

Speaker Bios – Keynote speakers



Mathew Burke, Manager Strategy & Performance, City of Stonnington

Mathew Burke joined Stonnington in August 2020 as Manager of Strategy & Performance, which includes the development of the Community Vision, Council Plan and Annual Reports for Council. Mat's experience spans strategy development, transformation projects and corporate governance across the financial services industry, public sector and local government within Australia and New Zealand.



Simon Barrett, Senior Partner L.E.K. Consulting

Simon is a Senior Partner with L.E.K. Consulting in Australia. He leads L.E.K.'s Travel and Transport practice in Australia and in recent years has played a leading role in building L.E.K.'s New Mobility practice. He has more than 25 years of experience in strategy consulting across Australia, New Zealand, Asia and Europe.

Simon has a long history of advising both governments and private operators on rail, bus, ferry and light rail contracting models in Australia and NZ, working on some of the most significant reforms of the last two decades. More recently he has led much of L.E.K.'s work on disruptive technologies in transport including rideshare, on-demand buses, MaaS, CAVs, EVs etc. as well as strategies for transitioning to Zero Emissions Buses.

Simon works extensively in the public sector on long-term policy and planning, organizational design and major projects and also advises major corporations on strategy, M&A and performance improvement.

Simon is an Advisory Board Member of the Transport and Tourism Forum (TTF), the Chair of the TTF's Passenger Transport Panel, and on the Board of the Pathways Foundation.

He has a BSc (Science) from the University of Melbourne and a PhD from the University of Cambridge.

Speed dialogue – Speaker Bios



Annaliese Battista, Director Planning & Place, City of Stonnington

Annaliese joined City of Stonnington in January 2020 as Director of Planning & Place, which incorporates the following departments: Statutory Planning, City Strategy, Liveability & Compliance, Strategy & Performance and Economic Development.

Annaliese has more than 20 years' professional experience in both senior Council roles and most recently as CEO of Destination Gold Coast. Annaliese specialises in economic development and place activation, organisational strategy and transformation, customer service, financial administration and governance.



Jane Spence, Coordinator Sustainable Environment, City of Stonnington

Jane is the City of Stonnington's Coordinator of Sustainable Environment, leading the Sustainable Environment unit – a team of passionate and motivated individuals working towards a sustainable future for Stonnington. Jane and the Sustainable Environment team develop and deliver a range of programs and initiatives within Council, externally with our community and with a range of partners including other local governments and state government across a broad range of topics including climate change, energy, water, biodiversity, waste and gardening.

Jane has been in the role for almost 4 years and brings over 15 years of experience on climate change, behaviour change, sustainable communities, communications and community engagement across all levels of government and not-for-profits.



Jonathan Coyne, Coordinator Recreation Services, City of Stonnington

Jonathan has a professional background in sport for development in both community and elite settings, fostering community outcomes of social connectedness, inclusion, mental health and wellness, and awareness raising for charities/causes. Jonathan also oversees programs provided by Stonnington that are designed to get our community more active and promote a healthier lifestyle.

The Recreation Services team is responsible for the planning and usage of Stonnington's sport and recreation facilities. Stonnington offers a wide range of sports facilities, including 22 sports grounds (that service 46 clubs), seven community tennis centres, four lawn bowls clubs, two aquatic centres, two indoor recreation centres, two boat sheds and two skate parks.



Jodie Dewhurst, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, City of Stonnington

Jodie is a proud Gunditjmara woman from south west Victoria and is Stonnington's Aboriginal Liaison Officer. Stonnington council has a Reconciliation Action Plan by which council commits to a process of Reconciliation through education, celebration, participation in and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples cultural knowledge and practice. Jodie's role with council is to promote Reconciliation to the Stonnington Community, both residents and internal staff.



Nuno Pires, Coordinator Transport Planning, City of Stonnington

Nuno advocates for Stonnington on transport related issues such as the Level Crossing Removal Projects, upgrades to the public transport network, delivery of new cycling, walking and rail infrastructures. Nuno also assists in the development and implementation of key strategies and policies such as the Cycling, Parking and Walking Strategies, car-share, parking, electric vehicles charging and micro-mobility policies. Nuno has 17 years' experience in local and state government and has worked in three different continents with multidisciplinary teams.



Paul Donaldson, local optometrist living with visual impairment

Paul Donaldson is a local optometrist who has been living and working within the Stonnington community for many years. Paul lives with vision impairment and is a member of the Stonnington Disability and Access Committee.



Fiona Scanlan, fashion designer (Scanlan & Theodore), business owner

Fiona Scanlan studied interior design before embarking on a career in fashion. She set up an atelier in Melbourne's CBD in the mid 1980s and then established and built the iconic womenswear fashion label, Scanlan & Theodore. Later she established the influential childrenswear label Big by Fiona Scanlan.

Fiona was an inaugural board member of the Melbourne Fashion Festival and a leading figure in the Australian fashion industry. She has been a freelance design consultant for more than a decade working across fashion, retail and interior design. More recently she has studied and pursued a career in ceramics.

In 2020 she co-curated the uptown exhibition for the City of Melbourne.