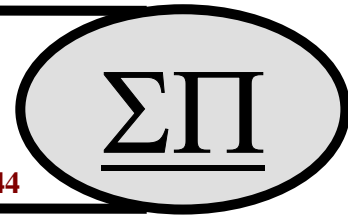


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The RAINBOW 2000[©] PROJECT .

(Incorporating Albany Anzac 2014-18[©] Re-enactment and Albany Bicentennial 2026-27[©])

- a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany and the Great Southern.

The Rainbow 2000[©] Project is a doctoral research & corporate investment program analysing the relationship between planning and politics in Economic Development in Australia, and more particularly a case study of Albany & the Great Southern Region of Western Australia – thesis : Is planning the antithesis of politics?

Planning Instruments of Western Australia

(pertaining to the management of land and water asset / marine & terrestrial biosphere)

Enabling State Legislation

WA Planning & Development Act	2005
WA Planning & Development Regulations	2009
Armadale Redevelopment Act	2001
East Perth Redevelopment Act	1991
Geraldton Foreshore & Marina Development Act	1991
Midland Redevelopment Act	1999
Perth Metropolitan Region Scheme Act	1959
Planning & Development (Consequential & Transitional Prov.) Act	2005
Subiaco Redevelopment Act	1994
Swan Valley Planning Act	1995
Town Planning & Development Act	1928
Town Planning & Development Regulations	1967
WA Planning Commission Act	1985

Written & Authorised by Neil Smithson of 364 Middleton Road, Albany, Western Australia 6330

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Related State Legislation

WA Aboriginal Heritage Act	1972
WA Caravan Parks & Camping Grounds Act	1995
WA Cemeteries Act	1986
WA Census Act	1891
WA Dangerous Goods Safety Act	2004
WA Emergency Management Act	2005
WA Energy Coordination Act	1994
WA Environmental Protection Act	1986
WA Fair Trading Act	1987
WA Financial Management Act	2006
WA Fish Resources Management Act	1994
WA Government Agreements Act	1979
WA Harbours & Jetties Act	1928
WA Health Act	1911
WA Heritage of Western Australia Act	1990
WA Housing Act	1980
WA Land Administration Act	1997
WA Land Tax Act	2002
WA Local Government Act	1995
WA Marine & Harbours Act	1981
WA Mining Act	1978
WA National Trust of Australia (WA) Act	1964
WA Native Title (State Provisions) Act	1999
WA Parks & Reserves Act	1895
WA Public Sector Management Act	1994

Related State Legislation (Cont')

WA Public Works Act	1902
WA Regional Development Commissions Act	1993
WA Road Traffic Act	1974
WA State Records Act	2000
WA Swan & Canning Rivers Management Act	2006
WA Transfer of Land Act	1893
WA Transport Coordination Act	1966
WA Tree Plantations Agreement Act	2003
WA Valuation of Land Act	1978
WA Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Act	2007
WA Water Corporation Act	1995
WA Water & Rivers Commission Act	1995

State Planning Strategy & Policy

State Planning Strategy – 1997

State Planning Strategy – Review 20??

State Planning Policy 1 – State Planning Framework 2006

State Planning Framework – Variation 2 – 2006

State Planning Framework – Version 1 – 2000

State Planning Policy 2 – Environment & Natural Resources 2003

- SPP 2.1 Peel-Harvey Coastal Plain Catchment Policy – 1992
- SPP 2.2 Gnamagara Groundwater Protection Policy – 2005
- SPP 2.3 Jandakot Groundwater Protection Policy – 1998
- SPP 2.4 Basic Raw Materials – 2000
- SPP 2.5 Agriculture & Rural Land Use Planning – 2002 (Review Draft 2011)
- SPP 2.6 State Coastal Planning Policy – 2003
- SPP 2.7 Public Drinking Water Source Policy – 2003
- SPP 2.8 Perth Metropolitan Bushland Policy – Draft (2004)
- SPP 2.9 Water Resources – 2006
- SPP 2.10 Swan Canning River System – 2006

State Planning Policy 3 – Urban Growth Settlement 2006

- SPP 3.1 Residential Design Codes (Variation 1) – 2008
- SPP 3.2 Planning for Aboriginal Communities – 2000
- SPP 3.4 Natural Hazards & Disasters – 2006
- SPP 3.5 Historic Heritage Conservation – 2007
- SPP 3.6 Development Contributions for Infrastructure – 2009

State Planning Policy 4 – Industrial & Commercial Development

- SPP 4.1 State Industrial Buffer Policy – Review Draft (2009)
- SPP 4.2 Perth Metropolitan Centres Policy – 2000
- SPP 4.3 Poultry Farms Policy – 1998

State Planning Policy 5 – Infrastructure & Telecommunications 2004

- SPP 5.1 Land Use Planning in the vicinity of Perth Airport – 2004
- SPP 5.2 Telecommunications Infrastructure – 2004
- SPP 5.3 Land Use Planning in the vicinity of Jandakot Airport – 2006
- SPP 5.4 Road & Rail Transport Noise & Freight Planning – 2009

State Planning Policy 6 – Coastal Management

- SPP 6.1 Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge Policy 2003
- SPP 6.3 Ningaloo Coast 2004

State Planning Strategy & Policy (Cont')

State Planning Policy 7 – Energy & Power (Draft) - 2009

Regional Planning Strategy & Policy

Gascoyne Regional Strategy – 1997

Shark Bay Regional Strategy – 1997
Gascoyne Coast Regional Strategy – 1996
Ningaloo Coast Regional Strategy – 2004

Goldfields Esperance Regional Strategy – 2000

Kalgoorlie-Boulder Structure Plan – 2000
Esperance Structure Plan – 2000

Great Southern Regional Strategy – 2007

Albany Regional Strategy – 1994
Albany Residential Expansion Strategy – 1994
Albany Commercial Strategy – 1994
Lower Great Southern Region Strategy – 2007
Upper Great Southern Regional Strategy – 20??

Kimberley Regional Strategy – 1990

Kimberley Region Plan – 1990
Kununurra Wyndham Development Strategy – 2000

Mid-West Regional Strategy – 1999

Oakajee Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor – 2010
Geraldton Region Centre Plan – 2005 (Update 2010)
Dongara Cape Burney Coast Strategy – 1996
Central Coast Regional Strategy – 1996
Geraldton Regional Plan – 1999

Peel Regional Strategy – 1994

Activity Centres Perth & Peel (Draft) – 2009
Industrial Land Strategy Perth & Peel (Draft) – 2009
Peel Region Scheme – 2003

Regional Planning Strategy & Policy (Cont')

Perth Metropolitan Region Scheme – 2008

Directions 2031 Perth & Peel (Draft) – 2010
Perth Coastal Planning Strategy (Draft) – 2010
Perth Waterfront Development Project (Draft) – 2010
Activity Centres Perth & Peel (Draft) – 2009
Industrial Land Strategy Perth & Peel (Draft) – 2009
Perth Metropolitan Freight Network (Draft) – 2008
Perth Network City (Draft) – 2004
Perth Airport – 2004
Middle Helena Land Use & Water Management Strategy – 2003
Gnangara Land Use & Water Management Strategy – 2001
Fremantle Rockingham Industrial Area Regional Strategy – 2000
Jandakot Land Use & Water Management Strategy – 1995
Fremantle Regional Strategy – 1994
Coastal & Lakelands Planning Strategy – 1994
Perth Metroplan – 1990
Kwinana Regional Strategy – 1988
Perth Corridor Plan – 1970
Perth Metropolitan Region Plan – 1955

Pilbara Regional Strategy – 20??

