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**Novotel Brighton Beach
28 & 29 March 2023
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Program



Tuesday, 28th March 2023

8.30 am	Conference Registration and Exhibition Visits – Tea and Coffee on Arrival
9.00 am	<p>Welcome to franc.sydney</p> <p>Alan Benson, President, Stormwater NSW and Dr Andrew Thomas, Conference Chair, franc.sydney</p>
9.10 am	<p>Welcome to Country</p> <p>Uncle Alan Madden</p>
9.15 am	<p>2023 Conference White Paper Panel</p> <p>What are the Headwinds to Progress?</p> <p>With the Stormwater NSW white paper recently released, the community has seen the ongoing articulation of challenges in achieving blue-green infrastructure in NSW.</p> <p>Fragmented governance, inconsistent and inadequate funding arrangements, lack of consistency and coordination, and an absence of information to know whether existing local planning provisions are effective in improving stormwater outcomes are all headwinds to progress.</p> <p>In addition, if the past year has illustrated anything, it has shown us that extreme weather and climate change is making stormwater management a priority issue. Stormwater is being delivered to urban waterways during more intense events that are happening with greater frequency, increasing the risk to public and private assets.</p> <p>The objectives of the 2023 panel discussion are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To generate a timely and constructive dialogue on water management amongst a diverse stakeholder group • To build engagement at the current and future franc.sydney conferences and what it will yield for participants • To set up the opportunity to vote on next steps – our Action Coalition • To create a relevant and unmissable event for community, industry, and government leaders. <p>Facilitator:</p> <p>Prof Martina Doblin, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Institute of Marine Science</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Steven Beaman, Regulatory Operations, NSW EPA</p> <p>Jan Orton, General Manager, Mosaic Insights</p> <p>Alix Pearce, Senior Manager, Climate Action and Resilience, Insurance Council of Australia</p> <p>Prof Nilo Nascimento, Blue-green Infrastructure Expert (Italy)</p>
10.15am	<p>Chair: Philip Goodman, Truegrid</p> <p>Keynote Presentation: Kerb Your Enthusiasm: The Struggle Between Knowing and Leading</p> <p>Dr Andrew O’Neill, Chief Executive Officer, Healthy Land and Water</p> <p>Stormwater is a tricky business, layered with calculations, risk, legal requirements, and regulations. It must be integrated, interdisciplinary, sustainable, resilient, and now they even want it to be beautiful! If stormwater management is complicated, and water sensitive urban design is complex, then the stormwater industry is downright chaotic. We’re a motley crew of highly trained and passionate people, crossing a variety of disciplines, with hopes, dreams, aspirations, and fears. We’ve had some great times together, and we’ve also done things we’re not proud of. I used to think all our cleverness had been overpowered by technocracy, policy, regulations and guidelines which killed our collective creativity, but I think I was wrong. This is my frustration and anguish. I think we know enough, but perhaps we’re too arrogant to tackle the real problems that are facing us because we’re afraid we’ll fail.</p>

	We are at such a crucial time in our history: the International Panel on climate change AR6, 2021 State of Environment report, and the Healthy Land and Water Report Card show worrying trends for our environment and climate, and very few people seem to care. The 2032 Olympic and Paralympic games have been promised as the “Green Games”, yet there is no plan, nor transparency. As First Nations play an ever more powerful role in making decision for country, and as new economic mechanisms such as biodiversity and nutrient markets, and ESG promise to open up new doors, can we take a step back from being clever, from knowing – to lean into the uncertainty that is facing us... and lead?		
10.50 am	Morning Tea		
11.20 am	Move to Breakout Rooms		
Theme	Resilience	Future Focused	Adaptive and Networked Communities
Room	Endeavour 1	Endeavour 3	Sirius
Session Chair	Phil Goodman	Andre Magar	Nerida Taylor
11.25 am	Maintenance is Critical – So, why are we getting it so wrong? Murray Powell, Optimal Stormwater	The Primary Objective of Stormwater Management is to Protect, Maintain or Enhance a Healthy Waterway. So, what is a Healthy Waterway? Dr Carl Tippler, Habitat Innovation	Greater Sydney Harbour Litter Prevention Project – Working with Councils and Communities for a Regional Approach to Litter Prevention Jacqui McLeod, Sydney Coastal Councils Group
11.40 pm	Achieving Stormwater Volume Reductions with Biofilters Dr Dale Brown, E2Designlab	What does a Circular Economy mean for Stormwater? Peter Gillam, Aurecon	Listening to the Community: Implication of Cultural and Social Values on Governing Meaningful, Urban, Nature-based Solutions in Sydney Dr Veljko Prodanovic, UNSW Sydney
11.55 pm	Canterbury-Bankstown Council Pollution Source Scoping Study Craig Naughton, The City of Canterbury-Bankstown	How Much Litter Escapes into Our Oceans via Waterways in Australia? Justine Barrett, CSIRO	Keeping Long-term Waterway Monitoring Relevant and Reliable in a Local Government Environment; Lessons Learned Over 30 Years Kristy Guise, Hornsby Shire Council
12.10 pm	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)
12.40pm	Lunch		

