

The University of Auckland  
School of Architecture and Planning



# FFWD19

Doing Medium Density Well 3

**FAST FORWARD 2019**  
AUTUMN LECTURE AND DISCUSSION SERIES  
**ARCHITECTURE //**  
**URBAN DESIGN //**  
**URBAN PLANNING //**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tamaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND

**CREATIVE ARTS  
AND INDUSTRIES**



# ▶▶ FAST FORWARD

**Fast Forward is the bi-annual lecture series hosted by the School of Architecture and Planning. It aims to foster debate, discussion and development within the disciplines of architecture, urban design and urban planning.**

**This semester we continue our focus on the question: how can we do medium density well?**

With the 2016 Unitary Plan supporting an increase in the density and height of terraced housing and apartments, Auckland has decided to grow up. But how can we do it well while ensuring quality?

From March to May we offer a series of talks and discussions to support the public and profession in effecting decent medium density design for Auckland housing.

**6.30PM TUESDAY 12 MARCH**  
ENGINEERING 401:401

## ***Co-housing Catch-Up***

Global interest in cooperative housing is on the rise and proving popular in Europe. As a result, an increasing number of individuals are working together to develop dwellings tailored to their own needs.

Co-housing outsmarts traditional development methods by allowing for a fine-tuning of specific household structures and site characteristics, producing more viable and sustainable neighbourhoods.

Architect Thom Gill will provide an update on the groundbreaking Grey Lynn project, Cohaus. Thom will share the progress of the 20-unit apartment project and explain how particular projects have been managed. Greer O'Donnell of The Urban Advisory will also discuss her involvement with this and other co-housing schemes.

Tim Gummer of Cohousing NZ will also be here to talk about further national co-housing projects and February's CoHoHui Co-housing Symposium in Wellington.

Join us afterwards for drinks and nibbles as the conversations continue.



Image: Stephen Olsen, Palaver Media

**6.30PM TUESDAY 19 MARCH**  
ENGINEERING 401:401

## ***Gerald Blunt: Experiences in Urban Design***

Gerald Blunt is currently Principal Advisor Design Strategy at the Wellington City Council. He project managed the Medium Density Housing Programme for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and instigated a new design review process at the Hobsonville Point development. Blunt also managed the urban design input into Auckland's new Unitary Plan.

An advisory committee member for the 2018 Urbanism New Zealand conference, Blunt criticised current development practices and poor design for "negatively affecting the natural environment, the economy and public health." He urged for an urban design committee to help forge a "national programme of making better places through design". Fundamental to these concerns is the question of how we ensure good quality design as our major cities increase in density.

In this presentation, Blunt will discuss urban development issues and the potential of medium-density housing. He will also examine the development of high-quality housing and urban environments as New Zealand struggles with solutions to its housing crisis.

# >>26.03

**6.30PM TUESDAY 26 MARCH**  
ENGINEERING 401:401

## ***Architects Discuss Medium Density Design for Māori***

Increasingly, iwi are finding their own solutions for housing their people. In this talk, we will hear from three architectural practices that have worked on projects with local iwi and hapū: Stevens Lawson, Cheshire Architects and TOA.

These presentations will look at completed and in-progress projects as well as those on the drawing board, followed by a panel and audience discussion.

Specific design issues important for Māori range from particular whānau needs through to the legal and financial matters related to developing tribally owned land. There is also a strong emphasis on culturally appropriate design practices. Many of the projects involve a variety of community spaces beyond those usually seen in residential medium density developments, and an increased focus on sustainable practices, communal gardens and environmental rehabilitation.

