Forum Convener: Roger Taylor
in collaboration with

SUSTAINABLE CITIES
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

What kind of world should we be planning our cities and transport systems for?

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Limited number of concession places available. Please contact Roger Taylor for details phone 03 9813 1529 or email: rogeriut@hotmail.com

Terms:
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No refunds granted after March 16, 2009
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The Organisers thank the following for the sponsorship that has made this important event possible:
Do we understand the extent to which global change will shape our cities? How liveable will our cities be in the future? What will they look like? How many people will be living in them by 2050 and 2100? Where will the food come from to feed them? What resources will be available to maintain and operate city services and its infrastructure? How much of the infrastructure we are building today will have value in the future? Do we really know what future we should be planning for?

These are critical questions that should be reflected in government policy yet almost all of today’s planning policies continue to be based on business as usual approaches.

This forum aims to address these questions and consider the implications for city and transport planning.

**Forum Facilitator**

Dr Normen Swan is host of the Health Report on ABC Radio National, presenter of Health Minutes on ABC NewsRadio, health commentator, speaker and facilitator. He is in great demand as a speaker, facilitator, panel chair and creator of hypotheticals.

Normen was named Australian Radio Producer of the Year in 1994 and was awarded a Gold Citation in the United Nations Media Peace Prizes for his radio work. He has won three Walkley National Awards for Australian journalism, including the prestigious Gold, and Australia’s top prize for Science Journalism, the Michael Daly Award, twice. In 2004 he was awarded the Medal of the Australian Academy of Science, an honour that had only been given three times and the Royal College of Physicians of Glasgow made him a Fellow.

In 2005 he delivered a Nelson Mandela Lecture at the University of the Witwatersrand, and in 2010, he provided an analysis of mortality rates and disease profiles in HIV/AIDS endemic areas.

**Speakers**

Dr John Finnigan is Director, CSIRO Centre for Complex System Science (CCS) and Atmospheric Research Canberra.

Dr Graham Turner is a senior scientist at CSIRO sustainable Ecosystems, Canberra. His work involves whole of system analysis of long term physical sustainability of the Australian environment and economy. With a background in applied physics Graham develops and applies the Australian Stocks and Flows Framework to create ‘what if’ scenarios that quantify sustainability challenges and explore potential solutions.

Dr Damon Honnery is Associate Professor Laboratory for Turbulence Research in Aerospace & Combustion Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Monash University.

Dr Peter Brain is one of Australia’s best known economists in the development and application of macroeconomic models. Since co-founding NIER in 1984, Dr Brain has participated in over 200 economic consulting projects, most of which he has directed or co-directed. This includes past and on-going projects in South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Dr Brain was one of the few economists to forecast the current economic crisis throughout the Asian region, and participates widely in debate on issues of general economic interest. Peter has authored or co-authored four books including Beyond Meltdown – the global battle for sustained growth.

Dr Peter Newton is a Research Professor in the Cities, Housing and Environment Program within the Institute for Social Research at Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne where he leads research on sustainable built environments and city futures. Prior to joining Swinburne in 2007 he held senior research positions in the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) as Chief Research Scientist, Deputy Chief and Science Director in the Divisions of Manufacturing and Infrastructure Technology and Sustainable Ecosystems. From 2001 through 2006 he was the Director of the Sustainability Program within the Co-operative Research Centre for Construction Innovation. Peter has authored or edited over 20 books on cities and the built environment.

Professor Currie holds Australia’s first professorship in public transport based at the Institute of Transport Studies, University of Melbourne where he researches and provides training in public transport planning. He has 30 years experience as a transit planner and is a member of the US Transportation Research Board committees on Bus Transit, Light Rail Transit and Transit Development and Planning. He is a member of the UITP academic network and the Victorian Roads Based Public Transport Advisory Council. Prof Currie has led numerous research projects in public transport in all states and territories of Australia as well as assignments in Europe, Asia and North America.

Professor Nicholas Low is the co-director of GSAMT, the Australian National Centre for the Governance and Management of Urban Transport. Prof Low is the author or editor of eight books, two of which have won national and international prizes. His books with Brendan Glaesener Justice, Society and Nature won the Harold and Margaret Spout Prize of the International Studies Association 1998 for the best book published on ecological politics in that year. John Stanley is an economist and Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, University of Sydney. He has presented nine years as Executive Director of Bus Association of Victoria, after eight years as Deputy Chair of the National Road Transport Commission and, prior to that, as Chair of Victoria’s Recycling and Resource Recovery Council. John was awarded a Centenary Medal for services to public transport and conservation. He has published widely on transport policy and planning matters.

**Program**

8.30  Registration
8.30 - 10.30  Session 1
Where are we at? – where are we heading, future scenarios and causes
The changing world (climate/global change – including resource depletion, system degradation, tipping points etc) – some basic truths, the realises that confront us. Note global change is much more than climate change. Symptoms and causes – serious questions that need to be asked.

- Will Steffen
- Ian McPhail
- Damon Honnery
- Graham Turner

10.30  Morning Tea
10.50 - 12.20  Session 2
Understanding the system/model
System change – stable and unstable planning models, multiple tipping points, notions of sustainability and resilience.
Reality checks – parallels and lessons from history – some case studies old and new, an ecological perspective
Social and economic implications and future scenarios (based on environmental scenarios presented in session 1) and
Political implications for societies under stress

- John Finnigan
- Graham Turner
- Peter Brain

12.20  Lunch
1.00 - 2.00  Session 3
Futures to plan for – back casting – what kind/rate of change do we need to plan for, implications for communities, particularly cities and towns, new policy thinking, notions of sustainability and resilience.

- John Finnigan
- Peter Brain
- Nick Low
- Graham Currie/John Stanley

2.00  Afternoon Tea
2.30 - 4  Session 4
Application of new thinking in city and transport planning and development
Some models to consider and how they might be applied in Melbourne

- John Finnigan
- Peter Newton
- Nick Low
- Graham Currie/John Stanley

4.00 - 5.15  Session 5
Summary of key issues, panel discussion, question time and closing address
Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Tea will be provided by ASRC (Asylum Seeker Resource Centre), a not for profit organisation that is the largest provider of aid, advocacy and health services for asylum seekers in Australia.