

Chapter 2

City of Sydney Neighbourhood Planning

Abstract Having reviewed the background to sustainable urban planning (Chap. 1) (including sustainability principles and criteria of sustainability), this chapter provides a background to City of Sydney and New South Wales (NSW) State planning, particularly at the neighbourhood level. Examples of cities and localities around the world adopting approaches to sustainable urban planning are reviewed (thus gaining a comparative basis with the City of Sydney approach). The chapter then selects nine (9) case study areas, outlining the main planning issue (1970s onwards) for each study area. Finally, the chapter comments on the application of indicators of sustainability (Chap. 1) to each study area in subsequent Chaps. 3–11.

2.1 Background to City of Sydney Neighbourhoods

Understanding City of Sydney neighbourhoods starts with examining a map of the city (Plate 2.1). The City of Sydney, for planning purposes, designated Action Plans (commencing 2004) in geographical ‘areas’ covering the entire city. These areas include: CBD (top); City East (top right); Inner South (centre); City West (top left); North West (top far left); Inner West (centre left); and, City South (bottom). The City today also uses a range of other maps designating neighbourhoods and districts (references in Information Box 2.1 introduced later in this chapter).

The Google map for the city is also a useful resource for readers to gain an understanding of the layout of the City of Sydney and each case study area.

https://maps.google.com.au/maps?oe=utf-8&client=firefox-a&channel=np&q=google+maps+woolloomooloo&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x6b12ae12e4d30f67:0x5017d681632d0e0,Woolloomooloo+NSW&gl=au&ei=ZODpUt_1AsfGkwWA3oHgDQ&ved=0CCoQ8gEwAA

Each chapter also contains a reference to an interactive Google map for that study area. Readers thus have an opportunity to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the physical features of a case study area and to be continually updated (as the mapping content at Google is updated).



Plate 2.1 Map of City of Sydney (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

A closer look at each of the geographical areas of the City of Sydney will assist the reader when each case study area is examined in later chapters (Plate 2.2). City East (top left) contains study areas of Woollahroomooloo and Kings Cross (Chaps. 3 and 4). Inner South (top centre) contains study areas of Chippendale (Chap. 5) and Redfern and Waterloo District (Chap. 6). Inner West (top right) contains study

Information Box 2.1 City of Sydney urban development and urban history web resources

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|--|---|
| 1. City of Sydney Council history of urban development | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/AboutSydney/HistoryAndArchives/Archives/ |
| 2. City of Sydney street histories | http://history.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/sydneystreets/ |
| 3. Community and historic associations covering the City of Sydney | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/history/publications-and-products/historical-associations |
| 4. Dictionary of Sydney | http://home.dictionaryofsydney.org/ |
| 5. Greater Sydney metropolitan area's suburbs | http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Suburbs_of_Sydney |
| 6. History Council of NSW | http://historycouncilnsw.org.au/ |
| 7. Historic Map Atlas—Historical maps of suburbs (1885–1890) | http://www.photosau.com.au/CoSMaps/scripts/home.asp |
| 8. Historic photos City of Sydney | http://photosau.com.au/Cos/scripts/home.asp |
| 9. Localities in the City of Sydney | http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Sydney_localities |
| 10. NSW Archives (includes the City of Sydney) | http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/collection-search |
| 11. NSW State Library local histories | http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about/cdp/documenting/history/local.html |
| 12. Park Histories of City of Sydney | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/history/people-and-places/park-histories |
| 13. Royal Historical Society of NSW | http://www.rahs.org.au/australian-history-site-links |
| 14. Architecture about urban history | http://architecture.about.com/od/general/tp/Picture-Dictionaries-For-Architecture-And-Design.htm |
| 15. Urban history of the City of Sydney | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/history/urban-history |

Sources Webs as noted September 2014

area Erskineville (Chap. 7). City West (bottom left) contains study area Haymarket District (Chap. 8) and Pyrmont and Ultimo District (Chap. 9). North West (bottom centre) contains study area Glebe (Chap. 10); and, City South (bottom right) contains study area South Sydney District (Chap. 11).

To understand Sydney neighbourhoods it's important to first examine early history, both indigenous Aboriginal and European settlement histories.

Aboriginal Community

The protection of City of Sydney's Aboriginal community history (indicator of sustainability '1' protecting heritage) (Chap. 1) and reinforcing of cultural values within the Aboriginal community (indicator of sustainability '2', enhancing cultural features) are important. From early colonisation 'Warrane' was an important place, being the Aboriginal locality centered around the Sydney Cove first settlement area in Australia. This was the place of first contact between Aboriginal



Plate 2.2 City of Sydney geographic areas. *Left to right* City East; Inner South; Inner West; City West; North West; and, City South (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

(Eora nation) and non-Aboriginal people (First Fleet in 1788). This area was integral to the everyday lives of the Eora people, especially enabling spear fishing from the foreshores and canoe launches of Sydney Harbour.

A part history of the Aboriginal community of the City of Sydney is contained in many sources, three are nominated here to assist the reader. Firstly, the City of Sydney web site explores the cultural background of the Aboriginal community at: <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/explore/places-to-go/attractions-and-tours/aboriginal-cultural-attractions>

The second source web site covers the history of the Barani and Barrabugu tribes, an Aboriginal journey in the lands that would become the City of Sydney at: ‘Barani/Barrabugu (Yesterday/Tomorrow) Sydney’s Aboriginal Journey’

The third source web site gives an overview of the Australian Aboriginal people in the vicinity of the City of Sydney at: <http://dictionaryofsydney.org/subject/aboriginal>

Several chapters on the case study areas look further at Aboriginal culture in those study areas. Chapter 6 (Redfern and Waterloo District) examines more closely urban Aboriginal culture, given Redfern is considered by most as the spiritual home of Aboriginal urban settlement in Sydney.

European Settlement

In addition to protecting Aboriginal history and cultural values, the protection of Sydney's European settlement history and reinforcing cultural values are also central to planning the City. A glimpse of early European settlement (Plate 2.3) residential areas of the City of Sydney and its edges is outlined in a chronological sequence of photos. The object here is to gain a pictorial overview of that settlement. An outline of references and web resources on city history is provided later (Information Box 2.1) to enable the reader to follow up aspects of this settlement. English style village life was often established beyond the convict camps and government

