What is Transforming Housing?
Welcome to the Transforming Housing (TH) Project Update. TH is an action research project committed to supporting innovative affordable housing projects, advocating for housing policy reform and creating and nurturing collaborative relationships with industry and government partners and other affordable housing research.

TH has four main objectives that guide all activities. 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

What is Happening at Transforming Housing?
It is an exciting time to be working in affordable housing right now. There is a critical mass of research, discussion and political will surrounding the topic and TH is proud to be part of a groundswell of activity in metropolitan Melbourne.

This Project Update outlines some key events and research outputs associated with the TH project.

Integrated Affordable Housing Research Across the Housing Continuum
Transforming Housing takes a housing continuum approach to affordable housing, recognising that positive change requires strategies targeted at a broad spectrum of needs and levels of support. As such, TH collaborates on projects ranging from interventions to prevent homelessness through to strategies to facilitate affordable homeownership for low to moderate income households. Key current projects are outlined below.

- Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria
  - Melbourne Vital Signs
- New urban levers to address the homelessness crisis
- Evaluation of public housing stock transfer to Aboriginal Housing Victoria
- Shared ownership by people with disability
- Housing affordability and health and well-being
- The Melbourne Housing Exposition
- Disability Housing Futures
  - Disability Housing Models

The Housing Continuum
- Homelessness
- Crisis Accommodation
- Public Housing
- Community Housing
- Affordable Rental
- Affordable Home Ownership
- Market Rental
- Market Home Ownership
- Subsidised Market Housing
- Short term
- Social Housing
Up-coming: Workshop and Project Launch

On December 7th Transforming Housing will be hosting two important events.

The first event will be a workshop to discuss an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria. The workshop will feature a presentation from Dr David Rosen, an expert in affordable housing, value capture analysis, capital markets and asset management. Topics will include planning, finance, public housing, value capture and market leadership.

The second function will be a launch event for the Melbourne Housing Exposition and the ‘Towards an Integrated Affordable Housing Strategy for Victoria’ research paper. This will be an opportunity to hear more about an exciting project to showcase best-practice place making and housing in a Melbourne metropolitan area. It will also kick-start a conversation about integrated housing delivery in Melbourne.

Details coming soon to the Transforming Housing Website

Save the Date:

December 7 2016

1. Affordable Housing Workshop
2. Research Launch Event
Upcoming Events

Oct 10 Collaborative Planning Research Workshop with Professor Judith Innes

Workshop to discuss the possibilities and pitfalls of collaborative planning with Prof. Judith Innes

Lab 14, 700 Swanston St Carlton
Click here to register

Oct 11 Dean’s Lecture Series with Professor Judith Innes

Public lecture by Judith Innes on collaborative dialogues and cooperative efforts in planning and public policy

Theatre B117, Melbourne School of Design
Click here to register

Oct 17 - 20 Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador

Professor Carolyn Whitzman will lead the University of Melbourne delegation at the Habitat III Conference in Quito.

Read more here

Mid Nov Advisory Committee Meeting

Quarterly meeting to discuss progress and workshop the Towards an Integrated Housing Strategy for Victoria Report

Dec 7 Integrated Housing Affordability Strategy Industry Workshop

Industry workshop investigating the implications and opportunities arising from current and proposed State Government policy levers.

Dec 7 Integrated Housing Strategy and Housing Exposition Launch Event

Cocktail event to launch two major affordable housing projects: Towards an Integrated Housing Strategy for Victoria and the Melbourne Housing Exposition

Feb 10 - 14 Australasian Housing Researchers Conference

Conference showcasing housing research. Transforming Housing is involved in organising and presenting at this event.

Register here

Transforming Housing
in the News

September 5 2016 - The Conversation

Habitat III: the biggest conference you’ve probably never heard of

Hayley Henderson, Alexei Trundle, Andre Stephan, Hesam Kamalipour, Melanie Lowe

August 25 2016 - The Conversation

Why 100 years without slum housing in Australia is coming to an end

A/Prof Rebecca Bentley

21 June 2016 - Drive with Rafael Epstein

Housing affordability and the spiral of disadvantage

A/Prof Rebecca Bentley

20 June 2016 - SBS

Why the housing affordability crisis is making the poor even poorer

A/Prof Rebecca Bentley

3 May 2016 - The Conversation

Federal Budget 2016: Political experts react

Prof. Carolyn Whitzman

21 April 2016 - The Conversation

Where do record rental prices leave low-income earners?

Prof. Carolyn Whitzman
The right to housing is going to be a big talking point at Habitat 3, the global summit taking place in Quito, Ecuador, from October 17-20, 2016.

This UN sponsored Global Summit on sustainable cities has been held every 20 years, and will be attracting close to 25,000 people to collectively work on a “New Urban Agenda” to guide urban planning and governance in the 21st century.

As part of the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN in 2015, a goal on making cities “safe, resilient and sustainable” has been included. The first target for that goal is “By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.”

Two PhD students – Hesam Kamalipour and Hayley Henderson – are amongst the 12 people representing the University of Melbourne, a delegation which is led by Professor Carolyn Whitzman.

Hayley’s research focuses on urban governance, including how housing policy moves from definition to implementation in practice. Hesam’s research explores the morphologies and incremental transformation of informal settlements in a global context to investigate the ways in which environmental design professions can most effectively contribute to the transformation of informal housing.

The delegation will be live-blogging about the conference in The Conversation.