# Re-thinking City Governance

Place making as a primary strategy and a philosophy

#### **Peter Smith**

CEO: Adelaide City Council, South Australia Immediate past Chair Place Leaders Asia Pacific

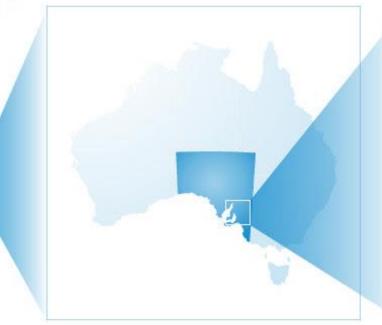
### Adelaide, South Australia

## Where?

Adelaide is the capital city of

South Australia and the fifth-largest city in

Australia





### **Fast Facts**

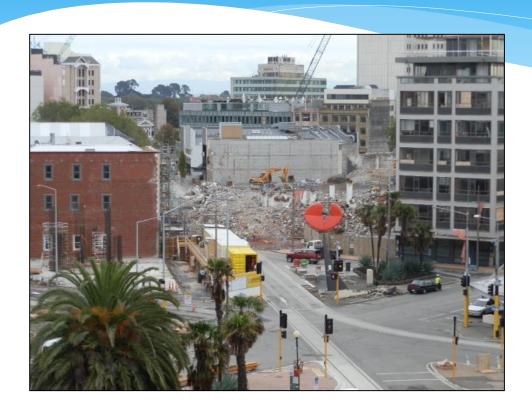
Greater Adelaide area has a population of 1.3 Million. Within the Adelaide CBD there are:



alculated from the McGregor Tan Omnibus 2012.



# Why wait for a disaster?





Earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand

# Post Disaster – Community creativity and innovation emerges from the space Government leaves behind









Why can't Governments and community operate like that all the time?

### Adelaide - Inertia is a form of disaster!

- Major industries such as car manufacturing closing
- \* No future guarantee for replacement industries such as ship building
- Increasing reliance on education, tourism and small business
- \* Young people and talent leaving to go inter-state
- \* City seen as boring with not much to do
- \* Not seen as a welcoming place to do business or invest
- \* Major employers setting up elsewhere

# Crowd sourcing ideas





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YOUR IDEAS WILL HELP DEVELOP PLANS FOR THE CITY'S FUTURE.









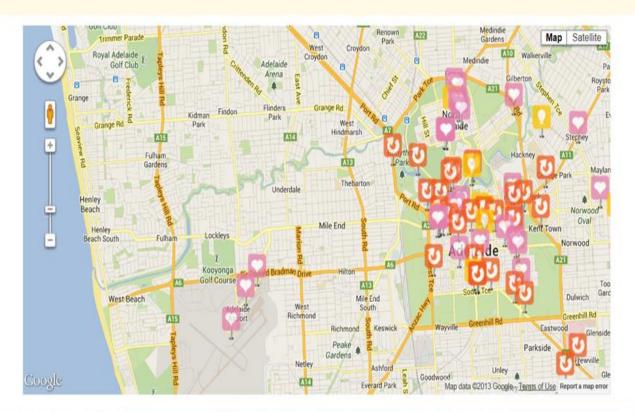
COUNCIL SERVICES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RECRUITMENT BUSINESS LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT VISIT

# A HOME























5:45 PM

24/06/2013

### Adelaide's starting point

- \* Lots of community feedback through Picture Adelaide "create this" "change this"
- With a fully allocated Council budget difficult to be nimble and respond as opportunities arise
- Council seen as the sole solution provider limited private / community investment
- Lengthy Council approval processes new ideas take a long time to get off the ground
- A new Council looking for quick wins.