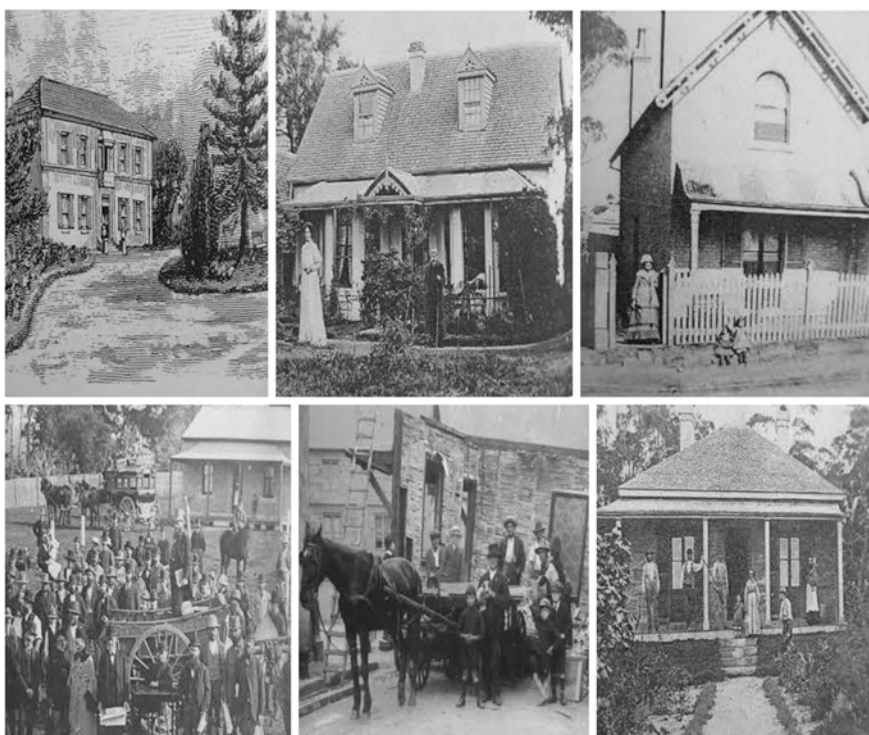


Plate 2.3 Early European settlement, inner City Sydney. *Left to right* Private estate; Cottage; inner city housing; auction of land sites; housing construction; edge of city farming family (Source NSW State Archives and Wikipedia)

accommodation areas in the inner city. There were many private estates developed on the edge of early Sydney (top left). For those who could afford a stand alone cottage (top centre) life afforded an outlook and a garden. Inner city living (top right) became the norm for another sector of the population. An auction for subdivided housing land (bottom left) usually attracted huge crowds, settlers anxious to obtain land. The construction of housing depended on horse drawn vehicles and migrant trade skills (bottom centre). Many families earned a livelihood on farms in semi-rural lands beyond the City edge (bottom right).

Looking years ahead from early settlement a more substantial development of early City of Sydney can be traced through a second series of photographs (Plate 2.4). Sydney experienced the phases of development in the 1800s, ranging from the gold rush era, pastoral industries, and export of rural products such as wool. All of these advances led to major expansion of warehousing and export related businesses in the inner city. Thus, major industrial areas and port activities dominated many parts of the inner city. A great deal of housing in early Sydney was row housing style (top left). Soon services were available in neighbourhoods (top centre). The city rapidly developed core commercial areas (top right). The main commercial downtown development followed international trends by the late 1800s and early 1900s (bottom left). The intensity of commercial buildings (often with housing above) led to an expanded downtown along main arteries (bottom centre). Finally, to service the city, commercial transport services were essential (bottom right).



Plate 2.4 Early development of City of Sydney neighbourhoods. *Left to right* Row housings; Neighbourhood services; Transport development; Commerce centre; Downtown trading; and, Industry servicing (Source NSW State Archives and Wikipedia 2014)

There are key City of Sydney urban development and urban history web resources (Information Box 2.1) which give the reader a wider appreciation of the urbanization of Sydney and in particular the case study areas to be examined (Chaps. 3–11). In addition, web resources on each case study area will be provided within that subject area chapter. Within Information Box 2.1 is the City of Sydney Council archives (1), which contain plans, photos and various archival projects. City of Sydney Street Histories (2) gives an insight into a range of Sydney streets and their development and social history. The site notes:

Sydney streets are haphazard, the legacy of an unplanned city. Many would argue that this irrational quality gives Sydney a charm that no city constrained by grids or directed into planners' artistic curves could ever achieve. Sydney's streets tell something of the social history of the place. Through their names, their alignments, their appearances and their disappearances, the streets of Sydney document and illustrate the city's history.

The Community and Historic Associations site (3) provides a link to City of Sydney groups that are active in planning, development and social issues in their neighborhoods. Some of these groups include: City of Sydney Historical Association; South Sydney Heritage Society, The Glebe Society, the Paddington Society, National Trust and NSW History Council. The Dictionary of Sydney (4) was set up to collect and post a wide range of information of Sydney's early and current development. The 656 suburbs of the Greater Sydney (5) metropolitan area (herein called Greater Sydney) can be accessed. Illustrating how multicultural in nature Greater Sydney is, the Australian Bureau of Census (2012) reports that Greater Sydney is now the home of 237 languages. Up to 22 % of the suburbs record a majority of the residents speak a non-English language at home. This includes suburbs of Old Guildford (46.6 % speak Arabic); Hurstville (27.8 speak mandarin and 21.2 % speak Cantonese); Haberfield (21.3 % speak Italian); and, Earlwood (27.8 speak Greek).

Continuing to examine these web resources (Information Box 2.1), the History Council of NSW (6) provides information on the history of the State of NSW, including City of Sydney. The Historic Map Atlas (7) is a handy photo reference to City of Sydney development. Historic photos on the City of Sydney can be accessed at Photos Australia (8). The numerous localities in the City of Sydney (smaller than suburbs) can be accessed (9) (there are 86 localities in Greater Sydney). The NSW Archives (10) is the general depository of records in NSW and encompasses the City of Sydney. The NSW State Library (11) local histories section has resources on localities of the City of Sydney. Park histories (12) of City of Sydney can be accessed. The Royal Historical Society of NSW (13) offers a range of material on City of Sydney localities. Architecture About (14) is an urban history web site and encapsulates in a picture dictionary definitions of the architecture of place (thus useful in understanding City of Sydney development trends). Finally, urban history (15) of the City of Sydney area can be accessed at the web site noted.

The reader may also be interested in examining urban poems that provide up-to-date (Appendix 2) (Rauscher 2014) comments on most of the case study areas. These poems (24 in all) are mostly 8 lines, arranged a–z for ease of locating and

appear throughout the text. They were completed during the field research work (2009–2014) on case study areas (9). The poems describe the differences among the case study areas and include subjects such as: the Aboriginal community of the City of Sydney; early tradespeople of the City; case study area changes; and, inner city population settlement.

With a background on the first settlers of the City of Sydney (Aboriginal population) and the European settlement (assisted with the web resources in Information Box 2.1 and poems in Appendix 2), the planning of City of Sydney neighbourhoods from the early 1970s onwards can be addressed next.

2.2 City of Sydney Planning of Neighborhoods

In the early 1970s a number of City of Sydney neighbourhoods were under immense pressures of redevelopment (replacement) planning. Planning at the time (world-wide) was based on land use decisions (Chap. 1). This type of planning focused predominantly on the physical layouts desired, and less so history and protection of natural environments. Thus whole neighbourhood redevelopment of inner city areas was considered an option for the NSW State government in the 1960s and early 1970s. It was not until the 1980s and 1990s that other schools of planning emerged, leading eventually to sustainable urban planning approaches. These later planning schools were outlined in Chap. 1 (i.e. compact cities, new urbanism, smart growth, and eco-city and eco-village planning). Comments within a number case study Chaps. 3–11) on the implications of land use planning in the early 1970s are reinforced by research experience gained by the author (Rauscher) at the time. These case study areas include: Woolloomooloo (Chap. 3); Kings Cross (Chap. 4); Redfern and Waterloo District (Chap. 6); Erskineville (Chap. 7); and, Glebe (Chap. 10).

