

TRANSFORMING HOUSING

PROJECT UPDATE

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM TRANSFORMING HOUSING

After a whirl-wind end to 2016, the Transforming Housing research network is looking forward to a fruitful 2017 filled with renewed focus on affordable housing outcomes for very low to moderate income households in Melbourne.

As always, TH will be pursuing four main objectives in 2017 to help accomplish this goal. They are:

- Policy reform, development and advocacy
- Innovative project development, delivery support and evaluation
- Industry capacity building
- Action research and research capacity building and dissemination

Our commitment to promoting policy reform continues in the form of an updated Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy Report to be released in early 2017.

We continue to support the work of the Melbourne Housing EXPO in their business case to demonstrate best-practice affordable housing on a site in Melbourne.

We are also proud and excited to be launching a Professional Development program aimed at up-skilling industry participants directly engaged in delivering, planning and advocating for affordable housing. ([Click here to request PD topics and register your interest](#))

Our Participatory Action Research aims to engage with interested stakeholders, and be applied, relevant and focused on influencing positive change. For this reason, we value your input and look forward to continued collaboration in 2017

Launching the "Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria" report in December 2016



Affordable Housing For All: Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria

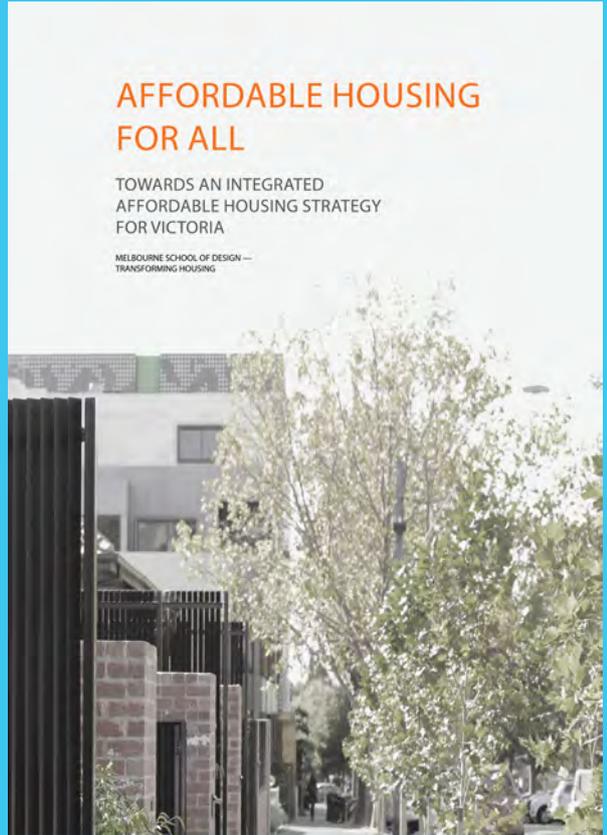
On December 7th 2016 Transforming Housing launched the “Affordable Housing for All: Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria” report. The report was designed to influence the much-anticipated Victorian Affordable Housing Strategy. It includes a 10-Step process for creating a useful and implementable Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy.

In the report we call for a consistent, quantitative definition for affordable housing and an explicit funding stream to produce the necessary affordable dwellings.

The report is an interim output designed to elicit feedback from interested parties and we will release an update in early 2017 based on input.

Please email katrina.raynor@unimelb.edu.au to provide comment.

[View the report here](#)



Stakeholder Engagement



To coincide with the launch of the “Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria” report, Transforming Housing sponsored Dr David Rosen to visit Melbourne. David Rosen is a recognised authority in the fields of affordable housing finance, inclusionary housing, redevelopment and real estate economics. Dr Rosen’s firm, DRA Principals, have advised on more than \$9.0 billion in development finance, representing public and private sector clients in more than 220 jurisdictions.

David’s 3-day visit included 12 meetings with various stakeholders ranging from Hon Richard Wynne MP to Infrastructure Victoria, the PCA, representatives from local government, numerous members of the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet and Department of Treasury and Finance, and the Affordable Housing Industry Advisory group. Meetings canvassed the benefits of Tax Increment Financing, strategies for creating an Integrated Affordable Housing Plan and the capacity for institutional investment in rental housing in Australia.

