor canteen.



Harry was inspired by the Swim mobiles in Brooklyn NY, date not identified.

Source: www.nycgovparks.org



Architecture for Kids School
Harry Tidd

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

The Neighborhood Turntable

 BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Bringing village hubs to life and people of all ages together, through music

Since COVID, there's been a quiet heaviness in the air. Knowing we can't attend live music events for the unforeseeable future has reinforced this mood. Music has cross-generational appeal that brings any environment to life. This idea uses music to not only uplift the energy in our public spaces but also enhance community connection.

Great public spaces are multi-sensory and this idea uses music to bring the social experience to life while drawing people to local businesses. To do this:

- 1) Install a speaker system within key outdoor shopping villages of communities where people of all ages gather to socialize and carry out their daily tasks.
- 2) Once installed, set up a collaborative neighborhood playlist on the popular digital music service Spotify, where "there's no limit on how many people can contribute to one playlist" and "you don't need a premium subscription to participate in a collaborative playlist." Each neighborhood curates their own playlist e.g. The Rose Bay Playlist, The Chippendale Playlist. Whoever lives in these communities can take part by selecting songs that suit their taste, adding to the neighborhood turntable. Music is played through the speakers at high traffic times throughout the day.

Going to these musical hubs gives people a sense of excitement to discover new music, they feel like they're connecting with their neighbors in a creative way and the mood in the air is lighter and more energized for ALL ages. In one-hour people can hear a range of tunes from Beethoven to the Beastie Boys.



Lara Hoffman
Contracted Artist

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

OMG Rotundas

 BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

All over metropolitan Sydney there are beautiful purpose-built outdoor performance spaces that sit silent. Have you even met a Rotunda?

It is true. From Parramatta, to Observatory Hill, Randwick to Centennial, Belmore and Moore Park.

There are purpose-built performance spaces that sit for days, weeks, months, years and even decades on end – in perfect silence.

This transformative idea is just about reminding people of what they have and re-igniting the virtuous cycle of performer-begets-audience-begets-performer etc.

Make it like Rage and invite guests to curate a program for the Rotunda according to community tastes, time of day, or theme and audience.

Contrast the colonial architecture with contemporary performance, dance, comedy, ensembles, big bands, K-Pop – it really doesn't matter as long as it something that people want to watch and listen to.

This idea activates outdoor places and if you mow the lawn invites physically-distanced opportunities to enjoy culture. It transforms dead public furniture that is hiding in plain site, into a lightning rod for community and celebration.

Minimal effort – maximum impact.
Better life = a more vibrant and cheerful Rotunda.

"What are you doing this weekend?"

"Dunno, meet you at the Rotunda."




Custard&Beer

**Jess Miller
Claire Sutton**

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Public Office

 BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Bringing the office outdoors, from the city to the suburbs

The nature of COVID-19 has changed the way people work, learn and live worldwide, with many adapting to home-working environments and with expectations that this new normal will continue. With communities reducing commutes and embracing the work from home flexibility, public open spaces that have traditionally served passive, residential needs are now experiencing demand day and night, weekday and weekend, winter and summer.

The Public Office provides Wi-Fi in public parks as well as temporary/permanent/mobile furniture that can be used on those glorious Sydney days when you would rather be outside.

The Public Office provides an alternative for people with small living spaces, as well as opportunities to access the internet for those who can't afford it. Public libraries could set up temporary terminals in public spaces to provide computer access to those who need it. Ideas markets could be provided to provoke interaction and innovation.

Public open space provides the greatest benefit when it is well utilised throughout the day and week. Greater activation makes people feel safe, and provides them with social and recreational opportunities that they can't get in their own home. The Public Office will bring more people outdoors during the day and evening, activating underutilised parks and public spaces and providing opportunities for COVID safe social interaction during the work day.

Public Office flips the notion that work should be done in a particular place at a particular time, and provides opportunities for new uses of public open space for everyone.



COX

COX Architecture
Laura Clarke

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

For Cars by Day and People by Night

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

A Cabramatta case study: Shape-shifting empty carparks in urban centres, into night-time community dancefloors and playspaces

“Our idea is to transform dark empty carparks into community activated public spaces at night. Using technology we can share our empty carparks as places for recreation when the sun goes down.”

More people of all ages and cultures are living in our urban centres seeking places for recreation and connection after dark. With limited opportunities to deliver new public space, our existing city spaces need to work harder to meet needs. Our idea will create a better life for Sydney-siders by unlocking the latent capacity of carparks to provide places for people to play at night, right in the heart of our local centres.

In centres like Cabramatta, when shoppers head home in the afternoon, the carparks lay empty till morning. Through the use of smart technology these carparks can shape-shift into true public recreation spaces. LED line markings can turn on to create any desired sports court or even a dance floor. Small built-in interventions like an amenities block and speakers can provide places to change, store equipment, and plug in sound. Creative lighting of surrounding buildings and the car park can also improve perceptions of safety creating a playful atmosphere.

Our idea is transformational because it is an example of truly multi-purpose and shared public space that accommodates the needs of local businesses and shoppers during the day, while fulfilling the desire of our increasingly culturally diverse apartment living communities to have more public spaces to gather, play, dance and celebrate even when the sun goes down.



Cred Consulting
Abinaya Rajavelu
Sarah Reilly

Estelle Grech
Elise O’Ryan

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Jolly Brollies

 **BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA**

Installation of large colourful umbrellas throughout public spaces to lift spirits & provide shade

It's going to be 40 degrees outside today and Ruth is a bit worried about how the kids will fare, given it is a Saturday. Most summers when the temps get this crazy, everyone heads off to the shopping centre for some ice-cream and much-needed air con. Now with Covid-19, Ruth wasn't so happy to spend all day inside, but it was too hot to spend all day outside in the local park either.

Just then she remembered that her friend had mentioned a place she had visited recently, a new installation called Jolly Brollies – large umbrellas all over the city, installed in places that could use some shade (until the trees grow there, anyway). She googled it and 'Voila' there was one just down the road from her home.

'Come on kids' she said. 'Get your sunscreen and snacks, and don't forget the hammock, we are off to chill under the Jolly Brollies! Social distancing and all'.

Jolly Brollies are a flexible short-term solution to a lack of tree canopy anywhere in the city, providing a range of benefits and opportunities for the community to engage safely in a fun and entertaining environment. The size of the Brollies ensures social distancing is encouraged, and they are sturdy enough to support hammocks, swings, and photo-voltaics that can then power night-time lighting so that the fun can continue well into the evening.

They can be movable and set up when and where required, and then packed away till next year.



Studio GL Pty Ltd

**Gauri Torgalkar
Felicity Lewis
Diana Griffiths**

**Adam Natoli
Rodrigo Sepulveda
Chinmayi Holla**

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Shopfront Cinema

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

When every empty shopfront is a cinema, every evening stroll is a film festival

Now more than ever, we need a diverse toolkit of pop-up responses to fill the gaps appearing in our retail streets and support our remaining retailers. With a low-cost, simple set-up, empty shopfronts become cinema screens, transforming streetscapes into dynamic destinations.