The City of Sydney, as with other NSW municipalities, is subject to New South Wales (NSW) State (referred to herein as ‘the State’) planning legislation (Chap. 1). In 1979 the State adopted an overarching land use and natural resource planning document within the *Environment Planning and Assessment (EPA) Act 1979 (Amended 1993)* (NSW 1979). The State also adopted the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act* (NSW 1991) as an overview act to protect all elements of the environment. In 1993 the State also introduced clearer ESD directions to local government in the amended *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW 1993a). The act directs councils to incorporate ESD considerations as a key aspect of council operations. The Act relies upon the explanations of ESD contained within the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (UN 1992b) (covered in Chap. 1). The State then introduced the *NSW State of the Environment Reporting Act 1993* (NSW 1993b). This act instructs councils to produce a State of Environment (herein referred to as SoE) report every 4 years with a supplementary report each year (reporting requirements to the State eased in the early 2000s). These reports evaluate the state of that local government authority’s environment. In theory the SoE reporting is to assess as a whole the full range of environmental,

social/cultural and economic terms (thus within sustainability principles). Councils in NSW, however, vary widely in their approach to SoE reporting. Many councils opt for SoE standard formatting, while others produce comprehensive and innovative SoE reports. Finally, the State act also establishes guidelines for Councils to adopt performance goals for key environmental indicators such as aquatic, biodiversity, climate/air, land and water. To provide a benchmark for local government the State produces a biennial *NSW State of Environment Report* (NSW 2006a) report.

The City of Sydney sits within the State of NSW which (as with other Australian states) adopted a range of ESD related documents from the 1990s (given the increased public interest in the urban environments as covered in Chap. 1). Many local government councils have advanced beyond local government SoE reporting to adopting plans incorporating measuring environmental advances through ‘indicators of sustainability’. More recently, especially from the start of the 2000s, the City of Sydney has stepped up its goals to achieve sustainability in all of the area it administers. Currently the main City planning document that guides this approach to sustainable urban planning is Sustainable Sydney 2030 (City of Sydney 2007c), details available on the City’s web. This plan’s main subject areas include (a–z): 1. ecology; 2. energy and climate change; 3. green strategy; 4. public domain; 5. trees and landscaping; 6. transport; 7. water conservation; and 8. affordable housing. Information Box 2.2 contains a summary list (a–z) and web resources of selected documents to be reviewed below under

Information Box 2.2 City of Sydney selected *sustainable Sydney 2030* related documents and web resources

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|---|---|
| City Public Art Strategy (City of Sydney 2014a) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2007–2017 (City of Sydney 2007a) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Energy and Climate Change Policy (City of Sydney 2006) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Greening Sydney plan (City of Sydney 2013a) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Light Rail Project (NSW Government 2014) | http://www.sydneylightrail.com.au |
| Liveable Green Network Strategy (City of Sydney 2011a) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Public Spaces, Public Life Sydney 2007 (City of Sydney 2007b) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Rental Housing Strategy 2009–2014 (City of Sydney 2009) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Street Tree Master Plan (City of Sydney 2013b) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Sustainable Sydney 2030 (City of Sydney 2007c) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan (City of Sydney 2007d) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |
| Walls and Roofs Green (City of Sydney 2014b) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/green-roofs-and-walls |
| Water Strategy Plan (City of Sydney 2011a, b) | http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au |

Source City of Sydney September 2014

the Sustainable Sydney 2030 (City of Sydney 2007c) subject matters. This will provide the reader with an understanding of these documents and give access for reader followup (via search on the City of Sydney web). Of particular importance in reviewing these documents is their relevance to ‘sustainable neighbourhoods’ (and thus the case study areas to be outlined later in this chapter).

1. Ecology

The City of Sydney adopted an *Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan* (City of Sydney 2007d) aimed at best ways to keep indigenous plants and animals in the local area. The City notes its natural landscape has changed dramatically and is nearly unrecognizable from its state before the arrival of the First Fleet more than 2 centuries ago. The City acknowledges the drop in the number of native trees, plants and flowers with the clearing of forests, filling of swampland and changes to the shoreline. The City in wanting to reintroduce greenery as part of *Sustainable Sydney 2030* (City of Sydney 2007c) adopted the *Greening Sydney* plan (City of Sydney 2013a) (<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au>).

The City notes in the Action Plan:

Most of the animals in the local area are indigenous or introduced species that are used to the hustle and bustle of urban environments. Patches of coastal salt marsh, an endangered ‘ecological community’, occur within our villages and 4 threatened animal species live locally: the green and golden bell frog, powerful owl, eastern bent-wing bat, and grey-headed flying fox. Sightings of the long-nosed bandicoot have also been recorded in the local area. This is an animal that has disappeared from most parts of inner-city Sydney. Parks, gardens and wetlands throughout our villages provide a home for lots of other species, including the eastern blue-tongue lizard, superb fairy-wren, royal spoonbill, buff-banded rail, eastern water dragon, new holland honeyeater, peregrine falcon, dwarf eastern tree frog, silver eye and tawny frogmouth. (Source City of Sydney 2013a, b)

2. Energy and Climate Change

The City retained its carbon neutral status under the National Carbon Offset Standard by reducing and offsetting all operational carbon emissions during 2011/12. The City explains in its 2014 assessment (<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au>) of *Energy and Climate Change Policy* (City of Sydney 2006):

Since 2006 the City has reduced carbon emissions from our City buildings by 20 % (based on 2011/12 data). The goal of reducing emissions from the City operations is 70 % by 2030. To date, 2,620 LED street lights have been installed, resulting in a 27 % reduction in carbon emissions. The City continued to work with the Better Buildings Partnership which involves Sydney’s leading public, private and institutional landlords in making the city’s buildings more sustainable. The City’s Smart Green Apartments program guides energy-efficiency improvements within local apartment buildings. In addition, the City developed a Decentralized Renewable Energy Master Plan, a blueprint for transition to renewable electricity and gas resources, for community consultation. The City enabled an innovative finance agreement that will deliver low-carbon energy to 4,000 future residents of the Central Park development. (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

3. Green Strategy

The *Liveable Green Network Strategy* (City of Sydney 2011a) report develops and refines Sustainable Sydney 2030 project ideas through background research and

case studies, In addition, the *Greening Sydney Plan* (City of Sydney 2013a) is a plan focusing on opportunities to increase canopy cover, landscape amenity and biodiversity within local areas. The plan notes:

These opportunities will be delivered in public and privately owned land and seek to empower the community to help deliver greening programs. The Livable Green Network is a part of the City's plans to make the local area as green, global and connected as possible. It aims to create a pedestrian and cycling network that connects people with the city and village centres as well as major transport and entertainment hubs, cultural precincts, parks and open spaces. It is important that residents, workers and visitors are able to walk and cycle around a city as large and diverse as Sydney. Many global cities have cycling and pedestrian networks with a focus on recreation and leisure, which often frame parklands, foreshores and other scenic attractions. Extensive cycling paths have already been put in place. More cycleway projects are currently being constructed or designed. The City is working towards building a 200 km cycling network including 55 km of separated cycleways. This cycle program under Livable Green Network Strategy will be further outlined in the City Transport Strategy. (Source City of Sydney 2013a, b)

Greening the City has also extended to 'living walls' of greenery on the exteriors of high rise buildings, outlined in *Walls and Roofs Green* (City of Sydney 2014b). Stanley Quek devised this system of softening buildings at the same time as bringing greenery as exterior landscaping. The policy sets out the City's commitment to increase the number of high quality green roofs and walls in the City. The web site notes the policy is accompanied by a 3-year implementation plan to ensure the policy is understood, properly adopted and integrated into the city activities. Green roofs and walls provide many environmental and community benefits. These roofs and walls are vital parts of a sustainable city (e.g. helping plants grow and thrive on the top of buildings and vertical walls, differing from traditional gardens). This subject is canvassed further in this chapter and in Chap. 5 (Chippendale) (outlines the 'green wall' that is incorporated into the Central Square residential and commercial project).