The meetings revealed significant interest and motivation to improve affordable housing outcomes across industry, government and civil society. However, there is a lack of guidance and mechanisms to achieve it. Transforming Housing is hoping our Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy report and future professional development workshops will go some way to ameliorating this issue.



Collaborative Planning Report

Transforming Housing is committed to undertaking engaged and applied action research that works with key stakeholders to ensure outputs are relevant, useful and informed by the needs of research end-users.

In 2016 Transforming Housing hosted a Collaborative Planning Research Workshop designed to gather researchers and practitioners with an interest in collaborative planning and action research. Participants from health, planning, sustainability, governance, property economics,

philanthropy and geography attended the workshop. The workshop raised a number of questions about who should be involved in collaborative decision-making, how to effectively involve stakeholders in the research process, alternative methods for managing change and ways to implement collaborative planning in local government.

[Click here to read the report](#) featuring five short essays from workshop attendees.



Meet the Team

Transforming Housing is comprised of a multi-disciplinary team of researchers from across the University of Melbourne with a shared interest in affordable housing. The diversity of specialties and

skill-sets is a key strength of the research network. These researchers are supported by an advisory committee from government, industry and philanthropy.



Professor Carolyn Whitzman, Urban Planning; **Dr Andrew Martel**, Construction; **Katrina Raynor**, Urban Planning, **Professor David Ribar**, Economic Disadvantage;

Dr Ilan Wiesel, Geography; **Dr Georgia Warren-Myers**, Property; **Dr Andy Krause**, Property; **A/ Prof Clare Newton**, Architecture

A/ Prof Rebecca Bentley, Population Health; **Sarah Backhouse**, Architecture; **Dr Tom Alves**, Architecture

Blair Gardiner, Architecture; **Dr Serryn Eagleson**, Spatial Data; **Erika Martino**, Urban Planning

Upcoming Events

Feb 14 Advisory Committee Meeting

Quarterly meeting to discuss project progress with the advisory committee

Feb 15 - 17 10th Australasian Housing Researchers Conference

The AHRC's theme is Global Inequalities and Housing: The Australasian Agenda and is an opportunity for researchers concerned with housing issues across policy and governance, design and sustainability, finance and economic, and quality of living.

RMIT, Melbourne
[Click here to register \(abstracts closed\)](#)

2017 Ongoing Professional Development Program

Throughout 2017 Transforming Housing will host a series of Professional Development events to share skills relevant to the delivery, management and negotiation of affordable housing. Topics may include development feasibility calculation, housing program evaluation, philanthropic investment and strategic plan making. Details about times, topics and costs will be released shortly.
[Click here to take a survey and register your interest.](#)

June 22-23 Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable? Conference

This international conference seeks to explore how the three issues of city development, sense of community and housing need, all combine to make lives in our cities livable – or not. The conference is suitable for urban designers, planners, economists, policy makers, sociologists, community activists, residents, architects, housing professionals and builders.

Derby, England
[Click here to register \(abstracts due March 01\)](#)

Transforming Housing in the News



November 12 2016 - Domain

[Melbourne apartment buyers chase a piece of Airbnb's \\$95 million market](#)

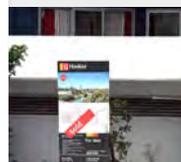
Dr Andy Krause



October 29 2016 - Domain

[Melbourne house prices: eastern suburbs hit by drop in foreign property activity](#)

Kate Raynor



October 27 2016 - The Guardian

[Sydney and Melbourne house prices hit all-time high in September quarter](#)

Prof Carolyn Whitzman



October 26 - Domain

[Shopping centre redevelopments are putting suburbs back on the map](#)

Dr Andy Krause



October 22 - Domain

[Melbourne property prices: \\$2m sales loom as the market's new benchmark](#)

Dr Ilan Wiesel



October 18 - The Conversation

[How the boom is remaking Australia's social class structure](#)

Dr Ilan Wiesel

Be Involved

There are many ways to be involved with Transforming Housing. We encourage you to provide feedback on the "Towards an Integrated Housing Strategy for Victoria" report and to take part in the Professional Development events.

Contact

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