Urban Taskforce leads the industry in a ‘Return to Major Events’ with the 2020 Development Excellence Awards – championing Development Excellence.

Urban Taskforce makes 35 policy submissions throughout the year of 2020.

Productivity Commission hands down Review of Infrastructure Contributions Report which again is strongly influenced by the Urban Taskforce submissions and advocacy.

State Budget responds to Urban Taskforce with reforms to Stamp Duty and Land Tax flagged along with funding for the Planning Delivery Unit and Planning Reforms.

Throughout COVID-19 Urban Taskforce maintains a high-profile list of Boardroom Lunch speakers totalling 31 in 2020.

Urban Taskforce leadership changes guard with the retirement of Chair, Peter Daly after six years in the role and welcomes Peter Spira AM, as Chair.

Urban Taskforce publishes 24 Member Alerts and 24 Urban Living Networks while expanding its following in all forms of social media.

Urban Taskforce maintains a strong, leading advocacy voice in the media and property journals driving for change and reform.

Government announces and funds Planning Delivery Unit to assist with Agency Consent to break-through bottle necks in the planning system.

Urban Taskforce works with NSW Treasury to lead the identification of major projects stuck in the planning system which can be fast-tracked. Government announces PSAP and the subsequent 6 Tranches of fast-tracked projects.

Urban Taskforce urges Planning to use the COVID-19 crisis as an opportunity for reform and cultural change.

Urban Taskforce publishes Urban Ideas on Tax and Development – A Better way Forward – which examines the upward pressure on prices and the burden on property purchases.

Reflecting the new ‘COVID-era’ focus on the economy and productivity, the NSW Productivity Commission is appointed to review opportunities to ‘Kickstart Productivity’ with reform to NSW Planning as well as being commissioned to undertake a comprehensive review into the infrastructure contributions levy system.

Urban Taskforce lobbies Government to ensure Construction continues, hours of operations are extended + supermarkets are allowed to operate 24/7.

COVID 19 HITS AUSTRALIA

Urban Taskforce successfully uses ‘GIPA’ laws to extract from NSW Treasury’s it’s Mecone Report which exposed NSW as the Slowest Planning System in Australia.

NSW Productivity Commission completes its review in late 2019 setting up NSW for a year of reform in 2020. The recommendations strongly reflect Urban Taskforce submissions. Changes are to be flowed through to all Independent Panels.


Urban Taskforce leads the charge against Independent Planning Commission on the Ritz Carlton Hotel refusal at Pyrmont.

Government recognises the need for Planning Reform and concedes for the first time that the system is too slow, too complex and too costly.

THE EXISTING PLANNING SYSTEM IS NOT DELIVERING FOR NSW

Productivity Commission completes its Green Paper “Continuing the Productivity Conversation” which bluntly smashes the NSW Planning System and calls out the apologists for its failings as those responsible for holding back the NSW economy. Headings like “7.2 The existing planning system is not delivering for New South Wales” rarely appear in Treasury publications – that was the heading on page 221 of this quality piece of analysis.