In this better life, Sydneysiders are excited to stroll and explore their local retail strips. A walk isn't just simply exercise, but rather a surprising creative experience, as QR codes inform and assist navigation between installations.

Is this transformational? You bet. Empty shopfronts become advertisements for activity, not evidence of retail decline. And stories are told that might otherwise be hidden.

We'll draw our content from the rich wellspring of New South Wales: short films, documentaries, community projects, student projects, social channels, Tropfest and the State's rich archives.

Content that had one or two runs now gets another outlet to shine, and the diverse, complex vitality of local communities comes to life.

Naturally, we'll publish the program online making it possible to set out purposefully to catch a specific show. Passers-by scan QR codes at the shopfront to provide instant information on screenings.

How does this deliver great public space? Easily and affordably, because Pop Up Cinema are experts in temporary cinema. While leasing signage and access remains untouched, we can install lightweight temporary screens to shop windows that will feature a curated reel of rights-cleared content, refreshed regularly.

BYO popcorn!

Film stills from 'Great Day' (2013) Dir. by Hannah May Reilly



Pop Up Cinema
Phillip Briggs

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Little Plant Library

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Encouraging the community to share the joy of growing plants

Following the trend of smaller backyards and high-density living, growing plants in pots has become more commonplace and widespread as people seek opportunities to connect with nature.

However, since the COVID-19 pandemic hit, people have had more time to focus on being even greener. Many of us want to add more greenery into our homes and have developed a renewed interest in growing plants in pots.

As we emerge from our isolation, an opportunity exists to nurture this pot plant trend.

The Little Plant Library builds upon the idea of the Street Library. It is a little house placed on the street, in a front yard, in the common area of an apartment block, or in a park, where community can exchange pot plants, cuttings and indoor planting tips. It may even become a place where people can keep their plants while going on holiday, knowing the neighbourhood will help care for them.

Anyone can add or take from the library. People can contribute plants, plant cuttings or full potted displays they think others might enjoy. The Little Plant Library is a plant-based resource for community building and importantly community greening.

Curated and managed by the local community, the Little Plant Library is accessible to anyone and encourages people to share the joy of growing plants.



PLACE LABORATORY
Lei Zhang
Anna Chauvel

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Local Loop

 **BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA**
 **BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA**

Linking unused crown land to increase public space/green space for community

A Local Loop is about creating safe spaces for local communities to commute, exercise and socialise and while supporting their local economies out of underutilised open space.

How will your idea create a better life for Sydneysiders?

Creating walkable Local Loops to support health, improve air quality, reduce traffic by decreasing vehicle reliance, and reactivating local centres through community activity.

How does your idea deliver great public space?

This idea delivers great public space as it's not location specific.

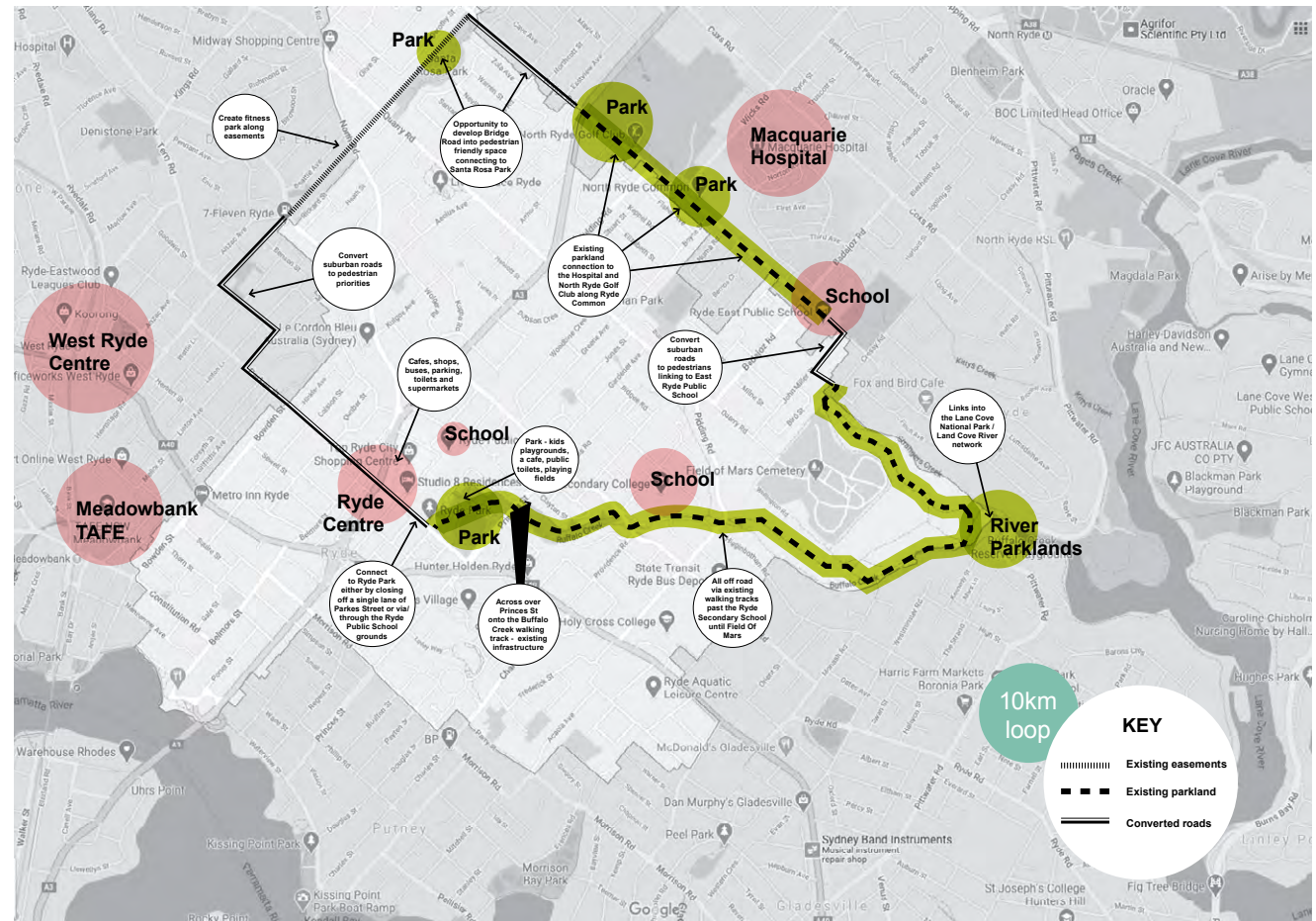
How is your idea transformational?

It's transformational on many levels; this concept repurposes existing space (easements, crown land, roads including nature strips and redundant council land) into human scaled space accessible to everyone.

