

“Remaking Lost Connections”

An Ideas Competition



Australian Institute of
Landscape Architects

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Convened by

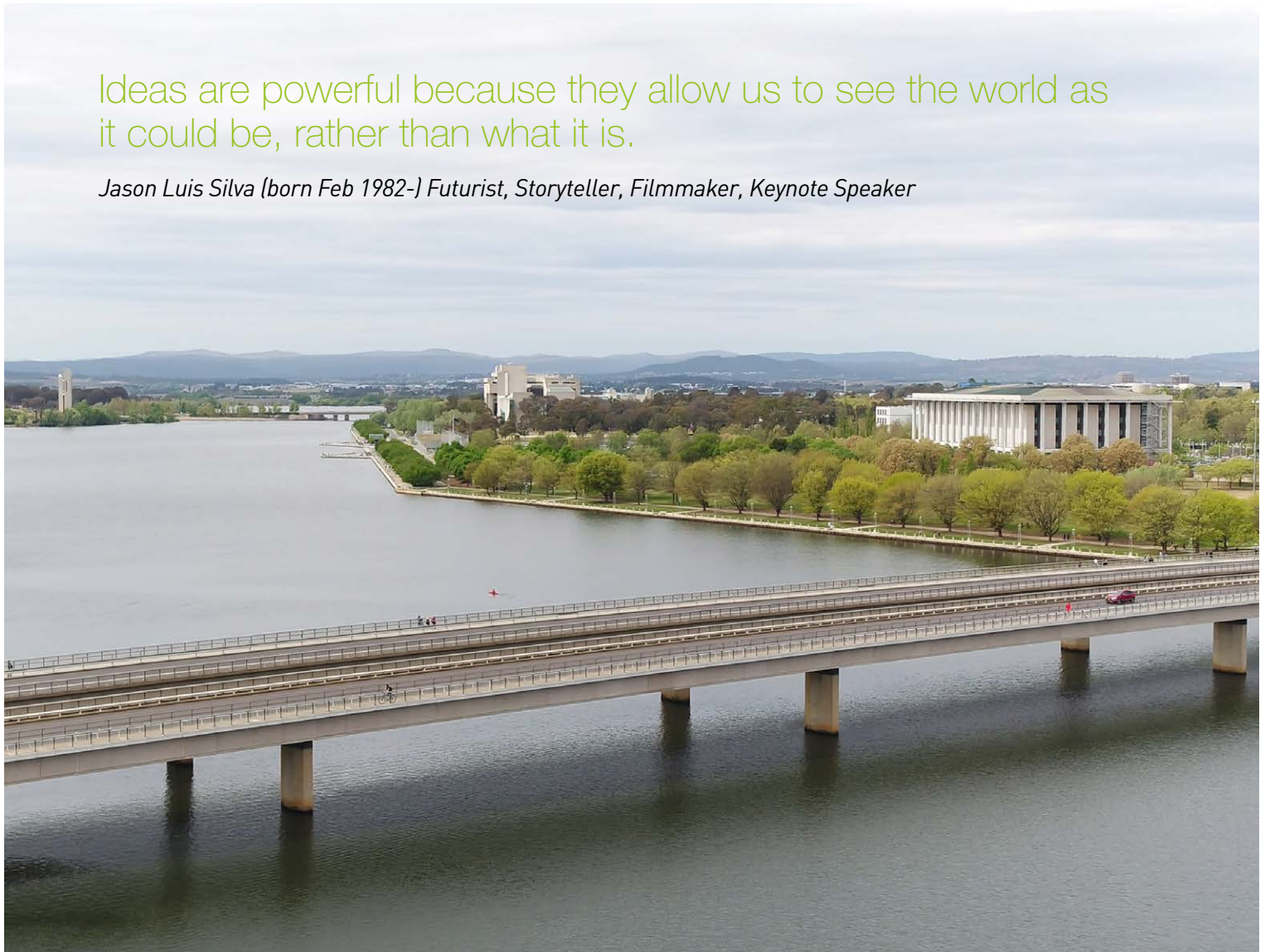
ACT Chapter of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects

In Partnership with the:

- National Capital Authority
- Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
- City Renewal Authority

Ideas are powerful because they allow us to see the world as it could be, rather than what it is.

Jason Luis Silva (born Feb 1982-) Futurist, Storyteller, Filmmaker, Keynote Speaker



Contents

An Invitation - The importance of Ideas	3
Local Knowledge, Diverse Teams, Young Professionals	4
Key Dates	4
Support for this Competition	5
Competition Registrar and Advisor	7
Competition Brief	7
Scope of the Competition	7
The Competition 'Arena'	7
Strategic Planning Context	8
Objectives	8
Submission Requirements	9
Competition Conditions	10
Eligibility of Teams	10
Registration and Number of Entries	10
Competition Jury	11
Prizes	11
Judging Criteria	11
Submission of Entries	11
Questions and Responses	11
Abandonment	12
Disqualification	12
Exhibition of Material	12
Ownership and Copyright	12
Use of Ideas	12
Confidentiality and Disclosure	12
Appendix A Competition 'Arena'	13
Appendix B Contextual Planning and Policy Documents	15
Appendix C Background Information	16

An Invitation - The Importance of Ideas

The ACT Chapter of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA), in partnership with the National Capital Authority (NCA), Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) and the City Renewal Authority (CRA), invite design and planning professionals to explore issues pertaining to climate change through retrieving or re-inventing 'lost connections' in Canberra's cultural, natural and built environments.

