



STATE OF AUSTRALASIAN CITIES CONFERENCE 2025

9–12 December Brisbane, Queensland

Call for Abstracts SOAC Conference

PREPARED BY:



Absolute Events
& Marketing

EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



Australasian
Cities
Research
Network

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

STATE OF AUSTRALASIAN CITIES CONFERENCE 2025

Australasian Cities at the Crossroads: Navigating Legacy, Innovation & Sustainability

9 - 12 December 2025 | Brisbane Australia

The State of Australasian Cities Conference 2025 (SOAC 2025) invites scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and community leaders to submit abstracts addressing the complexities and possibilities of urban environments across Australasia.

SOAC 2025 enquires how urban planning, design and policy address current challenges and global trends in urbanism with a focus on legacy, long-term sustainability, and innovation. The interplay between global dynamics and local challenges presents a critical juncture for Australasian cities and regional centres. Phenomena such as climate change, pandemics, conflict, economic downturns, and political volatility are not merely external factors but are directly augmenting the complexity of local issues. These include environmental sustainability, urban sprawl and transportation, housing affordability and homelessness, population growth and demographic shifts, the preservation and integration of Indigenous communities and knowledge, economic diversification and employment, and addressing the digital divide and connectivity. These challenges necessitate a departure from reactive policies towards a more proactive and integrated approach to urban and regional planning.

The conference seeks to foster vibrant discussions around urban theory, practice, and innovation, with a focus on addressing contemporary urban challenges while envisioning transformative solutions. We encourage submissions that explore the intersections of research, policy, and practice, offering fresh perspectives on the dynamic and diverse urban landscapes of the region.

Key Dates

Full Program Released	25 July 2025
Presenter Registration Deadline	1 September 2025
Conference Dates	9 - 12 December 2025



CONFERENCE THEMES

Abstracts are invited under the following thematic tracks. For full details on the conference themes, visit the [conference website](#).



City Economics and Development



City Governance and Structure



City Health and Liveability



City Housing and Inclusion



City Movement and Infrastructure



City Nature and Environment



City Cultures and Identity



City Design and Morphology



Reckoning with Settler Colonial Cities



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

SOAC CONFERENCE SUBMISSION PORTAL

All submissions must be made through the online submission portal and each submitter must set up an account. This account is specific to SOAC 2025 only.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Presentation Type

- 1. Individual Oral Presentation:** A 15-minute solo presentation showcasing original research, ideas, or case studies, followed by a panel Q&A.
- 2. Panel Proposal:** A 90-minute session with 3–4 speakers presenting related topics, promoting discussion and audience engagement.
- 3. Special Interest Group Proposal:** A focused session fostering collaborative exploration of niche topics. This format encourages idea workshops, developing collaborations, and networking among participants with shared interests, creating opportunities for dynamic discussions and future partnerships.
- 4. Poster:** A visually engaging presentation summarising research or projects, ideal for interactive one-on-one discussions during scheduled poster sessions.

Abstract Information

- **Title** – 15 words maximum in sentence case
- **Presentation type** – select one from available dropdown options
- **Presentation theme** – select one theme from available dropdown options
- **Abstract** – maximum of 300 words. Abstract is text only. Graphics cannot be included in your abstract
- **Keywords** - 3 to 5 listed clearly at the bottom of the abstract

Author Information

- **Author Details** – Name, position and affiliation for each author
- **Author Headshot** – Provided in jpeg format and a head and shoulders style photo that will suit cropping into a circle
- A submission can have up to two presenting authors. These presenters must be entered as Author 1 and (if applicable) Author 2
- You can be a co-author on multiple presentations that are accepted to the program
- Co-authors must also register for the conference if they are presenting



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Notes regarding submission

- All submission are to be received via the online submission portal. Email or document submission will not be reviewed or accepted
- If you do not receive an email confirmation within one hour of submitting, please contact the Event Organisers on soac@absoluteevents.com.au

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

Submissions will be peer-reviewed, and successful authors will be invited to present at the conference. Early-career researchers and practitioners are particularly encouraged to submit.

Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria:

Relevance and Contribution to the Conference Themes

- Does the abstract address the conference themes such as legacy, long-term sustainability, resilience, or innovation in urban planning, design, and policy? (5%)
- Does it provide insights into the interplay between global trends and local challenges relevant to cities and regional centres? (10%)

Originality and Significance

- Does the abstract present original ideas, innovative approaches, or new perspectives in urban research? (30%)
- Does it contribute to advancing knowledge or addressing critical challenges in urban and regional contexts? (30%)

Clarity and Methodological Rigor

- Is the abstract clearly written, well-structured, and coherent? (10%)
- Does it outline a sound methodology, robust evidence, or clear arguments that support the research? (15%)

Join us at SOAC 2025 to shape the future of Australasian cities through dialogue, collaboration, and innovative ideas.

For further details and submission, please visit our [website](#).



SUBMISSION POLICIES

All submissions must meet the requirements outlined in this document. You will be required to confirm acceptance of these when submitting

- Submissions must be original work, written in English and free of typing/grammar errors. Accepted submissions will be printed as received
- All submissions must be completed electronically via the online submission website. If you are unable to submit in this manner, please contact the Event Organisers to discuss options. The Event Organisers will not be held responsible for submissions that are not received via the online submission site or for any submission errors
- All correspondence will be emailed to the primary presenter. It is the responsibility of the primary presenter to forward correspondence to co-presenters and co-authors
- Submission does not constitute an acceptance of the presentation
- **Registration Consent:** On notification of acceptance of presentation, the presenter consents to register and pay applicable fee within the required deadline in order to present at the symposium and to ensure publication of the presentation
- **Publishing Consent:** All accepted presentations will be published as received on the SOAC Conference website and in the symposium abstract book
- **Photo/Video Consent:** If the presentation is accepted to the program, consent is provided for any photos/videos taken during the presentation to be used and published by SOAC 2025, Australasian Cities Research Network and Absolute Events & Marketing
- **Change in Presenter:** Once the presentation has been approved and allocated, any change in presenter must be reviewed for potential approval by the Program Committee



Queries

For any queries, please contact the SOAC Event Organisers on the details below.

Absolute Events & Marketing

Phone: 07 3848 0089

Email: soac@absoluteevents.com.au

Website: www.soac2025.com

