

***Australian Institute of Architects - Victorian Chapter
Architectural Student Ideas Competition 2017***

THE PLACE OF TRANSPORT – a community’s right to its city.

Competition Brief



*Image 1. Aerial view of Armstrong Creek site
Image 2. Aerial view of Oakleigh train station*

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1. **Background to the Competition**

1.1 **Summary**

This Design Competition asks the entrant to consider the design possibilities for the public land, and space, that will be liberated by the creation of the elevated railway line, the Caulfield to Dandenong Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) through the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. The places and space liberated by this project offers up the opportunity to consider the integration of transport systems into the fabric of communities through this confluence of public and private interests. Its integration with the upgraded, and updated, railway structure gives this place fecund possibilities as its intimate relation to the transport corridor gives it undeniable properties.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA), and the Office of the Victorian Government Architect are clients and sponsors of this hypothetical project. The competition has been made possible through the involvement of Jonathan Gardiner of Cox Architecture and Kirsten Bauer of Aspect Studios who have discussed the possibilities of the competition, its relationship to the current professional work being done on this project and making the documentation available for the use of the competition.

This is one in a series of AIA Victorian Chapter Student Competitions; in this case relating to the nature and future of the metropolis of Melbourne.

The Competition is offered by the Victorian Chapter Education Committee. The Student Design Competition Working Group, consisting of Graham Crist (RMIT University), Diego Ramirez-Lovering (Monash University), Donald Bates (University of Melbourne), and Des Smith (Deakin University), has managed the development of the Competition Brief following from ideas initiated by Jonathan Gardiner from Cox Architecture and Alison Cleary from the AIA Victorian Chapter.

1.2 **Site and Location Information**

The site for the project is the land, and airspace, liberated by the LXRP development of the Dandenong rail line through Melbourne's southeastern suburbs. This site is as described in the accompanying documents. Competitors can choose which parts of the total site they deal with, and can certainly choose to deal with the whole of the available land as documented. However, only the land area described and delineated in the accompanying documents is available for the

competition proposals. A project briefing session is scheduled for early March, date and place to be confirmed.

2. **Competition Brief**

2.1 **Objectives**

This Design Competition asks the entrant to consider the design possibilities for the public land, and space, that will be liberated by the creation of the elevated railway line. Integration with the upgraded, and updated, railway structure gives these places fecund possibilities. Their intimate relation to the transport corridor and the existing suburban condition could well prove demonstrable with regard to the importance of transport connectedness to Melbourne's development.

This competition is concerned with the impact, and (positive) implications of transport systems on Melbourne's development. The competition's main intention is to investigate and give propositions for "the Community's Right to the City". That is, how are these places and opportunities to be made available to the city's citizens?

The competition asks architecture students to consider the interface, and integration between the community and the infrastructure that serves the community. Who has access, and what are the limits of access and use? Who owns these places, and the airspace? The competition assumes this will involve at least considerations regarding community buildings, public buildings, public places, housing, schools and education, commercial possibilities, and 'common' territory. All of this should be realized within the opportunities and limits established by the very thorough documentation which forms part of the competition documents. This documentation illustrates all of the rail line structure and its location, the railway stations, the service areas, the car parking and access conditions, and the limits of the available land and airspace.

This is an ideas competition, and competitors are encouraged to explore matters that engage with the political, environmental, and economic conditions surrounding such an opportunity for a city. At the same time, contextual issues, and space planning of the facilities will require some degree of resolution.

3. Competition Administration

3.1 Invitation

This Competition is open to all currently enrolled students from the Schools of Architecture at Deakin, Monash, RMIT and Melbourne Universities. Students are invited to enter the Competition in Semester One, 2010 with earmarked studios being:

- Deakin University – 4th year students.
- Monash University – 4th year students.
- RMIT University – Upper pool design (3rd and 4th year.)
- The University of Melbourne – Students enrolled in studios C, D and E in the Masters of Architecture. (Equivalent 4th and 5th year)

Individual and/or group entries are acceptable, either within the earmarked studios, or independently.

There is no limit to the number of entries from each school.

3.2 Competition Judging Panel

A Judging Panel will be appointed to advise on the conduct of the Competition, adjudicate on the designs submitted, and make a recommendation in respect to the winning entries. The Judging Panel will, at its first meeting, discuss and determine the details of its procedure in carrying out its duties.

For reasons of transparency and confidentiality, the judging of the Competition will be conducted as a separate exercise to the assessment of studio projects in each school. The members of the Judging Panel will not have been actively involved as studio advisors. The Judging Panel members must acknowledge any conflicts of interest.

The Judging Panel will consist of representatives from LXRA, the Office of the Victorian Government Architect, a representative from Cox Architecture and Aspect Studios, and members of the Australian Institute of Architects with experience in the design of community and transport facilities. The Judging Panel members will be announced in April 2017.

3.3 Public Forum

At the conclusion of the judging process, there will be a Public Forum discussion on the Competition, to be held at an appropriate venue (TBA). At this forum, the judges, selected students and members of each of the participating Schools of Architecture will be present to discuss the issues illuminated by the Competition and the entries. The Competition organisers see the Public Forum, and the discussion and issues that arise from it, as fundamental to the value of the Competition and its place in the Schools of Architecture.