## Picture Adelaide – Community Consultation



7 out of 10 ideas were about Adelaide's public spaces (2,500 responses)

## Traditional Gestation for New Ideas







9 months to bring to fruition

### Adelaide's starting point



Lighter, quicker, cheaper



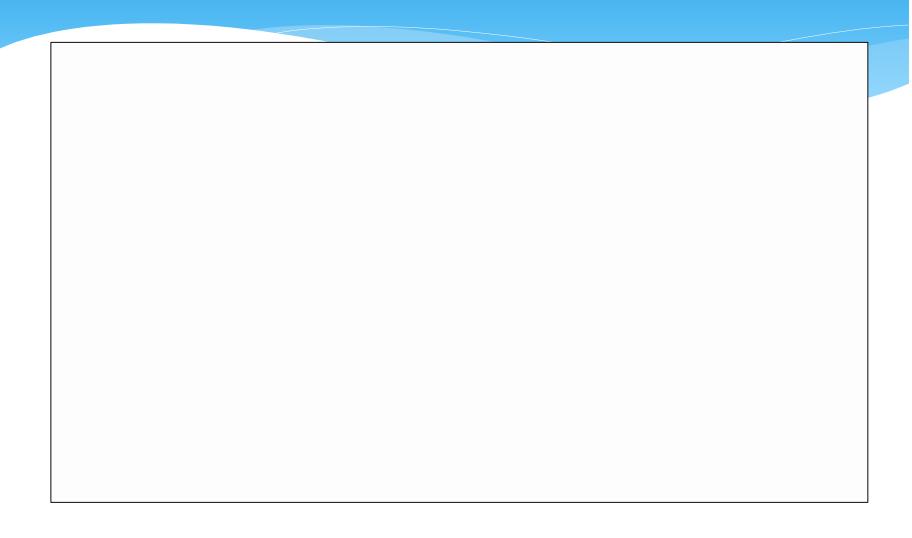
### Adelaide's starting thoughts.....

# Placemaking = Temporary Activation





# What does it take to say yes?



# We created Splash Adelaide



# What is Splash Adelaide?

- Bringing streets and public spaces to life through a series of community run urban experiments.
- It's all about taking a "lighter, quicker, cheaper" approach.

Partnering and co-creating with the community and businesses to try
out new ideas and see what works, before investing significant or

long-term resources.





# The value of Splash

- Cultural change within the community
- Unexpected value of creating positive cultural change internally
- Discovering successful projects don't need to involve a lot of money or equipment







# Waymouth St: Dancing differently



# Splash Adelaide "learning to dance differently"



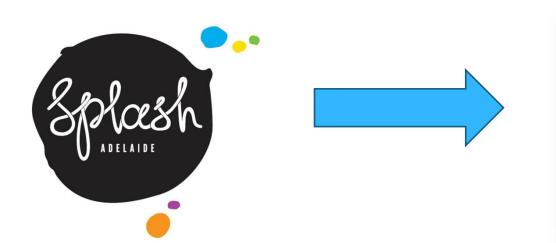
In our relationships with others, we learn and develop (often subconsciously) familiar patterns of inter-action that produce predictable results.

Our expectations of how each of us will behave and respond are driven by our previous experience and knowledge of each other and the value we place on the relationship.

Long standing relationships are the hardest to change.

If we place high value on the relationship and trust each other then there is a chance we can learn to dance differently to get different outcomes form the relationship.