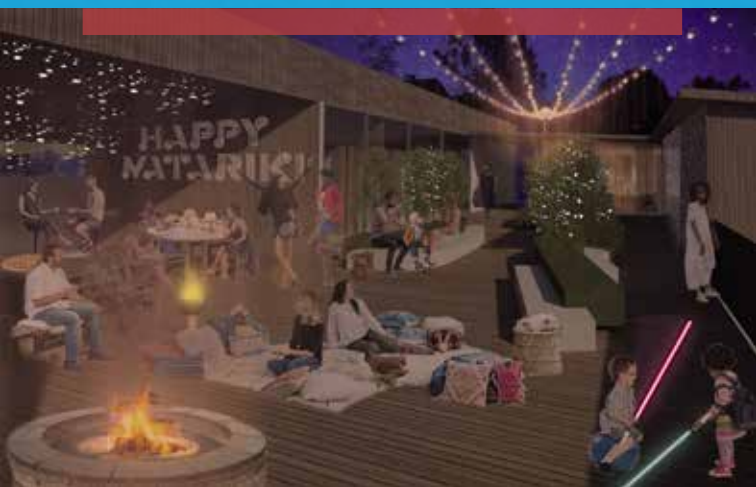


Image: TOA Architects

# >02.04

**6.30PM TUESDAY 2 APRIL**

ENGINEERING 401:401

## ***Andrew Eagles, New Zealand Green Building Council***

Andrew Eagles is an economist with over 15 years' experience in the built environment industry and a wealth of knowledge in the areas of housing, market mechanisms and the construction supply chain. Now Chief Executive of the New Zealand Green Building Council, he will discuss the work of this not-for-profit organisation.

The New Zealand Green Building Council (NZGBC) aims to see New Zealanders living and working in healthy, efficient and productive buildings in a sustainable built environment. NZGBC conducts research and oversees the Homestar and Greenstar certification schemes as well as the NABERSNZ tool for establishing office performance.

Eagles will provide an overview of the NZGBC's work, the new Greenstar Communities and Homefit tools, and discuss significant new developments.



# >>07.05

**6.30PM TUESDAY 7 MAY**  
ENGINEERING 401:439

## ***Andrew Maynard, Melbourne Architect and Nightingale Advocate***

Andrew Maynard is a partner producing “well-conceived, playful and edgy” architecture in the Melbourne firm Austin Maynard Architects (AMA). He is also a founder and board member of Nightingale Housing, “a social enterprise that supports, promotes and advocates for high-quality housing that is ecologically, socially and financially sustainable”.

AMA is now engaged in the construction of the seven-storey Nightingale 3.0 and the design of their contribution to the Nightingale Village project. This project, along with five other practices, will result in the construction of 220 apartments. Maynard was one of the investors and designers of the first Nightingale project which, in addition to being community-oriented, was the first residential building in Australia to be 100% fossil fuel free and carbon neutral. He will discuss some of the challenges and opportunities offered by this type of project while staying true to the original Nightingale principles. His presentation will also focus on residential projects, ranging from stand-alone houses to medium density work.

We look forward to a great discussion as we are confronted with the possibilities unleashed by Auckland’s new inner-city zones in the Unitary Plan, and a growing national interest in interactive, neighbourly and sustainable housing.



Image: Austin Maynard Architects

# >>14.05

**6.30PM TUESDAY 14 MAY**  
ENGINEERING 401:439

## **Chris Darby,** *Chair of Auckland Council Planning Committee*

As Auckland reins in suburban sprawl and intensifies residential development under the Unitary Plan, much of this is guided by the Council's Planning Committee. One of the three major committees it, "guides the physical development and growth of Auckland, and focuses on land use planning, housing, and the appropriate provision of infrastructure and strategic projects". Its chair is Councillor Chris Darby and he will discuss its work and vision. Elected from North Shore ward, this is his second term as an Auckland councillor.

Through the Planning Committee, Councillor Darby has remit over relevant regional strategy and policy (including the Auckland Plan 2050), the Auckland Unitary Plan, city centre development, spatial plans, housing policy and projects, and Council Controlled Organisations - Auckland Transport, Watercare and Panuku Development Auckland.

Between 2010 and 2013, Councillor Darby was chairperson of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board. Prior to amalgamation of the Auckland Councils in 2010, he was a councillor for North Shore City Council.

Described as a passionate environmentalist who knows the place of enterprise, Councillor Darby is focussed on public and active transport, quality urban design and placemaking, and climate change. Prior to elected office, Councillor Darby was involved in property development, with a 2004 project receiving the New Zealand Institute of Architecture's (NZIA) Supreme Award for residential architecture. He remains a keen enthusiast for architecture, especially within public places and buildings.