'Reinterpreting Lost Connections' is an Ideas Competition only.

Ideas are important - they form the basis on which we act in **all** aspects of our lives. New ideas are important to initiate change; they challenge orthodox behaviours and perceptions. Sharing new ideas is important as through discussion, evaluation and refinement of new ideas we begin to actualise change and determine how we will live and prosper in the future.

Today, we have a moral responsibility to contribute to a sustainable future. The earth is already 1.0°C warmer than pre-industrial times and is perilously close to being 1.5°C warmer by 2040. To avoid the irreversible damage to natural systems and on people we urgently need to make changes across every aspect of society.¹

The purpose of this competition is to generate ideas and ramp up the public dialogue on how Canberra can confront the seemingly intractable environmental and social impacts of climate change. Through the theme of 'Remaking Lost Connections' entrants are encouraged to imaginatively retell the Canberra story. Your ideas should inspire new paradigms about the role of the urban landscape in Canberra.

The 'Arena' for this competition encompasses the urban areas and parks around Lake Burley Griffin as well as the Lake and islands². Entrants are to nominate their 'field of action'³ and develop a proposal that responds to the broad Scope and Objectives of the Competition Brief.

There will be an award of \$10,000 for First Prize and \$2,500 for up to two Commendations.

This competition document contains the relevant information for entrants and sets out the prizes, rules and conditions.

This is a single stage, ideas competition. The Convenor and Partners are **not** seeking to engage a winning team.

The intellectual property remains vested with the teams. However, **all** entries will be placed on public exhibition at the conclusion of judging.

¹ 2018 Special Report *Global Warming of 1.5°C* prepared by the United Nations, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

² *Appendix A National Capital Plan. Refer to designated areas under the Central National Area and all of City.*

³ Corner, J. (2006) *Terra Fluxus* (in Waldheim, C ed. *The Landscape Urbanism Reader*): New York, Princeton Architectural Press.

Local Knowledge, Diverse Teams, Young Professionals

One of the key reasons for conducting this competition is to broaden the public discussion about Canberra's future and to highlight the contribution that local Landscape Architects make to shaping and enhancing our urban environment.

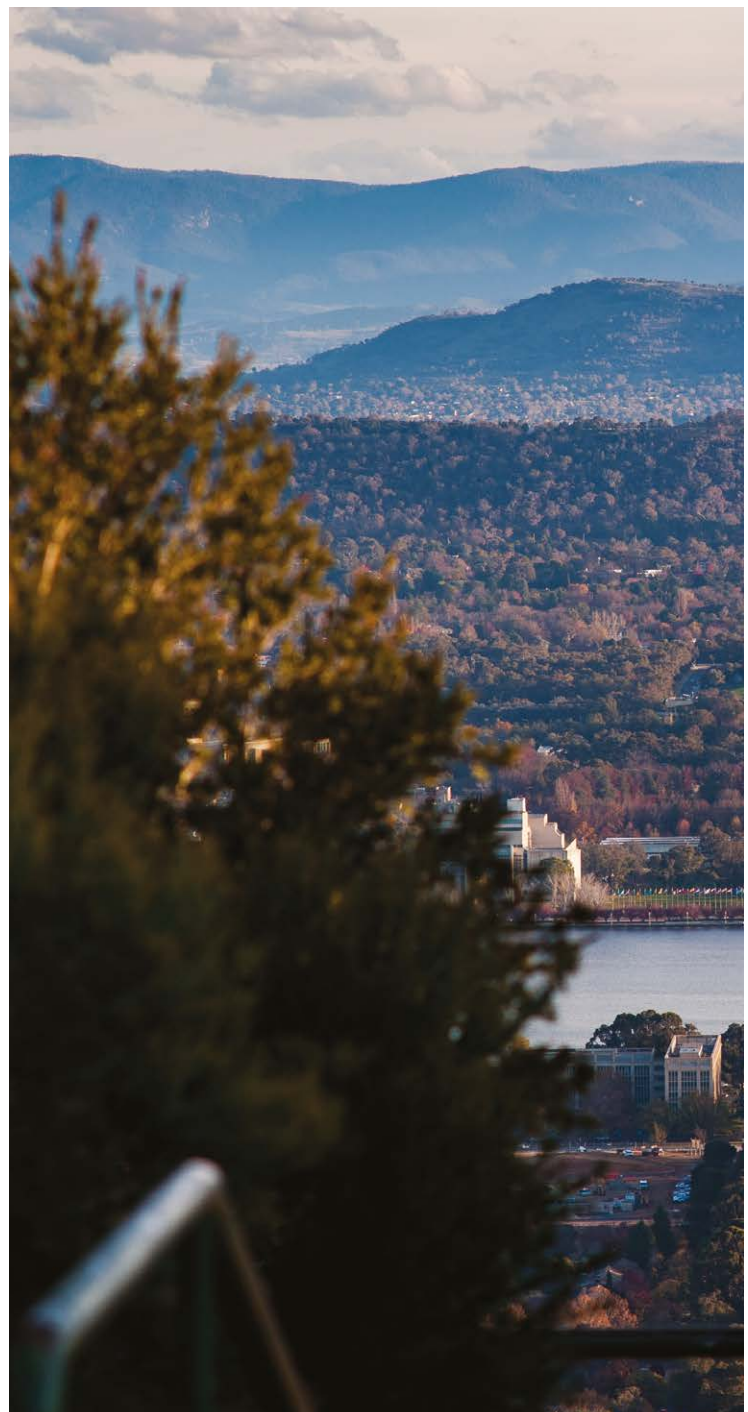
Landscape Architecture is a collaborative profession and continually seeks to meaningfully engage with other built environment, natural and social science professionals, artists and community leaders. This is as it should be. Inspirational ideas and Innovative approaches to Canberra's urban planning and design will only come from conversations between diverse interests.