# From temporary to legacy

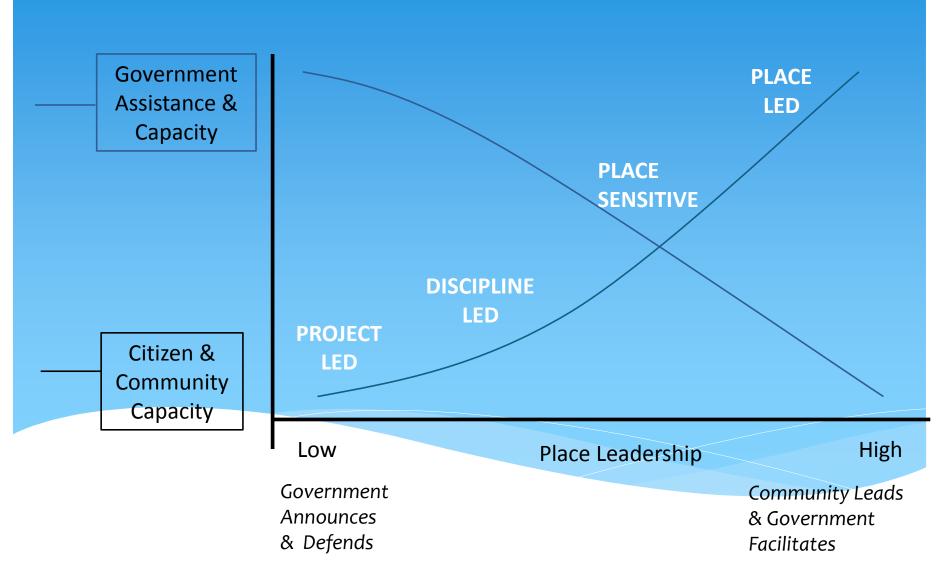




How do we dance differently all the time?

#### What does this change look like for us?

Place making is the single most important strategy that Governments can adopt to build community and citizen capacity



### Place Governance – a working definition

- \* **Governance** = how people and things are organised to create desired **value**
- \* Place = active public space which has a cultural and socially identity defined by its uses and users
- \* Place Governance = how place users and stakeholders are organised to manage and create desired value (Place Capital) in public spaces

**Place Capital:** is how we measure the **value** of a district or place to place users – "now" and "new". It has five main elements:



Entrepreneurship, business growth and sustainability, accessibility, affordability

### The "Now"

"Competitive Governance" creates unhealthy competition for public space



**Politicians** 



Creates "Place Winners & Place Losers"

Public Administration



& erodes Place Capital

Private sector

Community

Citizens

# "Competitive Governance" Who are the main players?







- Community citizens, residents, private sector, not for profits
- Government Political level
- Government Administrative level

# Competitive Governance Models - Generic Causes

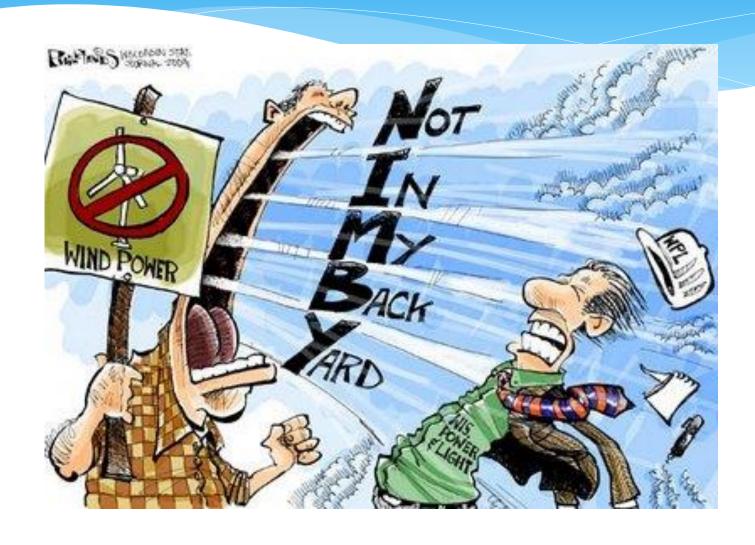
- Self interest players chasing different value from public space
- 2. Current governance systems and culture of many players rewards competitive rather than collaborative behavior.
- 3. Government focus on risk & compliance rather than opportunity at both political and administrative levels
- 4. System works against innovation and creativity so hard to create new value in public space







