A key priority for the Greater Sydney Commission when it was established in 2016 was the development of an annual awards program for planning excellence for Greater Sydney.

The inaugural Greater Sydney Planning Awards were held on 23 February 2017.

The Awards champion outstanding achievements made through collaborative practices that put people at the heart of planning.

Invitation from the Chief Commissioner

It is my great pleasure to officially open nominations for our 2020 Greater Sydney Planning Awards, recognising outstanding planning in our city.

The future of Greater Sydney depends on the plans we develop and implement today. As planners, designers and city shapers, it is imperative we strive for excellence and demand exemplary outcomes for our communities. A consistent commitment to quality planning outcomes is critical to delivering a metropolis of three cities of which we can be proud.

In our current context resilience and a safe, sustainable future are top of mind. Our fourth annual Greater Sydney Planning Awards continue to encourage and celebrate the disruptive thinking and spirit of innovation that will make these aspirations a reality.

The Awards recognise the visionary plans and projects that are helping create a liveable, productive and sustainable Greater Sydney, championing the collaborative approaches that put people at the heart of planning.

On behalf of the Commission, I invite you to nominate your projects and plans for one or several awards.

We look forward to celebrating the individuals, teams and communities behind the initiatives that will help create a Greater Sydney.
2019 GSPA winners

Great community collaboration

**Winner:** Excellence in community engagement, City of Canterbury Bankstown

**Commendation:** Mount Druitt Community Dialysis Centre, Health Infrastructure NSW

**Commendation:** DUBA, BUDU, BARRA: Ten steps to a living river – the Parramatta River Masterplan, Parramatta River Catchment Group

Great new place to live and/or work

**Winner:** Harold Park, Mirvac

Development supported by infrastructure

**Winner:** Bella Vista Public School shared sporting facilities, School Infrastructure NSW and The Hills Shire Council

Planning for jobs and skills

**Winner:** Liverpool Innovation Precinct, Western Sydney Business Chamber

**Commendation:** Planning Controls for Late Night Trading in Sydney, City of Sydney

**Commendation:** Kick Start Café, Payce Foundation

Great sustainability initiative

**Winner:** Sustaining our City Initiative, Randwick City Council

**Commendation:** Angus Creek Stormwater Harvesting Scheme, Blacktown City Council

Planning disruptor

**Winner:** Brad Donaldson for the Creation of Australia’s first Bicycle Geodatabase

Chief Commissioner’s Award

**Winner:** Resilient Sydney Strategy, Resilient Sydney

For more information on the 2019 winners, visit: [www.greater.sydney/greater-sydney-planning-awards](http://www.greater.sydney/greater-sydney-planning-awards)
Key dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entries open</td>
<td>Monday 3 February 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entries close</td>
<td>Friday 1 May 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards ceremony</td>
<td>Wednesday 17 June 2020</td>
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Requirements for entering the Greater Sydney Planning Awards

The nominated project must:

- Be located within the Greater Sydney Region (as defined by Schedule 1 of Greater Sydney Commission Act 2015);
- Be a demonstrable project i.e. able to be implemented; and
- Be substantially completed in 2019.

Nominations are invited from local authorities, developers, consultants, community groups, public agencies, partnerships and other teams.

The nominated project can be from the proponent or be nominated by another individual, group or body.

Note: The scale of development or position of the entrant is not necessarily relevant to the evaluation of the achievement.

General Award criteria

In addition to meeting the specific award criteria required for each category (outlined on pages 6–8), the judging panel seeks nominations that demonstrate leading practice and one or more of the following:

- Alignment with one or more of the Greater Sydney Commission’s key themes – Infrastructure and Collaboration, Liveability, Productivity and/or Sustainability
- Regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development
- Innovation, originality or uniqueness
- Encouraging development that is resilient and takes into account natural hazards
- Increased opportunities for community engagement or public involvement/participation.
The 2020 award categories align with the Greater Sydney Commission’s key themes of:

• Infrastructure and collaboration
• Liveability
• Productivity and
• Sustainability

This year the Commission is introducing a new award category – Place-based collaboration.

The seven award categories are:

AWARD 1
Great community collaboration

AWARD 2
Place-based collaboration

AWARD 3
Development supported by infrastructure

AWARD 4
Great new place to live and/or work

AWARD 5
Planning for jobs and skills

AWARD 6
Great sustainability initiative

AWARD 7
Planning disruptor
Specific award criteria

**AWARD 1**

**GREAT COMMUNITY COLLABORATION**

**Aim:** To recognise a project that has shown exceptional collaboration with the community.

**Criteria:** Entrants are to provide an example of community engagement or a community-initiated project they managed and demonstrate:

- How the community was actively involved;
- How the community’s needs were reflected in the project and the community benefit that was delivered;
- How the community engagement/collaboration enhanced liveability, productivity or sustainability;
- Why the approach taken was successful.

**AWARD 2**

**PLACE-BASED COLLABORATION**

**Aim:** Awarded to local councils, state government agencies, or industry for exceptional collaborative approaches to planning and place-making.