It initiates many contemporary planning theories about improving life in modern cities; increasing green spaces [reducing Urban Heat Island effect], improving community interaction within local neighbourhoods/local shops, more pedestrian friendly areas, easily accessed space for exercise and recreation.

A Local Loop will be unique for every suburb, some industrial, others scenic, or just suburbia...it's not just about outdoor space but safe commuting for locals to the shops or train station.

A Local Loop can be created from closing off a single lane of certain roads and using nature strips. They could be tree lined, fully landscaped and include sitting benches and kids playgrounds. When every suburb has their own 'Loop' in the future people can travel to other 'loops' to exercise and explore new areas of Sydney. It might be possible to interlink Loops to create longer Super-Loops.



Joel Spencer
Stefan Vogt

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Pop-Up Open and Public Spaces

-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA

Street as great spaces

Streets are often seen as transportation networks to connect people to their destinations. However, have we contemplated street as great places or exploring the ideas of utilising street as an extension of the existing open and public spaces?

The under supply of open and public spaces is a common issue in Sydney. Many of the existing suburbs are built up and cannot provide additional permanent open and public space. The idea is to reclaim underutilised streets and on-street parking spaces for pop-up open and public spaces over the weekend and public/school holidays. The idea would provide temporary relief to the shortfall of open and public spaces while transforms underused streets into vibrant places.

The idea enables open and public spaces more accessible to the community; provide a space and opportunity for different ages and groups to interact which creates a sense of social cohesion and identity; enhancing the safety and security of the street by facilitating active uses throughout the day and night; and reduce overcrowding at existing parks and playgrounds.

The idea is temporary, with no permanent fixtures or equipment required. Hence, the pop-up space could be easily manoeuvred within the community and other parts of the local government area. Additionally, it can accommodate a range of purposes and uses to cater to the community's different needs and requirements, such as kids playgrounds, open spaces or senior exercise parks.







Bonche

**Gilead Chen
Adrian Bonanni**

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Steps to the Future

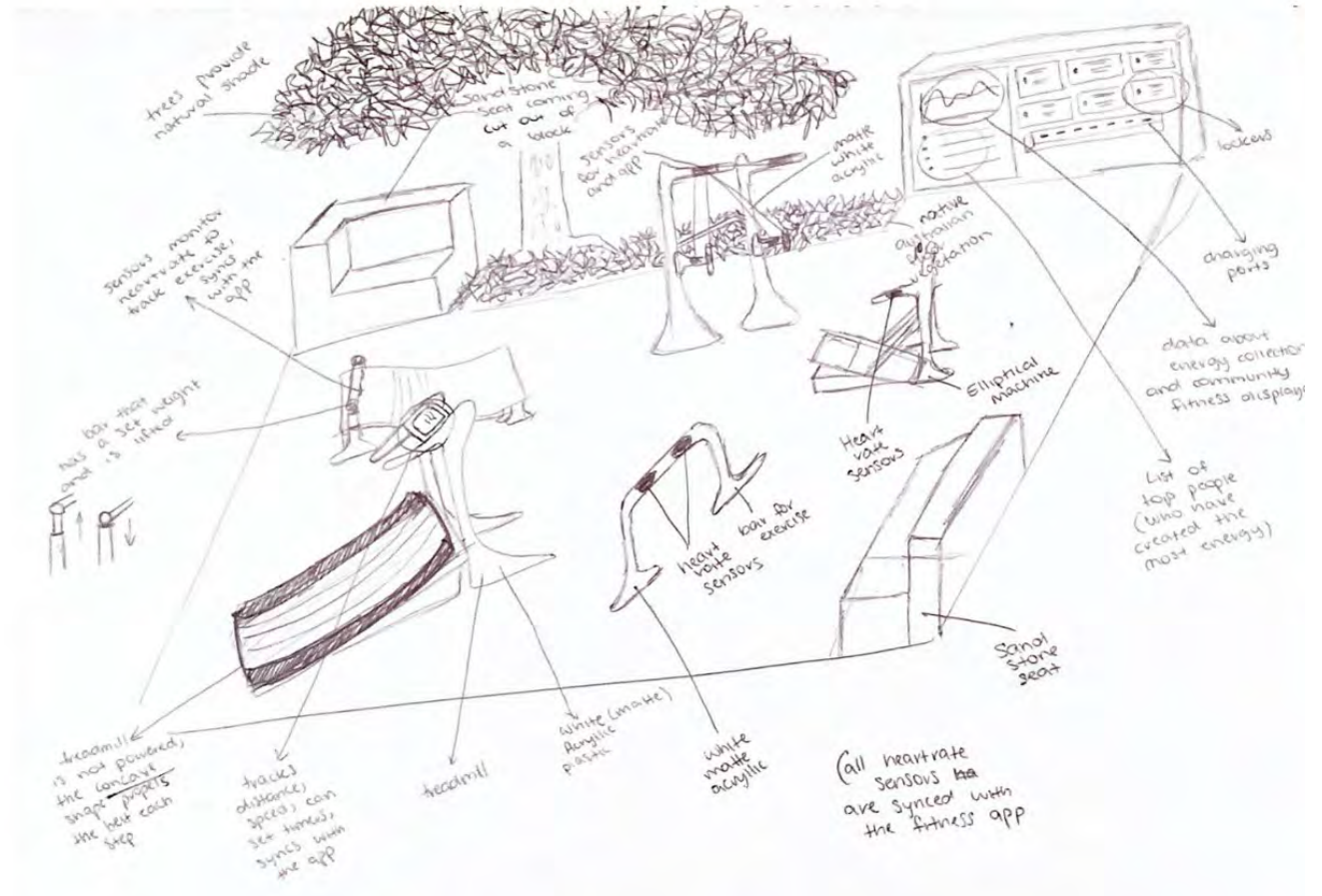
-  CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA

Moving towards a healthier and cleaner future

Climate change is an issue that is drastically worsening, threatening the health of our planet. Every step towards a clean and sustainable world is vital, big or small.

Through this outdoor gym, the kinetic energy exhibited through exercise is collected and used to power small devices and charging ports for electronics, the excess stored to be used when needed. This public park not only creates clean energy, but also provides the public with an incentive to exercise and delivers benefits to those who are time sensitive. Charging ports provide efficient solutions to those who run on a busy schedule, fitting battery top-ups into their exercise regimen. As most outdoor gyms in Sydney are not used frequently enough to produce the required amount of energy, motivation to the public will be created through an accompanying app that tracks individual energy production and holds weekly community competitions for the most energy produced. As public attraction increases, the value of health and fitness will increase as well as the acknowledgement of sustainability.

This space promotes environmental positivity, working to a cleaner planet. Although this space does not have a large scale impact, it inspires corporations and the community to make a change to reduce their carbon footprint.



Brigidine College, Randwick
Isabella Di Francesco

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Tiny Cloud Forests

One hundred square metres. One hundred species. A network of high performance tiny forests

The tiny cloud forest network brings Sydneysiders up close to a thriving, natural rainforest ecosystem. Each 100m² forest is based on the Miyawaki model of diverse, tightly-planted species, delivering environmental benefits within three years. Lounging on the smooth stone surrounds, Sydneysiders can recharge with deep lung fulls of clean air, soothing forest sounds and cooling mist drifting through the densely layered plants.