Involving and mentoring our future professionals in these conversation is a critical aspect of practice. It is these people who will inherit the results of the current decisions and actions. It is these people whose leadership and confidence to challenge the status quo that must be encouraged and developed.

For all of these reasons entrants in this competition must form cross disciplinary teams that will include a member of the ACT Chapter of the AILA, as well as at least one university student from any of the built environment professions, natural or social sciences and/or a CIT or secondary school student.

Key Dates

- Official Registrations: **Friday 5 April 2019**
- Registrations Close: **Monday 20 May 2019**
- Close of Questions: **Friday 24 May 2019**
- Close of Response to Questions: **Friday 31 May 2019**
- Entries Close: **Monday 10 June 2019**
- Exhibition and Workshop: **Commences Monday 17 June 2019**



Support for this Competition

Competition Convenor

This Ideas Competition is an initiative of the **Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, ACT Chapter** (AILA ACT).

The AILA ACT is conducting this competition to promote:

- a deeper and broader discussion about the local impacts of climate change;
- fresh ideas that can inform planning policy, the design and management of our urban environment and especially the 'green infrastructure'; and
- the role and contribution of Landscape Architecture.

AILA is a not-for-profit institute formed to serve the mutual interests of its members and through this the wider community. A key function of AILA is to promote the role of Landscape Architecture, today and into the future, with regard to conceiving, reimagining and transforming our external environments in order to build stronger communities and better stewardship of our natural systems.⁴

Australia wide, AILA represents over 3,600 members. Of these, 1,400 are registered practising professional members. The employment of these members is diverse ranging through private design firms, multi-national consortiums, not for profit groups, academia and all levels of government. Irrespective of where they are engaged, AILA members are committed to the design and management of more sustainable and resilient environments and communities.

AILA ACT is an active chapter and Members significantly contribute to the quality of the environment of the ACT and the broader region through their work in land planning, the design of our public spaces, environmental management, policy development and more.

AILA ACT recognises the immeasurable value of Canberra's urban landscape to the health and well being of this place and the community, especially in the context of climate change. AILA ACT is committed to the care and investment in the future of our landscape - the reason for this competition.

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, ACT Chapter is most appreciative of the generous support for this Ideas Competition provided by the:

National Capital Authority (NCA)

The Australian Government is responsible for Canberra's role and functioning to serve its national purposes. This means that the Australian Government is responsible and accountable to all Australians for decisions about their national capital and is the guardian of the national interest in the capital. The Australian Government's abiding interest and commitment is essential to the future development and enhancement of Canberra as the National Capital.⁵

The NCA is the Australian Government agency charged with managing its interest in the planning and development of Canberra. It is concerned that the promise of the city plan and the ideals of the founders will continue to be fostered that - in the city 'will be reflected all that is finest and noblest in national life'.⁶

⁴ For more information on AILA and the profession of Landscape Architecture, competitor are referred to the AILA website www.aila.org.au

⁵ National Capital Authority; National Capital Plan

⁶ On the occasion of the dedication of the foundation stone for the National Capital on 12th of March 1913 by Lord Thomas Denman, Australia's fifth Governor-General

The NCA must address, given its custodial role, the contemporary issues affecting the Capital. Of pivotal importance is keeping the integrity of the relationship between the city plan and its landscape as Canberra adapts to the impacts of climate change. The management of this relationship between the city and its setting is guided by Canberra's historical, cultural, physical, environmental and symbolic significance.

