Mecone is highly experienced in providing a wide range of planning and project management services to transport agencies. Having worked on some of the largest and highest profile transport projects in Australia in recent years, Mecone is well placed to provide project advice and support that can be relied upon. We understand the current challenges of our ageing and complex transport networks and have extensive knowledge of the Government’s plans to modernise and increase the capacity of those networks.

Our team of town planners have developed strong relationships with various local and State government agencies and work closely with them to achieve high quality outcomes for projects. Mecone’s recent experience in rail and infrastructure projects has included extensive consultation and negotiations with government agencies such as Department of Planning & Environment, Roads and Maritime Services, and local Councils, as well as private stakeholders, developers, land owners and specialist consultancy firms.

Key capabilities:
- Integrated land use and transport planning
- Transport corridor identification
- Transport corridor protection
- Network development planning
- Provision of commuter carpark
- Rail and infrastructure strategy development
- Value Sharing
- Transport mapping

Mecone has extensive experience in providing urban planning and environmental assessment services for a range of high profile and large-scale projects for our private and public sector clients.

Mecone has excellent long-standing relationships with numerous local Councils and State Government planning authorities in Victoria and New South Wales. Many of our consultants come from a background in local or state government, providing strong networks and insights into the development assessment process. We are also selected as preferred consultants and placed on panels for a number of government agencies for the provision of planning and development advisory services.

Key capabilities:
- Local development applications
- Major development applications
- State significant development applications
- Development assessment under Part 5
- Peer review and development assessment services for planning authorities
- Due diligence studies, feasibility assessments and development advisory
- Land and Environment Court Witness (NSW)
- Expert evidence and advocacy before the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and Victorian Planning Panels
- Management of Design Competitions
Mecone is highly experienced in the provision of strategic planning services and the making of new plans. We provide strategic planning services to both public and private sectors. Our team of town planners have established excellent relationships with local Councils and State planning authorities, successfully negotiating planning uplifts for a range of greenfield and urban renewal projects.

Key capabilities:
- Rezoning Proposals/Applications
- Master Plans and Development Plans
- Development Control Plans
- Land Use and Built Form Strategies
- Urban Growth Management Strategies
- Demographic assessments for community facilities
- Obtaining site compatibility certificates
- Preparation of Vision Statements
- Making submissions to planning instruments and strategies
- GIS mapping for Planning Scheme Amendments or Planning Policy Changes

Mecone’s graphic design consultants have extensive experience in urban graphics and mapping. Our designers produce high quality graphics and mapping to convey often-complex planning information and concepts in a powerful, clear, concise and attractive way.

Our graphical material has been used by the NSW Government in promoting the Sydney Metro project and our staff’s past work has been used in major public-facing maps, such as Brisbane train and bus network maps.

Key capabilities:
- GIS mapping – including GIS mapping for LEP amendments
- Interactive mapping – web maps allowing users without GIS to access spatial information
- Transport mapping – schematic and geographical maps for public transport networks as well as road projects and development sites
- Thematic mapping – representing Census or other statistical data visually
- Geospatial and statistical analyses – analyses based on geographically-located data
- Fieldwork-based mapping – such as land use surveys, which can then be presented with interactive mapping
- Constraints analyses – identification of suitable sites by eliminating constraints
- Reports and document layouts
- Plans (such as master plans and land use)
- Infographics – graphical presentation of statistical and other data that would otherwise be represented by dull figures in a table or text
Why Mecone?

Mecone is a leading urban planning and development advisory consultancy with clearer thinking, smarter solutions and better outcomes. Our team of town planners has developed strong working relationships with both the public and private sectors, providing valuable insight into the emerging practices of the development industry.

With offices in the Sydney and Melbourne CBD our senior consultants bring considerable experience working on some of the largest and highest profile projects in Australia. Favouring balance between human needs and the natural environment, Mecone provides practical, economically viable and sustainable advice solutions to the most complex planning problems.

Our Senior Team Members

Our experienced team of planning consultants have worked across New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania on high-profile and complex planning projects. Our town planning consultants have a mix of experience, with most having previous senior positions in local or state government and the private sector.

Ben Hendriks
Managing Director
Ben has extensive planning and project management experience gained in the public and private sectors.
Ben has previously been employed with MacroPlan as the State Planning Manager, Associate Director and Senior Consultant, managing a range of strategic and statutory planning projects. Ben has also worked for the City of Sydney, Blacktown Council and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning in a range of strategic and statutory planning positions.
Ben is a highly-regarded planner with extensive experience in urban planning spanning State Government, Local Government and consultancy. Having cut his teeth of some of Sydney’s highest profile planning projects over the last decade Ben is able to provide insightful and practical advice that delivers results.

Danny Hahey
Director
Danny leads Mecone’s planning team in the Melbourne office. Danny has over 15 years town planning experience, holding senior positions in local government and private consulting, with considerable knowledge and experience in development assessment and strategic planning across residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
Prior to joining Mecone, Danny established and led the statutory planning team for David Lock Associates (Melbourne). A skilled negotiator and problem-solver, Danny delivers clear, practical and reliable planning advice to deliver the best possible outcomes for Mecone’s clients. He regularly represents a wide range of clients at Council meetings, State Government agencies, public consultation forums, VCAT proceedings and Planning Panel meetings.

Kate Bartlett
Associate Director
Kate has over 8 years of professional town planning experience in Australia in statutory and strategic planning, as well as planning policy, within local government and the private sector.
Kate has significant statutory planning experience including assessment of major developments for residential flat buildings and mixed-use development valued over $100 million. This has included coordinating new development with complex infrastructure requirements in urban renewal precincts such as Green Square. Kate has also been part of the development of strategic planning policies including Planning Proposals, Development Control Plans and Stage 1 developments. Kate has experience providing expert advice to the Land and Environment Court and has previously provided strategic planning and economic advice to State Government.

Kate has previously provided strategic advice to the NSW Government’s Priority Precinct program.

Emma Burke
Associate Director
Emma is a Senior Planner with over nine years strategic and statutory urban planning experience in the NSW planning system. Experienced in the preparation of large scale urban renewal projects including planning strategies and precinct level rezonings to guide urban renewal across significant areas of the Sydney metropolitan area. Previously responsibilities have included the assessment of State Significant Sites and major development applications.

As a Senior Planner at the Dept. of Planning and Environment, she was responsible for the preparation and project management of major urban renewal project proposals across the Sydney Metropolitan area, including planning strategies to guide future planning along transport corridors and precinct wide rezoning proposals and assessment under the NSW Government’s Priority Precinct program.

Kate has previously held a senior planning role with Parsons Brinckerhoff, where he managed a range of strategic and statutory planning projects, and also established a small multi-disciplinary environmental consulting practice providing environmental planning advice to the development industry.

Kate now leads the Strategic Planning section of Mecone.