The Tiny Cloud Forest is interactive and inclusive. Budding entomologists can gaze through glass at the busy workings of the forest floor and soil horizon. Historians will engage unsuspecting passers-by with long-winded stories of long-lost species. Creative types can upload playlists and soundscapes in response to the forest setting. Analytical observers can contribute anecdotal data via the mobile app, including flora and fauna sightings and temperature readings. Sydneysiders will delight in the urban theatre of new daily rituals: seeking out different tiny forests in far flung suburbs, walking the undulations of the meditative forest loop path, timing visits to catch the midday misting or the lighting of the biodiversity beacon at sunset. Conversations around the base of this ancient vegetation community will spark new thought and new action.

Sydney has a target to plant five million trees by 2030. Our idea delivers a network of functional forest systems, in three years growing at ten times the speed of single trees in conventional urban layouts. Environmental targets can be monitored via a mobile app that displays location, species diversity and carbon sequestration. With hundreds of plants, insects and microorganisms in each system, the Tiny Cloud Forest Network has potential to transform Sydney into a leader in the climate and biodiversity response. Each forest is an instant burst of biophilic green delivering social, climatic, biodiversity and air quality benefits that current street-tree planting regimes cannot match.



Anonymous

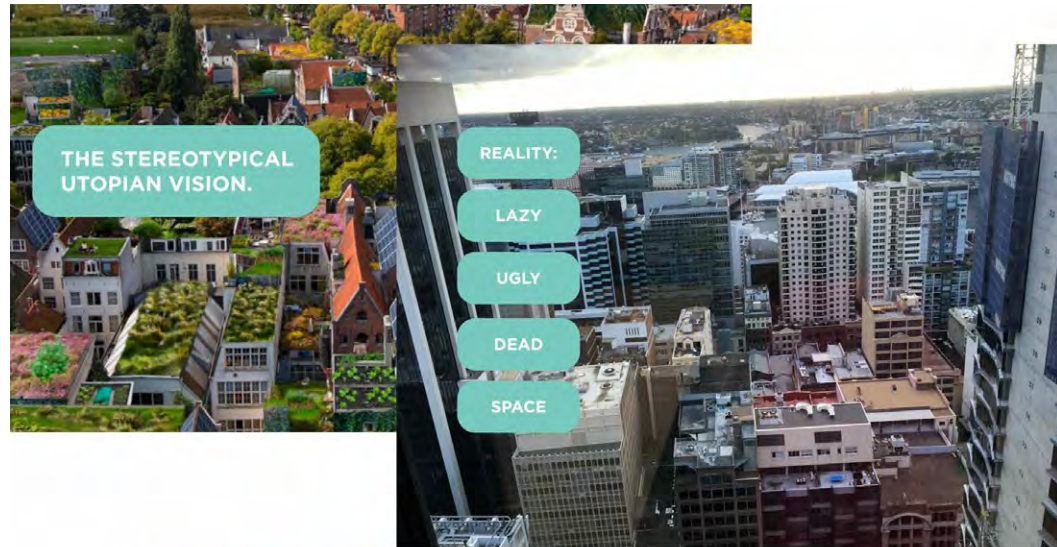
Regenerative Resting Places

**Death: 30k ppl in NSW die each year (1%).
On average each pay between \$15-30k per funeral**

Uncomfortable right? Each year in NSW approximately \$900,000,000 is spent on funerals. Public space for burials is run-in out, so the vast majority of funeral 'products' involve cremations resulting in ashes with the same PH as bleach and quite a generic experience that is completely disconnected from place. So how can we reimagine a different option for urban communities that provides a connected, deep and transformative experience, comfort and connection and at the same time funds a rapid and radical proliferation and the ongoing maintenance of biodiverse green roofs and meadows?

This idea is to create an alternative end-of-life option that greens our rooftops with native gardens and meadows based on the 'Living Legacy' model*. It provides our urban communities with a collective breath of reprieve, connection, contribution and above all – beauty. Money that goes toward the mainstream funeral industry, is redirected toward achieving a collective vision of a local regenerative city. You remains are cremated, turned into a non-toxic soil condition that you can chose to use on your own garden or nominate a dedicated native vegetation project. Your loved ones (and strangers alike) become the beneficiaries of your final act. At nighttime a tiny light amid the city-scape symbolises your presence, generosity and care for your community.

The rooftop ecosystem you help create contributes to the biodiversity of the city, providing a sanctuary for birds and insects. You help the city's children breathe. Give nature a break and over time regenerate and heal an entire city system. All the while acknowledging that we as humans – like all other parts of natural system – evolve and transition. The Regenerative Rooftop Trust is a Cathedral Project that can begin today – beginning with public buildings (public spaces). Funds cover capital costs and maintenance (local jobs) in perpetuity. The living can contribute to the fund while they are alive and access the quiet, calm and reflective spaces during their lifetime. It's the ultimate act of altruism and care of place.



*Technical notes: cremated remains would not end up in the rooftop gardens. Instead the existing 'Living Legacy' option would provide the option of having the cremated remains turned into a non-toxic soil conditioner that can be used on dedicated such as the Wellington Dam memorial forest in WA

Custard&Beer

Jess Miller
Claire Sutton

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Coral

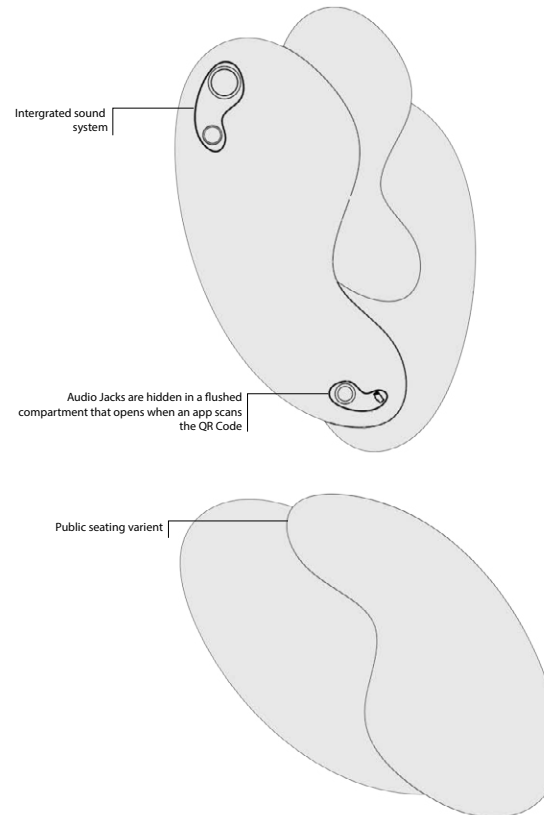
- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
- BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
- STUDENT AWARD

Reimagining underused public spaces. Reinventing street performances

Bringing theatre to the street, buskers have long been valued as creatives who deliver accessible entertainment to the public. Street performances create an intimate and socially interactive space that allows for freedom of artistic expression and cultural exchange on the street level.

