

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



THE CITY TRANSFORMED

URBAN LIFE AT THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT



GREEN INSTITUTE CONFERENCE 2023

Meanjin/Brisbane and online
Friday 18 August & Saturday 19 August
Griffith University: 226 Grey St, South Bank

The Green Institute gratefully acknowledges the support of our Knowledge Partner for this event, Griffith University Climate Action Beacon.



GREEN INSTITUTE CONFERENCE 2023

THE CITY TRANSFORMED: URBAN LIFE AT THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT

Here at the end of the world as we know it, in the teeth of intersecting ecological, economic, social and political crises, our cities are being transformed by communities, corporations and governments in ways which will either worsen the crises or enable us to survive and thrive.

The Green Institute’s 2023 national conference brings you keynote speeches, panels and workshops from activists, advocates, academics and change-makers of all kinds, **sharing ideas, making connections, and planning the green transformation of our cities.**

Home to half of humanity as well as countless other species, **cities are complex ecosystems of many kinds**, from ghettoised, car-based wastelands and food deserts to interconnected homes of social cohesion and urban ecology. Today, they are changing rapidly, both for better and for worse. As the climate destabilises and old certainties collapse, these changes will accelerate.

Our word “politics” comes from the Ancient Greek polis – city-state. And from ancient Athens to Occupy Wall Street, the Paris Commune to the Zone À Défendre, Brisbane’s Greenslide to Sydney’s teal wave, participatory budgeting to pandemic mutual aid and alternatives to policing, **cities have always been a key site for collective innovation, exploration and reorganisation.**

It’s this **spirit of reorganisation that we need to harness** at this pivotal point in history.

We must transform our cities. And **our cities must be sites of transformation for us and our politics.** How are Greens and others negotiating and shaping this crucial urban transformation? What are we doing well? What do we need to do better? With the seeds of change all around us, what do we need to do to **take them from alternatives around the margins and draw them together as radical, transformative system change?**

DAY 1 PROGRAM

Friday 18 August

TIME	PLENARY ROOM	ROOM LOCATIONS
9.00am	Welcome to country	Plenary Room: S05_2.04 QCA Lecture Theatre & Gallery
9.15am	Day 1 Opening Plenary Tim Hollo opening address Keynote: Mary Graham and Michelle Maloney - “Aboriginal relationality and the city”. Mundanara Bayles and Birdy Bird - “The Land Back”.	Panel Room: S07_1.23 Griffith Graduate Centre 1st (ground floor) Workshop Room: S07_2.16/2.18 Griffith Graduate Centre (2nd floor) Friday Night Function: S02_7.16/7.07 (7th floor)

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DAY 1 PROGRAM

Friday 18 August

TIME	PLENARY ROOM	PANEL ROOM	WORKSHOP ROOM
10.45am	Morning tea		
11.15am	<p>A Caring City: energy, arts and 3rd spaces "Transforming Energy Systems: caring beyond the local", with Dr Kat Lucas-Healey and Dr Wendy Russell. "Trust Builds Better Third Spaces", with Michael Bromage. "Place-based Arts for more equitable cities", with Professor Brydie-Leigh Bartleet.</p>	<p>More than bikes: active travel reinvigorating our cities with Dr Simon Copland, Trina Massey, Abraham O'Neill, Nina Ginsberg.</p>	<p>Participatory Governance "What has to change in order to democratise decision-making about our city's future?", with Jonathan Sriranganathan.</p>
12.45pm	Lunch		
1.30pm	<p>A Caring City: from problem to solution "Engaging youth as community partners, not community's problem", with Wendy Aghdam. "Reimagining Care: new starting points for policy reform", with Kelly Saunders.</p>	<p>Affordable and Livable Cities are possible! "How Cities Can Radically Increase Public And Affordable Housing", with Clr Sylvie Ellsmore, Deputy Mayor of Sydney. "Paved Paradise and Put Up Apartment Blocks - music venues and housing", with Mitch Alexander.</p>	<p>Multicultural Democracy Strengthening Australian Democracy by Building Multicultural Community Resilience and Capacity, with Apsara Sabaratnam, Tharini Apolline Rouwette and Andrew Braddock.</p>