3.4 Competition Timetable

22 February 2017 ??	Competition announcement and brief availability
March 2017 ??	Briefing session and competition documentation package available
17 June 2017 ??	Submission Deadline, 4:00pm deliver to: The Australian Institute of Architects Victorian Chapter Attention: Melanie Small?????????? Member Services Officer 1 st floor, 41 Exhibition Street Melbourne 3000
July 2017 ??	Evaluation of design submissions by Judging Panel
August 2017 ??	Public Forum, presentation of schemes, and announcement of winners. The exact date will be announced during Semester One 2017.

3.5 Assessment Criteria

Submissions should demonstrate the architectural consideration and manifestation of the overall Competition objectives (see 2.1) and the following cultural and physical criteria. This must be done through the creative potential of architecture as an integrated design discipline.

The focus of this Competition is to produce a conceptual scheme to demonstrate how these design concepts work through the following design considerations. The Judging Panel will not be limited to these

criteria, and any hierarchy of considerations will be at the discretion of the Judging Panel.

a: General

The schemes should be designed to achieve significant benefits or enhancement of the quality of the public and built environment for the general community. In particular, entries will be assessed on the way in which the following concerns are addressed and integrated:

1. how the metropolitan periphery is interpreted
2. how the proposal works at all scales from macro to micro
3. how the design reflects a critical awareness of current architectural thinking
4. how the design resolves pragmatic issues of site, accommodation and structure
5. how the design brings amenity and delight to the metropolis.

b: Site and Context

How does the new architectural project relate to its given site?
Does the architecture enhance the place? Does it provide a gateway to the metropolis and also to its peripheral location?

c : Architectural expression of the concept

How are the architect's philosophies and understanding of the client's needs expressed in the project?

What are the architect's motives in architectural expression?

How fully is the concept followed through using structure, order, materials, siting, landscape, etc?

How successful is the architect in satisfying their aims for architectural expression?

d : Environmental considerations and energy performance

What consideration has been demonstrated with regard to issues of sun, wind, rain, solar heating, heat gain and heat loss?

How have these considerations been integrated into the scheme at the urban scale, and at the individual building scale?

What considerations have been demonstrated with regard to building fabric?

e : Performance of structure, construction, materials and services

How evident are these architectural considerations, and on what basis were decisions made for choice of structural systems, materials and engineering services?

Has life cycle costing been a consideration, and has it fostered design decisions?

What is the evidence of a design position with regard to landscape and ecological systems?

f : Contribution to architectural development

What features, ideas, and/or methods are expressed in the scheme as contributing to newness in architectural thinking?

These listed design considerations should not be read with any prescriptive hierarchy, and nor should they be all seen as essential or exclusive of other

3.6 Drawings and Information to be submitted

Each entry is to be submitted on two (2) x A1 boards. These boards are to be portrait format. The two (2) boards are to be laid out as individual panels.

A PDF digital copy of these panels must be submitted on-line.

Content, presentation format and scale of the images contained on these panels are at the discretion of each entrant.

No distinctive markings, the name of the School, nor the name of the entrant, are to be marked on any of the drawings or images submitted by entrants for judging.

Each entry submission is to comprise:

1. Two (2) x A1 portrait panels (unmarked).
2. A digital version of the submission in multi-page PDF format (unmarked), uploaded to the appropriate place on the AIA site.
3. An unmarked, sealed envelope containing the entrant's contact details and email address, and the name of the entrant's school and email address.

All items to be wrapped in one (1) single unmarked package and submitted to:

Australian Institute of Architects
Victorian Chapter
1st floor, 41 Exhibition Street
Melbourne 3000
Attention: Melanie Small ??????????????

3.7 Judging Panel Decisions and Prizes

Awards will be given at the discretion of the Judging Panel.

The panel will nominate the selection and categorisation of these awards. The Judging Panel will apportion the total prize pool of

\$3000.?????????? Winning schemes will be displayed on the Chapter's website.

3.8 Care of Material

The Institute will take reasonable care of all material received from each of the competitors, but the entries will not be covered by insurance. Therefore, all competitors must ensure they have copies of, or the capacity to reproduce their work independent of this submission for the Competition. No liability shall attach to the Institute in respect of the material during transit or whilst it is in possession of the Competition entries.

3.9 Copyright

Copyright of the designs, written material and drawings, submitted by the Competition entrants will remain the property of, and be vested in the individual entrants. The students and Schools will be entitled to acknowledgment should their entries be identified during the selection process by the Judging Panel for inclusion in the final exhibition and Public Forum.

3.10 Notification of Awards

The Schools of Architecture will be asked to ensure that the students whose entries are short listed attend the Public Forum, where the awards will be announced.

At the conclusion of the Competition assessment, and after the authors of the premiated designs have been informed, all competitors will be notified of the names of the winning entrants.

4. Good Luck

4.1 Good luck to all entrants.