Ideas that explore these dimensions of the urban landscape and demonstrate how we retain these into the future is of prime interest to the NCA.

All entries will be put on public exhibition by the NCA at the National Capital Exhibition at Regatta Point.

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD)

This ACT Government directorate (EPSDD) leads the Territory in developing and implementing policies and programs that will deliver positive outcomes in environment protection and sustainability, natural resource management, city planning and urban design, sustainable transport and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

EPSDD promotes sustainable living and resource consumption, sustainable development of the ACT and strengthens the Territory's response to climate change.

EPSDD recognises that Canberra's urban landscape plays an important role in enabling the community's resilience and ability to adapt to the changing climate as well as the importance of investing appropriately in the urban landscape as the city becomes more compact in its form.

Innovative approaches and raising awareness are fundamental to delivering positive outcomes for the Territory. EPSDD is keenly interested in the ideas that will arise from this competition, and how they can help shape future responses to climate change.

City Renewal Authority (CRA)

The CRA has been charged by the ACT Government with managing the transformation of the central parts of Canberra. This transformation lies at the heart of the ACT Government's ambition to create a vibrant, more egalitarian and sustainable, place to live, work and explore.

The CRA is delivering on its strategic goals for the renewal of its designated precinct through a variety of design interventions, place-making strategies and programs. Across all its activities, the CRA is working in partnership with the planning, architecture and landscape architecture community with the private and not-for-profit sectors, other government agencies and the wider Canberra community.

Underpinning the CRA's ambitious renewal program are clear objectives to enhance social, environmental and economic sustainability across the precinct. These include a focus on climate-wise design, sustainable use of resources and materials and making it easy and safe for people to access central Canberra.

As a special purpose statutory authority with its own Act, the agency is focused on creating a distinctive, inspiring urban landscape and is inherently interested in ideas and design interventions that bring fresh perspectives to improving the natural, built and social environments of central Canberra.

The CRA is supporting this event as it contributes to focussing the broader community's attention on the challenges and opportunities Canberra has to be a city that plans today to ensure a sustainable future for its citizens.

Competition Registrar and Advisor

Gay Williamson (FAILA), ACT Chapter President will act as Registrar and conduct the competition on behalf of the ACT Chapter.

Dr Andrew Mackenzie (RLA) will act as Competition Advisor providing assistance and advice to the Registrar and Competition Jury.

Both are voluntary undertakings.

Questions concerning the competition must be made in writing (email is acceptable) and addressed to the Registrar, Ms Williamson. No verbal inquiries concerning the competition brief, rules and conditions will be answered.

All correspondence is to be addressed:

Competition Registrar
Reinterpreting Lost Connections -
Ideas Competition
act@daila.org.au

Level 1, 131 City Walk
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Competition Brief

Scope of the Competition

The Scope of the Competition is broad with teams identifying both the themes and the field of action in which they will explore the Competition Brief.

Teams are encouraged to explore the wider agendas pertaining to climate change (e.g human health, economic prosperity, loss of habitat, sustainable lifestyles, or urban planning policies pursuing more compact city forms) and the role the urban landscape plays in addressing these issues. Climate change is a global problem yet the consequences and severity of impact varies for every region. Quite apart from location, diversity in the natural and human systems can be important to reducing emissions and ameliorating the impacts of climate change.

To make the exploration relevant to Canberra, competitors are to frame their ideas around the theme of remaking 'Remaking Lost Connections'. These 'lost connections' might be physical, cultural, symbolic or spiritual; they could be in transport, communication, human health, administration, politics or in natural systems.

Competitors are also to select a field of action within the competition arena. The scale, extent and nature of the site selected is open and should be considered in regard to the 'remaking of the lost connection' and how it best demonstrates the Entrant's ideas'.

It is the intention of the Competition Sponsor and the partnering agencies to place all entries on public exhibition.

The Competition 'Arena'

The 'Competition Arena' encompasses the urban areas and parks around Lake Burley Griffin as well as the Lake and islands.

Entrants are to nominate a field of action from within the Competition 'Arena'. As stated above in the Scope of the Competition, Competitors must critically reflect on the scale and nature of the field of action that will best express the intervention, strategy or scheme for change. Hence the field of action may be a component of the urban landscape that is continuous in the arena e.g. the urban forest, waterways; an identifiable site e.g. Anzac Parade, Black Mountain Peninsula, Civic Square; or it may pertain to the detailing of civil infrastructure and the built environment.

Entrants should refer to **Appendix A** for the boundaries of the Competition 'Arena' as well as plans identifying planning and land management responsibilities.

The 'Arena' selected has physical and symbolic significance to Canberra's city plan. It is also important for its cultural and natural heritage which predates the proclamation of the Australian Capital Territory.

<http://app.actmap.act.gov.au/actmap/index.html?viewer=basic>

Strategic Planning Context

There are a number of strategic planning and policy documents that entrants should refer to in framing their ideas. These documents identify the future trends, challenges, key priorities, land planning and management responsibilities and interests.