Pilbara Cities Strategy – 2011
Pilbara Planning & Infrastructure Framework (Draft) – 2011
Port Hedland Area Planning Study – 2000
Karratha Area Development Strategy – 1998

South-West Regional Plan – 20??

Draft Greater Bunbury Commercial Activity Centres – 2011
Draft Greater Bunbury Region Strategy – 2011
Greater Bunbury Region Scheme – 2007
Leeuwin Naturaliste Region Plan (Stage 1) – 1988
Leeuwin Naturaliste Region Plan (Stage 2) – 1988
Leeuwin Naturaliste Ridge – 2003
Bunbury Wellington Regional Plan – 1995
Warren Blackwood Regional Strategy – 1994

Wheatbelt Regional Strategy – 2010

Wheatbelt Regional Strategy – 2010
Avon Arc Regional Strategy – 2001

Municipal Planning Schemes

Where colour indicates the age of the instrument – **Old** / New

City of Albany TPS 1A (Old Town - District)	1983
City of Albany TPS 3 (Old Shire - District)	1980
City of Albany TPS 3.2B (Torabay Hill)	1980
City of Armadale TPS 4 (District)	2005
Shire of Ashburton TPS 7 (District)	2004
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River TPS 11 (District)	1985
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River TPS 16 (Augusta)	1985
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River TPS 17 (Margaret River)	1991
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River TPS 18 (Prevelly Park)	1995
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River TPS 19 (Augusta)	1998
Town of Bassendean LPS 10 (District)	2008
City of Bayswater TPS 23 (Morley City Centre)	2000
City of Bayswater TPS 24 (District)	2004
City of Belmont TPS 14 (District)	1999
Shire of Beverley TPS 2 (District)	1993
Shire of Boddington TPS 2 (District)	1997
Shire of Boyup Brook TPS 2 (District)	1997
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes TPS 3 (Bridgetown)	1983
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes TPS 4 (District)	1987
Shire of Brookton TPS 3 (District)	1998
Shire of Broome TPS 4 (District)	1999
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup TPS 1 (Broomehill)	1997
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup TPS 2 (Tambellup)	1997
Shire of Bruce Rock TPS 1 (District)	1957
City of Bunbury TPS 7 (District)	2002
Shire of Busselton TPS 20 (District)	1999
Town of Cambridge TPS 1 (District)	1998

Municipal Planning Schemes (Cont')

City of Canning TPS 40 (District)	1994
Shire of Capel TPS 7 (District)	1998
Shire of Carnamah TPS 1 (District)	1994
Shire of Carnarvon TPS 10 (Carnarvon & Environs)	1988
Shire of Carnarvon TPS 11 (District)	1995
Shire of Chapman Valley TPS 1 (District)	1982
Shire of Chittering TPS 6 (District)	2004
Shire of Christmas Island TPS 1 (District)	2002
Town of Claremont TPS 3 (District)	1999
City of Cockburn TPS 3 (District)	2002
Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands LPS 1 (District)	2007
Shire of Collie TPS 1 (District)	1972
Shire of Coolgardie TPS 4 (District)	2003
Shire of Coorow TPS 2 (District)	2001
Shire of Corrigin TPS 2 (District)	2000
Town of Cottesloe TPS 2 (District)	1988
Shire of Cranbrook TPS 4 (District)	2004
Shire of Cuballing TPS 1 (District)	2005
Shire of Cue TPS 1 (District)	1993
Shire of Cunderdin LPS 3 (District)	2007
Shire of Dalwallinu TPS 1 (District)	2000
Shire of Dandaragan LPS 7 (District)	2006
Shire of Dardanup TPS 3 (District)	1979
Shire of Dardanup TPS 4 (Coppystone)	1980
Shire of Dardanup TPS 7 (Parkland Industrial Area)	1980
Shire of Denmark TPS 3 (District)	1994
Shire of Derby-West Kimberley TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Derby-West Kimberley TPS 5 (Derby)	2001
Shire of Derby-West Kimberley TPS 7 (Meda)	1998

Municipal Planning Schemes (Cont')

Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup TPS 4 (District)	1994
Shire of Dowerin TPS 1 (District)	1999
Shire of Dumbleyung TPS 1 (District)	2003
Shire of Dundas TPS 2 (District)	1994
Town of East Fremantle TPS 3 (District)	2004
Shire of East Pilbara TPS 4 (District)	2005
Shire of Esperance TPS 22 (District)	2002
Shire of Esperance TPS 23 (Advertised Draft)	2009
Shire of Exmouth TPS 3 (District)	1999
City of Fremantle LPS 4 (District)	2007
City of Geraldton-Greenough TPS 3 (Geraldton District)	1998
City of Geraldton-Greenough TPS 1A (Greenough River)	1986
City of Geraldton-Greenough TPS 4 (Greenough District)	1984
Shire of Gingin TPS 8 (District)	1991
Shire of Gnowangerup TPS 1 (District)	1990
Shire of Goomalling TPS 3 (District)	1995
City of Gosnells TPS 6 (District)	2002
Shire of Halls Creek TPS 1 (District)	1991
Shire of Harvey & Dardanup TPS 1 (Australind Eaton)	2006
Shire of Harvey TPS 1 (District)	1996
Shire of Irwin LPS 1 (District)	2008
Shire of Jerramungup LPS 2 (District)	2007
City of Joondalup DPS 2 (District)	2000
Shire of Kalamunda LPS 3 (District)	2007
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder TPS 1 (District)	1997
Shire of Katanning TPS 4 (District)	1998
Shire of Kellerberrin TPS 2 (District)	1998
Shire of Kent TPS 2 (District)	1993
Shire of Kojonup TPS 3 (District)	1998

Municipal Planning Schemes (Cont')

Shire of Kondinin TPS 1 (District)	2004
Shire of Koorda TPS 2 (District)	1995
Shire of Kulin TPS 2 (District)	1999
Town of Kwinana TPS 2 (District)	1992
Town of Kwinana TPS 3 (Town Centre)	1998
Shire of Lake Grace LPS 4 (District)	2007
Shire of Laverton TPS 2 (District)	2003
Shire of Leonora TPS 1 (District)	1984
City of Mandurah TPS 3 (District)	1999
Shire of Manjimup TPS 2 (District)	1987
Shire of Meekatharra TPS 3 (District)	1993
City of Melville CPS 5 (District)	1999
Shire of Menzies TPS 1 (District)	2003
Shire of Merredin TPS 1 (District)	1983
Shire of Mingenew LPS 3 (District)	2008
Shire of Moora TPS 4 (District)	1998
Shire of Morawa LPS 2 (District)	2007
Town of Mosman Park TPS 2 (District)	1999
Shire of Mount Magnet TPS 1 (District)	1991
Shire of Mount Marshall TPS 1 (District)	1996
Shire of Mukinbudin TPS 1 (District)	2003
Shire of Mullewa TPS 1 (District)	1986
Shire of Mundaring TPS 3 (District)	1994
Shire of Murchison TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Murray TPS 4 (District)	1989
Shire of Nannup LPS 3 (District)	2007
Shire of Narembeen TPS 2 (District)	1999
Shire of Narrogin TPS 2 (District)	1997