Coral is a hybrid street furniture that provides a public stage with sound equipment for buskers, as well as, a unique seating area for people. Similar to the current technology in bike sharing systems, CORAL uses a companion app that gives buskers access to the audio jacks.





CORAL seeks to transform commercialised urban environments and rejuvenate underpasses into a more lively and vibrant social space.



Kathy Ky
Nathanael Mah
Jordan Ang

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

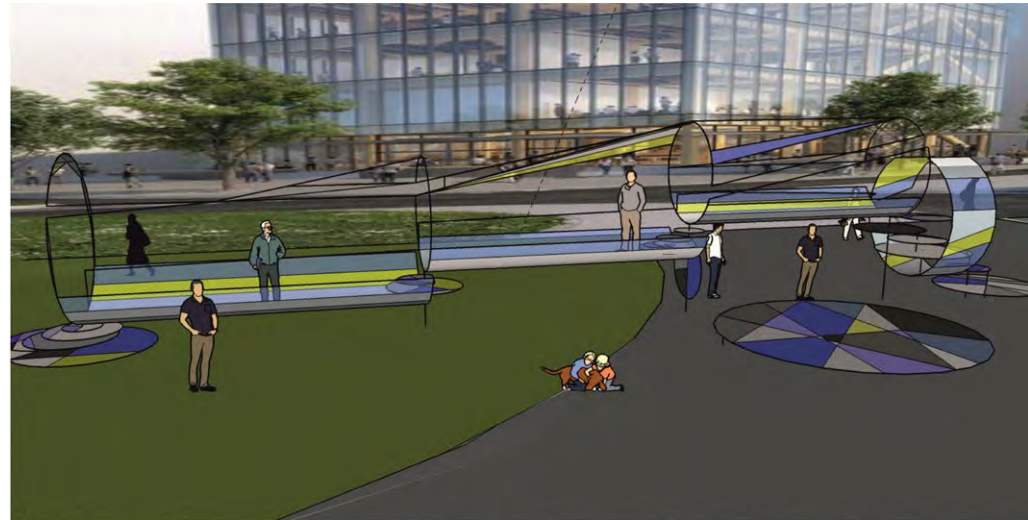
The Kaleidoscope

-  CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA

Street side community structure for recreation

The structure is a street side community hub, designed to be walked through and played in. It is designed in an inclusive manner with hand railings for the elderly and bars to climb onto for children. It provides shelter and has a stage built with it for performances or events that any member of the community may host at any time. It is versatile and can be placed anywhere, from parks to street corners and residential areas or even along the street itself. Its vibrant colours and open, friendly arches magnetise all age groups and provide a dazzling backdrop to any performance. The space around the structure has collapsible games like table tennis or a pool table (built into the ground), it may also include a putting green. Plexi glass is used instead of glass, for durability and its light weight.

The idea is to attract Sydneysiders, building a strong community as people of all ages gather together while playing games, holding dance rehearsals, sharing some coffee, news and music with your neighbours or maybe just a spot for your next post. It transforms an ordinary thoroughfare into a kaleidoscope of activity.



Samantha John

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

The Dome

- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
- BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
- STUDENT AWARD
- BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA

The dome is a live entertainment area in Sydney targeted for young people

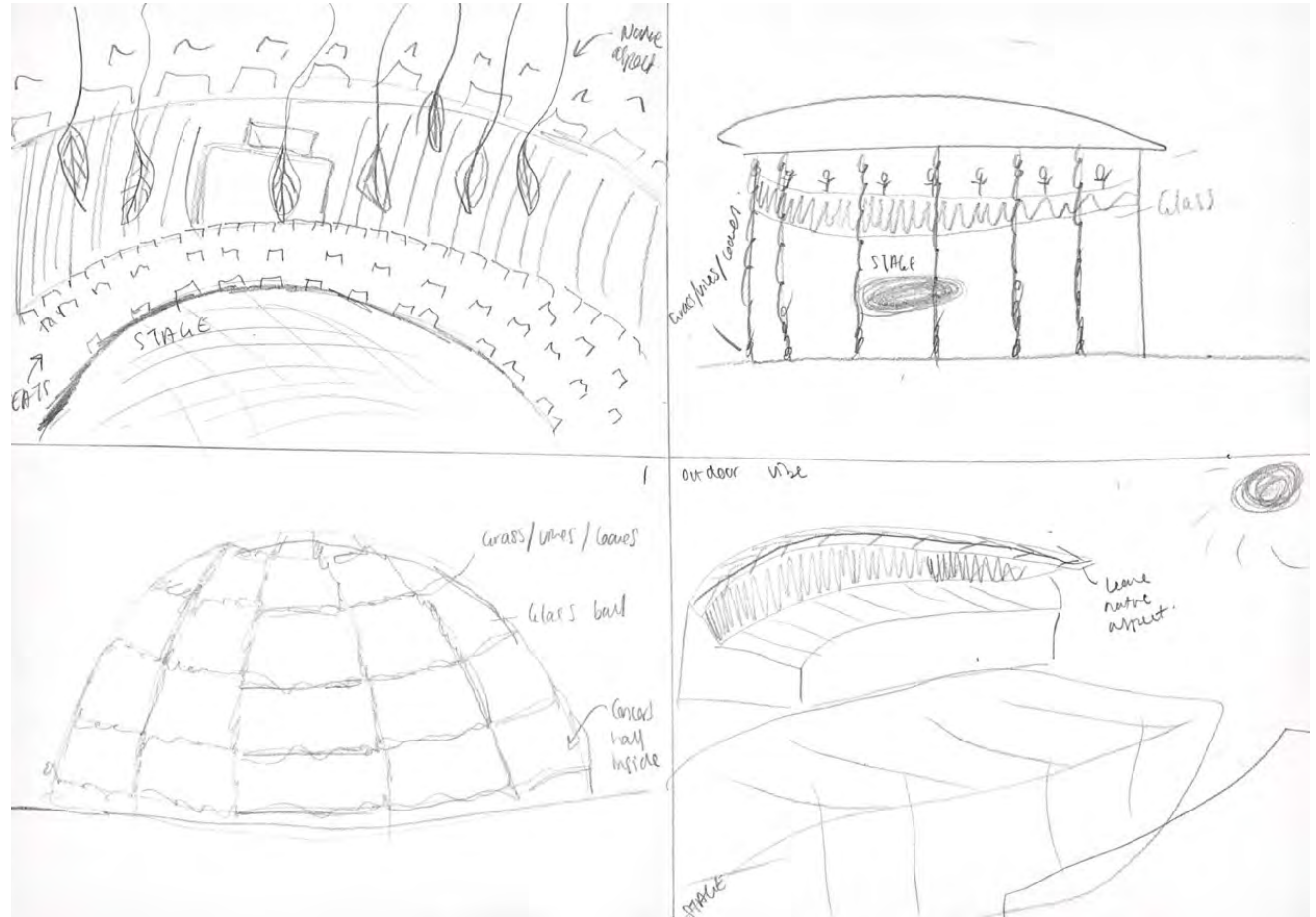
The dome is used for live entertainment such as small artist concerts, theatre performances and etc. The main part of it (the dome) will show above ground and the floor, seats and stage will be underground where the spectators are exposed to natural light and the night sky.