These documents include the:

- National Capital Plan sets out the Australian Government's planning policy interests.
- ACT Planning Strategy 2018, its five themes and the background information supporting it provides the strategic planning context for this competition.
- *ACT Climate Change Adaptation Strategy: Living with a warmer climate.*

- ACT's Climate Strategy to a Net Zero Emissions Territory Discussion Paper.

Appendix B: Provides the relevant links to these documents.

Entrants are encouraged to refer to these strategic documents, using them as a springboard to deepen the discussion on the challenges and priorities identified.

In addition, the NCA's Central National Area Policies and the ACT Territory Plan set out the detailed planning, design and development conditions. Links to these documents are provided in **Appendix B** also.

For the purpose of this Ideas Competition, entrants are not required to meet the detailed planning conditions.

Appendix C: Provides links to Background information that can assist entrants in framing up their ideas.

Objectives

Canberra's urban landscape is a legacy of its planning heritage. It is arguably the Capital's most important 'infrastructure'. The purpose of this Ideas Competition is to promote the discussion on the future design and management of this valuable asset, particularly in the context of climate change.

Almost every dimension of our existence and endeavour is impacted by climate change. How we plan, design and manage the urban landscape, can substantially affect how we deal with the consequences of extreme weather events, provide us with valuable ecosystem services that clean our air and water, encourage us to be healthy giving us easy access to outdoor recreation, to nature and even to local, wholesome food. Canberra's urban landscape is important to its prosperity, it distinguishes the city internationally, it makes the city a great place for visitors and more liveable for a wider demographic.

Through the theme of 'Remaking Lost Connections', the Convenor is anticipating that there will be considerable diversity in the issues, the strategies, schemes and interventions developed and the scale and nature of the 'field of action' in which these are applied. Teams are encouraged to consider ideas and scales as diverse as the design for 'green balconies', interventions to iconic landscapes, such as Anzac Parade, that will allow them to adapt to changes in the climate and urban context, or broad strategies for the renewal of the 'urban forest' across Canberra's streets and parks.

However, irrespective of the issue or scale, there are number of specific objectives that teams should address in developing their entries:

- Extending and intensifying the inquiry into one or more of the key themes and priorities identified in the strategic planning and policy documents (e.g national interests, disaster and emergency management, community health and wellbeing, settlements and infrastructure, water and natural resource and ecosystems).
- How the remaking of the lost connection will influence people's behaviour, understanding of climate change and/or the stewardship of natural systems.
- The transformative potential of the design intervention, schema or strategy in the context of either one, several or all of the natural, built, social, cultural environments.
- Demonstrate the significance of scale and time to successfully implementing and managing change in the urban landscape. (This demonstration should be evident in the inquiry between the remaking of the lost connection and the field of action in which it is applied).
- Recognition of Canberra's 'backstory' and its importance to the creation 'place' that has an authentic identity, character and appropriate use.

These objectives will form part of the Judging Criteria. Refer to Competition Conditions.

Submission Requirements

The intention of this Competition is to focus on the 'ideas' and to make it easy for people to put together a submission. Teams can enter a minimum of one and a maximum of three A1 Panels. In support of these panels, entrants are to provide an explanatory text of no more than 500 words.

All panels will be exhibited and therefore must be:

- in 'portrait' orientation.
- mounted on 5mm foam core or similar material that will resist bending. Submissions are not to be framed or mounted on heavy backing material such as chipboard or plywood.
- of exhibition quality with appropriate resolution and scaled maps, diagrams, images and text.

Digital submission:

- entrants must also submit their work digitally through the designated AILA Platform. Details will be provided on registration.

There are no specific plans, sections or elevations required. However, Competitors are to ensure that:

- all plans, sections and elevations are to a true scale and this is identified.
- the location of the site is clearly identified
- there is sufficient material to identify the context of the site and any key relationships between the site and its context.
- the material clearly presents the ideas and how it responds to the Competition Objectives.
- all photographic images are attributed.
- a title that indicates the nature of the idea presented.

Competition Conditions

It is important for the judging that the identity of the team and participants remains anonymous. The panels must not contain any names or images of the team members. All teams will be provided with a number on registration and this is to be clearly placed on the reverse side of each panel in the bottom left hand corner. (Teams putting in several entries will need to advise the Registrar to obtain a separate registration number, see Competition Conditions.)

In addition to the exhibition panels, entrants are to provide:

- an explanatory text of no more than 500 words on an A4 sheet (text size of no smaller than 10 point). The inclusion of this text on the panels is optional.
- a letter stating that the eligibility conditions have been met and agreeing to the terms and conditions of the competition, including the exhibition of the entry or entries.
- a list of the names of all the team members who meet the eligibility criteria.



Eligibility of Teams

All entries to this competition are to be from cross-disciplinary teams that comprise of at least one member who is a:

- a member of the ACT Chapter of AILA. For the purposes of this competition this includes members who are Registered as well as those who are nominated as Retired, Fellows or Members.
- a graduate (five years post completion of study) or student from the Built Environment professions (landscape architecture, planning, urban design, architecture etc), natural or social sciences or a high school student, and
- from an allied built environment profession, natural or social science background.

