

# NGAA National Congress 2022

## FINAL PROGRAM



Monday 21 March – Congress including Mayoral Summit and NGAA Awards Dinner

Congress – Holiday Inn Werribee, 22 Synnott St, Werribee  
Awards Dinner – The Refectory, Werribee Park Mansion

### Choose your future: Unlocked or Gridlocked?

NGAA members are poised to lead Australia’s new way of living, working, doing business and building communities in response to pandemic-induced global change.

For five million people in Australia’s growth areas, local government played a critical role in 2020 in responding to different market demands, community need and government policy and economic responses.

But now there are many choices to be made. Can communities, economies and local governments in growth areas across Australia lead the nation into a new and improved future?

Will our future be unlocked or gridlocked?

- Can we adapt future built environments and transport systems to reflect the changes communities want after COVID?
- What do communities need now to recover from the pandemic and be safer and healthier?
- What economic drivers can unlock the industry and business profile of growth areas and are we ready to respond?

## Program

8.30am	<b>Registration – coffee available</b>
9.30am	<b>MC Welcome</b>
9.40am	<b>NGAA Chair Welcome</b>
9.50am	<b>Wyndham City Council Mayor Welcome</b> - Cr Peter Maynard
10.00am	<b>Australia’s growth areas: learning from the past; unlocking a better future</b> Julian Szafraniec, Partner, SGS Economics and Planning
10.30am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
11.00am	<b>Economic Outlook for Australia’s Growth Areas</b> Saul Eslake, Keynote Speaker
12.00pm	<b>Senator Sarah Henderson</b> Government Representative

12.30pm	<b>Lunch (and photos of Mayoral Communique and Suburban Futures MOU)</b>
1.30pm	<p><b>What can Councils do to ‘unlock their potential’ as growth areas?</b></p> <p>This Panel focuses on actions Councils can consider to ‘unlock their potential’. Every Council every day makes decisions aimed at improving the lives of their community members. Councils are continually investing and inventing and innovating. This Panel is designed to challenge and support councils to continue to think creatively and innovate so they can ‘unlock their potential’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kylie Legge, CEO, Place Score</li> <li>• Winitha Bonney OAM, Inclusion Expert</li> <li>• David Schwartz, Senior Associate, SGS Economics and Planning</li> <li>• <b>Facilitator:</b> Cr Charishma Kaliyanda, Liverpool City Council</li> </ul>
2.30pm	<p><b>Andrew Giles MP</b>  Shadow Minister for Cities and Urban Infrastructure  Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs</p>
3.00pm	<p><b>Policy priorities for Australia’s growth areas</b>  A Statement from Mayors, Councillors and Administrators of National Growth Area Alliance Members</p>
3.30pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
3.45pm	<p><b>What do we need to do as a collective of growth area Councils to change the future from perpetual Gridlock to resilient, thriving outer suburban communities?</b></p> <p>Overcoming Gridlock in our cities is a perpetual and ongoing issue. Our growth areas are still being built like we are in the 1950s. There is no thought to climate change and resilience. Transit systems are not in place, roads are huge barriers (and come too late), planning is stuck in the past and inequitable access to services is a constant. Gridlock doesn’t just refer to traffic and cars – it is everything about our growth areas and development that is wrong and impacts our communities.</p> <p>This Panel focuses on the big structural changes that need to take place. NGAA wants you to hear the ideas from these big thinkers, formulate your own ideas and then support and shape NGAA so we can advocate clearly on your behalf for a very different future to what is being built and delivered (or not delivered) now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Lizzie Knight, Victoria University</li> <li>• Ross Elliot, Director – Suburban Futures</li> <li>• Muheed Jamaldeen, Deloitte Access Economics</li> <li>• <b>Facilitator:</b> James Collins, Director, City Planning and Infrastructure, City of Casey</li> </ul>
5.00-5.15pm	<b>Conclusion</b>