Municipal Planning Schemes (Cont')

Town of Narrogin TPS 2 (District)	1994
City of Nedlands TPS 2 (District)	1985
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Northam TPS 3 (District)	2005
Town of Northam TPS 5 (District)	2004
Shire of Northampton TPS 6 (District)	1996
Shire of Northampton TPS 8 (Horrocks)	1992
Shire of Northampton TPS 9 (Kalbarri)	2005
Shire of Nungarin TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Peppermint Grove TPS 3 (District)	1996
Shire of Perenjori TPS 1 (District)	1994
City of Perth CPS 2 (District)	2004
City of Perth CPS 24 (Panorama)	2001
City of Perth CPS 26 (East Perth Normalised)	2007
Shire of Pingelly LPS 3 (District)	2008
Shire of Plantagenet TPS 3 (District)	1991
Town of Port Hedland TPS 5 (District)	2001
Shire of Quairading TPS 2 (District)	1993
Shire of Ravensthorpe TPS 5 (District)	2003
City of Rockingham TPS 2 (District)	2004
Shire of Roebourne TPS 8 (District)	2000
Shire of Sandstone TPS 1 (District)	1996
Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale TPS 2 (District)	1989
Shire of Shark Bay LPS 3 (District)	2008
City of South Perth TPS 6 (District)	2003
City of Stirling TPS 2 (District)	1985
City of Stirling TPS 38 (District)	1997
City of Subiaco TPS 4 (District)	2001

Municipal Planning Schemes (Cont')

City of Swan LPS 18 (District)	2008
Shire of Tammin TPS 1 (District)	2001
Shire of Three Springs TPS 1 (District)	1988
Shire of Toodyay LPS 4 (District)	2008
Shire of Trayning TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Upper Gascoyne TPS ## (District)	TBA
Town of Victoria Park TPS 1 (District)	1998
Shire of Victoria Plains TPS 4 (District)	1999
Town of Vincent TPS 1 (District)	1998
Shire of Wagin TPS 2 (District)	1999
Shire of Wandering TPS 3 (District)	2001
City of Wanneroo DPS 2 (District)	2001
Shire of Waroona TPS 7 (District)	1996
Shire of West Arthur LPS 2 (District)	2007
Shire of Westonia TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Wickepin LPS 4 (District)	2007
Shire of Williams TPS 2 (District)	1994
Shire of Wiluna TPS 1 (District)	2001
Shire of Wongan-Ballidu TPS 4 (District)	2001
Shire of Woodanilling TPS 1 (District)	2005
Shire of Wyalkatchem TPS 3 (District)	2000
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley TPS ## (District)	TBA
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley TPS 6 (Wyndham)	1994
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley TPS 7 (Kununurra)	2001
Shire of Yalgoo TPS 1 (District)	1992
Shire of Yilgarn TPS 2 (District)	1998
Shire of York TPS 2 (District)	1996

Issues-Based Planning Policy

Greenhouse Gas Emissions – 201?

Health Services in Western Australia – 201?

National Broadband Network Australia – 201?

Supertowns for Regional Development – 201?

WA Tourism Infrastructure Framework – 201?

Relationships-Based Planning Policy

Energy Efficiency in Building Design – 201?

Development Assessment Panels – 201?

Local Government Regional Reform – 201?

Quotable Quotes in the Planning Debate

Yes Minister – WAPC determines State planning policy : “Yours is a visionary proposal but on examination it is clear that it is not a proposal the Commission would support. I hope you’ll understand that we are unable to include the matter on a meeting of the Commission. I appreciate your interest in the development of Albany’s future.”

Jeremy Dawkins, Chairman, Western Australian Planning Commission Letter : 29 Apr 2004

A National Perspective : “Neil Smithson understands the true power and value of planning.”

Sue Holliday, President, Planning Institute of Australia Comment : WA Division Committee, 12 Nov 2007

Turning the planning system to service WA’s economic growth : “Western Australia has an outstanding record of achievement in planning and development that has seen it become the best practice example for development outcomes in most areas. MacroPlan’s National Planning Director, Gary Prattley (*formerly CEO of the WA Ministry for Planning under the Court Coalition Government until 2001*), believes that there are three critical factors that have enabled this achievement.”

“The first is the incredible vision and rigour of the Stephenson Hepburn Plan which essentially survives to this day. The second is a planning system that has been stable, strategically focussed and sufficiently independent to survive changing political whims. The final extremely important factor has been the role of the Metropolitan Region Improvement Fund, funded by hypothecated revenue, and therefore free from the vagaries of the budget process. These three factors have enabled the strategic vision to be delivered by acquiring and protecting critical land for regional infrastructure and open space. No other State has the benefit of such a powerful implementation tool and the consequences of this are obvious.”

“Western Australia, via the Western Australian Planning Commission, was the first State in Australia to develop a State Planning Strategy, the first to have regional plans and strategies across the whole State, and the only State to develop comprehensive monitoring of land supply and development across the State. Gary Prattley notes however that the focus on the future of the Metropolitan area over the last few years has perhaps seen insufficient attention paid to the regional areas which are fundamental to the growth of the State and the Nation. The Major Projects Approval system is complex and slow and in need of major overhaul to cope with the current emerging pressures. Planning should play a lead role in establishing the strategic context for such approvals and should, like New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia, take a primary role in delivering an integrated approval system.”

Gary Prattley, Planning Director, MacroPlan Australia Extract : Western Planner Vol.29 #14 (Page 8), Apr 2008

Following up – As a qualified planner, Gary Prattley was briefed on the Rainbow 2000 Project in 1998, but declined to take the matter to the WA Planning Commission (or more likely was told not to bother by then Planning Minister Graham Kierath). As director of the planning portfolio, he also declined Smithson Planning’s proposition for Development Assessment Panels.

Debate rages over WA regional funding : “The state’s royalties for regions policy remained in the spotlight today as questions arise over the interpretation of the election pledge that underpins the Liberal-National government. Today Premier Colin Barnett restated there was no disagreement between his and Nationals leader Brendon Grylls’ interpretation of the policy, where the Liberal Party promised to set aside 25 per cent of mining royalties for regional areas. The clash centres on whether the 25 per cent of revenue from royalties includes forward estimates, or budgeted amounts, from the previous Labor government. At the end of the day we will honour the royalties for regions program, Mr Barnett said today. Twenty five per cent of mining royalties will be spent in country areas, over and above what would otherwise happen.”

“The Premier refused to say whether funding allocated in the forward estimates will be included in the royalties policy, saying he will not commit to previous Labor programs. As part of the Nationals election campaign, Mr Grylls pledged that 25 per cent of royalties for regional projects will be over and above existing and budgeted expenditure. Mr Barnett rejected claims that he misled Mr Grylls in the Liberals’ courting of the Nationals in the week after the election, despite a letter from the Premier to the Nationals leader last month that indicates otherwise. The projects and expenditure will be over and above those currently funded in the regions by State Government..., Mr Barnett said in a letter dated September 12. Today Mr Barnett said he believes his and Mr Grylls’ interpretation of the funding program is similar.”