This imposes a restriction of a minimum of three people in each team. There is no maximum.

Teams can submit more than one entry.

Those ineligible to compete and who must not assist any entrant team include:

- the Competition Advisor and Registrar as well as the staff of the AILA.
- relatives or personal partners of the Competition Advisor and Registrar as well as the staff of the AILA, National Office.
- staff or employees of the partnering agencies who have directly contributed advice or provided background or base material for the conduct of this competition.

Registration and Number of Entries

Teams may enter as many entries as they wish, however, each will require separate registration. Teams submitting multiple entries should give a title to each entry and advise the Registrar so that a separate registration number can be issued.

The Competition Jury

The Competition Jury will include relevant industry and media experts. Jury members will be required to adhere to AILA Policies, including Conflict of Interest. The Jury will be publicly announced in due course.

Prizes

Prizes will be as follows:

- A First Prize of \$10,000
- Up to two Commendations, receiving \$2,500

If in the opinion of the Jury no entry is found to be suitable as a first prize winner, then further commendations and or honourable mentions will be distributed at the discretion of the judges.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged with regard to the:

- Interpretation of the **Competition Objectives** (refer to Competition Brief).
- Creativity, originality and innovative program
- Clarity of ideas and legibility of the exhibition panels.

Competitors are to ensure that the team meets the Eligibility criteria and their entry or entries comply with the Submission Requirements.

Non conforming entries will not be eligible for Prizes however, may be included in the Exhibition at the discretion of the Jury.

The decision of the Jury is final. No appeals from entrants concerning the decision of the Jury will be permitted.

Submission of Entries

Deadline for Submission of entries

5 pm Close of Business

Monday 10 June 2019

**Level 1, 131 City Walk
CANBERRA ACT 2601**

The registration number provided to entrants is to be placed on the reverse side of each panel in the bottom left hand corner.

Entries must be submitted by the deadline to the address stated. To ensure anonymity entries should be submitted wrapped in non transparent paper and have no identifying symbols or names of individuals, practices or companies. The registration number is to be displayed on the outside of the pack as well as on each board as described in the preceding paragraph.

Teams will include with each entry a plain sealed envelope which contains:

- a list of the names of all the team members, identifying the Registered Landscape Architect and the young planning or design professional who participated in the team.
- a letter stating that the eligibility conditions have been met and agreeing to the terms and conditions of the competition, including the exhibition of the entry or entries.
- an explanatory text of no more than one A4 sheet (text size of no smaller than 10 point). The inclusion of this text on the panels is optional.

Again, the outside of this envelope is not to have any identification marks, except for the registration number provided for the entry.

Competitors are to ensure their entries meet the Submission Requirements outlined in the Competition Brief.

Questions and Responses

There is a period of Questions and Responses provided to allow entrants to clarify the intent and interpretation of the Competition Scope and Objectives as well as the Competition conditions and processes.

All questions will be answered by the Competition Adviser and Registrar.

Questions are to be addressed to the **Competition Advisor and Registrar and submitted by email to act@aila.org.au**.

The questions must refer to the Parts and Section Headings in the Competition Document and are to be received by Monday 24 May 2019.

A response to all question will be made and placed on the AILA website <http://www.aila.org.au> by Friday 31 May 2019.

Abandonment

The Competition Convenor reserves the right to abandon the competition for any reason, especially if the number of entries is very low.

Disqualification

Entries may be disqualified for the following:

- if an entry is received after the due date.
Consideration will be given to entries posted where they have been postmarked before the due date.
- If the identity of the team or team member is disclosed to the Jury or there is any deliberate offence against the principle of anonymity.
- If a team or team member improperly attempts to influence the Jury or Competition Advisor.
- If there is any breach of the competition conditions.

Exhibition of Material

Given the purpose of this Ideas Competition is to generate discussion, it is the intention that all entries will be placed on Exhibition. All competitors as a condition of entering this Competition agree to allow the public exhibition of the material submitted.

Ownership and Copyright

All entrants retain ownership of the material submitted and the copyright to the designs and schemes.

AILA reserves the right to reproduce the work of any entry. In reproducing this work it will do so with appropriate acknowledgement.

The Competition Convenor will take all reasonable care of the material received but will hold no liability for material damaged in transit or in being placed on public exhibition.

Entrants will be responsible for the return of the Competition Material subsequent to public exhibition. The Competition Sponsor will not retain the Competition Material.

Use of Ideas

No specific idea or feature from any of the entries will be used in the development of any scheme, plan or policy by the Competition Convenor and the Supporting Agencies without the agreement of and appropriate disbursement of fees to the relevant team and Registered Landscape Architect in that team.