1.40 pm	Move to Breakout Rooms		
Room	Endeavour 1	Endeavour	Sirius
Session Chair	Alan Benson	Eric Love	Ruby Ardren
1.45 pm	The Ultimate Stormwater Asset Management Program Covering the Entire ACT Dan Rhodes, Optimal Stormwater	Building Resilience using Circular Economy Biofiltration Systems inspired by Nature Eric Love, Centre for Organic Research and Education	Streets to Sea – Stemming the Tide of Litter John Lavarack, NSW EPA
2.00 pm	Smart Ponds with Floating Wetlands: A Potential Space-saving Solution for Flood Resilience, Water Quality, and Biodiversity? Michael Di Matteo, KBR		
2.15 pm	Permeable Pavements across Australia – What can NSW learn from Other States? Jack Gill, Concrete Masonry Association of Australia		Swimming Our Way to Healthy Catchments Leanne Niblock and Nerida Taylor, Sydney Water
2.30 pm	Q&A Panel (20mins)		Q&A Panel (20mins)
2.50 pm	Afternoon Tea		
3.15 pm	Move to Plenary		
3.20 pm	<p>Panel Session: Designing Resilient Cities</p> <p>With the benefit of hindsight, we now know that modern cities have many unintended consequences. When the futurists in post-World War Two America imagined the “highways of the future”, they imagined free flowing traffic and driverless cars, not the smog chocked “carparks” of today. Fast forward sixty years, and add climate change and rapid urbanization to the equation, and modern cities are now facing challenges to their resilience that few thought of when civil engineers laid down the doctrines of modern urban development, involving miles of pavement concrete, increasingly dense development, and even the “channelisation” of entire river systems. Such consequences include lack of access to green and blue space ('concrete jungles'), hotter environments ('heat island effect'), more intense storms, stretched water supplies, and, depending on the location, higher risk of fire threat. These issues (and more) all have an effect on our health and wellbeing, effecting our ability to access humane living space, and respond to and recover from natural disasters. In this panel session, panelists and the audience will discuss not only what a resilient city of the future might look like, but also what we actually mean by “resilience” in this context.</p> <p>Facilitator:</p> <p>Dr Andrew Thomas, Executive Officer, Cooks River Alliance</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Cath Thrupp, President, Stormwater Australia</p> <p>Lyndall Pickering, Sydney Water</p> <p>Sarah Watkins, Melbourne Water</p>		
4.30 pm	Wrap up Day One		

4.35pm	Conference Day One Concludes
6.00 pm	Franc.fest – Archie Bros, Alexandria – Coach departs Novotel Brighton Beach at 5.45 pm sharp