“Shadow Minister for Regional Development Alannah MacTiernan is calling for the Liberals to honour the written offer. This so-called alliance government has clearly been built on a very shaky foundation. It is now clear the three most senior figures in Cabinet do not agree on the essence of the offer or what is going to be delivered to Western Australians living in the regions. Ms MacTiernan said it was unacceptable that Mr Barnett, Mr Buswell and Mr Grylls were contradicting each other and contradicting themselves on a daily basis. There has been weeks of confusion over what the royalties for regions scheme will actually deliver. It’s a case of different day, different deal, Ms MacTiernan said. Either this is complete incompetence or complete arrogance.”

Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLA, Shadow Minister for Infrastructure e-News : WA Business News, 20 Oct 2008

Following up – Coming from the former Minister for Planning & Infrastructure under the Gallop and then Carpenter Labor governments, who refused to be briefed on the Rainbow 2000[®] Project, and presided over the systemic failure of strategic planning for state, regional and local governance – now this is funny.

3rd National Report Card : “Twelve factors that planners consider critical for protecting and enhancing the well-being of our cities and towns from the basis of the survey. Planners have been asked how well Australia is performing in each of these areas. Across the country, the results indicate an overall score of C- (with possible scores of A to E). Planners are probably harsh critics – as they are particularly well informed! It is particularly pleasing to see that Australia is performing well against four of the 12 key criteria. These are Growth Management; Governance Structures; Public Participation; and Streamlined Assessment. This reflects the energy and effort across jurisdictions going into developing plans and frameworks for managing the growth of our major urban centres in recent years. There is renewed interest in planning reform and in engaging with the community in setting strategic direction and in local decision making.”

Di Jay, Chief Executive Officer, Planning Institute of Australia Report : Australian Planner, 19 Dec 2008

Planning Report Card—National results

	NSW		ACT		QLD		VIC		SA		TAS		WA		NT		National	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
Growth Management	C	C	C+	C+	C	C+	C	C	C	C	D+	D	C	C	C		C	C
Sustainability Indicators	C-	C-	C	C	C-	C-	C-	C	C-	C	D	D+	C-	C	D+		C-	C-
Governance Structure	C-	C-	C	C	C	C	C-	C	C	C	D+	D	C-	C	C+		C	C
Infrastructure	D	D	C	C	C	C	D+	C-	C-	D+	D	D	C-	C	D+		C-	C-
Transport	D	D	C-	D+	C-	C	D	D	C	D+	D	D-	C	B-	D+		D+	D+
Demographic Change	D+	D+	C-	C-	C-	C	C-	C	C-	C-	D	D	D+	C-	D+		D+	C-
Housing	D+	D+	C+	C	C-	C-	D+	C-	C	C	D+	D+	C-	D+	C-		C-	C-
Public Participation	C-	C-	C	C+	C	C	C	C+	C-	C	B-	C	C	B-	C+		C	C
Professional Planning Workforce	C-	D-	C-	C-	C-	D+	C-	C-	C-	C-	C-	C-	D	D+	C		C-	C-
Planning Assessment	C-	D+	C	C	C-	C-	C-	C	C+	C+	C+	C	D+	C-	B-		C	C
Urban Design	C-	C	C	C	C-	C-	C	C	C-	C-	D	D	C	C	C-		C-	C
Climate Change	D+	D+	C	C	D+	D+	D+	C-	C	C	C-	C-	D+	D+	C-		C-	C-
Average Grade	D+	D+	C	C	C-	C	C-	C	C	C	D+	D+	C-	C	C		C-	C

Key

- A = performing well against this criterion (80–100%)
- B = doing well against this criterion with some initiatives underway (70–79%)
- C = evidence of some initiatives with improvement required to achieve this criterion (60–69%)
- D = inadequate progress and no action underway in this criterion (50–59%)
- E = no progress (<49%)

Following up – With an increased participation rate of planners each year, the fact remains that the weighted performance across Australia against each key criteria is the same or worse than 2006 and then 2007, with Urban Design and Climate Change added in 2007 – something akin to Outcomes Based Education for the spin-doctors.

Building a better planning system : “Although fundamentally sound, the State’s planning processes have been under strain in recent years as they struggled to cope with a prolonged period of strong economic and population growth, diverse regional development and changing community expectations about sustainable management practices. More recently, the economic downswing has led to a focus on the timeliness and efficiency of the planning system to support measures to stimulate economic growth through infrastructure investment and residential development. A good planning system should be invisible but accommodating and stimulating. Instead there have been complaints about delays in obtaining planning approvals, uncertainty as to processes and outcomes, a lack of capacity to deliver strategic outcomes and poor infrastructure coordination. As a result there is now a lack of community and business confidence in the planning system. Western Australian cannot afford to have such a fundamental part of the State’s institutional framework holding back development and investment decisions.”

“The Government has made improvements to the planning system a matter of high priority. One of the first decisions made by the Government was to focus on reducing the complexity and time taken to obtain development approvals for major resource projects. This initiative has expanded into a broader reform of other approvals processes, especially those that apply to urban land. Similarly, at the national level the Commonwealth Government has made planning reform and infrastructure development a national priority. Other States have taken the lead in planning reform and Western Australian cannot be complacent if it wants to remain an attractive place for residential and business investment. While streamlining the approvals processes for major projects

has been the first priority of the Government, without a broader and more strategic approach to planning reform, measures taken to improve the planning approvals processes may end up being piecemeal and short-lived.”

“In particular, there is a need to look at the effectiveness of planning systems in their totality to achieve a more effective balance between economic, social and environmental outcomes. *Building a Better Planning System* sets out a broader planning agenda for lasting reform and improvement. Industry and the planning community are invited to comment on the proposals and approach. Submissions need to focus on strategic priorities and deliverable actions that address community and industry concerns and most importantly will result in long term improvements to the planning system.”

“Strategic Priorities and Action Plan :

1. Simplify planning approvals
2. More effective planning instruments
3. Prioritise major projects
4. Integrated coordination of infrastructure and land use planning
5. A comprehensive regional planning framework
6. Strengthen governance and institutional arrangements.”

Eric Lumsden, Director-General, WA DPI Extract : Building a Better Planning System, 27 Mar 2009

Day goes back to the future on foreshore plan : “Some things never change; a new State Government and yet another plan for the Swan River foreshore. Planning Minister John Day has put the kybosh on the former Labor government’s ambitious plans to develop the city’s waterfront, saying that the Perth Waterfront Taskforce would be reconvened and would ‘embark on a new direction’. The Labor plan, he said, had short-comings, including high-rise buildings he believed to be wrong for Perth. There have been no fewer than 12 publicly released plans for development of the foreshore since 1988 (*Australia’s Bicentennial*). That would be laughable if it were not so frustrating. Perth people have responded positively, time and again, to the idea that the city needs a revamped waterfront to bring energy into the area. But not so much as a sod has been turned (*excluding the Perth Convention Centre; Barrack Street Jetty; and the Swan Bells*) and now yet another set of plans has been commissioned.”