4. Public Domain

In 2014 the City of Sydney was developing a City Centre public domain plan. This plan is being developed to set the strategy and programming behind city centre transformations. The study *Public Spaces, Public Life Sydney 2007* (City of Sydney 2007b) addresses public life and space to help create quality urban environments. The report provides a blueprint to transform the City centre, including making the city public transport-orientated and green. In addition, the *City Public Art Strategy* (City of Sydney 2014a) (see 'public art' <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au>) is a strategy which forms the framework for the creation of public art in the city. Public domain planning (including design codes and technical details) can be accessed under the City web.

5. Trees and Landscaping

The *Street Tree Master Plan* (City of Sydney 2013b) (<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au>) or go to trees is a plan to address why trees are an important part of the

City's public domain. The plan also provides a guide to future street tree planting. The City notes, commenting on the plan:

The City has planted more than 7,000 street trees in the past 6 years. Once these have grown, the urban canopy will be 50 per cent larger. This will create enough shade to reduce average daily temperatures by 2 degrees Celsius. The City is working with private property owners and plans to help those living in multi-story buildings make the most out of their space. Green walls and roofs can add a bit of charm to a building, boost its sustainable credentials and add to the local area's urban canopy. Spaces owned by the State Government's public transport and utility authorities occupy large tracts of land, which is often in prime locations and within potential green corridors. Increased greenery in these spaces can help boost the urban canopy and wildlife habitat. Volunteers are the lifeblood of any large-scale project and there can never be enough hands to help green our city. City residents have already shown an interest and commitment in spreading the green goodness with efforts such as the Glebe Bushcare Group, Rozelle Bay Community Nursery, the Pyrmont Ultimo Landcare Group and the Glebe Society's Blue Wren Group. The City worked towards our target of increasing the urban canopy by 50 % by 2030. There are 51 green roofs and 26 green walls on buildings across the local area. (Source City of Sydney 2013a, b)

6. Transport

The City notes that public transport services and major roads in the local area are running close to capacity (in 2014), and at peak times close to breaking point. The City states:

An integrated transport network needs to be put in place now to create a sustainable city and accommodate the high growth in residents, workers and visitors to the local area in the future. Connecting our City is a 25-year integrated transport and land use strategy endorsed by Council which will help the City plan for central Sydney's future. The plan includes statistics that reinforce why the local area needs better public transport options. The summary report is available to download, Building more roads into the city centre is not an answer to crowded public transport because this will only encourage more people to drive. Congestion already costs residents and businesses \$3.5 billion each year and this amount will swell to \$8 billion by 2020 (<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au> under 'transport strategy'). (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

The *Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2007–2017* (City of Sydney 2007a) (see under City of Sydney cycling on <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au>) is the City's commitment to making an equal first choice transport option, along with a balance of walking and public transport use. The plan states:

The strategy aims to provide the infrastructure to ensure a safer and more comfortable cycling environment and includes social initiatives to encourage more people to cycle. The City is encouraging 10 % of journeys in the local area to be made by bicycle and at least half to be made on foot by 2030. The City also wants residents to be within walking distance to services and facilities such as fresh food markets, child care, health care and public parks. Routes laid out for the Liveable Green Network will encourage cycling and walking. Improvements will include separated cycleways, lower speed limits, widened footpaths and improved crossings. Cycling routes will be clearly marked with easy-to-read maps and signage. More seats, bubblers and bike parking will be built along major cycling paths (see on <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au> web Sydney Cycleways). (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

The Sydney Light Rail Project is under the responsibility of the NSW State (NSW 2014). The light rail runs through case study areas of Haymarket, Pyrmont and

Ultimo District, and Glebe (an extension was opened south west to Dulwich Hill in 2014). A further extension is being designed. The State indicates on the City of Sydney web site noted in Information Box 2.2:

Light rail will play a central role in the future of transport in Sydney. It is a high capacity, reliable and sustainable mode of public transport that will ease the pressure on Sydney's roads by reducing the city's reliance on buses. In 2012 the NSW Government began the extension of the Inner West Light Rail line and announced the \$1.6 billion CBD and South East Light Rail project. In March 2014, the Inner West Light Rail was opened to the public. The CBD and South East Light Rail project is due to be complete in 2019/2020. These light rail lines will form the new Sydney Light Rail network, with reliable, high capacity services running north from Central to Circular Quay along George Street through the CBD, west to Pyrmont and Dulwich Hill, and south east to Kingsford and Randwick via Surry Hills, Moore Park and Kensington. (Source NSW Government 2014)

7. Water Conservation

The City is rethinking how to deliver the city's drinking and non-drinking water supplies. The City notes in its *Water Strategy Plan* (City of Sydney 2011a, b) (<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.com.au>):

The current water network is inefficient, unsustainable and highly sensitive to climate change. The City has worked closely with a huge range of industry partners including Sydney Water, to come up with a solid master plan that will ensure the local area's water needs are met sustainably. We are thinking locally, rather than relying on large-scale remote solutions. Localized management of water, wastewater and storm water is a major part of the plan. The best solution for Sydney is based on water efficiency, recycled water options, a reduction in storm water pollution and cost. (Source City of Sydney 2014a, b)

The Central Park commercial and residential development in Chippendale (Chap. 5) (and noted above) is one current project (2014) with an aim of using 70 % of its water usage from collected and recycled water. This site collects all black and gray water across the site, including building rain water. The project also uses bio-solids purchased from the sewer bisecting the site. On a daily basis 1,000 kl of recycled water is collected. There is also a triangulation plant. Thus this water is used to flush all toilets, wash all clothes, reticulated for heating and cooling, and watering vertical greenery on the exteriors of the buildings (30 story).

8. Affordable Housing

The City of Sydney has adopted within its *Sustainable Sydney 2030* plan (City of Sydney 2007c) an affordable housing goal. The plan states:

The plan establishes an ambitious target that by 2030 7.5 % of all housing in the City will be social housing and 7.5 % will be affordable housing. This means a moderate growth in social housing, but a near fourfold (4x) increase in the supply of affordable housing (or 18 % of all new residential growth). The Affordable Rental Housing Strategy 2009–2014 adopts a suite of planning, partnership, financial and advocacy actions that can have an impact on the supply of affordable rental housing and protection of social and low cost rental accommodation. Through activities such as offering land, site-specific changes to planning controls and seeking negotiated benefits on major development sites, the City can directly facilitate 2,900 affordable rental housing dwellings being built. (Source City of Sydney)

The City of Sydney has also adopted, as noted above, the *Rental Housing Strategy 2009–2014* (City of Sydney 2009). This strategy aims to increase rental housing

opportunities in the City, with an updated strategy due in 2015. Given the City of Sydney Council goal in affordable housing (including rental) (as outlined above), the indicator of sustainability #7 (Chap. 1) 'planning and development is fair to everyone' will need to consider this goal within the case study areas (Chaps. 3–11). Housing affordability is affected by the factor of end cost (purchase and rental) of accommodation in City of Sydney inner city areas (including social and public housing). A background of housing costs across the inner city area and Greater Sydney will assist in evaluating housing affordability in the City. Recent (2014) figures reported in the press show that rental and home buyer housing is not affordable in the City of Sydney inner city (and broadly across Greater Sydney). Increases in prices of housing in St Peters (Chap. 7, Erskineville) rose over 20 years to 2013 by 394 % to a median of \$825,000 (SMH 28 June 2014, p. 12). The article reported that within the City of Sydney overall prices of housing rose 225 % over 20 years (to 2013), while Greater Sydney rose 225 % over this period (median of \$650,500). Earlier the SMH (8 February 2014, p. 12) reported that thirty one (31) Greater Sydney suburbs had reached a median house sales price of over \$1m, including Camperdown and Darlington (Chap. 7, Erskineville). Finally, looking at overall house price increases the SMH (21 July 2014, p. 7) reported that while a house in Greater Sydney cost \$200,000 in 1997, that house would now cost \$525,000 as the average 2013/14 increase in housing costs was 15.4 %.