TIME	PLENARY ROOM	PANEL ROOM	WORKSHOP ROOM
2.30pm	Afternoon tea		
2.45pm	<p>Urban / suburban / post-urban futures “Perth 2.0”, with Brad Pettit MLC. “Are Large Cities Viable Without Fossil Fuels: an alternative urbanism”, with Terry Leahy. “The Suburb and the Far Right”, with Dr Simon Copland.</p>	<p>The systemic challenges of urban agriculture with Robert Pekin (Food Connect), Kara Poulou (Kuppibunda Kitchen), and Geoff Ebbs (Griffith University).</p>	<p>Imagining Transformed Cities wiith Dr Ed Morgan, Dr Natalie Osborne, Andrew Buckwell, Jonathan Sriranganathan and Dr Samid Suliman.</p>
4.15pm	Changeover Break (tea and coffee available)		
4.30pm	<p>Closing Day 1 Plenary Keynote: Prof Susan Harris Rimmer - “Cruel Summer: Extreme Heat and Human Rights in Australian Cities”. Introduction and facilitation by Emma Bacon, Sweltering Cities.</p>		
5.30pm	Day 1 sessions close and dinner break		
7.00pm	<p>Evening fundraising event MC Mandy Nolan Special guests Michael Berkman, Rebecca Vassarotti and Stephen Bates will discuss “Getting past NIMBY vs YIMBY”! Entry included with your ticket – drinks to be paid for to help raise funds.</p>		

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DAY 2 PROGRAM

Saturday 19 August

TIME	PLENARY ROOM	PANEL ROOM	WORKSHOP ROOM
9am	<p>Day 2 Opening Plenary Keynote: Professor David Schlosberg - "Sustainable Materialism as politics". Protest and the city panel - Senator Larissa Waters, David Mejia-Canales, Violet Coco.</p>		
10.45am	Morning Tea / housing protest with Max Chandler-Mather at ALP National Conference nearby.		
11.15am	<p>Democratic transformation through crisis "Campaign Strategy for Transformative Democracy", with A/Prof Mark Diesendorf "Democratic transformation and urban re-imagination during periods of political crisis: Experimenting with a protest "village" in Colombo (Sri Lanka)", with Dr Rajni Gamage and Anna Carlson "Community Recovery from Covid: regenerative governing", with Minister Emma Davidson, MLA</p>	<p>The road to better transport "The Better Buses Campaign", with Elyse Cunningham (FoE) "The Climate Council's Path to Better Transport", with Hollie Cheung "Resistance shows us how to get people out of the car and onto the street for active transport", with Gill King.</p>	<p>Consensus in the city A workshop on managing difficult politics", with Senator Janet Rice</p>
12.45pm	Lunch		

TIME	PLENARY ROOM	PANEL ROOM	WORKSHOP ROOM
1.15pm	<p>Urban farming as transformation “Creating Food Resilient Neighbourhoods”, with Gabriel Reese. “What’s Next in Urban Farming”, with Fiona Buining. “Agrihood and the #growfoodathome movement”, with Thiago Barbosa.</p>	<p>Urban ecosystems: Blurring the city / nature boundary “Nature in the City”, with Minister Rebecca Vassarotti, MLA. “Multi-species Justice in Brisbane”, with Hira Sheikh. “Inviting Nature to Dinner: the benefits of bringing biodiversity to our backyards”, with Helen Schwencke. “Embodied water: giving nature a voice in cities”, with Marci Webster Mannison.</p>	
2.45pm	Afternoon tea		
3.00pm	<p>Beating the Heat: Community action for cool cities with Emma Bacon (Sweltering Cities), Holstein Wong and Ryan McNeilly Smith.</p>		<p>Digital inclusion and housing justice with Prof Marcus Foth and Kim Osman.</p>
4.00pm	Changeover Break (tea and coffee available)		
4.15pm	<p>Closing Plenary Feedback, discussion and commitments, thank yous.</p>		
5.00pm	END		



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