

# A National Cities Research Program

## An integrated national program

- How do we support the reform agenda of all governments seeking solutions to the fundamental economic, social and environmental challenges that face Australian cities?
- How do we better integrate transport policy and infrastructure provision, and respond to the challenges of sustainable population growth?
- How do we develop integrated evidence based solutions that explicitly focus on cities?

## Solutions based on evidence

The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) can deliver a high quality, independent, evidence base that can be used to underpin constructive engagement on these critical issues across federal, state and local government, the community, and the private sector.

The need for integrated solutions that can produce good outcomes across housing, land supply, urban infrastructure and economic development is critical to the future of our cities—hence this proposal to work with governments to deliver a National Cities Research Program.

AHURI delivers solutions based on evidence.

The objectives of the National Cities Research Program will be to:

- deliver an evidence base that will be relevant to and integrative across urban issues
- deliver an evidence base that will be unimpeachable and independent
- engage the policy and research communities
- facilitate dialogue between business, community, and government
- engage international experts on comparative work
- inform public discussion of these important issues.

## How we deliver national research programs

AHURI's expertise is in delivering high quality, policy relevant research programs. With an existing research infrastructure and its not-for-profit management company, AHURI has the capability to cost-effectively implement research programs immediately.

AHURI Limited currently manages the National Housing Research Program, an annual \$4 million program focussed on housing policy on behalf of the Federal, State and Territory Housing Ministers and their housing departments.

The National Cities Research Program will be supported as a parallel program by our existing infrastructure, with additional resources provided as required. It will be:

### Policy relevant

- Brokered engagement from priority setting to dissemination.
- Project advisory groups established to provide policy advice.
- Dissemination of research involves both presentations of findings and presentations from policy makers about policy development implications.

### High quality

- Network of universities nationwide.
- Merit selection of competing funding bids by an independent panel of policy makers and academics.
- Peer review of published outputs – international peer review panel.

### Timely

- Effective management of research projects tailored to fit the purpose.
- Research synthesis in weeks.
- Essays and panels in months.
- Major research projects in a year.
- Larger scale projects.

### Cost effective

- Use existing infrastructure, concentration of effort.
- Co-investment leveraged funding model.
- Academic salary rates—less than consultancy rates.
- Intellectual Property rights retained by the researcher.

## For further information

If you would like to know more about National Cities Research Program please contact:

Dr Ian Winter  
Executive Director

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute  
Level 1, 114 Flinders Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Phone +61 3 9660 2300  
Fax +61 3 9663 5488

Email [ian.winter@ahuri.edu.au](mailto:ian.winter@ahuri.edu.au)

Web [www.ahuri.edu.au](http://www.ahuri.edu.au)

View current activities of the Program on the [AHURI website](http://www.ahuri.edu.au).