### NIMBYism is seen as a RISK ????



# The "NOW" - What drives competitive governance at a **Political** level

Enter with a vision

Need for "real" silver bullet grows

Short Political & Media Cycles

Chase for short term Political Capital

Even More limited funds

Defend policy & projects

Silver bullet fails to add public value



Lobbied aggressively

Feel the need to act quickly

Limited engagement

Pick & announce winners

Experts advocate to Fund their silver bullets

Seek expert advice

# The "NOW" - What drives competitive governance at a **Public Service** level

Enter with Expertise & passion

Restructure to save money

Organised by expertise

Driven by political need to act & community needs

Increase rules to prevent future failure

Even More limited funds

Experts blame other experts



Silver bullet fails to add public value

Politicians Pick winners

Manage competing demand by establishing rules

Often engage on single issues only

Compete with other experts to have their solution funded

# The "NOW" - What drives competitive governance at a **Community** level

Enter with passion

Ideas to resolve local & place issues

Give up because it's too hard OR Try and subvert
The system

Lobby politicians for change

Becomes harder to get Goverment funding

> Even More limited funds



Silver bullet fails to add public value

Politicians Pick winners

Have their ideas dismissed

Participate in consultation processes

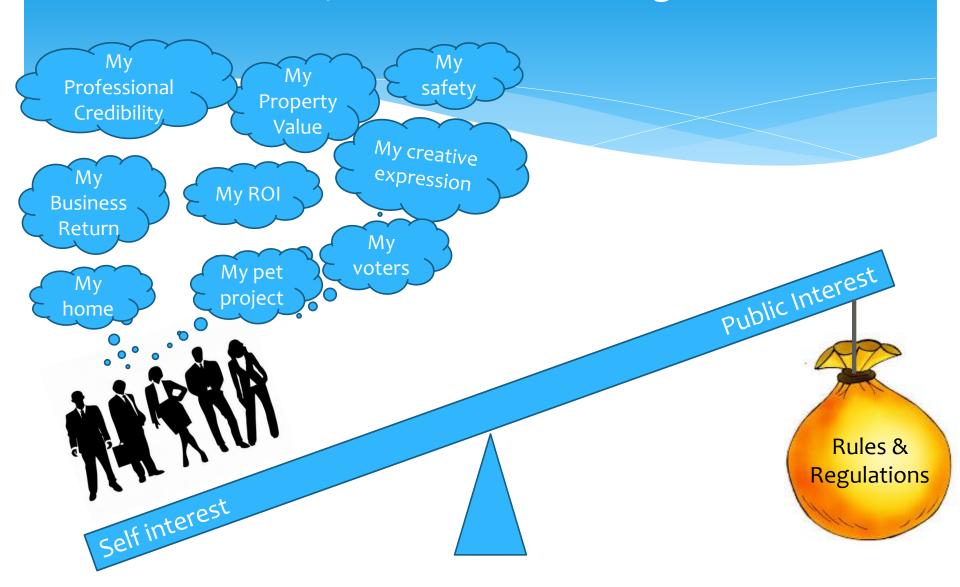
Compete for limited funding

Told their ideas are outside policy

### Does regulation create a level playing field?



### Can we rely on altruism or regulation?



### Dancing differently ......

### Our Place

meets my interest and your interest

I will work with others if I benefit



I will do that if it is easier

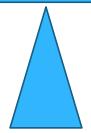
Self interest

**COLLABORATION** 

**Public Interest** 

FACILITATION CO-CREATION

CO-CONTRIBUTION



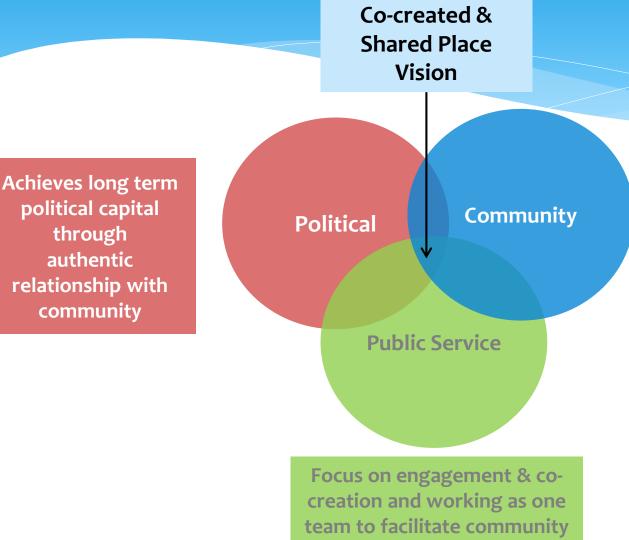


#### NEW – Collaborative Place Governance

Collaborative place governance models increase place capital through collaboration to resolve conflicts and jointly pursue opportunities