The dome will be a strong glass with hints of greenery on it to make it stand out from usual building aesthetic and give it a more softer and attracting look the reason i chose to have the main part shaped as a semi circle is because sound vibrates better off of curved surfaces e.g. a cup, this makes the spectators be more immersed in the music or the play.

The dome could be located in Darling Harbour which is in the city. From there, there are many forms of public transport to get to the dome. I decided to put it in an accessible place because most young people use public transport

It is easily accessible by everyone and there are elevators to help the disabled the elevators could be powered by solar panels which gets the power the sun that shines through the glass dome.

I feel there aren't many buildings in Sydney with a particular circle shape exterior and the dome can challenge the normal look. It is also eco friendly due to the solar panels and it is a place that brings people together through entertainment and common interests.



Anonymous

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

Eureka Bridge

- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD
- BEST PUBLIC FACILITY IDEA
- BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
- STUDENT AWARD

Designing for a flash of inspiration

Having chosen the site on the campus of The University of Sydney, this project aims at reinforcing the role of USYD as an educational institution by further activating its public space and improving the inclusiveness of the campus for the general public, students and staffs.

The intension of the project Eureka is to integrate Darlington with Camperdown campus into a more holistic system, enabling a multidisciplinary collaboration mode by providing a shared space for communication. It creates an appealing public space by elevating the experience of this proposed site (a pedestrian bridge) and enhancing its role as a critical node connecting the two campuses. Objectives of this project include generating a "Eureka moment," which is a flash of inspiration for its viewers and fueling future innovation. It would further activate the campus by attracting artists and future viewers with the novel exhibition experience it provided.

The project proposes to add an educational exhibition to the original transitional function of the bridge. The project is transformational as it utilises Mixed Reality (MR) means to present the worldview of different disciplines in an imaginative and interactive way. The educational exhibition would be delivered through MR devices. In the extended "pockets" attached to the original structure of the bridge, selected objects that have the potential to trigger discussions between faculties would be displayed. Their discussion is visible in MR scenarios.


The sun-shading screen would be reconstructed to also serve as a projecting screen for MR contents.



Anonymous

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

'Yaama' Street Furniture Design

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST STREET AND/OR PLAZA IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  STUDENT AWARD

Yaama is an adaptable and modular seating design that provides technological features and unique Aboriginal artwork

'Yaama' meaning 'hello' in 'Gamilaraay language' is a seating design for users to sit and take shelter, meet up with friends, talk and listen online and offline and share ideas and thoughts with people. Inspired by the 'Yarning Circle', 'Yaama' seat design is specially designed for people to sit facing each other and encourage people to converse with one another.

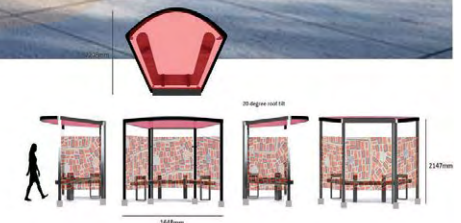
'Yaama' creates an overall better life for Sydney siders, as the design provides technological features such as 'wireless and adaptor charging arm rest station', free public Wi-Fi as well as other features that can be added to the design (such as an e-bin). The selected artwork design and colour is specifically selected for the area, solely depending on the aesthetics or artworks story connection with the given land.

The incorporation of roof 'solar- window' provides sun protection, shields rain, further projects colour in seating area as well as seamlessly providing power for charging station and LED lights.

'Yaama' enhances and encourages nightlife as the LED strip lights (located at the bottom of the glass panels) automatically light up, further projecting artwork and colour at night. This design feature provides a sense of safety for people to utilise at night creating a reliable 24-hour space. The unique shape of 'Yaama' is adaptable for any public area, as the it can be placed in an array of styles and layouts.







Disclaimer: All Local Aboriginal paintings are credited on furniture pieces and on the presentation slide. As I do not have a full understanding of Aboriginal culture and traditions, the following research and integration of artwork is not used to offend or disrespect Indigenous Australian culture. Developing on this outdoor furniture piece extensive research will be needed to ensure artwork is used appropriately and the right authority is given to present/ use these paintings. The painting sourced from Artlandish, Aboriginal Art Gallery (<https://www.aboriginal-art.com.au/>). *Copyright for artwork images on this website belongs to the artists or their estates. Images may not be reproduced for any reason without express permission from the artist. All Rights Reserved ©2020 Copyright Artlandish, last modified: July 25th, 2020 9:52 AM



Nicole Kyriacou

IDEA HIGHLIGHTS

10 Minutes Less; Less than 10 Minutes

-  BEST RESILIENT PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  BEST OPEN SPACE IDEA
-  BEST TEMPORARY AND/OR LOW COST PUBLIC SPACE IDEA
-  STUDENT AWARD

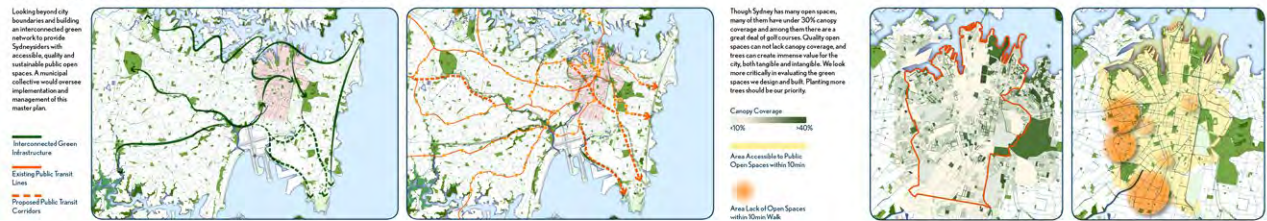
A tool kit for creating accessible open spaces and interconnected landscape infrastructure for all Sydney communities

Sydney is defined by the trains we take, the fields we play football on after school, and the gardens we visit on the weekends. Accessing, and occupying, public space makes Sydney feel like our own – but not everyone has the same level of convenience.

Our project, 10 Mins Less; Less than 10 Mins, offers a two-part strategy. 10 Mins Less extends transit lines and improves bike connections to reduce the amount of time needed to access distant open spaces. Less than 10 Mins provides a toolkit for activating spaces in neighborhoods that are not a 10-minute walk from existing parks. Implementing the toolkit will convert these “void” spaces into critical links between neighborhoods and local, regional, and national parks. Expanding transit access similarly provides crucial connections to open spaces beyond the city boundary. As a result, the project not only creates walkable, bikeable, and welcoming outdoor spaces, in line with the Sydney Green Grid Plan, but also establishes robust regional green infrastructure. It is about the journey, as much as it is about the destination.