“There seems to be a mysterious force at work in WA which prevents a government from making a final decision on how to invigorate the area. That force finds voice in the people whose instinctive reaction is vehement resistance to the suggestion of change in almost any guise but particularly in regard to the foreshore. This leads cynics to the view that the perennial naysayers who are all too prevalent in this city have a way of emerging triumphant. Certainly timidity and lack of vision have resulted in too little exciting development in the central city area. The foreshore is regarded, rightly, as one of the most important features of the city and so there should be no argument with the desire to get it right. But that should not be confused with what moved city consultant Charles Landry to describe Perth as the city that says no. If Mr Day thinks he can come up with a better plan, then he must accept the responsibility for doing just that. The prospect of more wrangling over what should have been achieved at least a decade ago is insupportable. If he presides over further unwarranted delay, debate and obfuscation he will find that the community’s patience is well and truly exhausted.

Brett McCarthy, Editor-in-Chief, The West Australian Extract : West Australian (Page 20), 06 Apr 2009

Following up – the author was an unsuccessful candidate for the vacant position of Chairman of the WA Planning Commission. On Monday 7 April 2009, the Barnett Government appointed former Chief Executive of the Ministry for Planning Gary Prattley to the position.

Following up – As a qualified planner, Gary Prattley was briefed on the Rainbow 2000[®] Project in 1998, but declined to take the matter to the WA Planning Commission (or more likely was told not to bother by then Planning Minister Graham Kierath). As Director of the planning portfolio, he also declined Smithson Planning’s proposition for Development Assessment Panels.

City parts company with senior staffer : “The City of Albany has parted company with one of its long-standing senior executives. Development Services executive director Robert Fenn’s contract was not renewed when the Albany City Council met on Tuesday night. Council deliberated behind closed doors before making the decision put forward by CEO Paul Richards. Mr Richards said Mr Fenn had served Albany for fifteen years in three five-year contracts and the decision not to renew his contract followed a comprehensive review of City processes. Mr Fenn was initially employed as the Manager Development Facilitation and Advice in the former Town of Albany. Following the amalgamation of the Town and Shire of Albany in 1998, he was appointed the Executive Director Development Services with the City and has worked with four CEOs in the last 15 years.”

“It’s time for a change – we are now going in a different direction.”

Paul Richards, CEO, City of Albany Extract : AGS Weekender (Page 1), 21 Jan 2010

Following up – The four CEOs include Murray Jorgensen, Jim Kelly, Andrew Hammond and Paul Richards.

City parts company with senior staffer : “Albany Mayor Milton Evans said Mr Fenn had provided a dedicated and committed 15 years of service. Council is grateful for his long-standing service – Mr Fenn began working at the Town of Albany in 1994 and then with the City in 1998. With over a decade of service to regional planning, Mr Fenn had made an enormous contribution at a strategic level, Mayor Evans said. He has been an advocate for regional policy changes and instrumental in achieving major improvements to the City’s emergency management planning. The job has often been challenging and the lives of most Albany residents have been affected in one way or another by Mr Fenn’s advice and decisions. Mayor Evans said Mr Fenn took a lead role during the amalgamation of the Town and Shire and assisted his staff to adapt and move forward with the new structure.”

Mayor Milton Evans, City of Albany Extract : AGS Weekender (Page 1), 21 Jan 2010

Following up – Following Council's resolution in April 2000, there still wasn't an endorsed Local Planning Strategy or a Draft Local Planning Scheme in January 2010 – for the purposes of the legislation 'endorsed' means endorsed by the Minister for Planning following consideration by the WA Planning Commission.

Restructure of WAPC Committees : “Planning Minister John Day has announced the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has completed its priority restructure of committees in line with the State Government's initiative to reduce and streamline public sector committees. In June 2009, the Premier requested all government agencies review, and where appropriate reduce, the number of boards and committees to improve operational efficiencies, reduce costs and to make Government more responsive to the needs of Western Australians, Mr Day said. The WAPC has performed a strategic review of their committees to determine the role and effectiveness of each committee and to ensure that resources are focused in the right area. The review has resulted in the discharge of 13 committees where it was considered they had either fulfilled their purpose or were no longer required. Any function for which a discharged committee had responsibility has been incorporated into a revised committee structure or alternative arrangements have been put in place. The discharged committees are :

- ❖ Araluen Park Board of Management
- ❖ Environment and Natural Resources Management Committee
- ❖ Goldfields, Esperance Regional Planning & Infrastructure Coordinating Committee
- ❖ Greater Bunbury Region Planning Committee
- ❖ Metropolitan Region Planning Committee
- ❖ Parliament House Precinct Committee
- ❖ Priorities Committee
- ❖ Public Utilities Services Committee
- ❖ School Sites Planning Committee
- ❖ Sustainability Committee
- ❖ WAPC / WALGA Committee
- ❖ Western Victoria Quay Advisory Committee
- ❖ Whiteman Park Board of Management.”

The Minister said the WAPC had also made some long standing committees advisory as part of the restructure. These committees will continue to play a role in establishing positive planning outcomes but, rather than having scheduled meeting dates and times, they will only convene to discuss issues of strategic importance for the State as and when required. These committees are :

- ❖ Coastal Planning and Coordination Council
- ❖ Sustainable Transport Committee
- ❖ Five metropolitan district planning committees.”

The WAPC has retained the following committees:

- ❖ Infrastructure Coordinating Committee
- ❖ Statutory Planning Committee
- ❖ Executive, Finance and Property Committee
- ❖ Central Perth Planning Committee
- ❖ Six regional planning committees : South-West, Peel, Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne and Mid-West.

Hon. John Day MLA, Minister for Planning Media Statement : 10 Feb 2010

Following up – And the three missing regions : Great Southern, Wheatbelt and Goldfields Esperance.

Reducing the burden – Report of the Red Tape Reduction Group : “The planning and development process was the most commonly cited area of red tape during the consultation process, accounting for over 20 per cent of issues raised. Business and local government participants were scathing in their comments about the operation of WA's planning system. A large number of problems were identified with the planning system. These included individual policies and processes, such as the Residential Design Codes (R-Codes) and local government approvals processes, as well as serious concerns with the overall effectiveness of the State's planning system, with problems such as a lack of coordination between agencies, inconsistency and duplication commonly identified.”

“While planning fulfils a complex function in coordinating a broad range of often conflicting public and private interests, it is clear that the current system is not operating at an optimal level and imposes an onerous burden on Western Australian businesses. Recently there have been a number of State Government sponsored reviews and reports into the effectiveness of the planning system and related issues, including ‘*Planning Makes It Happen*’ by the Department of Planning. There are also a large number of operational policies, regulations and guidelines used by State agencies and local government to guide the assessment and determination of applications.”

“There are approximately 30 State Planning Policies, 24 Development Control Policies and 93 planning bulletins, as well as a range of strategic plans and operational policies which have standing in decision-making. Added to this is a number of Environmental Protection Policies, guidelines and operational policies applied by the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation. Local government authorities also have a range of development policies. In addition, some planning proposals may trigger Commonwealth involvement under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth).”