#### NEW – Collaborative Place Governance



**Increased place** leadership capability & capacity to cocontribute

ideas for improvement

### Collaborative governance: - what does it look like

**Co-created vision** 

Government policy is "wide and narrow".

Government facilitates "many" does "few"

Outsourcing and new forms of partnership

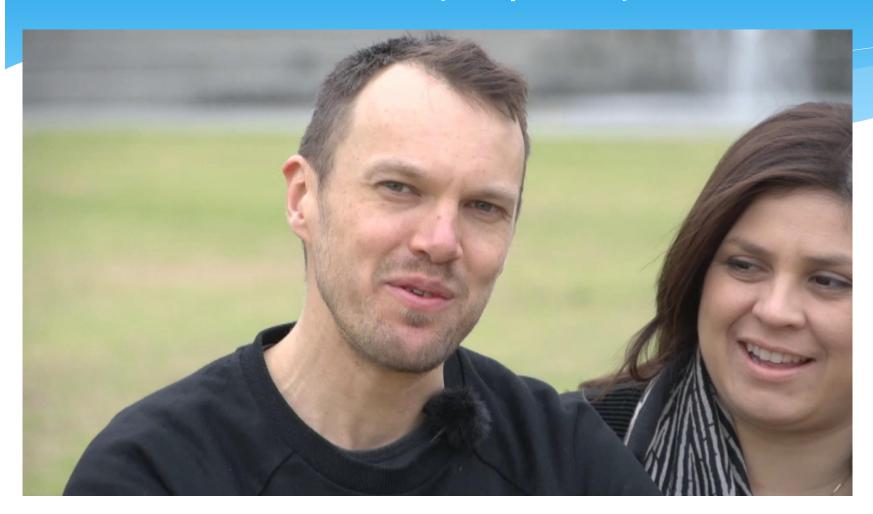
Innovation supported by local flexibility

Deregulation & less focus on compliance

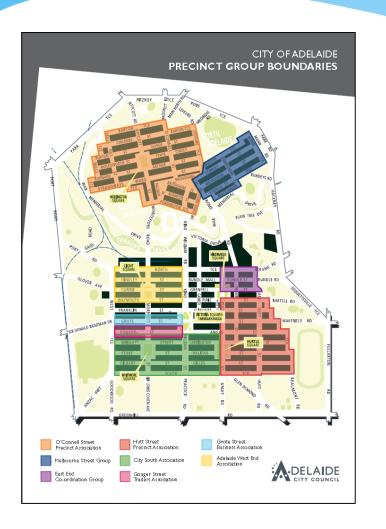
Strong community governance models becoming self - sufficient

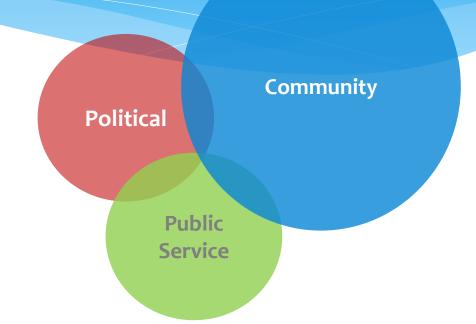
Trusted partners who bring ideas, effort, energy & resources to the table

# Does collaborative place governance build community capability?



Place making as a new model for City Governance.