Wednesday, 29th March 2023

8.30 am	Conference Registration and Exhibition Visits – Tea and Coffee on Arrival
9.00 am	Welcome to Day 2 and Housekeeping
9.05 am	Recap on Day 2: Professor Martina Doblin
9.15 am	Sponsor Address Andre Magar, SPEL
9.20 am	<p>Panel Session</p> <p>Towards More Effective Indigenous Engagement</p> <p>The first few hours of a major incident response, like for example a flood event, is often referred to as the ‘crisis phase’. The operational teams are desperate to be doing something. The cultural and scientific advisers are busy trying to source as much quality information as they can in order to provide clear, correct and forthright advice to the incident controller. The politicians want solutions and the community wants answers. It is a high pressure, often chaotic, time. If you have developed processes and practices that allow you to source the information you require before the event, you will get through the crisis phase. This session will focus on the processes and practices that should be put in place in order to ensure effective indigenous engagement during, not just through an incident response, but any program that involves engaging with Country. The presentation will also refer to Flooding Case Studies where Indigenous Engagement has been effective and others where it could have been more effective and the lessons learned from those events.</p> <p>Facilitator:</p> <p>Chris Gray, GEMS Environmental</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Kylie Jacky, Lead for Indigenous Initiatives, NSW EPA</p> <p>Martin Puddey, Manager - Flood Projects Team, Incident Management and Environmental Health, NSW EPA</p>
10.10 am	Morning Tea
10.40 am	Move to Breakout Rooms

Theme	Resilience	Future Focused	Adaptive and Networked Communities
Room	Endeavour 1	Endeavour 3	Sirius
Session Chair	Anna Thompson	Craig Bush	Craig Naughton
10.45 am	Urban Stormwater: A source of Pharmaceutical Contaminants Dr Charlene Trestrail, The University of Technology Sydney	Concord Golf Club Stormwater Harvesting System Hugh Williamson, Optimal Stormwater	There is So Much More to Achieving franc's Vision than getting the Stormwater Right – Our Risk-based Framework Case Studies Prove that Chris Gray, GEMS Environmental
11.00 am	What can we Learn from a Systems-based Approach to Integrated Water Management? Himanthi Mendis, Mott Macdonald	Understanding and Maximising Landscaped Open Space and Deep Soil Ruby Ardren, Alluvium Consulting	Georges Riverkeeper GPT Assessment Ben Wolfgramm, Australian Wetlands Consulting
11.15 am	Passive Street Tree Irrigation: How We Can Collectively Overcome Design Constraints? Kathrin Angelin, Alluvium	Transforming Urban Parks with Sustainable Wetland Systems: The Drying Green and Overseas Case Studies Phi Bang Do, McGregor Coxall	You're the Voice – Your thoughts on Stormwater in Australia Justine Barrett, CSIRO
11.30 am	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)
12.00 pm	Lunch		
1.00 pm	Move to Breakout Rooms		
Room	Endeavour 1	Endeavour 3	Sirius
Session Chair	Chris Gray	Amna Arif	Murray Powell
1.05 pm	Why the Risk Based Framework Makes Sense – A Scientific Perspective Dr Peter Scanes, Healthy Waters	A Simple and Fast Urban Micro-Hydrology (UMH) Model Dr Behzad Jamali, WMAwater	Solving Water Sensitive Urban Design Maintenance Compliance Mia Liu, Blacktown City Council
1.20 pm	Why the Risk Based Framework Makes Sense – A Council Perspective Prue Tucker, Mid Coast Council	Shifting Flows to Enhance Urban Resilience to Climate Change Impacts Dr Harsha Sapdhare, Space Down Under	Starting your own WSUD Compliance Program and an Update on the Trial. Craig Bush, Blacktown City Council
1.35 pm	Why the Risk Based Framework Makes Sense – A Consultant's Perspective Shaun Leinster, Designflow	Flood Models in Eco-hydraulic Applications: Key Considerations for Project Success Shae Jelly, Aurecon	The Foundations of a Compliance Program Daniel Rider, Ocean Protect
1.50 pm	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)	Q&A Panel (30mins)
2.20 pm	Move to Plenary		
2.25 pm	Stormwater Australia National Awards for Excellence Presentation		

3.10 pm	Afternoon Tea
3.40pm	Move to Plenary
3.45pm	Session Chair: Dr Andrew Thomas Keynote Presentation Dr Jana Pittman, Olympian, and Medical Doctor
4.45 pm	Conference Wrap Up
5.00 pm	Conference Close