On the rental side of housing, median asking amount for renting a City of Sydney apartment was \$500/wk and \$510/wk for a home (June 2014) (SMH 10/7/14, p. 14). The rental of 1br apartments, the paper said, had "sky rocked" over several years from a range of \$300–\$500/wk to a range of \$550–\$700/wk (2014). The new Central Park (Chap. 5, Chippendale) complex offered 1br units to rent from a low of \$560/wk to an average for all apartments of \$770/wk. It was also noted that on campus university rents in the inner city were at \$200/wk to share accommodation to \$475/wk for an apartment. The paper reported there had been in 2013/14 a surge of investors in housing making up 50 % of all home loans. The article notes overseas nations' total investments were increasing (i.e. China was expected to invest \$200b per year by 2030 in a forecast by the ANZ bank). The article goes on to state first home buyers could not afford a home in the City of Sydney or the Greater Sydney. Finally, commenting on housing rises caused by population growth, the paper states the NSW population grew by 110,000 in 2013 (a majority settling in Greater Sydney). In that year, the paper notes, overseas migrants made up 71,400 of that total increase. Finally, the Sydney Telegraph (17/7/14, p. 4) noted that City of Sydney enforcement actions were taken on poor standard housing accommodations (including closing of backpacker establishments for health reasons and reports of beds jammed into 1br apartments in Chippendale) (Chap. 5).

The shortage of public housing in the City of Sydney was highlighted recently (2014) when the NSW State government decided to sell 293 public rented houses in Millers Point (within the inner city). This will result in 600 tenants (mostly long term and nearly half over 60 years of age) having to find alternative accommodation (public assisted where feasible). Finally, homelessness in the City of Sydney (as in many western world cities) is a continuing challenge for governments. The City Council

has had to establish a ‘Sydney Homelessness Unit’ to work with people experiencing homelessness (*Central* newspaper 11 June 2014, p. 18). The paper reported on ‘up to 10 people who sleep rough under the disused brickworks on the Newtown side of Sydney Park’ (Chap. 7, Erskineville). The article comments on the work of the Homelessness Unit (that liaises with homeless programs under agencies such as St Vinnie de Paul, Hope Centre (Baptist), Salvation Army and other charitable groups).

Moving from City of Sydney strategies (as reviewed above) to the State of NSW planning, in 2012 the newly elected State government introduced the *Environmental Planning Act 2012 (draft)* (NSW 2012). This proposed act reflected the need for Greater Sydney (including growth of the City of Sydney) (according to State projections) to accommodate an additional 1.6 m people over two decades (2014–2034) (Sydney Morning Herald (SMH), 30 Aug 2014, p. 11). To accomplish this the State proposed to create a Greater Sydney Commission. There has however been little debate about regional centres absorbing some of this projected population increase (with reference to sustainability of cities as reviewed in Chap. 1). The SMH went further and reported the Minister for Planning, Pru Goward, stating the Commission would be a new agency for Greater Sydney planning to “streamline government infrastructure and urban planning priorities”. Looking at this State goal, the act was to replace the EPA Act of 1979 (considered by many as a fairly effective planning act with updating via amendments since its adoption in 1979). The State was reviewing (among other parameters) how to simplify planning to create more opportunities for development and fast tracking categories of development (i.e. code only approvals). The State’s proposed act resulted in a major debate during the whole of 2013 and into 2014. This debate included the question of how ‘local strategic plans’ could be adopted to be used as prime instruments after adoption (with local government involvement) in considering all subsequent development applications.

The proposed act (above) was still stalled in Parliament in the second part of 2014, given multi-sector opposition to many clauses. Players in the debate include local government councils, development industry, planning institutions, and, community interests. The latter groups’ interest is partly been taken up by the Better Planning Network (<http://www.bpn.org.au>), representing 400+ community groups across Sydney and NSW. The Parliament was divided on effects the proposed act would have on communities and many parliamentarians argued for greater accommodation of principles of sustainable urban planning (Chap. 1). The finalization of this debate (likely to go into 2015, given a State election early in March 2015) will affect how councils of NSW manage planning, including the City of Sydney. The City of Sydney and the NSW State could also benefit by examining neighborhood planning processes adopted by other cities. In Chap. 1 the successful approach to neighborhood planning as taken by the City of New York (under the 197-a planning process and engagement of community boards) (Rauscher and Momtaz 2014b) could be reviewed for potential application to planning in partnership between the City of Sydney and NSW State (and other NSW urban and regional centres). Finally, to cite one further example of the means to adopt successful neighbourhood planning models, the BPN (noted above) (<http://www.bpn.org.au>) adopted a Charter in late 2014 entitled *Planning for People—A Community Charter for Good*

Planning in NSW Planning (BPN 2014a). The Charter, to assist NSW communities and governments to find a better means of plan making (and determination of development proposals, contains the vision statement:

A planning system that thinks of both today and tomorrow; is built on fairness, equity and the concept of Ecologically Sustainable Development; guides quality development to the right places; ensures poorly designed developments and those in the wrong place don't get built; and protects the things that matter, from open spaces, bushland and productive agricultural land to much-loved historic town centres and buildings. (Source Better Planning Network 2014a)

The BPN then outlines the Charter's five (5) principles (refer to Chap. 1 on background to sustainability principles) as follows:

1. The well-being of the whole community, the environment and future generations across regional, rural and urban NSW
2. Effective and genuine public participation in strategic planning and development decisions
3. An open, accessible, transparent and accountable and corruption-free planning system
4. The integration of land use planning with the provision of infrastructure and the conservation of our natural, built and cultural environment
5. Objective, evidence-based assessment of strategic planning and development Proposals. (Source Better Planning Network 2014a)

The BPN also adopted a document entitled *A Companion Document* (BPN 2014b) to the Charter. The companion document details the Charter principles for good planning and expected outcomes of a planning system, as well as the possible mechanisms through which the Charter could be implemented. These principles and mechanisms for implementation include:

1. The well-being of the whole community, the environment and future generations across regional, rural and urban NSW
 - 1.1 Effective and genuine public participation in strategic planning and development decisions
 - 1.2 An open, accessible, transparent and accountable, corruption-free planning system
 - 1.3 The integration of land use planning with the provision of infrastructure and the conservation of our natural, built and cultural environment
 - 1.4 Objective, evidence-based assessment of strategic planning and development proposals
2. More about the expected outcomes of a good planning system
 - 2.1 Respects, values and conserves our natural environment and the services it provides
 - 2.2 Facilitates world-class urban environments with well-designed resource-efficient housing, public spaces and solar access that meet the needs of residents, workers and pedestrians
 - 2.3 Provides housing choice, including affordable housing and sufficient housing for the disadvantaged, in a diversity of locations
 - 2.4 Celebrates, respects and conserves our cultural (including Aboriginal) and built heritage

- 2.5 Protects and sustainably manages our natural resources, including our water resources, fragile coastlines and irreplaceable agricultural land for the benefit of present and future generations while maintaining or enhancing ecological processes and biological diversity
- 2.6 Retains and protects our Crown lands, natural areas, landscapes and flora and fauna for the benefit of the people of NSW
- 2.7 Gives local and regional communities a genuine and meaningful voice in shaping their local area and region, its character and the location, height and density of housing. Provides certainty and fairness to communities
- 3. The possible mechanisms for implementation (including access to information) include establishment of:
 - 3.1 Unit of Strategic Planning and Policy
 - 3.2 Independent Spatial Data Authority
 - 3.3 Unit of Development Assessment
 - 3.4 Statutory Development Assessment Commission
 - 3.5 Statutory Community Board. (Source Better Planning Network 2014b)

Looking at another community engagement process within Greater Sydney and regional NSW cities and shires, a good deal of experience exists within ‘community precinct committees’ (CPCs). These CPCs are often engaged in the local plan making process. A summary of CPCs in NSW is contained in the paper entitled *Committees and Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) Based Urban Planning* (Rauscher 2010). The paper is available through Habitat Association for Arts and Environment Inc. (<http://www.habitatassociation.com.au>) at: <http://habitatatowntownplanningforum.wordpress.com/2012/04/05/local-government-precinct-committees-and-ecologically-sustainable-development-esd-based-urban-planning-written-by-ray-rauscher/>

This paper outlines research on incorporating ecologically sustainable development (ESD) based urban planning within the aims of local government based CPCs. The paper explores the history of CPCs, particularly the role of place management as a foundation for precinct committees. The structure and operation of CPCs is examined within Greater Sydney and NSW urban regions such as the Central Coast, Lower Hunter (including Lake Macquarie City and City of Newcastle), Illawarra (including City of Wollongong).

In summary, any NSW State final new planning act could reflect the best practice community urban planning approaches used by: NSW local government councils; other Australian states; overseas cities, regions and states; and, community groups (i.e. BPN and CPCs noted above). The review (above), including: City of New York’s 197a community engagement within the City’s planning process; the BPN’s *Planning for People Charter* (BPN 2014a) and *Companion Document to the Charter* (BPN 2014b); and, CPCs, could be useful to the State as it examines its planning directions. The structure of these planning approaches (and others) could be examined by the State in its new legislation before Parliament (noted above). Comparing world urban centres’ planning (in addition to the City of New York above) with the City of Sydney and NSW State planning is examined next (to gain a broader perspective on the move to sustainable urban planning).

2.3 Comparing World Urban Centres' Planning

In examining the City of Sydney's approach to applying sustainable urban planning principles (as above and Chap. 1) it is helpful to look at other world cities and localities applying these principles (including master planning of inner cities). Examining these urban places (and the designers' approaches) provides a wider background basis to examine the City of Sydney urban planning approaches.

Starting with the classic study *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (Jacobs 1993, first published 1961), Jane Jacobs argues that the most important aspect of urban planning is to follow "four generators of diversity", being: 1. mixed primary uses, activating streets at different times of the day; 2. short blocks, allowing high pedestrian permeability; 3. buildings of various ages and states of repair; and, 4. density. She upheld the prime principle of neighbourhood design was to create vibrant communities (she often cited New York City's Greenwich Village as an example of one of these communities). Jacob's views are supported by Jean-Paul Corten who argues in *Heritage as an Asset for Inner City Development* (Corten 2014) for a bigger role for cultural heritage in urban management of contemporary cities. Corten writes: "Cultural heritage is an important location-determining factor for a new generation of: city dwellers; newly developing companies in the service sector; creative industries; and, for recreation and tourism." Corten also notes that unrestrained urban growth is putting historic inner cities under increasingly greater pressure for development. He argues for new methods to see the existing qualities (i.e. historic) of inner cities as being vital for the future of the entire city.

Looking at the importance of master planning, Firley (2013) in *The Urban Masterplanning Handbook* examines abilities of cities to master plan neighbourhoods, especially in applying principles of sustainable development. Examples given by Firley reflects how city administrations adopt sustainable urban planning goals and design guidelines (refer to earlier Chap. 1). He notes Belgravia (near Edmonton, UK) as an example of a neighbourhood planned for higher density developments around a transport core area (allowing a lower density older district to be protected). The plans in Belgravia also ensure that new linear parks and open spaces are integrated into provisions for increased transit use. Firley also comments on Stratford City (a new metropolitan centre in London). This centre is master planned within sustainability guidelines and is scheduled to open in stages up to 2020. In this project there were 4 years of community consultation, including agreement on sustainability guidelines for design, construction and development. Wisely, and a note to other cities (i.e. City of Sydney), these guidelines were passed on to developers as statutory regulations and a panel was created to review sustainability criteria (i.e. carbon savings goals).

Moving to Canada, Firley notes Southeast False Creek (Vancouver) is being developed as a leading model of sustainable development. The planning here includes alternative energy systems, green buildings and upgraded transit. The focus of the project is residential (adding about 12,000 people), with most jobs and

services planned to be accessible by transit. In review, development of Southeast False Creek by 2011 met the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) platinum standard (the second neighbourhood in the world to meet that standard). Firley also refers to Puerto Madero, an old sector of the port district at the mouth of River Plate. This area has been transformed (over 170 ha) into a progressive tourist and urban centre. The neighbourhood has recently housed 5,000 new residents and provided 45,000 service jobs. Puerto Madero, Firley notes, was an urban brownfield renewal project and incorporates (over several decades of development) a program of social housing in heritage areas. Finally, Firley notes the master planning that incorporates substantial sustainability criteria is Sweden's Hammarby Sjöstad district (within 20 min of Stockholm centre). The district of 200 ha is expected to accommodate a population of 20,000 people, commercial developments and 10,000 additional workers (final completion date in 2015). The design of Hammarby Sjöstad follows sustainability technology, with buildings ranging from four to eight stories (taller buildings along transport corridors). In the district's open space planning, a network of varied parks and walkways run through the district leading to waterfronts. In terms of design, most apartments have had balconies included to enable overlooking of streets and open spaces. Similar to the City of Sydney, the area is easily accessible by public transport and a new tram extension has been planned eastwards to connect to one of Stockholm's main transport hubs (note the City of Sydney's light rail extensions as announced in 2014 in Information Box 2.2). Hammarby Sjöstad was designed as an eco-community of 10,000 homes. A study for the Stockholm City Planning Bureau entitled *Urban Sustainability—A European Perspective* (Univ of Pennsylvania, Earth and Environmental Sciences 2006) comments on sustainability principles applied within Hammarby Sjöstad:

The houses feature rainwater harvesting and solar panels, with solar-powered street lights. Residents separate their waste with color-coded biodegradable bags that are fed into chutes to a vacuum-sorted underground waste removal system. Sewage is processed to become fuel for cooking, running buses and autos (including a car pool). The sewage sludge by-product fertilizes a forest that is managed to provide wood for heating homes. The homes are oriented to maximize natural light and to allow access to outside space which includes parks and footpaths throughout the development. (Source Univ of Pennsylvania 2006)

The report also notes the lessons learned from planning Hammarby Sjöstad on a master plan and sustainability basis:

The planning showed the powerful role that strong public sector leadership can play in ensuring development of the highest quality. Key planning and development lessons are: 1. A strong Master Plan, which forms the basis for land-use policy and the development of streets and public spaces. 2. Preparation of detailed design codes for individual sub-neighbourhoods, which form the basis for contracts with developers. 3. Appointment of different developers working with different architectural teams, to design sub-neighbourhoods, ensuring diversity and texture throughout the neighbourhood, within the unity which is established by the Master Plan. 4. Innovative 'parallel sketches' process for sub-neighbourhood design, with the City acting as the final arbiter and preparing the final scheme. 5. Strong environmental sustainability aspirations which are followed through at

every level, including the preparation of the Glass House environmental education centre, as much to be a resource for local residents as for visitors. 6. The use of land use policy to ensure that the neighbourhood has a mix of uses which is able to sustain a community. 7. Strong design ethos which is applied to public buildings and private development. 8. A well-resourced, highly skilled team within the City of Stockholm, capable of making careful judgments about design quality. (Source Univ of Pennsylvania 2006)

Moving from master planning to street level planning, Dover (2014) (*Street Design: The Secret to Great Cities and Towns*) provides a guide for planning and creating sustainable streets for towns and cities. Dover emphasizes the importance of walking around the neighbourhood to discover streets that work in design, comfort and that are built for human scale. The author emphasizes the importance of design in creating new streets and enhancing existing ones. Dover illustrates what makes excellent streets and the elements that make successful public spaces. Factors, the authors argue, to create these spaces include: public rights to way; building heights to street width ratios; distant vistas; landscaping; and, the geometry of the space. Good design of streets and public spaces, Dover concludes, will result in healthier neighborhoods. To make streets work Alexander (1978), in the classic *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*, argues that people should design for themselves their own communities. Alexander's case, picked up by many cities since release of the book, "allows people to articulate in an infinite variety of designs within a formal system that gives coherence".

Marshall (2005) further translates the concept of patterns in street design. In *Streets and Patterns* he states "urban street layouts should be planned with greater attention to 'place making' and urban design quality, while maintaining the conventional transport functions of accessibility and connectivity". Finally, moving from street level to the planning of whole neighbourhoods, Dovey (2010), in *Becoming Places—Urbanism, Architecture, Identity and Power* addresses how to ensure places work. Dovey develops a critique on the importance for all urban spaces being designed to become successful places. He emphasizes the importance of enhancing neighborhood character and ensuring public spaces are planned to help shape a local, city and national identity.

Moving from urban spaces design, to working on city landscapes, Corner (2012) in *Recovering Landscape* argues for city administrators to look at their existing landscapes with new possibilities of redesign. Corner addresses, for example, sustainable design practices in reclamation of lands and new infrastructure provisions. Going beyond individual landscapes to ecological areas, Mostafavi (2010) argues in *Ecological Urbanism* for urban designs to have an ecological basis, Mostafavi examines urban place designs that balance ecology, architecture and landscape architecture. Commenting further on the importance of protecting ecologies, Yeang (2009) in *Eco Master Planning* (Yeang 2009) argues for the integration of four aspects of planning based on ecological principles: nature, water, engineering, and social context. These designs are integrated throughout any master plan, for example featuring wind turbines, solar panels, air funnel towers, and rainwater collectors. Finally, within Australia, Johnson (2003) in *Greening Cities* puts a case that the ever denser built environment is threatening the city's balance with nature. Johnson calls for a

new urban ecology where the built and the natural environment are intertwined as one holistic system. He suggests designing of Sydney landscapes should “ensure the landscape cleans the air, lowers the temperature and reduces water run-off.”

Complimenting this ecological basis of design, is the design factor of protecting and incorporating urban heritage. Bandarin (2013) argues in *The Historic Urban Landscape: Managing Heritage in an Urban Century* that heritage should be the first basis of sustainable urban planning. Bandarin reinforces the importance of key issues and best practice in urban conservation today (he notes especially UNESCO guidelines). Finally, Hans Venhuizen in *Game Urbanism: Manual for Cultural Spatial Planning* (Venhuizen 2013) argues for a “broad understanding of culture that encompasses cultural history, heritage, architecture and art, as well as the culture of the current residents of a region and the idiosyncrasy of a place”. Venhuizen focuses on a culture of spatial planning (including the relation between playfulness and seriousness in the design or renewal of urban places).

The City of Sydney has at various times sought the advice of Gehl (Danish architect and urban design consultant) on improving the quality of urban life. Gehl re-orientes city design towards the pedestrian and the cyclist. In his first book *Life Between Buildings* (Gehl 1987) Gehl emphasizes a sensible, straightforward approach to improving urban form, relying on gradual incremental improvements. In a second book *Public Spaces, Public Life* Gehl (2004) describes how such incremental improvements have transformed Copenhagen from a car-dominated city to a pedestrian-oriented city over 40 years. Gehl has been influential in his studies of city centres within Australia (including Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Hobart), and New Zealand (Auckland and Christchurch). Still in Australia, and looking at urban landscape planning, Bruce McKenzie (Australian), has contributed to the issues of “designing with the landscapes of urban environments”. McKenzie, in *Design with Landscapes: A 50 Year Journey* (McKenzie 2011), argues it is imperative to achieve environmentally sustainable development (ESD) (incorporating climate change resilience) in built environment design. McKenzie was involved in the design of Sydney Park (within the City of Sydney at St Peters), noted in Chap. 7 (Erskineville case study).

One of the most pressing urban planning challenges facing the City of Sydney is designing the City to meet potential climate change forecasts. A useful city design guideline is Condon's (2010) *Seven Rules for Sustainable Communities: Design Strategies for the Post Carbon World*. Condon suggests cities concentrate on practical solutions to a post carbon world. He emphasizes (somewhat similar to the goals of Sustainable Sydney 2030 (2007) the need for cities to adopt the urban design parameters required under headings: transportation, housing equity, job distribution, economic development, and ecological systems. Defining important steps for cities such as Sydney, Charlesworth (2011) in *The Eco Edge: Urgent Design Challenges in Building Sustainable Cities* wants cities in their design considerations to re-examine approaches to: acceptable population densities; infrastructure supporting carbon neutral or low carbon (emission) intensive urban activities; and, a fresh look at retrofitting for a city for sustainability. Finally, Calthorpe (2013) in *Urbanism in the Age of Climate Change* goes

beyond a city such as Sydney and looks to regional cooperation among authorities. Calthorpe argues for a region to examine how urban development can be combined with green technology to achieve regional reductions in carbon emissions, at the same time as ensuring economic and lifestyle benefits. He takes the cooperation required to the national level by challenges governments to create national growth (and environmental impacts) scenarios to 2050. Within Australia (and the City of Sydney may wish to review this document) the Federal Government via the CSIRO (Commonwealth Services in Industry and Research Organisation) (2000) undertook a year 2050 development impact study across the nation in *Future Dilemmas to 2050*. Here CSIRO argued for governments (including cities) and communities to select key ESD principles to engage in the subject of declining environments and future threats to the environments (i.e. Global warming; protecting biodiversity; conserving water; minimizing energy use; and, reducing greenhouse gas production). CSIRO warns, if dilemma issues as noted, fail to get attended to, the complexities of the problems will grow.