A developmental model - where Government leadership & capacity reduces overtime as social capacity & community productivity develops

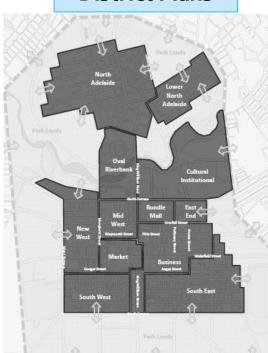




It's the most sustainable way to deliver our dream of Adelaide becoming one of the world's greatest small cities as everyone is involved and puts 'skin in the game'

# Adelaide City Council Place Making Strategy

#### **District Plans**



**Place Pilots** 

#### **Place Making Team**

- Reports straight to CEO
- 1 Coordinator, 3Place Facilitators
- Small, fast agile and viral

#### Place Making Strategy (3 Goals)

- District Plans and Place Pilots
- 2. Building new place governance
- Changing our organizational capability & culture

#### **Strategic Plans**

- Picture Adelaide 2040
- One City Many Places (Council Plan)
- One City One Team (Corporate Plan

#### **Splash Adelaide**





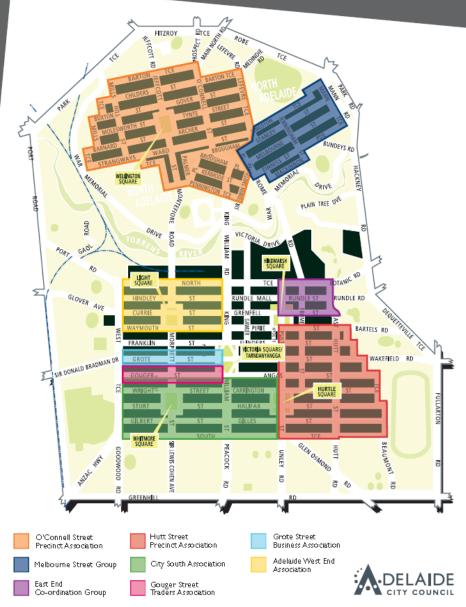
## DISTRICT PLANS

WORKING DRAFT

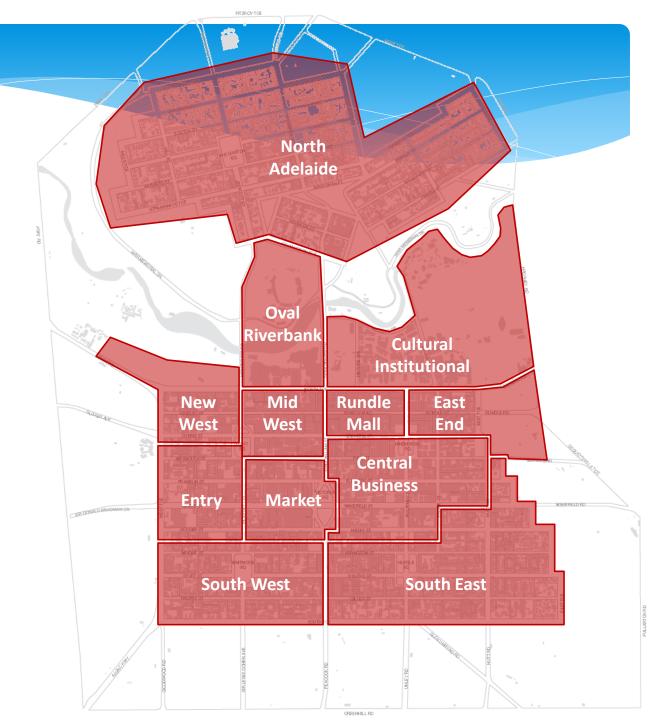
New West, Mid West and Market District Plans will be created over the next two years with District Users

## **Current ACC Precinct Group Boundaries**

# CITY OF ADELAIDE PRECINCT GROUP BOUNDARIES



**Precinct Definition** 



### PLACE PILOT:

Three projects to test and trial our Placemaking Strategy. Place Facilitators will work with the users of each place to establish a place vision and develop and implement temporary and permanent actions to achieve this place vision

