MEDIA RELEASE

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Technical partner for new smart communities code announced

Smart Cities Council Australia New Zealand (SCCANZ) has announced Place Design Group as its technical partner in the development of the Code for Smart Communities, a new framework for the creation of smart communities in Australia and New Zealand.

Adam Beck, SCCANZ Executive Director, made the announcement, saying that "the Code for Smart Communities will set a new framework for the integration of urban development processes and digital transformation, and we are delighted to have Place Design Group as a key technical partner."

Beck says, "the Code will fill an extremely important gap in current urban development practices, and will help local government and urban developers embrace the best opportunities for using technology, data and intelligent design to create the best places for people to live, work, and play."

"This is fundamentally about the city planning, design, and land and property development agenda connecting with the smart cities agenda, and Place Design Group is perfectly positioned to support us on this journey," Mr Beck stated.
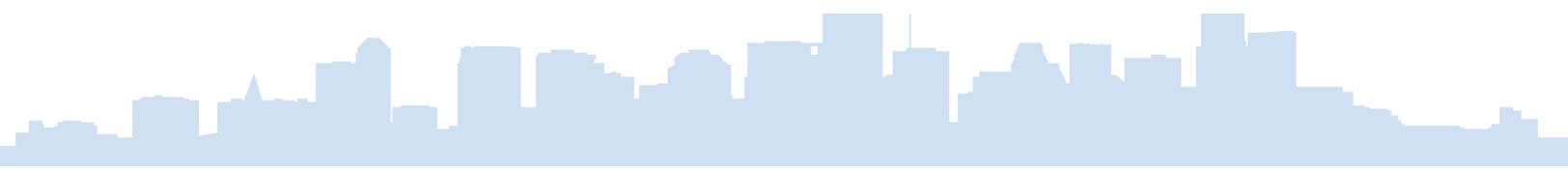
Executive Director for Planning at Place Design Group, Chris Isles, says: "Our partnership with the Smart Cities Council highlights the value of acknowledging that planning and development practices are fundamentally changing, and that understanding and embracing the collisions between planning, design, cities thinking, commercial viability, and data science needs to be the new norm for delivering successful development projects."

"The Code for Smart Communities will become a critical resource for local government policy makers and urban development companies alike, as it looks to bring together the 'smart cities technology' agenda with the 'urban and people' agenda", Mr Isles adds.

Place Design Group has been thought leader, provocateur, and advocate for accelerating industry dialogue and project application of big data and analytics in city-shaping practices, and continues to work with its clients to research and test human-centric smart cities approaches.

"The Code for Smart Communities will be a test for our industry, both the urban development sector and the technology sector, to see if we can build the necessary connective tissue between these two critically important agenda's as our cities grow throughout the coming decades," Isles added.

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The Code for Smart Communities will be developed with the support of an advisory committee set to undertake a 60-day sprint, which will see multiple workshops and review sessions with key stakeholders, before being showcased as a draft at the Smart Cities Council international conference in Washington DC in October this year.

About the Green Building Council of Australia
Place Design Group is a leader in planning and design with a reputation for creative and commercial solutions. Australian owned and led, our offices throughout Australia, China and South East Asia are dedicated to creating great places through service excellence, inspired leadership, and innovation.

See: www.placedesigngroup.com

About the Smart Cities Council
Launched in 2012, the Seattle-based Smart Cities Council has evolved to become the global leader in the provision of smart cities resources for government and private sector alike. With offices across North America, India, Australia, and Europe, the Council is one of the most networked organisations representing smart cities practitioners and policy makers in the world.

See: www.anz.smartcitiescouncil.com

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