“Local governments are responsible for the preparation and administration of local planning schemes. These schemes provide the statutory mechanisms for local governments to implement local planning strategies through zonings, reservations and planning controls. Local governments are required to review and consolidate their local planning scheme every five years pursuant to the Planning & Development Act. The consultation process revealed that many local planning schemes are outdated and have not been reviewed as required by the Act. The consultation process highlighted a widespread concern with regional planning processes. For example, the Great Southern Development Commission queried the lack of regional input into the planning process. This issue was also raised by the Shire of Carnarvon, the Goldfields-Esperance Economic Development Commission and the Shire of Esperance.”

“Several participants raised concerns that metropolitan land and housing restrictions are being applied to regional areas, resulting in major blockages in supply and distorting prices. Some participants also suggested that regional bodies do not meet as often as they should, causing a bottleneck in planning across the relevant region. The Metropolitan Centres Policy State Planning Policy No. 4.2 (MCP) appears to be an unjustifiable constraint on competition in the Perth metropolitan area. The policy, which is not subject to parliamentary scrutiny, creates a significant barrier to entry. Abolishing the policy would encourage development in Western Australia and facilitate a greater degree of competition, particularly in the retail industry. This would also allow the assessment of proposals which have been held up by review of the policy.”

“It is clear from the consultation process that the planning and development system is in need of broad structural reforms. The RTRG advocates an on-going concerted effort to streamline the planning and development process. This should include further attempts to reduce duplication as well as to reduce the complexity inherent in the process. There is also evidence from many contributors to suggest that there has been a significant loss of confidence in many Councils around planning. Development Assessment Panels were suggested in the *‘Building a Better Planning System’* report to determine significant land and housing projects, as part of the effort to simplify planning approvals. These panels will be the decision-maker for applications of a prescribed class and value, overcoming the duplication in the current system. The panels will also be a ‘one-stop-shop’ thereby reducing delay and uncertainty arising from a multi-staged approval process, and will be accountable for their decisions. In future, consideration should be given to allow developers who are not within the prescribed class and value to apply to have their application assessed by a DAP.”

Hon. Troy Buswell MLA, Treasurer Extract : WA DTF Report (Chapter 10 Planning), 24 Feb 2010

Ms Lisa Harvey MLA, Co-Chair RTRG Extract : WA DTF Report (Chapter 10 Planning), 24 Feb 2010

Hon. Ken Baston MLC, Co-Chair RTRG Extract : WA DTF Report (Chapter 10 Planning), 24 Feb 2010

Following up – The Treasury Report addresses multiple areas of Governance (not just planning); and the Treasurer this same week travelled to Albany, and accused the City Council of being asleep at the wheel in reference to the almost completed Albany Waterfront Project and Albany Entertainment Centre that has nothing booked for the first twelve months of operation.

Population growth challenges capital cities : “Melbourne is the nation’s best capital city in planning for population growth, while Sydney ranks ahead of only Darwin and Hobart, neither of which has a full city plan. A KPMG report, to be released today, urges the federal government to take on an expanded role in urban policy, as cities are considered the engine rooms of future productivity. It also recommends a cabinet minister be made directly responsible for urban affairs. Commissioned by a coalition of business groups including the Property Council of Australia, the Australian Institute of Architects and the Planning Institute of Australia, KPMG rated capital cities using criteria adopted last year by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) for effective planning. The criteria included land-release policies, urban design, integration of nationally significant infrastructure, the clarity of future planning measures and policies to encourage investment.”

“Melbourne ranked first because it has the strongest representation of a capital strategic planning system supported by a metropolitan plan, a transport plan, land supply program and the recently released Integrated Housing Strategy, says the report, *Spotlight on Australia’s Capital Cities*. The key challenge for Melbourne is how it continues to implement its plans in the face of strong population and economic growth. In contrast, Sydney is marked down because of poor implementation of programs, including specific reference to recent changes to major transport infrastructure projects the North West Rail Link, CBD metro and West Metro. These changes indicate a lack of predictability and certainty in the way the Sydney strategic planning system operates and tends to suggest a breakdown in the way the system delivers strategic priorities, the report says. How cities cope with substantially bigger populations has become a hot political issue is the wake of Treasury’s third Intergenerational Report, which projected the nation’s population to rise to 36 million by 2050, with most of the increase occurring in major cities.”

“Kevin Rudd has endorsed what he called a ‘Big Australia’, but the Coalition has expressed doubts about the big cities’ capacity to carry the extra numbers. Property Council of Australia chief executive Peter Verwer said it was critical to the nation’s future to get the planning of big cities right. Mr Verwer said Sydney ranked low because it had an ‘anti-planning culture’. There is no-one in charge, he said. It’s typical of most cities, but with Sydney being bigger, it’s more important to have someone in charge, Sydney needs a clearer blueprint. Melbourne Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said population growth within the capital cities was a big challenge to infrastructure and planning. It drives our policy decision-making and that’s what we’ve focused on here in Melbourne – sustainability, attracting investment, streamlining planning processes, he said. We will be Australia’s biggest city by about 2036, so we are working to be smarter about what and where we build and how we ... integrate our urban infrastructure.”

Peter Verwer, CEO Property Council of Australia Article : The Australian (Page 5), 14 Jun 2010

Working to common goal : “Two organisations involved in the development of the Great Southern have signed an historic agreement, pledging to work together for the betterment of the region. The Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) and its Federal counterpart, Regional Development Australia - Great Southern (RDA-GS) signed a memorandum of

understanding last week. The agreement committed both agencies to continued collaboration on the economic and social development of the Great Southern. GSDC chairman Peter Rundle said the new agreement should improve the Federal and State funding identification process required for future infrastructure projects. He said the two agencies shared many common goals.”

“The GSDC coordinates and promotes regional development opportunities from a State Government perspective and the RDA-GS represents Federal interests in the development of the region. We will work together on joint projects where we can achieve strategic outcomes for the region. (But) we will continue to acknowledge and respect each other’s contributions and claims to intellectual property rights. The agreement requires quarterly meetings to be held in order for the agencies to update each other on their plans and activities. The agencies are also working together on a regional planning process to be undertaken over the next three to four months. RDA-GS committee chairman Milton Evans (*the Mayor of Albany*) said he was pleased to formally recognise the role that each organisation had in contributing to strategic planning for the region.”

Peter Rundle, Great Southern Development Commission Article : Albany Extra (Page 2), 02 Jul 2010

Mayor Milton Evans, Regional Development Australia – Great Southern Article : Albany Extra (Page 2), 02 Jul 2010

Feedback : “Town planning Australian-style is more ‘heads in the sand’ than Heads Up (Manhattan transfer, Aug 14-15). Developers make interminable strips of unsustainable housing without public transport, play havoc with our rapidly dwindling biodiversity, strip our forests and build cheap, energy-gobbling homes, trickle out land releases to maximise value, develop housing in extreme fire hazard risk environments, pollute our rivers and groundwater, subdivide our arable farms, dam sustainable river flows, corrupt our decision-makers and put us on our quarter-acre boxes to complain impotently because there is nothing we – as third parties – can do to improve development outcomes. If politicians deliver meaningful development approval appeal rights that create a legal nexus between planning controls and development approvals, we will have the primary ingredient for building a sustainable Australia. Without this, sustainable living and development transformation in Australia will remain a fanciful pipedream.”