#### HINDLEY STREET / WEST END



#### MELBOURNE STREET



#### TOPHAM, BENTHAM, PITT & WAYMOUTH STREETS



### Place Capital Index: Used as a measure and for discussion

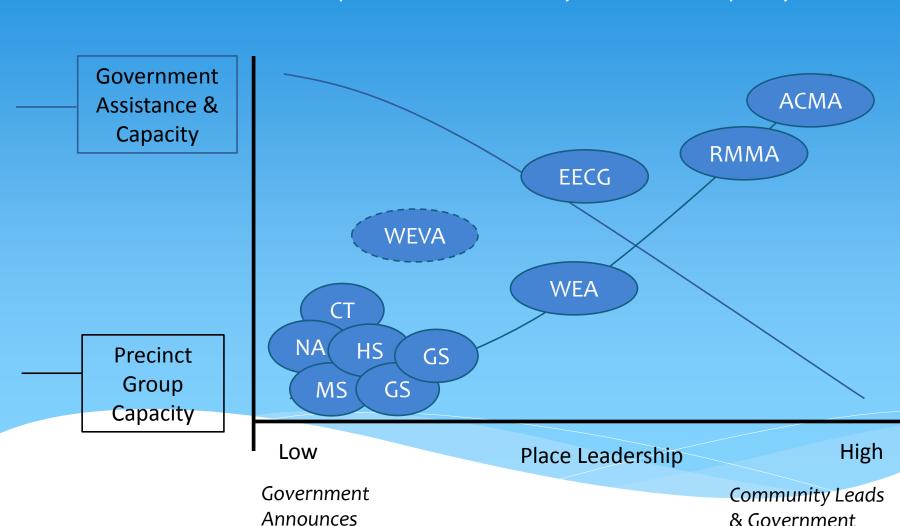
Residents **Tourists Citizens Families Politicians** "Place Capital" Children what is the value Énvironmental Social **Cyclists** of this place now **Students** what you all like it Place **Walkers** Capital **Event Physical** Cultural to be? organizers **Sportsmen Artists** & women **Economic Business Workers** Shop **Landlords** owners **Developers** \* Adelaide City Council Place Capital Index (PCI)

## Is the strategy working?

- \* 2013 Lonely Planet top 5 places to visit
- 2014 NY Times #25/52 cities to visit
- \* 2013 and 2014 Economist top ten livable city
- \* Still evaluating quantitative increase in Place Capital
- \* Several place activations co-created in pilot areas –temporary and permanent
- \* Splash Adelaide from 30 to over 100 place activations for same dollar in 3 years
- \* 40 food vans/ 3 into bricks and mortar in 12 months
- \* Many small bars opened or opening in last 12 months
- \* Young people recommending Adelaide, new "vibe"

### **Community Capacity Building - Precinct Groups**

Place making is the single most important strategy that Governments can adopt to build community and citizen capacity



**Facilitates** 

& Defends

# Community Capacity Building - Helping others to dance differently

- New Markets Authority established
- Mall authority increased revenue and autonomy
- \* One precinct group looking at incorporating and building a semi autonomous BID model
- \* Several property owners and traders are major advocates of the approach
- \* Property owners now sitting together around district and place planning process
- \* Co-contribution into public realm and triggering of private property redevelopment in place pilots
- \* Voluntary collaboration occurring between precinct groups at a District Level

# Organisational Culture & Capacity - Learning how we dance differently

Still evaluating this however, staff survey over last 3 years says:

- 75% understand place making and what we are trying to achieve and how they can contribute
- Staff who believe in the strategy and our plan gone from 52% to 75%
- Effective leadership rating gone from 69% to 77%
- Employee engagement from 71% to 79%
- Last year we deleted over 200 policies and operating guidelines as they are no longer needed
- Customer satisfaction at highest level in 3 years @ 81% and climbing

## Questions?



### Thank You

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