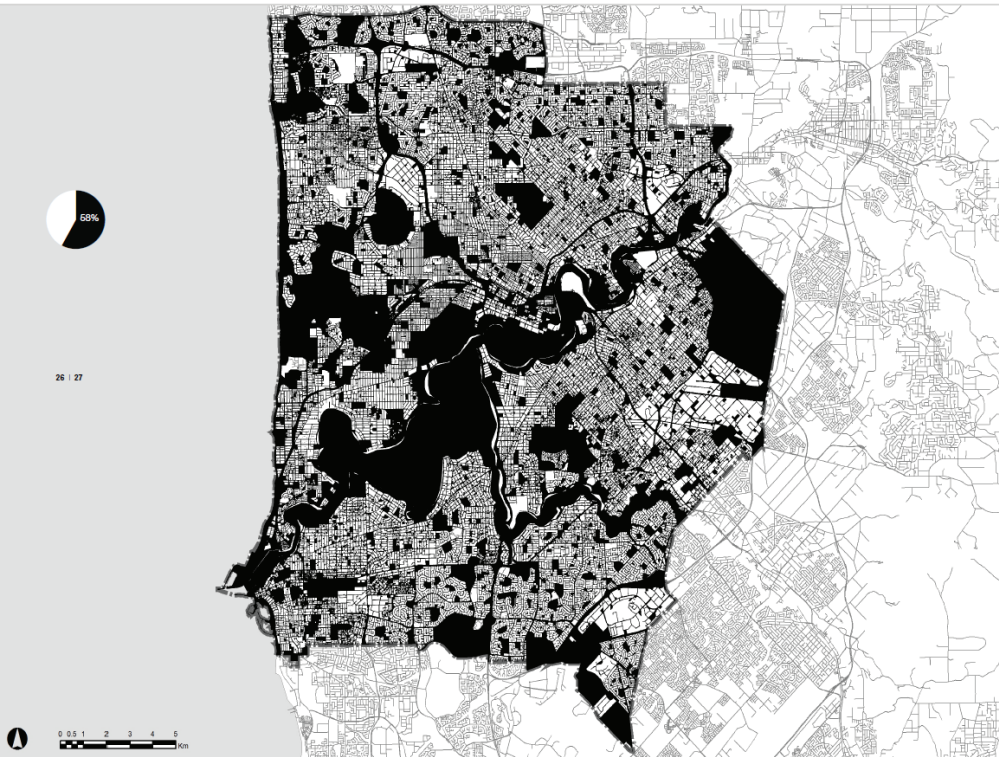


AUDRC Research Note

Scavenging the Suburbs: Auditing Perth for 1 Million Infill Dwellings



What sites have been overlooked for urban infill in Perth?

Background

- The sprawling city of Perth has one of the lowest population densities in the world and is arguably poorly adapted to the emerging environmental and societal challenges of the twenty-first century. This book tackles this issue on two fronts. First, it audits Perth's suburban core for infill development opportunities that may have been overlooked in current planning. The result is the identification of sites that could potentially yield almost a million infill dwellings. Second, it investigates spatial trade-offs individuals and communities can make to curtail further outer suburban growth.

Key findings

- Public land, which comprises 58% of Perth's suburban core, should be analysed for its potential to yield infill development opportunities. Much of this land hasn't been considered for infill development because it is controversial (partly due to its public ownership) and/or complicated (it is the jurisdiction of government departments not concerned with urban form issues).
- If all the opportunities for infill development proposed in this audit were achieved, hypothetically, almost 1 million new dwellings in Perth's suburban core could be created. This book argues the result could be a city that is simultaneously denser, more liveable and supports greater biodiversity.

- These dwellings could house Perth's projected population growth until 2043 and avoid the need to build a new suburban area over 97 times the size of

Ellenbrook.

- This analysis indicates that the modest target of 121,000 dwellings for the same region in Perth's overarching plan has not maximised Perth's infill development potential.

Links to publications

Bolleter, J. (2015). Scavenging the suburbs: Auditing Perth for 1 million infill dwellings. 2015: University of Western Australia Publishing. <https://uwap.uwa.edu.au/products/scavenging-the-suburbs-auditing-perth-for-1-million-infill-dwellings?variant=6295015747>

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