

## **Selected strata title research undertaken by the City Futures Research Centre at the University of New South Wales, Australia**

### ***Planning in a Market Economy: The case of the compact city (ongoing)***

Australian cities face immense pressure to accommodate projected housing demand. Contemporary planning theory argues that policies supporting higher urban dwelling densities within existing urban boundaries are a solution to such pressures. These compact city concepts now dominate strategic city planning policies. Yet these policies are proving difficult to implement. This project will quantify the outcomes of approaches to planning for greater urban densities in two Australian cities and explore the motivations of the actors involved and the practical issues of delivering them. The findings will support planners to devise informed strategies to better address urban growth pressures.

*More information:* <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/research/projects/planning-in-a-market-economy/>

### ***City Living: Urban consolidation and the social sustainability of cities (ongoing)***

The project is investigating the broader implications of the lived experiences of apartment residents and owners for the social sustainability of cities. The project aims to raise awareness of the unique challenges of apartment ownership and apartment living and provide proposals to support better outcomes for apartment residents and for the broader community. The research will provide information that will help us to understand how the needs of different people living together in strata schemes can best be accommodated and what can be done to make strata properties attractive places to live for everyone.

*More information:* <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/research/projects/city-living-urban-consolidation-and-the-social-sustainability-of-cities/>

### ***Renewing the Compact City: Economically viable and socially sustainable approaches to urban redevelopment in a complex multi-stakeholder environment (2015)***

Urban renewal poses the greatest challenge to urban planning in Australia. To accommodate growing urban populations, strategic plans require greater housing density in existing urban areas. Paradoxically, a key barrier is existing medium density housing located close to high amenity centres. This research charted the key issues associated with the redevelopment of existing medium density housing to enable well located higher density urban renewal projects. It examined the market context in which strata renewal will take place, the barriers to renewal and how the renewal process can deliver economically viable, socially sustainable and politically acceptable outcomes.

*More information and final report:* <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/research/projects/renewing-the-compact-city/>

### ***The Accessibility Needs and Challenges of Strata Residents (2013)***

This research examined the accessibility needs of people living in strata dwellings and the challenges that can be faced by strata residents in having home modifications undertaken in their properties.

*More information and final report:* <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/research/projects/the-accessibility-needs-and-challenges-of-strata-residents/>

***Governing the Compact City: The role and effectiveness of strata management in higher density residential developments (2012)***

Residential strata is the fastest growing form of property tenure in Australia. Over half the new dwellings to be built in our metropolitan areas are likely to be in strata developments. The growth of this sector raises increasingly important questions over property ownership and local urban governance, based as it is on communal ownership. With strong industry support, this research, for the first time in Australia, identified the key issues facing the governance and management of strata buildings. It examined the effectiveness and functioning of owners' corporations, the role and capacity of strata management and strata owners' attitudes towards this form of property ownership.

*More information and final report:* <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/high-density-living/projects/governing-compact-city-role-and-effectiveness-strata-management-higher>

***Living Well in Greater Density (2010)***

The project outlined some of the most common challenges faced by residents in higher density developments, including (but not limited to) noise, neighbour disputes, privacy and limited open space. The research considered issues facing all higher density households, including low income and vulnerable households. The report provides an evidence base that can be used to develop and promote solutions to the challenges identified, in order to ensure better housing outcomes for residents in higher density developments in NSW.

*More information and final report:* <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/high-density-living/projects/living-well-greater-density>

***The Demand for Higher Density Housing in Sydney and Melbourne (2008)***

This project examined the impacts of urban consolidation policy by analysing some of the social, behavioural and transport assumptions that lie behind urban consolidation policies in Sydney and Melbourne. In particular, it examined whether some of the perceived benefits of urban consolidation are experienced by individuals who live in such dwellings.

*More information and working papers:* <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/high-density-living/projects/demand-higher-density-housing-sydney-and-melbourne>

***Managing Major Repairs in the Residential Strata Sector (2008)***

This study examined the attitudes towards, and practice of, funding major repairs in the strata sector in New South Wales. The findings provide strata owners, owners' corporations, strata managers and policy makers with new and systematic information on the nature and scale of issues surrounding the provision for major repairs in strata in NSW.

*More information and final report:* <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/high-density-living/projects/managing-major-repairs-residential-strata-sector>

*For more information, visit [www.cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au](http://www.cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au) or contact Dr Hazel Easthope at [hazel.easthope@unsw.edu.au](mailto:hazel.easthope@unsw.edu.au)*