New Paradigms for Regions and their Cities

A presentation by Michael Knight
Introduction

- Defining the new paradigm
- Three questions about cities and regions
- The importance of evidence and analytics
- So what?
What is the new paradigm?

- Viable, diverse, sustainable, multi-generational communities
- Grows from localisation to urbanisation
- Redefines why we exist and where we’re going
- Regional cities as substitutes to the major centres
- Economic development & diversity drives spatial planning & amenity provision
Three Questions

- How do cities and regions form and mature?
- What should we measure about cities and regions?
- How important is evidence in planning, strategy and decision making?
Localisation Economy 1

Resources ➔ Truck ➔ Ship

World Competitive → Infrastructure
Localisation Economy 2

COMPANIES AGGLOMERATE → KNOWLEDGE JOBS
Urbanisation Economy
The Disconnect

‘Evidence-based policy is at the heart of being a reformist government’

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd – 2008

‘...the linkage to goals and problems is weak, the evidence is weak, the quantification of costs and benefits is generally weak.’

Infrastructure Australia Secretariat on infrastructure proposals 2009
What should we measure about regions and cites?

- Economic base
- Employment quality and distribution
- Activity Centre performance
Employment Requirements

Source: ABS 2006 Census and Pracsys
Employment quality and distribution
Employment quality and distribution
Activity Centre Performance

Intensity: 8.00
Diversity: 2.86
Activity Centre Performance

**Employment**
- Current Score: 8.75
- Scale: 0-10
- Categories: Below Average, Average, Best of Type

**Accessibility**
- Current Score: 6.00
- Scale: 0-10
- Categories: Poor, Desired
The Importance of Evidence

- Logic Framework
- Fact base
- Strategy and Governance
What does it all mean?

- The Rumsfeld Conundrum
- Town and spatial planning serves strategy - it is not a substitute for it
- Evolve from localisation to urbanisation
- Governance is crucial
Strategy Cycle

- Vision (context, scope and goals)
- Stakeholders (land, labour, capital, enterprise, local, state and federal government)
- Resources ($ and people)
- Feedback/ Monitoring
‘There is nothing a Government hates more than to be well-informed for it makes the process of arriving at decisions much more complicated and difficult.’

John Maynard Keynes