



Australian Institute of Architects

Kirsteen Mackay
Government Architect
Via email: kirsteen.mackay@sa.gov.au

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Design Guidelines

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the DPT12 ODASA Community Guide document prior to its anticipated draft release in the coming weeks.

The Australian Institute of Architects SA Chapter supports the document and commends ODASA on the creation of a succinct and legible guide to the value of design for our communities.

At a high level we offer the following observations which we would like to progress further through discussion with ODASA and the Department:

- We support this document and the way in which it positions the value of good design
- We note that design is a complex multifaceted undertaking and that the use of educated and skilled design professionals such as architects should be encouraged in order to achieve the desired outcomes. We suggest that this document should make reference to the use of appropriately qualified practitioners being engaged to deliver good design
- We look forward to early and significant involvement in the generation of further policy, guidelines and other documents which will be necessary to support this document. As we have previously submitted, the Institute supports the inclusion of design as an assessable component of the planning system but we believe that it is critical not to attempt to codify complex design solutions, and that assessment must be undertaken by assessors who are eminently qualified in design matters.

At an editorial level we offer the following comments:

- The section titled “Metropolitan Adelaide into the Future” may be better placed closer to the front of the document as a macro view
- Referring to our urban form as more recently “dominated” by apartment buildings is an over statement
- There should be mention of the value of beauty and delight in design as well as the more pragmatic positive outcomes
- There could be greater reference to the connection between health and wellness and good design
- The document should make reference to the types of professionals who are able to achieve good design outcomes



- Acknowledgement of architects as a registered profession with specialist design expertise should be included
- It would be positive if all the images were able to be sourced from local projects
- Perhaps the document should provide some further guidance about next steps or opportunity for community to seek further information and provide feedback?

We look forward to further engagement as policy regarding design and the use of design professionals is further developed. Our membership of architects is unique in the industry as qualified design professionals who operate under an Act of Parliament and maintain annual registration, and our involvement will add significant value to the generation of further content.

Regards,

Mario Dreosti
President SA Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects