



# VISIONARY

Design Development  
Pty Ltd

Se habla español

## CONSULTANCY PROFILE

Architecture  
STRATEGIC PLANNING

SUSTAINABILITY

Latin America

Community Development

Research

ACCESSIBILITY

healthy

ACCESSIBLE  
SUSTAINABLE  
INCLUSIVE

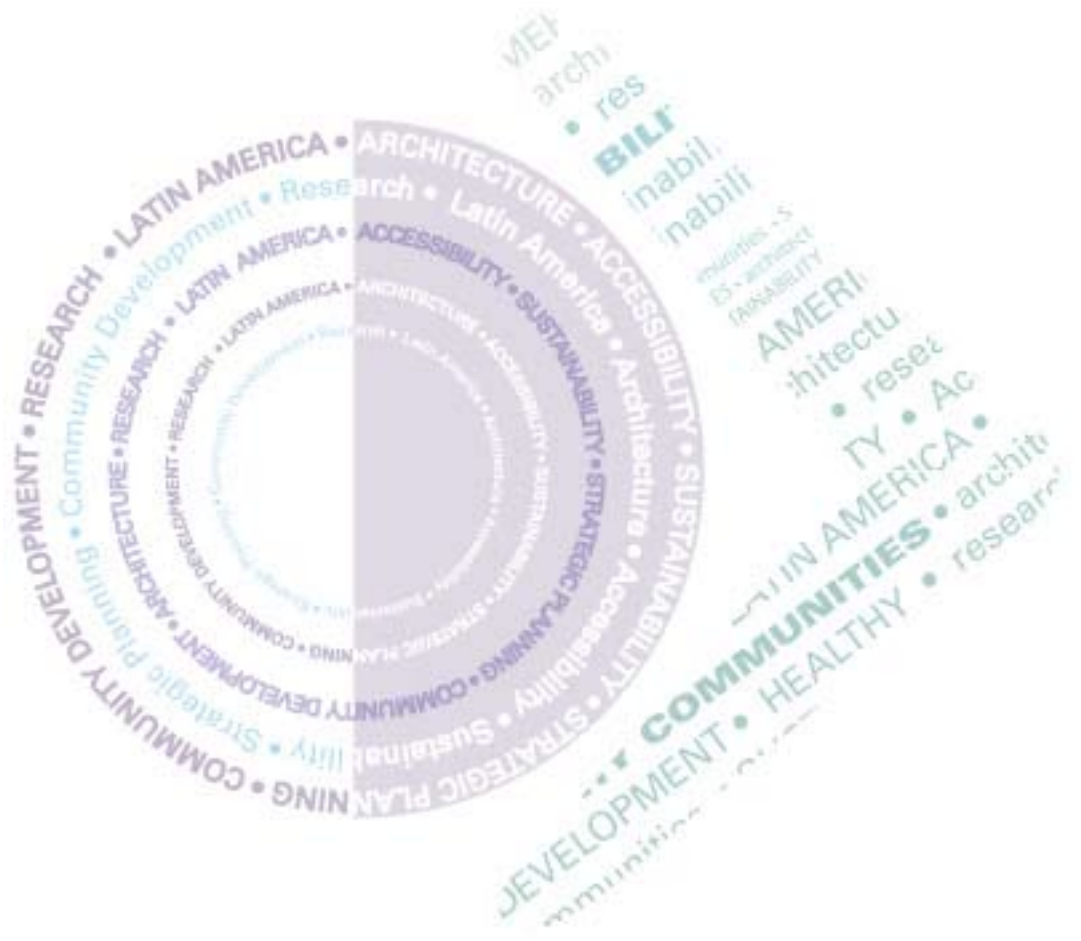
communities  
INTERNATIONALLY

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## KEY CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd, a unique trans-disciplinary consultancy, operates at the intersection of human needs and the built environment. Our distinctive holistic approach incorporating universal design, sustainability and social research, delivers consultancy services to government, NGOs and businesses to provide ideal environments in which to nurture enterprise and healthy local communities.

### **Architecture**

Public, corporate and residential.

### **Accessibility**

Accessible universal design inclusive of the needs of people with disabilities. Special expertise in designing for people with vision loss.

Accessibility courses for building industry professionals, government and NGOs internationally.

### **Sustainability**

Sustainable design incorporating energy conservation, natural lighting/temperature control, recyclable materials. Sustainability training.

### **Strategic Planning**

Community mobility and inclusive urban access. Project Management.

### **Community Development**

Management of projects for the inclusion of people with disabilities.

Application of the Universal Mobility Index, a unique tool developed by VDD which permits quantitative assessment of access within the local built environment by people with disabilities.

Co-ordination and curation of exhibitions.

### **Research**

Comprehensive academic and consultancy reports on the built environment including literature reviews, case studies, stakeholder analysis through surveys, focus groups etc.

### **Latin America**

Facilitation of bilateral co-operation and development of cultural and commercial exchange between Australia and Latin America within the Built Environment and Community Development spheres.

We offer specialist advice in researching, planning, designing and developing healthy communities, locally, regionally and internationally.

## Transdisciplinary Approach

Our distinctive holistic approach incorporating universal design, sustainability and social research, delivers consultancy services to government, NGOs and businesses to provide ideal environments in which to nurture enterprise and healthy local communities. All Visionary Design Development projects are underpinned by the entwined principles of Accessibility and Sustainability.

Visionary Design Development offers qualified, multi-skilled professionals to guide its projects from the very first steps of consultation with stakeholders, through to design, administration, building and fitting out sustainable accessible environments. Key personnel possess multiple professional qualifications and continuously update their professional knowledge.

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**A sustainable, accessible**

**environment is a must.....**

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Visionary Design Development recognises the importance of designing to accommodate changing climatic conditions.

Due to embodied energy and heritage considerations we recommend retention of existing built structures where possible, subject to OH & S issues and 'whole of life' operating costs. VDD acknowledges that upgrading and/or total replacement of outdated building services systems is likely to bring longer-term cost efficiencies. VDD works closely with ESD specialists to ensure compliance with Green Building requirements.

Visionary Design Development recognises the importance of maintaining a visible and understandable record of our heritage. An environment with no memory is not sustainable.

Equity of access is fundamental. An accessible environment is inherently a safe environment resulting in reduction of OH & S issues. An accessible environment is more easily maintained resulting in reduced operational costs.

**An accessible environment is a logical, legible, efficient and EQUITABLE environment.**

### PURPOSE

To assist governments, local authorities and other organisations to remove barriers to mobility of persons of all physical abilities in their built environments.

### OBJECTIVE

To research, plan, design and develop healthy, accessible, sustainable, inclusive communities.

### MISSION

To use our unique trans-disciplinary consultancy skills to ensure all projects and activities are underpinned by the entwined principles of Sustainability and Accessibility.

## Satisfaction of Client Requirements

VDD works closely with all stakeholders to ensure client requirements are realised and the best possible project outcome results. Client reporting procedures and deliverables requirements are stringently followed.

Thorough auditing of existing conditions is undertaken. All key personnel are intimately involved. Time is taken to understand the parameters of the project. Thoroughly detailed User Group requirements are compiled, reviewed and diligently evaluated against project design criteria.

VDD bases its design philosophy around a 'whole being' approach. From ability to aesthetics, from practicality to vision, from the understanding that humans not only need tangible and everyday needs to be met but that art, music, nature and freedom of expression need to be woven into the fabric of everyday life, including workspaces, to create a community that is healthy for all.

### Teamwork

Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd recognises the importance of collaboration. Our trans-disciplinary practice structure implicitly requires excellent teamwork skills.

#### Excellent

#### Teamwork Skills

Backed by this solid teamwork, experience, statutory compliance and reliable referees VDD exercises its highly developed organisational and advanced management skills to work on a tight and cohesive basis with clients, stakeholders and users.

VDD uses its experience with driving consensus toward reaching results and managing conflict often in the context of large groups in round-table discussions to achieve sustainable outcomes.

### Research

VDD recognises the importance of research and knowledge acquisition. Knowledge gained from VDD's active commitment to developing and producing original research are incorporated into our approach to all projects.

#### Exemplary

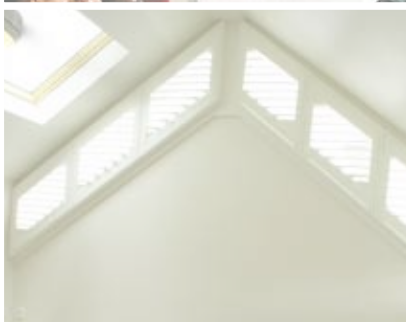
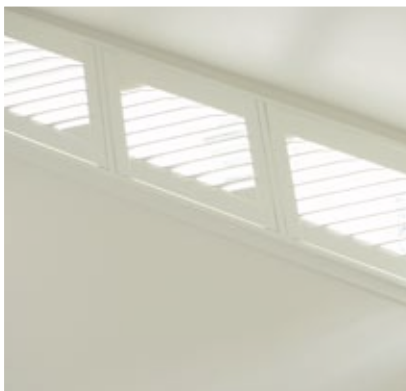
#### Consultancy Services

VDD uses research techniques including; focus groups, questionnaires, on-line activities etc, in the development of projects. We have the necessary expertise to undertake such consultation and research.

### Conclusion

Our breadth and depth of understanding of the Built Environment is inclusive of, but not restricted to, excellence of architectural design.

Given our trans-disciplinary work in the area of healthy communities and sustainably accessible environments, length of experience in the built environment and internationalist perspective we believe Visionary Design Development with its fully-resourced office is well placed to deliver exemplary consultancy services.



**ART**

**ADEC ArtAbility**

2008 - Ongoing. Co-ordination and curation of Art Exhibition, Federation Square, Melbourne. Client: ADEC (Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities)

**ACCESS**

**Accessibility in the Built Environment**

Short Course, September 2009, Melbourne. Forming part of the program Developing Disability-Inclusive Water and Sanitation Policy and Practice in Timor Leste, with CBM and the Nossal Institute of Global Health.

**Box Hill Institute of TAFE - Applied Universal Design**

Preparation of accessibility subject in new degree course, 'Bachelor of Sustainable Built Environments'.

**Economic Benefits of Universal Access**

City of Melbourne research assignment 2008. Social and economic benefits of providing universal /physical access in/to the business and service organisation sector.

**EDUCATION**

**Universal Mobility Index**

2007 – Ongoing. Potential sites: Australia, Latin America and Asia Pacific.

**Conference Presentations**

PIA 2007 National Congress, Perth. Ralph Green: Planning for an Inclusive Built Environment –The Universal Mobility Index.

'Transported' - Collective Transport Sustainable Cities Architects for Peace 2007 Conference, Melbourne. Ralph Green: Equity of Access to Transport - The Universal Mobility Index.

Challenges, Achievements and Opportunities, ACAA, Australia 2010 National Conference, Tweed Heads. Mary Ann Jackson: Achieving an Inclusive Built Environment: The Universal Mobility Index.

**PLANNING**

**Planning Advice**

21 Lot subdivision, Nobby, Queensland; Conversion to Medical Centre, Windsor; Infill residential, Coburg

**MEMBERSHIPS**

**Memberships**

- Golden Plains Shire - Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Summer Foundation Property Advisory Panel
- Architects for Peace
- ALABC (Australia-Latin America Business Council)
- AGDF (Australian Green Development Foundation)
- ACAA (Association of Consultants in Access Australia)
- VACN (Victorian Access Consultants Network)

# Selected Architectural Projects



## ACCESS

## EDUCATION

## HEALTH & SCIENCE

## HOUSING

### Access Consulting/Auditing

Pacific Eye Institute, Suva, Fiji. Project co-ordinated Fred Hollows New Zealand.

### Archicentre

1997 - ongoing. Appraisals, reports, changes to homes of elderly and people with disabilities. TAC projects, Bushfire Rebuilds, Design Reports, Architects Advice, VCAT reports etc

### Affordable Australian

Accessible, sustainable, affordable detached housing design researched and developed by Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd

### Ascot Vale Special School

2007 - 08 Extension to machinery room and workshop teaching space  
2009 Design and documentation input, Gymnasium conversion.

### LaTrobe, Victoria, RMIT and Melbourne Universities

1998 - ongoing. Numerous refurbishment, upgrade and fit out projects in tertiary institutional/educational settings

### CSL Limited and CSL Bioplasma

1996 - ongoing. Various office and facility fit outs. Heritage, Planning and Building applications.

Health Centre relocation into Heritage listed building, relocation of Animal Health and associated departments etc

### Synertec Pty Ltd

Architectural design and detailing. Planning services, building permits. Pharmaceutical laboratories, Australia and internationally

### Doutta Galla Community Health, NEAMI

Refurbishment of premises and/or outdoor environments for mental health organisations providing rehabilitation and support services

### Solar/Water Efficiency

2006 - 19th Century Terrace - maximised solar panel effectiveness, underground rainwater tank for hydronic heating etc

### Medium Density Developments

Pascoe Vale South, Northcote, Montmorency, Springvale

### HIA Award Winner

Lt. Boundary Street, South Melbourne



MARY ANN JACKSON

With degrees in Architecture and Applied Science (Built Environment) and a Graduate Diploma in Urban Planning, Mary Ann currently sits on the Property Advisory Council of the Summer Foundation, Golden Plains Shire Disability Advisory Committee, the Australian Institute of Architects Access Committee Victoria and the Australian Institute of Architects (Victoria Chapter) Sustainable Architecture Forum Education & Training Workgroup. Mary Ann has also assisted the Building and Construction unit within the Victorian government's Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development with Construction and Related Industries Trade Missions to Latin America. An accredited Access Consultant, she is the writer of Applied Universal Design, (an elective subject within the Bachelor of Sustainable Built Environments course to be delivered by Box Hill TAFE), and is also an accredited Home Sustainability Assessor Trainer. Mary Ann has also tutored several tertiary and graduate level courses and seminars in design, technology and accessibility.

A long term member of Archicentre Mary Ann regularly provides access advisory services to people with disabilities, seniors, the Transport Accident Commission and Occupational Therapists. Other current memberships include: National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC), Architects for Peace, Glenelg Shire Planning and Ancillary Services Consultants Panel, Australian Latin America Business Council (ALABC), Australian Green Development Forum (AGDF) and ArchiTeam Co-operative Limited. As a director of the latter (1999-2003), Mary Ann assisted with the needs of a network of over 300 small practice architects. She is currently completing a Masters of Environment at the University of Melbourne.



RALPH GREEN

Ralph holds undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in Optometry and has worked in clinical practice, academia, hospital settings and in developing world aid projects. Throughout 1998 – 2002 he served as an advisor to transport ministers in the Kennett and Bracks governments, chaired the Victorian Motorcycle Council and was the motorcycle representative on the Road Safety Reference Group. In 2006 he was the first optometrist to be appointed to the ophthalmology department of the Alfred Hospital.

He served as a director of the Australian Latin American Business Council in 2006/7 while accepting a position as Community Education Projects Manager with the Optometrists Association of Australia. Also in 2007 he was awarded a Masters of Social Science (International Development) from RMIT University after completing a thesis in the field of disability studies. This research provided the first theoretical and methodological framework for measuring equity of access across all parts of the built environment, the Universal Mobility Index (UMI). Ralph has presented on the UMI at the Planning Institute of Australia's 2007 conference and in Melbourne at Transported – Collective Transport Sustainable Cities. He has also produced materials for the Vision2020 The Right to Sight campaign and developed educational courses for optometrists and eyecare industry professionals.



Helen Keellings is Visionary Design Development's office/business manager, graphic and web designer. Holding chef and managerial positions in several establishments, as a mature age student she completed a B.A. (Fine Art: Print making). Having a keen interest in adult and vocational education and training she went on to sit on the Committee of Management and the Technology Committee of Thornbury Women's Neighbourhood House furthering the introduction of new learning technologies across a broad spectrum of learners. This was followed by two years as co-ordinator of Nillumbik Adult Education, Eltham. She has exhibited her art works at Makepeace Gallery, through Threads Art Collective and is a published reviewer and cartoonist. Current activities include the co-ordination of artwork creation for ADEC ArtAbility 2010, liaison with community, disabled and ethnic groups and working with various art teachers across a range of Special Schools.



Nick Shearman has completed a Diploma of Building Design and Technology at RMIT University. Nick came to VDD as a work experience student and now holds the position of Building Technologist taking responsibility for the technical soundness of Visionary Design Development architectural projects. His tasks include drafting, building detailing, liaison with engineers and consultants and 3-D rendering. Nick is a talented musician and plays lacrosse in his spare time. Nick completes his Architectural degree studies at Deakin University in 2010, prior to commencement of Master of Architecture in 2011



Tim Sonogan has also completed a Diploma of Building Design and Technology at RMIT University and an Advanced Diploma of Building Design and Office Administration. Tim is responsible for producing drawings from the Feasibility Study stage through to fully detailed working drawings. He also assists with contract administration, construction documentation and sustainable design. Tim enjoys mountain boarding, surfing and outdoor life.



## Company Information

### REGISTERED NAME

Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd

### REGISTERED OFFICE & POSTAL ADDRESS

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### DIRECTORS

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B. App. Sc. (Blt Env), B. Arch.  
Grad Dip Plan & Design (Urb Plan)

Ralph J Green  
ralph@vdd.com.au  
Dip.App.Sc. (Optom.) PG Cert.Oc. Ther.  
M. Soc. Sci (Inter. Dev.)

### INSURANCES

#### PUBLIC LIABILITY

CGU Insurance Limited  
Amount: \$10 mil.

#### PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY

Planned Professional Risk Services  
Amount: \$5 mil.

#### WORKCOVER

CGU Workers Compensation (Vic) Ltd

### Referrees

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