To accomplish this, we must challenge the traditional open space planning process in two ways. First, to move beyond municipal boundaries as the limit for open space planning, and second, to foster an inclusive process that foregrounds community needs. Municipal borders do not define how Sydneysiders use open space, and the Less than 10 Mins toolkit offers guidelines and easy-to-apply strategies that encourage collaboration across local organizations to realize this broader intercity vision. The toolkit also offers flexibility, empowering Sydney communities to select which street improvements would best serve their program needs in their neighborhoods.

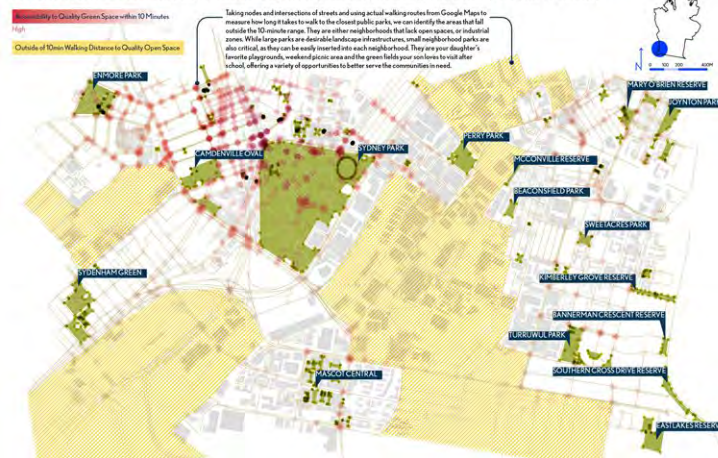
An Interconnected Open Space Network for All Sydney Communities (10 Minutes Less)



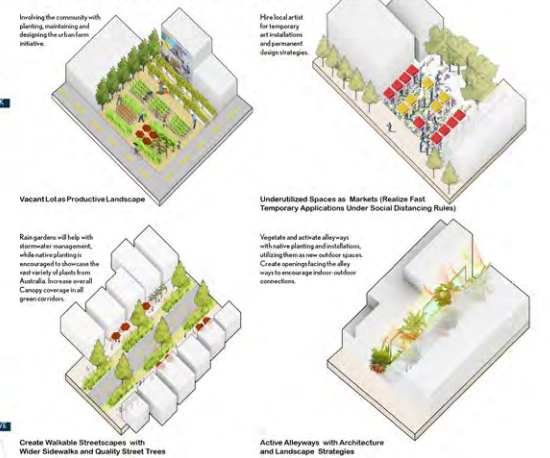
Ecological Strategies - Building a Robust Green Infrastructure



Pilot District Green Infrastructure Improvement in Support of Community Wellbeing - Alexandria (Less than 10 Minutes)



Neighborhood Open Space Improvement Tool Kit (Less than 10 Minutes)



ScenesLab + Studio of MI
Wendy Wang
Qiaoxia Qiu

Awards Night

The competition winners were announced via live stream on the 4th November 2020. We'd like to extend a special thank you to the ICC Sydney for hosting this event.

To view all the competition entries and view more information, please go to the official competition website at:

sydney.org.au/psic/



“We are thrilled to be able to support the Public Space Ideas Competition with a trophy, of sorts, that has an impact far beyond today.

In honour of each of the winning entrants a tree was planted in the Western Sydney Parklands.

The location is at Bungarribee Park. The tree species is a *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, which is locally endemic to the site.

This intergenerational award will go on to impact the future of public space; just like these great ideas will keep our cities inspired to achieve great heights for our communities.

I congratulate all the winners. Our futures are in brilliant hands.”

Suellen Fitzgerald – Chief Executive, Greater Sydney Parklands

People's Choice Award

Awarded through a public voting program run on the website of the Sydney Morning Herald.

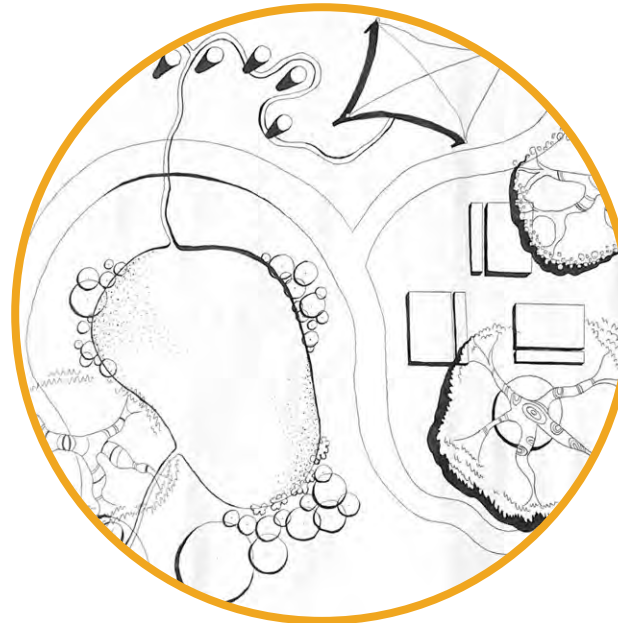
Readers participated in an online poll to decide, *Which of these ideas to improve Sydney's public spaces is your favourite?*, choosing among the eight Award entry Winners. The poll garnered 17,704 collective votes.

'A Bushland Experience' by Bianca Hales and Molly Flanagan was the People's Choice Award Winner, receiving a staggering 40% of votes.

The second-most voted entry was 'Unlocking South Sydney's Newest Blue-Green Grid' by Roberts Day, receiving 29% of votes.

The People's Choice Award Winner was announced via an online Webinar held by the Committee for Sydney on Thursday 19th November 2020. The announcement also included an opportunity to hear from the Winners on their inspiration and creativity behind their idea.

The poll ran from 5th November 2020 and closed on Thursday 19th November 2020.



A Bushland Experience



**SPEED
LIMIT**



On Public Space

Public space is everyone’s business. Whether it be public facilities such as libraries and museums, open space such as parks and playgrounds, or streets including squares, plazas and boulevards; public space provides positive socio-economic, health, cultural and environmental benefits to the community. Public spaces are critical infrastructure assets alongside schools, hospitals, public transport and roads.

Here we share the thoughts of leading practitioners at our consultant partner AECOM, who offer their insights on the planning, design, funding and delivery of public space to support the mental, physical and social wellbeing of communities.



What Makes a Public Space Great?
How we use public spaces in the future will no doubt be very different to today, depending on climate change and the nature and location of work. Private developers, local councils and state government need to embrace smart city digital technology and the data it provides if we want to create public spaces that inspire, not inhibit the potential of our cities. Public space planning is no longer limited to ‘planning for parks’.