Sandra Boulter, Cottesloe Ratepayer & Taxpayer Extract : Weekend Australian Magazine (Page 6), 28 Aug 2010

Boundaries between Planning and Legal, Duty of Care and Risk : “Whether you are a public or private sector planner, your actions and communications will have an impact. Significant actions or communications can sometimes have an unwelcome or adverse impact on land owner expectations, development potential and proprietary rights. So, as a professional and expert planner, what is your **legal exposure**, or worse **reputational exposure**? By drawing on the principles of expert evidence, this seminar considers professional conduct obligations and the requirements of statutory and common law negligence.”

“Particular attention is given to whether situations in practice give rise to a duty of care, and if so, against what standard of care that duty is evaluated. From this seminar you will gain an **understanding** of some of the **legal and professional pitfalls** in the day-to-day practice of an expert planner. This is the final seminar in the Minter Ellison legal series. The series was designed to inform planning industry participants about pertinent legal issues within the planning framework, the interaction between planning and other land development related disciplines and concepts and professional conduct requirements relating to duty and standard of care.”

Minter Ellison, Lawyers Email : Planning Institute of Australia (WA Division), 02 Nov 2010

Message from the President : “Given the build up to the federal election, there appears some confusion around roles and responsibilities for many of the issues that the Planning Institute and others have been making representation to the Government for a number of years. There are at least four ministers with an obvious link to the planning and built environment agenda.”

“Using my abbreviations, the departments of Sustainability and Population, Regional Development, Infrastructure and the Prime Minister’s office appear to all have an important contribution, with city strategic planning systems still administered by the COAG Reform Council and therefore reporting through Prime Minister and Cabinet, whilst it is understood that the Major Cities Unit now reports directly to Minister Albanese rather than through Infrastructure Australia.”

“It will take a while to see what emerges out of the Regional Development portfolio, but clearly this introduces important opportunities for smaller and more remote communities that feature their own unique set of planning issues to be considered. It is also anticipated that the review of ministerial councils earlier this year will result in a significant reduction in the total number, including the Local Government and Planning Ministers’ Council. One of the implications of this, when it occurs, is the potential for important planning considerations to be filtered through the Business Competition Regulation Working Group, whose focus is on the Seamless National Economy and therefore regulatory reform, as opposed to long range strategy and policy development.”

“The Institute, both directly and through the partnerships it has with other organisations, will seek to engage with the relevant ministers to ensure that the types of issues members raise are conveyed and, equally important, offer ideas about practical ways to approach some of these subjects. We also have significant elections occurring in the near future in Victoria and New South Wales, where the complexion of government will greatly influence the direction of planning in those two states over the next four years. In many respects this serves to illustrate what we already know, which is that planning practice is never far from the political landscape.”

Neil Savery, National President, Planning Institute of Australia e-News : 03 Nov 2010

End of Statements : Author’s notes follow.

Most of our work is now done on Facebook, using photographs in albums :

- ❖ Neil Smithson – [Albany Anzac 2014-18](#) (Vols. 1-2)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Albany Centenary of Anzac Alliance (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Albany Major Redevelopment Opportunities (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Albany Waterfront Project & Entertainment Centre (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – [Anzac Centenary Commemorations 2014-18](#) (Vols. 1-3)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Anzac Gallipoli History 2015 (Vols. 1-3)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Avon 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Batavia 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Fremantle South Metropolitan Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Gascoyne 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Kimberley Dreaming 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Leeuwin 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Perth North Metropolitan Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Pilbara 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – [Rainbow 2000 Project](#) (Vols. 1-3)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Rainbow 2000 Project (Powerpoint Presentation - Short Version)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Rainbow 2000 Project (Commonwealth Response)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Rainbow 2000 Project (State Government Response Vols. 1-2)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Rainbow 2000 Project (Local Government Response)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Rainbow 2000 Project (Private Sector Response)
- ❖ **Smithson Planning – [Rainbow 2000 Project \(Media Response\)](#)**
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Recherche Goldfields 2020 Regional Planning Strategy (Vol. 1)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Peak Oil, Gas & Nuclear Power (Vols. 1-2)
- ❖ Smithson Planning – Western Australian Farmers (Vol. 1).

Discussion papers also available from the Smithson Planning website :

- ❖ [Albany International Airport](#) – achieving regional accessibility for trade
- ❖ [Albany Industrial Seaport Relocation Plan](#) – achieving regional accessibility for trade
- ❖ [Albany's UNESCO World Heritage – Anzac & Convict Colonial Settlement](#) – international tourism
- ❖ [Albany & the Corruption Crime Commission WA](#) – the complexity of regional development
- ❖ [Anzac 2014-18 – a National Celebration Strategy](#) – there is a role for each Australian state / various cities
- ❖ [Global Warming & Sea Level Change](#) – profound implications for insurance & property development.
- ❖ [Manypeaks Transitional Governance](#) – a challenge for the State of Western Australia
- ❖ [Peak Oil Gas & Nuclear Power](#) – everybody's growing concern
- ❖ [Planning Instruments of Western Australia](#) – the bottom line of WA Planning Commission activities
- ❖ [Planning & the Australian Media](#) – part of the problem / part of the solution

Summary Analysis – Western Australia

Smithson Planning has prepared this research paper relating to Planning Instruments of Western Australia, with the view to improving and communicating industry expectations for government intervention under the planning legislation on the age, condition and performance of state, regional, local and issue-based planning instruments.

Strategic Planning while perhaps the glamorous (and more problematic) cousin to Statutory Planning, is never-the-less significant to the future growth and development of Western Australia (and our industry group). It is essential that there is an over-arching 'bigger picture' as to where we as a community of people, be it the local suburb, a town or city, a region, the State, the Nation, or indeed our global relationships, are all heading.

Confidence is everything in the marketplace, and can only be derived from open communication in a democratic society, to deliver the best practice outcomes that engage community participation in the planning process – that means jobs for planners providing the community understands, values and appreciates the planning process. The fact is that we have to deal with a wide range of people with varying degrees of knowledge as to what the planning process can (and can't) do for them.

There is no national plan for Australia – and the Council of Australian Governments struggles to address relevant issues surrounding its formation, and the justification for continuing expenditure (capital or recurrent). Under *Peak Oil* business, effective communications between the Commonwealth and States will become more problematic.

The reality is that the State Planning Strategy is now more than ten years old, and sadly in need of review given significant changes in key issues. While the new legislation clearly provides for cooperative regional planning, of the ten recognised regions of Western Australia, only three have statutory region schemes, and there are glaring omissions for the Gascoyne, Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Mid-West, Pilbara, South-West and Wheatbelt regions.

The average age of Local Planning Schemes across Western Australia is now more than 10 years, and the statistics get worse when you isolate the averages for those councils in the various regions mentioned (particularly rural and remote areas).

It is professionally embarrassing when you know that some local authorities have never had a District (ie. Municipality) Town Planning Scheme during the life of the WA Town Planning & Development Act 1928 – local authorities like the Shires of Derby-West Kimberley, Murchison, Ngaanyatjarraku, Nungarin, Trayning, Upper Gascoyne, Westonia, Wyndham-East Kimberley.

