

19th February 2021

Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore
City of Sydney
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SYDNEY NSW 2001
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Dear Lord Mayor


We want to share our Congratulations to City of Sydney for recently winning the IAP2A Core Value Award for Australasia Project of the Year and Planning. This award was for their project "Planning for 2050". Commencing in 2018, the City of Sydney undertook an extensive community engagement program to support the development of a new Community Strategic Plan to 2050. IAP2 Australasia admired how the project captured the breadth of the community – the 1.3 million people who live, work, visit, do business or study in the city everyday. Of note was how the process was iterative as community vision which was shaped through values, future trends, challenges and ideas for action. Other aspects of note included a widespread deliberative program incorporating a Youth Summit, a Children's Summit and a Citizens' Jury taking a deeper look at how Sydney could be transformed in the future.

The IAP2 Australasia Core Values Awards build awareness, contribute to the practice and recognise excellence in public participation and community engagement.

The laureates of the awards represent best practice in our field and serve as model of excellence for others to emulate. Winners and finalists are recognized for their contributions to the practice in the areas of indigenous engagement, community development, health, infrastructure, environment, disaster and emergency services, as well as their creativity, innovation and inclusion. This is a testament to the tremendous expansion and impact of our field of expertise.

Congratulations again on this significant achievement for the City of Sydney. Entries for the 2021 Core Values Awards open again on the 25th of February 2021, and IAP2 Australasia looks forward to again recognising projects and organisations that are at the forefront of public participation.

Yours sincerely



Marion Short
Chief Executive Officer

About IAP2 Australasia

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) is the leading public participation organisation globally which seeks to promote and improve the practice of community and stakeholder engagement.

As an international leader in public participation, IAP2 has developed tools that are widely used and acknowledged. These are the **IAP2 Core Values for Public Participation** for use in the development and implementation of public participation processes; and the **IAP2 Spectrum** which assists with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any community engagement program. The Spectrum is widely used and is quoted in most community engagement manuals.

Additionally, there is the **Quality Assurance Standard for Community and Stakeholder Engagement**, which is recognised as the international standard for public participation practice.

IAP2 Australasia has 10,000 members throughout Australia and New Zealand.

IAP2 Australasia is committed to advancing the practice of community and stakeholder engagement through education, advocacy and building partnerships.

Policy Position:

As the peak body for the community and stakeholder engagement sector, IAP2 Australasia believes that engagement, when done well, improves social, environmental, and economic outcomes and increases trust in the democratic process.

We advocate for all communities to be authentically engaged in decisions that affect them, in alignment with the IAP2 Quality Assurance Standard for Community and Stakeholder Engagement.

The evidence for engagement

Evidence for increased engagement to reduce risk and speed up the delivery of projects to support Australia's economic recovery includes:

- Community opposition has contributed to the delay, cancellation or mothballing of more than \$20B of infrastructure projects in the last decade.
Source: The Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019
- Better functioning cities and towns could deliver a \$29B increase in GDP in the long term.
Source: The Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019
- 80% of Australians indicate it is important that government considers the views of the community when planning of investing in major infrastructure
Source: The Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019
- 82% of businesses said "communicating and engaging with stakeholders openly was seen as the most critical factor for building trust"
Source: Creating value and balancing stakeholder needs (KPMG and AICD survey – 2019)
- Securing a social license to operate reduces the No. 1 ranked stakeholder risk *Source: Top 10 Business Risks and Opportunities – 2020 (EY)*