# >> 21.05

**6.30PM TUESDAY 21 MAY**

ENGINEERING 401:439

## ***The Housing and Urban Development Authority***

Overseas, public urban development authorities have been prominent in the development of new city fringe housing areas and inner city 'brownfield' sites. The closest we have to this in Auckland is the Hobsonville Point development located on former air force land.

Urban design agencies differ from private developments. They bear a stronger focus on the provision of affordable and social housing, as well as extra public spaces and a broader range of community facilities, such as schools.

In 2018 the government announced the creation of the Housing and Urban Development Authority (HUDA). This initiative could become an essential game-changer for cities struggling to cope with housing shortages. Significantly, HUDA will have the capacity to: acquire land under the Public Works Act, override the Resource Management Act, council plans and processes, and consent its own projects.

Join us for a panel and audience discussion around the new authority and its subsequent pros and cons: how closely will HUDA work with councils, iwi and other stakeholders? When working at 'scale and pace' will the needs of individuals and the environment be adequately considered? How will quality be ensured? And which sites are likely to be first up for redevelopment?

# >> 28.05

**6.30PM TUESDAY 28 MAY**  
ENGINEERING 401:439

## ***Tiny Houses: Making the Most of Back Yards***

Tiny houses may not be everyone's idea of medium density but internationally they are becoming a very popular, affordable housing alternative, and a means of exploiting small and difficult sites such as household backyards. With a tiny footprint, they cut down on construction costs and environmental impacts. What's more, you can put them on wheels or on the back of a truck making them fully transportable. However, they often come with Building Code and council planning compliance issues.

Presenters with hands-on experience will discuss their adventures with tiny housing: Piet Ubels and Alan Johnson of Build Up, who designed and built a prototype tiny house on council land intended as emergency housing; Alan Syxmexune and Helen Jarvis who are building a dwelling on wheels in a grandmother's side yard; and Tommy Honey who is the mastermind behind a social enterprise called SLIMBY – Shared Living in My Back Yard. SLIMBY is an innovative housing solution where clients can lease a backyard for their tiny home.

Honey will also provide an overview and critique of PrefabNZ's recent SNUG competition that explored tiny housing.

Drinks and nibbles will be provided after this talk as an opportunity for conversations to continue as we wind up Fast Forward for Autumn.



Image: Alan Syxmexune and Helen Jarvis

**THURSDAY 18 - FRIDAY 19 JULY**  
VENUE TO BE ADVISED

## *Interstices Under Construction Symposium 2019*

# **Political Matters: Spatial Thinking of the Alternative**

This year's Interstices Under Construction Symposium reflects on and analyses the disciplinary and oppressive regimes accommodated by architectures at different levels: individual, social, cultural, environmental, economic and legal. More so, this symposium seeks to formulate the hopeful, active and productive role architecture may have in the formation of social movements, and transformations of everyday contemporary life.

Prominent and distinguished keynote speakers from a range of disciplines such as architectural history and theory, philosophy and architectural practice will address the possibilities for alternative architecture with new rationales and organisation. Professor Felicity Scott from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, USA; Professor Ian Buchanan from the University of Wollongong, Australia and architect Bernard Khoury/DW5, Lebanon (to be confirmed) will present keynotes open to the public.

For more information on the symposium see the Interstices website: <https://www.interstices.ac.nz/call-for-papers-7/>



# CREATIVE ARTS AND INDUSTRIES

## LOCATION GUIDE

### ENGINEERING 401:401

Engineering Lecture Theatre 401, Building 401,  
University of Auckland School of Engineering  
20 Symonds Street, Auckland

### ENGINEERING 401:439

Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Building 401,  
University of Auckland School of Engineering  
20 Symonds Street, Auckland

All lectures start at 6.30pm, are free and open to the public. Attendance at each lecture earns NZRAB and ADNZ CPD points.

For more information and recordings  
visit [creative.auckland.ac.nz/fastforward](https://creative.auckland.ac.nz/fastforward)

E [creative@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:creative@auckland.ac.nz)

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