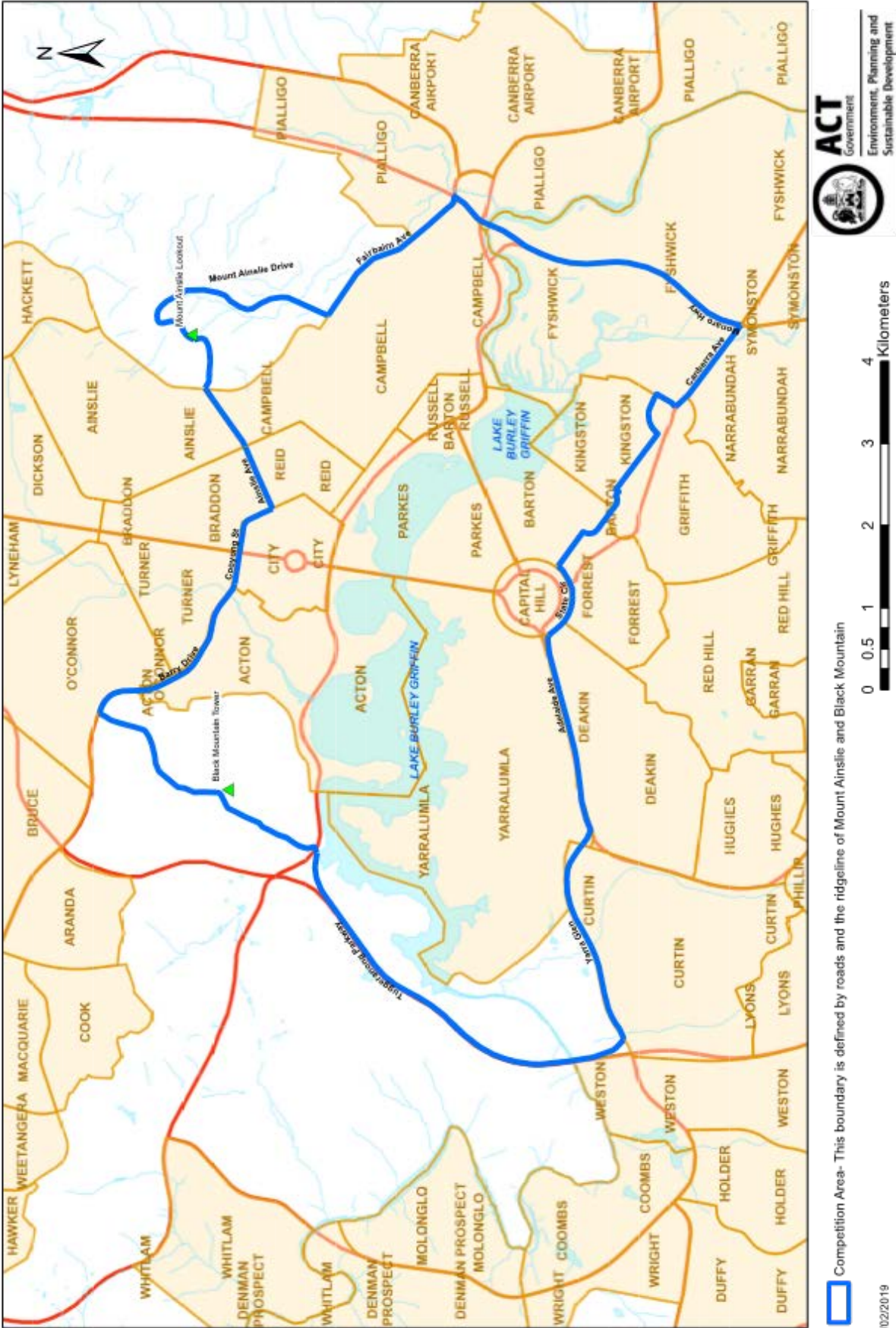
Confidentiality and Disclosure

No entrant may disclose to the media information relating to the competition. Disclosure to the media of any information relating to the competition is the prerogative of the Competition Sponsor in conjunction with the Supporting Agencies.

Ideas Competition- Competition Arena



Ideas Competition- Competition Arena



Appendix B: Contextual Planning and Policy Documents

National Capital Plan, <https://www.nca.gov.au/planning-heritage/national-capital-plan>

