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### **Australia's future cities**

Internationally the planning and development of new cities is increasingly seen as an opportunity to strategically plan and build smart, low carbon, energy efficient cities of the future. China, the United States, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Oman and Saudi Arabia to name a few, have all signalled their intention to build new cities from scratch focusing on sustainable development initiatives such as: carless and walkable cities; green cities that produce oxygen through eco-skyscrapers; smart cities with high speed internet embedded in the urban fabric, waste converted into energy; and new city development on reclaimed land increasing strategic port and trade positioning. Within the Australian context the emphasis on new sustainable and/or experimental distributive city futures has been limited focusing on smaller quasi new city style initiatives such as up-scaled master-planned communities (e.g. Greater Springfield) and 'cities within cities' (e.g. Western Sydney Aerotropolis) (see Freestone et al, 2018). Drawing on the examples of the 1987 Multifunction Polis and 2017 CLARA Plan this presentation focuses on exploring the key reasons why 'new city' planning initiatives have largely failed to ignite the political and public imagination enough to be funded and built in Australia.