Is it any wonder that some people believe that the profession of town planning and 'planners' do not address rural or remote development issues – be they economic, social or ecological in any given political framework?

Smithson Planning is a firm advocate of the need to re-write the Planning and Environmental legislation in unison (removing both 'red' and 'green' tape) so that it promotes coordinated development in Western Australia.

It has to be an objective of the Planning Institute of Australia – WA Division to have a qualified CPP planner on staff or servicing under consultancy every local authority in Western Australia by 2014, preferably with a new operational strategic plan in place guiding the future of that community (it is no lesser a requirement of the legislation).

With the growth in governance issues surrounding statutory planning (community capacity, accountability, conflicts of interest, third party planning appeals, corruption, etc.), the case is mounting for the introduction of planning assessment panels that can separate the technical assessment issues from the political evaluation process.

Finally, with the effective diminution of the planning portfolio reflected in the restructuring of both Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet priorities, it is incumbent on the profession to step up to community expectations and deliver quality outcomes that re-establish confidence in the political and planning process – we are the servants of society – people don't exist simply to complicate our plans.

If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail; so goes the saying – but it has always been the community that comes together in the face of adversity that prevails (excluding dinosaurs and minority indigenous peoples with inferior technology during colonialisation).

Down through the ages, what has consistently been demonstrated as most important to people, no matter their age, race, religion or creed :

- ❖ Clean air & drinking water
- ❖ Healthy food
- ❖ Effective shelter from the elements
- ❖ Love / companionship / family
- ❖ Spirituality / a sense of self-worth & belief / the continuity of humanity / and the freedom to enjoy life.

The RAINBOW 2000[®] PROJECT.

Author's notes : The Rainbow 2000[®] Project is both a corporate investment strategy and a doctoral research program that examines the hypothesis "Is planning the antithesis of politics? – a case study of Albany & the Great Southern Region, Western Australia, focusing on the inter-relationship between regional development and Local, State & Federal politics in contemporary Australia.

In thirteen years, the *West Australian* Newspaper and the *Sunday Times* never published one article about Rainbow 2000[®] that we are aware of (one exception : West letters 30 July 2007 Page 15); the *WA Business News* published one small piece suggesting some reticence about the continuity of port access in the framework of a significant port expansion program to accommodate grain, woodchips and iron ore.

Perth television STW9, TVW7, NEW10 & SBS28 have never covered Rainbow 2000[®], and both *GWN7* and *WIN9* as regional networks have not canvassed the regional strategy – GWN's Noel Brunning stood for the federal seat of Forrest (Independent) in 2007; Reece Whitby from Channel 7 Perth stood for the state seat of Morley (Labor) in 2008; and Karen Brown from the *West Australian* and the *Weekend Australian* stood for the state seat of Mt. Lawley (Labor) in 2008 – Whitby and Brown being part of Premier Alan Carpenter's parachute dream team – all were unsuccessful for a variety of reasons.

ABC National (radio & television) maintains a largely anti-development stance in the Great Southern, although nationally they have done some great things for Anzac and via Difference of Opinion. *RadioWest* sceptically accepted a paid advertisement.

There were the original paid advertisements referred to by the Albany Town & Shire Councils et.al. of 13 November 1997 appearing in the *Albany Advertiser* and the *Albany & Great Southern Weekender*, with the occasional timely paid reminder advertisement in the Albany Advertiser to reflect that Rainbow 2000[®] – a Regional Planning Strategy for Albany & the Great Southern was not going away that easy.

One rather prominent (and perhaps cynical) article appeared in the *Weekend Australian* in the lead-up to Mayoral / Council elections for the City of Albany in 1999, following which the author was a 'failed' candidate. Otherwise, all communication channels have been pursued vigorously with extensive material being referred to politicians on all sides of the debate, media journalists in print, radio and television and the *National Press Club* in Canberra.

The only thing people choose to believe in is the power of authority and / or the investment dollar – media was no exception, regardless of whether the program could have been beneficial to their commercial aspirations. The alternative is that the non-Albany based media from Perth and Bunbury understood only too well the implications, and misconstrued growth and development as competitive threat (doubtful).

Local politics and commercial relationship both took their toll on local newspaper coverage and balanced representation of the issues. It is reasonable to suggest that few people understand let alone endorse long-term strategic planning that doesn't directly benefit them instantly.

In twelve years, the program of community consultation / participation has included advice in some form or other to governance :

- ❖ Australian embassies of the nations of the World, the United Nations & European Union
- ❖ Governor-Generals of Australia, and every Federal member of parliament (House / Speakers & Senate / Presidents)
- ❖ Prime Ministers & Federal Cabinet Members, and the Leaders of the Opposition & Shadow Cabinet Members & Minority Parties
- ❖ Governors of Western Australia, and every State member of parliament (Legislative Assembly & Council)
- ❖ Western Australian Premiers & Cabinets, and the Leaders of the Opposition & Shadow Cabinets & Minority Parties
- ❖ Premiers / Ministers of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania
- ❖ Leaders of the Opposition / Shadow Ministers of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania
- ❖ Chief Ministers / Ministers of the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory
- ❖ Lord Mayors & Councils of the Cities of Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth
- ❖ Advisory Council of Infrastructure Australia & the Convenors of the Australia 2020 Forum
- ❖ Relevant Federal and State agencies / regulatory authorities
- ❖ Great Southern, and other Regional Development Commissions of Western Australia
- ❖ Fremantle Ports, Westralia Airports Corporation, and the Albany Port Authority
- ❖ Australian Local Government Association and each State / Territory Association
- ❖ Local Government Authorities of Western Australia & the Great Southern Region
- ❖ Mayors / Presidents / Commissioners & Councillors of the Town, Shire and City of Albany
- ❖ Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Returned & Services League of Australia (National & State Divisions)
- ❖ Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Planning Institute of Australia
- ❖ Presidents & Executive Councillors of the Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand
- ❖ Presidents & Executive Committees of the Australian, Western Australian and Albany Chambers of Commerce & Industry
- ❖ Presidents & Executive Committees of the Australian & Western Australian National Trusts & the Albany Historical Society.

For a comprehensive (and interactive) list of community participation / consultation, refer to :

- ❖ www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation1997-2006.zip (275 A4 pages : ~ 14,422 entries : 0.81Mb zipped : 4.04Mb)
- ❖ www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2007-2008.zip (377 A4 pages : ~ 19,997 entries : 1.56Mb zipped : 7.46Mb)
- ❖ www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2009-2010.zip (431 A4 pages : ~ 22,994 entries : 2.78Mb zipped : 12.10Mb)
- ❖ www.smithsonplanning.com.au/R2000Participation2011-2027.zip (223 A4 pages : ~ 11,000+ entries : 1.26Mb zipped : 5.23Mb).

It is not our place to judge the politics – that will be for the electorate, and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

All in all – things are looking very good. A [general disclaimer](#) applies to this material – don't assume, please ask.

Date : Thursday, 15 December 2011

Neil R. Smithson

Managing Director

PIA^{CPP}, EIANZ, NELA, LGPA, AAPC, NTWA, FDI, CSC 2003