

PLANNING A NEW WORLD CITY

Australia's attempt to tame the market within a neo-liberalised state

25 June 2025
11:00 – 12:30

Seminar

Aula Astengo
Castello del Valentino
Politecnico di Torino

Organizers:
Aida Shaneh
aida.shaneh@polito.it
Giancarlo Cotella
giancarlo.cotella@polito.it

Speaker: Dr. Mark Limb | Senior Lecturer in Urban and Regional Planning – Queensland University of Technology

Moderator: Dr. Giancarlo Cotella | Full professor in Urban and Regional Planning – Politecnico di Torino

This seminar is intended to provide a critical overview of Australian approaches to urban planning. It will describe the systems of planning, key governance arrangements, planning regulation, and how both public and private actors are mobilised towards planning goals. The seminar will critically examine the prospects of whether a development-led system of planning can address core environmental, economic, and societal challenges. The seminar will conclude with audience discussion to contrast Italian and European systems of planning with the Australian approach, and an evaluation of the relative suitability of each.

Mark Limb is a qualified urban planner with extensive experience in both strategic and statutory land use planning. He is a full member of the Planning Institute of Australia and the subject area coordinator for urban and regional planning at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Brisbane, Australia. Mark's research focuses on the evaluation of plans, policies, and land use planning regulations, and their real-world effects. He is also interested in suburban revitalisation, centre and infill development, and active transportation. His research has been supported by local, state, and federal governments, as well as industry partners. His current projects include evaluations of e-bike rebate schemes, an assessment of the demand drivers and spatial implications of self-storage facilities, the development of a model for intergenerational housing and education, and an investigation into performance-based planning approaches. Mark is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Built Environment at QUT, where he coordinates and teaches units including Planning and Design Practice, Urban Planning Practice, and Stakeholder Engagement.



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