

23 April 2019

Subject: 2019 AITPM Young Professional Award

To the review committee,

Please find below my submission for the WA AITPM Young Professional Award 2019.

A keen interest to continue to pursue a career as a traffic and/or transport professional

I am currently working as a Graduate Transport Planner at Jacobs, having recently completed my Masters of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Western Australia. Of all the disciplines within the Urban and Regional Planning sphere, transport planning is a particular interest of mine, with an emphasis on the importance of public transport and sustainable transport modes. This interest stemmed from when I first visited cities in places like the United Kingdom and Germany and even more recently, Japan, where I noticed the efficiency in their transportation systems meaning the public were inclined to utilise public transport services, thus reducing the impact that modes such as cars, would have on the environment. This fuelled my passion for transport planning and the opportunities and benefits that an integrated transportation system can bring. My belief is that transportation is not an end itself, rather an investment tool that cities can use to achieve larger goals, with transportation touching on all aspects of city life and providing that essential connection required.

The importance of transport planning became apparent when I travelled to parts of South-East Asia, where I immediately identified the negative implications that come with an ineffective transport network (such as the social, health, economic and environmental). In particular, the rapid motorisation of some cities led me to think that with this motorisation, comes increased health and environmental issues such as traffic injuries and fatalities, increased exposure to air and noise pollution and increased fossil fuel pollution. I was drawn to this as an opportunity, as despite some of their obvious inefficiencies, it highlighted to me the importance of an effectively planned and integrated transport network, which was juxtaposed with those rural poverty-stricken regions where infrastructure such as roads are not provided, which can impact a community's economic wellbeing through transporting their products. Since this trip, I have been passionate about becoming involved in the field.

I commenced my employment with Jacobs in 2019 (having previously worked as a Statutory Planning Officer at the City of Melville) and have since been involved in a variety of projects such as undertaking transport assessments for future suburban areas, as well as conducting analytical traffic modelling through programs such as LinSig, SIDRA and VISUM. Undertaking such modelling has provided me with an appreciation for the intricate complexities that takes place with every single road in metropolitan Australia, as well as giving me the opportunity to learn about the complex processes involved in developing traffic models. This appreciation of the technical side to the discipline, particularly road network design and optimisation and its real-life impact on society was broadened when on my third week at Jacobs, I was given the opportunity to attend the JCT Consultancy Briefing about the new LinSig software being released late in 2019 / early 2020. This briefing was held at Main Roads Western Australia's (MRWA) operations centre, where I was given the opportunity to walk around MRWA's operations centre and see all the work that occurs behind the scenes. With this task of moving large numbers of people and

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products in an efficient manner ever-increasing in modern society (with issues such as congestion), my appreciation of the work that is conducted by this operations team was epitomised, ensuring that greater Perth's Road Network remains stable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

I am a driven person, who thrives under challenges and am eager to constantly learn and broaden my understanding of the transport planning and engineering field. This eagerness of mine was shown when I organised a recent AITPM Autonomous Vehicle seminar to be held at Jacobs, with four industry professionals and researchers sharing their knowledge and experience about autonomous vehicles and what impact it may have on the transport environment. I feel my passion aligns strongly with that of AITPM's, with the intention of "providing leadership in traffic and transport by contributing to the development and management of a transport system that benefits all of Australians."

Expected benefits from attending the National Traffic & Transport Conference

Having attended the Planning Institute of Australia's (PIA) National Conference last year, I would relish the opportunity to attend the National Traffic and Transport Conference this year, as it would be incredible. The PIA National Conference not only allowed me to build invaluable professional networks at such an early stage in my career but also, it allowed me to expand my understanding of the planning professional field, and the unlimited opportunities that it brings. The ability to do this in the profession for which I am deeply passionate about would hopefully allow me to leave with inspiring ideas, high levels of energy and an eagerness to apply these in my workplace.

This year's National Conference has a variety of stimulating and interesting topics, varying from transport and integrated modelling, pedestrian protection and movement design, the future of autonomous vehicles on the landscape, as well as walking tours and workshops. Particularly, to be given the opportunity to listen to someone with such vast knowledge as JD Hunt, would be amazing. His multimodal transport and land use interaction models have been applied globally in cities such as London, Naples and Calgary and have had the impact of successfully identifying the infrastructure development and alterations to land use required for these transportation conditions. The ability to also listen and learn about innovative, placemaking and urban design projects, as well as the human interaction with public places and transportation systems in the environment from experts in the field would be invaluable. My hope is that I will have the ability to apply the things that I learn from the conference, to Perth.

I have never been to Adelaide before, nor do I have much experience or understanding of the transportation networks and systems in place in other Australian Cities or globally. I would appreciate any opportunity, particularly that of the National Conference, to congregate with fellow like-minded professionals, enabling me to further expand my knowledge and appreciation for traffic and transportation planning.

Sitting on the State Branch Committee as Young Professional Representative

Having attended several AITPM events and speaking with the current YPN Coordinator (Xin) from WA, being offered the position to sit on the Branch Committee as a Young Professional Representative (YPR) would not only be an honour, but also a privilege. Acting as the YPR would provide me not only a unique chance to contribute to the profession but also, the ability to immerse myself in the transport sphere and help organise events for those like-minded transport and traffic enthusiasts, particularly young professionals and students in the industry. Having a passion for the reclamation of pedestrian spaces, I would aim to organise an event that looks at what impact this would have on transport methods (particularly cars) and the surrounding urban environment. Being on the State Branch Committee would also be beneficial in providing me a

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platform to network with other dedicated colleagues and aim to inspire current students to pursue a career in the traffic and transport profession.

Achievements and Interest in Traffic / Transport Units

As a Graduate Transport Planner at Jacobs, I have had the opportunity to work with a range of public and private sector clients, allowing me to develop new skills. This has included developing mesoscopic models using VISUM and SIDRA for Great Eastern Highway, to understand the future road networks with increased traffic demand. I have also undertaken several Transport Assessments for clients to identify any potential issues with the redevelopment of their facilities. Beyond the projects, I demonstrated my strong work ethic and eagerness at university by being one of two students graduating the Masters of Urban and Regional Planning degree with distinction. These experiences have allowed me to continue to grow and challenge myself, with the intention to continue to contribute to the future of transport planning.

Should you require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me, with my details being undersigned below.

Yours sincerely



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