By Zac Cvitkovic, Associate Director, Urban Design
[Read article online](#)



Why Public Space Matters
I have realised just how much social, environmental and economic benefit they provide for us all – and just how much we miss them when we are enduring a period of isolation or lockdown. One silver lining of this pandemic and the associated restrictions on public space is that it has reminded people just how reliant we are on having convenient access to public space and the social interactions that occur there.

By Anna Robinson, Associate Director, Urban Design, Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Great Teams Create Great Public Spaces
A public space does not have to be majestic to have the potential to become great. It can be as big as a national park or as small as a community garden. It does not require a multi-million-dollar budget. Many great public spaces are curated and run by volunteers and designed with simple resilient materials. To be great, a public space needs a collaborative team effort, drawing on many different skills... a public space just needs to belong.

By Giulia Vignaroli, Senior Urban Designer, Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Embracing Complexity in Public Space

Great places are multidimensional, intricate and have been refined and shaped by many hands. As designers we need to ask ourselves, what is going to make people fall in love with this place? Where are the opportunities for people to connect, gather, and form bonds? How do we integrate the purposeful, elegant, enduring and flexible qualities that form truly great public places?

By Trevor Boobyer, Associate Director,
Landscape Architecture, Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Celebration of the City

For the moment, the coronavirus has brought large-scale celebrations to a halt. We are becoming accustomed to checking-in to venues on our phones and agreeing to conditions of entry in order to enjoy what we once took for granted. But maybe the pandemic will also awaken a deeper sense of community? While the way we celebrate may change, humans will always find a reason to gather to share experiences and emotions in great public spaces.

By Madelyn Eads-Dorsey,
Senior Project Manager
[Read article online](#)



Future Spaces of Mobility

No other type of public place typifies the rise and fall of the modern city as much as the railway station plaza and square. As cities grew, these spaces became larger and denser, and it became more complex to transport the growing number of people to their jobs, homes, arcades, arenas and schools. The value and importance of these public places in the way people use and experience our transit systems, is now at the forefront of many city leaders' minds.

By Amy Child, Associate Director Practice Leader,
Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Spaces for a Resilient Future

A resilience-based approach can help tackle the challenges of heat and coronavirus together. By testing our open space and public facility layouts against physical distancing requirements, introducing short term interventions to support safety during increased use, and increasing shading and rain protection, our public spaces can continue to provide a safe place to spend time outside of our homes.

By Suzanna Remmerswaal, Associate Director,
Sustainability & Resilience
[Read article online](#)



Rethinking Roads as Green Corridors

As Australia emerges from winter and the heat builds towards the crescendo of the hottest months, the urban forest is one of the most effective responses to reducing city heat and encouraging active transport. Tree-lined streets that reduce heat stress and provide safe, shaded pedestrian and cycle routes are no longer a 'nice to have' option, they are a necessity. It is time for a serious and coordinated green infrastructure strategy that deals with real issues on the ground rather than concepts.

By Paul Geehan, Technical Director,
Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Waking up to the Value of Parks

In many ways, coronavirus is a wake-up call, an opportunity to take stock and reset priorities in how we plan our cities. Proper planning for parks and green links makes good sense from an economic, health, and wellbeing perspective. No longer are parks and public space a nice to have, the people have spoken with their feet – parks are essential, and now more than ever we need them.

By James Grant, Practice Lead,
Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



Creating Spaces for Communities

As designers we need to reflect on how these spaces can foster community connection in ways that we may not have considered before. Our approach to design needs to ensure that each element of the environment is finetuned to deliver the maximum value to the whole community. Good design is not generally any more expensive than poor design, but it takes more effort.

By Jo Blackmore, Associate Director, Landscape Architect, Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)



How Does a Space Become a Place?

It's one thing to make your own reading of a place's meaning, but it is daunting to then create something new that clearly and powerfully tells the stories of the collective and the individual. So many places are ruined by the 'plonk art' phenomena, where a generic site is designed and then jazzed up with pieces of 'art' and embellishments that have no meaning and or connection. It does nothing for the place except create clutter and confusion.

By Ben Newell, Associate Director, Landscape Architecture, Design + Planning
[Read article online](#)

Talking Cities Podcast

Want to hear what our competition jurors think about the role public space plays in our cities? As part of the AECOM Talking Cities podcast series, we interview some of the leading influencers in place-making.

Together we discuss the importance of public space, the role it plays in our communities, and some of the challenges faced with its delivery. We'll also find out what drives them personally and what type of legacy they hope to leave on the cities they call home.

[Listen to Podcasts online](#)



Talking Cities: Susan Lloyd-Hurwitz – CEO & Managing Director, Mirvac

Join us for the first episode of Season 5 of the Talking Cities podcast where AECOM's James Rosenwax and Mirvac CEO and Managing Director Susan Lloyd-Hurwitz discuss the important role that public space plays in our cities and communities. Susan, one of our jurors for the Public Space Ideas Competition, talks about some of the challenges faced with the delivery of high-quality public space and the changes to the way we use it since the coronavirus pandemic.



Talking Cities: Robyn Dowling – Head of School & Dean, Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney

Robyn Dowling, Head of School & Dean of Architecture, Design and Planning at the University of Sydney, discusses the benefits of multidisciplinary collaboration in the design of public spaces, the use of technology to foster social interaction and the potential for semi-formal reclamation of streets for pedestrians.



Talking Cities: Alex O'Mara – Group Deputy Secretary, Place, Design and Public Spaces, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

In this episode of Talking Cities podcast, Alex O'Mara, Group Deputy Secretary of Place, Design and Public Spaces at the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment talks about the key ingredients for a great public space, the latest initiatives being undertaken by the NSW Government, and the results of a recent survey on how communities are using public spaces differently as a consequence of the coronavirus.



Talking Cities: Eamon Waterford – Deputy CEO and Policy Director, Committee for Sydney

Join us for the latest episode of the Talking Cities podcast where AECOM's James Rosenwax and Committee for Sydney Deputy CEO and Policy Director Eamon Waterford discuss the brilliant outcomes of the Public Space Ideas Competition. Eamon talks about some of the trends identified within the 531 received entries and the possible next steps after the competition.



Published January 2021

About the Committee for Sydney

The Committee for Sydney is an urban policy think tank. We are advocates for the whole of Sydney, developing pragmatic and innovative solutions to the most important problems we face.

We are funded by a group of Sydney's leading corporations, government departments, and education and cultural institutions. Together, our goal is to help Sydney be the best city in the world.

If you would like to find out more about getting involved, please visit [sydney.org.au](https://www.sydney.org.au)

We would like to acknowledge the project team that delivered the Public Space Ideas Competition:

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Committee for Sydney
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James Rosenwax, Tim O'Loan, James Grant, Anna Robinson, Giulia Vignaroli, Andrew Derkatch, Teasheen Chuah, Johnny Sollitt-Davis, Emma Corless, Kirsty Douglas



**PUBLIC SPACE
IDEAS COMPETITION**