**Criteria:** The nomination should demonstrate:

- Collaborative approaches used to identify and reflect the needs of stakeholders;
- How collaboration and relationship-building helped deliver quality planning outcomes;
- How the approach demonstrated a place-based focus; and
- How the approach challenged conventional approaches to planning/place-making.

**AWARD 3**

**DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED BY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Aim:** Awarded to a project or development that has integrated new or improved infrastructure and/or community services.

**Criteria:** Entrants are to provide one example of a project or development they managed and demonstrate:

- How infrastructure/community service needs were identified efficiently and innovatively integrated into the project or development;
- How the project or development demonstrated best practice in collaboration with government, industry or local community;
- How the infrastructure/community services have improved physical and/or social connectivity;
- How the infrastructure/community services delivered a benefit to the community.
AWARD 4
GREAT NEW PLACE TO LIVE AND/OR WORK

**Aim:** To recognise a residential, commercial or mixed-use development or area that creates a great place by putting people at the heart of planning, enhancing wellbeing and the social connections of residents and/or workers.

**Criteria:** Entrants are to provide one example of an innovative project they managed and demonstrate how one or more of the following was achieved:

- A partnership between industry, government and the private sector;
- Provision of affordable and diverse housing;
- Provision of an innovative commercial hub;
- Creation of an area such as a civic place or park;
- Supports the development of a more accessible and walkable city;
- Supports healthy and liveable communities;
- Encourages social connections;
- Demonstrates urban design excellence;
- Provides lessons that can be applied to future projects.

AWARD 5
PLANNING FOR JOBS AND SKILLS

**Aim:** Awarded to a plan, strategy, project, piece of research or development that supports the 30-minute city by seeking to create the conditions that generate stronger local economic and employment opportunities.

**Criteria:** Entrants are to provide one example of a plan, strategy, project, piece of research or development that demonstrates how one or more of the following was achieved:

- Supports the concept of the 30-minute city by enhancing productivity or competitiveness within a local area;
- Encourages a greater diversity of jobs and/or employment growth within a local area;
- Creates conditions that help foster economic innovation;
- Has lessons that can be applied to other local areas;
- If submitting a piece of research, demonstrate how the credibility of the research has been verified.
AWARD 6
GREAT SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

**Aim:** Awarded to a project, plan or piece of research which, through its implementation or focus, protects, promotes or enhances the environment.

**Criteria:** Entrants are to provide one example of a project, plan or piece of research which can be applied elsewhere and which demonstrates how one or more of the following was achieved:

- Protects, restores or enhances landscapes (can include waterways, bushland and open space);
- Supports an efficient city through innovative management of water, energy, resources and waste;
- Builds more resilient communities by considering/addressing climate change, hazards and technological change;
- Is an exemplary example of a sustainability initiative;
- If submitting a piece of research, demonstrate how the credibility of the research has been verified.

AWARD 7
PLANNING DISRUPTOR AWARD

**Aim:** Awarded for outstanding forward-thinking approaches to planning that disrupt traditional methodologies. Projects may be in the areas of:

- New digital approaches to encourage good planning; and
- New approaches to accessing and using data to improve planning outcomes.

**Criteria:** The nomination should show how the project:

- Supports the aims of the Greater Sydney Commission;
- Demonstrates a forward-thinking, innovative approach;
- Positively ‘disrupts’ traditional planning methodologies; and
- Will benefit Greater Sydney.
How to lodge your submission

Nominations for the 2020 Greater Sydney Planning Awards must be submitted via Dropbox.

Please register your intent to enter the Awards by completing the Nomination Form and returning it to media@gsc.nsw.gov.au. You will then receive a Dropbox link to upload your submission before the closing date.

If you intend on nominating more than one project or category, please complete a separate Nomination Form for each.

We request you submit your Nomination Form as early as possible, to ensure you receive your link within the nomination deadline.

Submissions must include the following:

- Nominations cover sheet providing:
  - Title of the project
  - Location of the project with plan (if relevant)
  - Name of person or organisation submitting the entry (with contact details) and
  - A short summary (max 250 words) for promotional purposes

- A maximum of 4 x A4 pages outlining how the project specifically addresses the relevant award criteria

- Entries that do not adequately address the award criteria may not be considered by the judging panel

- Minimum 4 x high resolution jpg or png images

- Illustrative material, such as photographs, plans and published material (as appropriate)

By submitting a nomination you agree that the Greater Sydney Commission is entitled to use information and images contained in the nomination to promote the awards and that the information and images provided have the appropriate internal copyright clearances.

Nominations must be received by 5pm on Friday 1 May.
Sponsorship

There are a number of sponsorship packages available for the 2020 Greater Sydney Planning Awards.

For more information on the Awards or sponsorship opportunities contact:

**Lara Irwin** or **Phillip Brent**

**Phone:**
02 8289 6200

**Email:**
media@gsc.nsw.gov.au