In summary, the reader has been presented with: 1. the planning background of the City of Sydney; 2. the role of the NSW State government in the planning process; and, 3. examples in other world cities and localities where recent urban planning has attempted to incorporate sustainability principles (to compare with the City of Sydney). With this background, the selection of case study areas within the City of Sydney is addressed next.

2.4 Selection of Case Study Areas

The City of Sydney case study areas have been selected based on planning histories of those areas and the intentions of the City of Sydney to create sustainable neighbourhoods (as outlined in City of Sydney documents above). Case study areas' planning histories illustrate a range of planning issues that each area was subject to from the 1970s onwards. The reader is introduced to each area starting in City East (Woolloomooloo and Kings Cross) (Chaps. 3 and 4); the Inner South (Chippendale) (Chap. 5) and Redfern and Waterloo District (Chap. 6); the Inner West (Erskineville) (Chap. 7); City West (Haymarket District) (Chap. 8) and Pyrmont and Ultimo District (Chap. 9); the North West (Glebe) (Chap. 10); and, City South (South Sydney District) (Chap. 11). The study areas vary in size and terminology from: 'locality' (a local urban place); to 'suburb' (a part of a district or local government area); and 'district' (sub-part of city usually consisting of several suburbs). The main planning issue that has affected each study area is examined next.

Woolloomooloo—Redevelopment and Green Bans

Woolloomooloo suburb (Chap. 3) was chosen as a case study as it was the site of one of City of Sydney's most significant planning exercises in 1970–1975. The suburb was slated to be completely redeveloped (one early option being to remove most buildings) on a NSW State initiative. The community (and later the City Council), however, rallied against the initial redevelopment proposal. The placement of a green ban by the Builders Labourer's Federation (BLF) (union) created a turning point in the State planning, a factor that also brought the Federal Government into the planning of the suburb. This ban and continued community lobbying led to an eventual agreement by the State, Federal City of Sydney governments to work together. An appointed town planning team worked with the community, the development industry, and all levels of government in gaining the best planning outcomes for the renewal of Woolloomooloo.

Kings Cross—Neighbourhood Preservation in a Tourist Precinct

Kings Cross (Chap. 4) locality was chosen as a case study as it was the location of a redevelopment planning dispute (Victoria St, Kings Cross) in the early 1970s. This dispute was sustained by the communities' defense of neighbourhood preservation in a tourist precinct subject to development pressures. The developer's plans would have resulted in the demolition of heritage buildings and displacement of a local community centered on Victoria St. Here again, as in Woolloomooloo, a green ban was imposed on the developer's plans. Eventually (after a few years), with City, State and Federal governments involvement, there was a resolution with the developer reconsidering the initial proposal and submitting alternative plans (thus preserving most of the Victoria St housing and neighbourhood integrity).

Chippendale—Village Revival in Face of Developments

The Chippendale (Chap. 5) suburb was chosen as a case study as it has been gradually (1970s to today) reviving its village identity. At the same time (more recently in the 2000s) Chippendale residents have had to consider the impact of proposed major developments. The suburb has recently (2013 onwards) been subject to one of Sydney's biggest residential developments, Central Park (to be completed late 2015 and noted earlier). In addition, two education institutions (University of Technology Sydney and University of Notre Dame) have initiated projects within Chippendale over the last few years (to 2014).

Redfern and Waterloo District—Public and Private Housing Balance

The Redfern and Waterloo District (Chap. 6) has (since the early 1960s) been subject to public housing projects at the same time the community was working to maintain and upgrade private housing. The standoff of the community and the State in the early 1970s over redevelopment plans at Waterloo led to a protracted State and residents development dispute. This dispute lasted several years, including the placement of a green ban on State redevelopment plans. In the end a number of streets were saved from demolition as the project was considerably scaled down.

Ersleville—Redevelopment Versus Rehabilitation

In 1970 a local government council (South Sydney Council) redevelopment plan (to be submitted to the State) for a major portion of the Ersleville (Chap. 7) suburb led to a backlash by the community. In this instance the redevelopment plan would have completely replaced all the traditional housing in the subject area with new housing. The community led a long campaign to overcome the plans and seek the government's (city, state and federal levels) consideration to adopt rehabilitation plans (instead of redevelopment) for the neighbourhood. This rehabilitation approach was eventually adopted by the three levels of government.

Haymarket District—Neighbourhood and Integration of Development Precincts

The Haymarket District (Chap. 8) has a long history of accommodating different urban precincts, including Darling Harbour, Chinatown, and Broadway (including and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS)). The main planning issue here has been the protection of neighbourhoods amidst the integration of development precincts as noted. Also, of recent interest (2014), is the announcement by the NSW government of the commencement of master planning of the Bays District (i.e. including the Sydney Fish Market and old power station near Blackwattle Bay). The Bays District shares waterways of the Haymarket District, including Darling Harbour and Blackwattle Bay.

Pymont and Ultimo District—Government Sponsored Redevelopment

The Pymont and Ultimo District (Chap. 9) was subject of government (city, state and federal levels) redevelopment planning commencing in the 1980s and continuing through the early 2000s. The challenge here for all these levels of government was to progress redevelopment via planning agreements with the community and the development industry, including the protection of neighbourhoods.

Glebe—Building on Traditional Neighborhoods

The Glebe suburb (Chap. 10) has maintained one of the inner city Sydney's most intact traditional group of neighbourhoods. In 1971 the suburb was threatened with an expressway proposal traversing through its geographical centre (East-West Distributor). This proposal would have substantially impacted on the rehabilitation of housing in Glebe and beyond that was already underway. There was considerable community engagement (including a green ban on the expressway proposal) to move governments towards better urban planning for Glebe. At the same time, the Federal government (1972) was willing to become involved and to assist with 'model urban renewal' of part of Glebe (Bishopthorpe Estate).

South Sydney District—Planning an Inner City Growth Centre

The South Sydney District (Chap. 11) was designated an 'inner city growth centre' by the City of Sydney, NSW State and Federal governments in the 1980s. The challenge for all three levels of government (as well as the community and the development industry) was to ensure local neighbourhoods were protected, at the same time as the district accommodated major redevelopment. The redevelopment areas within this district included proposed new neighbourhoods of Victoria Square and Green Square.

As noted earlier, each chapter contains an information box (with web resources) (see Table of Contents for list). These boxes enable the reader to gain a wider background of the case study areas (and adjacent areas) and to do further research on any of these. The boxes include links to history, planning and development of the subject case study area.

2.5 Summary

The chapter firstly provided a background to planning in the City of Sydney and in the State of NSW. For a comparative analysis with the City of Sydney, a brief review of current approaches to urban planning in different world cities and localities was provided. Following this, nine (9) case study areas within the City of Sydney were selected for closer examination. The key planning issue (1970s onwards) for each study area was then outlined. These planning issues would be further examined within each case study chapter, providing background information for the application of the selected indicators of sustainability (as adopted in Chap. 1). The next chapter examines planning and development of the first case study area, Woolloomooloo (including the application of the indicators of sustainability).

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