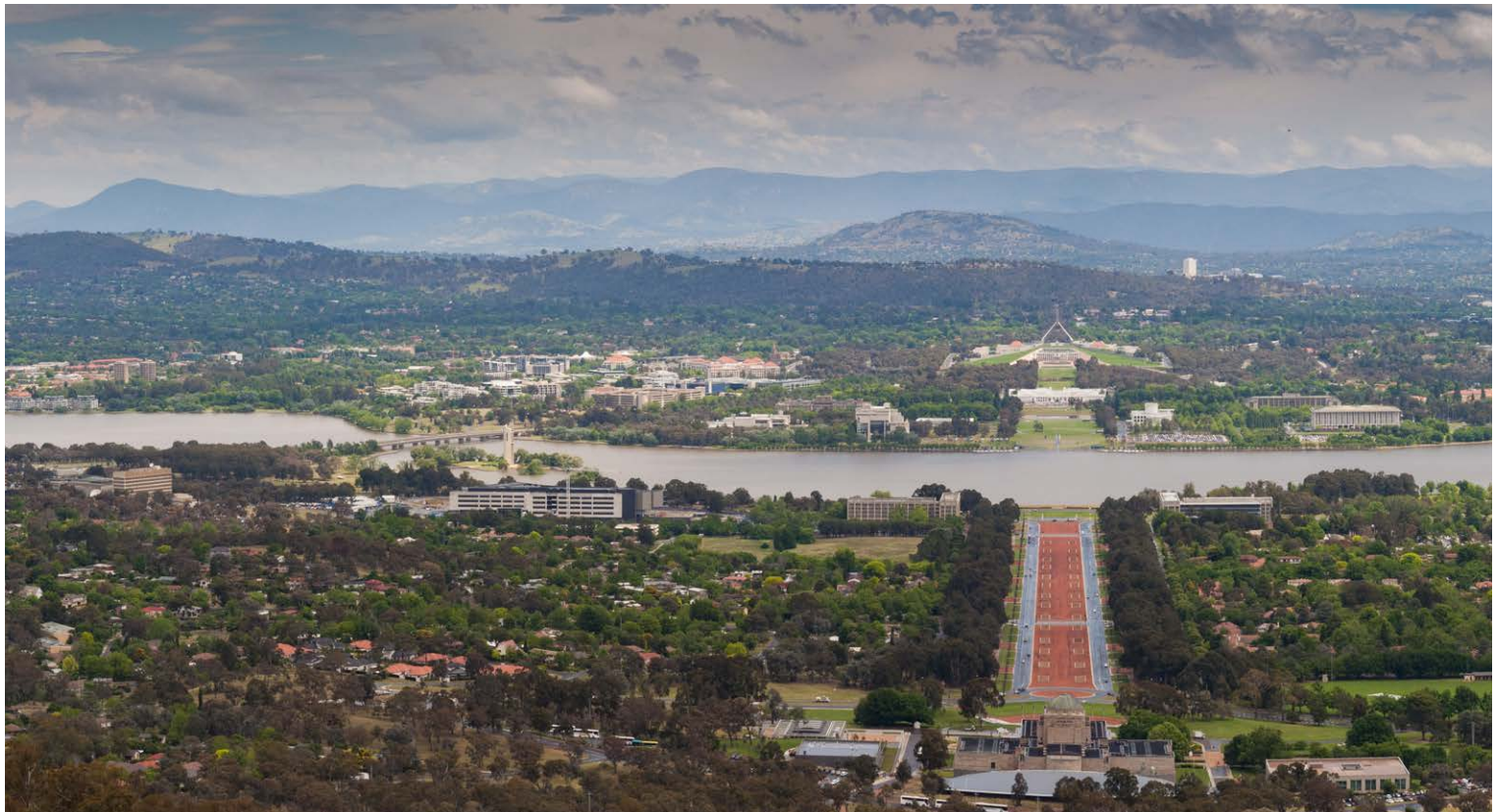
ACT Planning Strategy 2018, <https://www.planning.act.gov.au/act-planning-strategy>

ACT Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, Living with a warmer climate, ACT Government. https://www.environment.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/912478/ACT-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Strategy.pdf

Central National Area Policy Plans, <https://www.nca.gov.au/consolidated-national-capital-plan/part-four-a-principles-and-policies-designated-areas-and-special>

ACT Territory Plan, ACT Government, https://www.planning.act.gov.au/tools_resources/legislation_plans_registers/plans/territory_plan

ACT's Climate Strategy to a Net Zero Emissions Territory Discussion Paper, https://s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/hdp.au.prod.app.act-yoursay.files/6915/1305/0361/2017_ACT_Climate_Change_Strategy.pdf



Appendix C: Background Information

Canberra's Living Infrastructure, Information Paper, https://www.environment.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/1170965/Canberra-Living-Infrastructure-Information-paper-2018.pdf

AILA Submission to the Inquiry into the Australian Government's Role in the Development of Cities, https://www.aila.org.au/iMIS_Prod/AILAWeb/SignIn.aspx?WebsiteKey=44fe2fe0-5560-4283-981a-c15fe691b1d1&LoginRedirect=true&

AILA's Review of climate Change Policies, http://www.aila.org.au/imis_prod/documents/AILA/Advocacy/Submissions%20to%20Gvt/Review%20of%20Climate%20Change%20Policies%202017.pdf

Review of the National Capital Open Space System, <https://www.nca.gov.au/planning-and-heritage/policy-and-strategy/planning-policy-review/national-capital-open-space-0>



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ACT
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**CITY
RENEWAL
AUTHORITY**



ACT
Government

**Environment, Planning and
Sustainable Development
Directorate**

