

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects Advocacy Manifesto 2022-2025

Vision and Mission



The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) is the peak body for the landscape architectural profession, representing 3,000 members in professional practice, education and government within Australia and overseas.

We lead a dynamic and respected profession, committed to creating great places that support healthy communities and a sustainable, liveable planet. Our values shape everything we do, from the ground up.

We are dedicated to enhancing the built and natural environment and promote sustainable and responsible design and advocacy on behalf of the profession, for the benefit of all communities in Australia.

The AILA Manifesto is a call to action for the next term of the Federal Government to address the key issues that concern Australian Landscape Architects.

The Summary below provides a critical roadmap of the steps required by the next government to achieve the AILA's vision and mission.

Priorities



Climate and Biodiversity Positive Design

- ▶ Enact a **national climate and energy plan** to reduce global temperatures within the IPCC targets.
- ▶ Strengthen legislation to **tackle biodiversity extinction**.
- ▶ Convene a **national built environment** summit on climate resilience to drive a recovery and resilience plan.
- ▶ Set **national mandatory standards** on open space canopy and green cover provisions for building and development.
- ▶ **Strengthen the National Construction Code** to fast-track planned climate mitigation updates.
- ▶ Standardise **national rating and measuring tools for decarbonisation** of construction and building operations, addressing all supply chains (Scope 3).
- ▶ By 2030, all projects to be climate positive with a **75% reduction in embodied and operational emissions with 25% sequestration drawdown offsets**.
- ▶ By 2040, **100% reduction in embodied and operational emissions without offsets**.
- ▶ **Facilitate cross-party collaboration on climate policy** and evidence-based responses to national climate and biodiversity emergency.
- ▶ Promote climate-based policy, projects and investments in response **to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**.



Education and Employment Sector Support

- ▶ Reassess threshold and project bundling of **low-budget projects in Infrastructure Australia's review remit**.
- ▶ **Increase funding for Commonwealth Supported Places** for landscape architecture **post-graduate study**.
- ▶ Review and revise criteria for student and skilled worker visas to **address the critical skills and labor shortage** facing the design and built environment profession.
- ▶ Commit to the implementation of a **National Built Environment Design Excellence program**.
- ▶ **Set gender employment targets** in federally funded projects.
- ▶ **Fund and implement all the recommendations of the Jenkins Respect@Work: Sexual Harassment National Inquiry Report 2020**.
- ▶ **Address the gender pay gap** through government project procurement.
- ▶ **Increase paid parental leave and childcare subsidies**.



Dedicated Green Infrastructure Investment

- ▶ Develop a **National Urban Green Infrastructure Framework**.
- ▶ Establish a **Green Infrastructure Fund** as part of the national climate resilience and recovery plan.
- ▶ Recognise **Green Infrastructure as an Asset Class**.
- ▶ **Increase investment in Living Infrastructure** (Green and Blue) and commit to long-term green finance with a focus on evidence-based decision-making.



First Nations Recognition

- ▶ **Enshrine First Nations voice** in the Constitution.
- ▶ **Amplify truth-telling** through the design and procurement of federally funded built environment projects.
- ▶ **Enact a new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act** to reflect on Parliamentary Inquiry to be led by First Nations representatives.
- ▶ **Adopt International Indigenous Design Charter** on federally funded projects.
- ▶ **Support greater employment** pathways and opportunities for First Nations peoples towards the design and built environment profession.