

# 2025

## NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AWARDS NOMINATION PROCESS



INFRASTRUCTURE  
PARTNERSHIPS  
AUSTRALIA

## **ABOUT THE AWARDS**

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The National Infrastructure Awards recognise and celebrate excellence in project delivery and individual achievement across the infrastructure sector. The Awards reflect Infrastructure Partnerships Australia's dedication to genuine collaboration and partnership between the public and private sectors to deliver infrastructure and drive reform for the national interest.

## **PROJECT AWARD CATEGORIES**

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The awards celebrate success in Australia's infrastructure projects and individual achievement across ten categories.

- **Advisory Excellence**
- **Financial Excellence**
- **Government Partnerships Excellence**
- **Contractor Excellence**
- **Operator & Service Provider Excellence**
- **Innovation Excellence**
- **Industry Choice**
- **Future Infrastructure Leader of the Year**
- **Women's Achievement in Infrastructure**
- **Project of the Year**

## **RECOGNITION**

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- Finalists will be announced throughout the week three weeks prior to the National Infrastructure Awards night (please note, there are no finalists for the individual award categories)
- Winners will be announced at the National Infrastructure Awards night on Thursday 1 May 2025 in Sydney
- Organisations will only be recognised if they appear on the nomination form and contributed to the project's success in the given award category. Please include ALL organisations who should be recognised.



## TIMELINE

<b>Nominations Close</b>	5.00pm Thursday 6 February 2025
<b>Judging Panel</b>	Mid February 2025
<b>Finalists Announced</b>	Week commencing 7 April 2025
<b>Winners Announced</b>	National Infrastructure Awards – Thursday 1 May 2025 Sydney

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Project details (including project contributors, procurement method, delivery and budgeting information)
- A Project overview used for marketing material in association with the National Infrastructure Awards
- Three images of the project (approved to be used in marketing material)
- For individual nominations, you'll need a bio and information about the nominee



## THINGS TO NOTE

- Projects can be nominated in multiple categories in the same nomination
- You can save and return to your nomination at another time
- Large images of your project can be submitted via email:  
**[awards@infrastructure.org.au](mailto:awards@infrastructure.org.au)**

# ADVISORY EXCELLENCE

Recognises excellence in advisory services on a major infrastructure project, policy or reform in a qualifying professional services or public sector discipline including (but not limited to) engineering, design, legal and policy advice.

## Eligibility

- The advisory service must have been successfully completed or delivered during 2024. The broader project may be ongoing or partially complete. Please note, this award is specifically for excellence in the advisory services, which may be a component of a larger project. In this instance, only the advisory component will be awarded, not the broader project
- This advice must not be predominately financial in nature. Nominations of financial advice are encouraged to be submitted in the Financial Excellence category
- Note: generally, the Judging Panel will consider the Advisory Excellence and Financial Excellence as mutually exclusive



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:**

- A unique set of issues/challenges/opportunities that the advisory services is seeking to solve for
- A distinctive or ground-breaking component to the advice provided
- A direct beneficial and measurable outcome resulting from initiative or innovation in the advisory services (please also state who this outcome benefited)
- Extra regard will be given to advisory services that resulted in new, replicable best practices for industry



## Questions

1. Please state the nature of the advisory services being nominated for this category (e.g. engineering, design, strategic, legal or policy advice)
2. Please list all organisations that should be recognised for their contribution to the nominated piece of advice
3. Please list the client who received the advisory services (as specific granular as possible i.e. a specific department)
4. Describe (in 250 words or less) how the advisory services meet the judging criteria

# FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE

Recognises exceptional advice and/or innovation in the financing, structuring or transaction of a major infrastructure project.

## Eligibility

- The nominated advice must have been delivered or a transaction reached financial close during 2024. The broader project may be ongoing or partially complete. Please note, this award is for specific financial excellence which may be a component of a larger project. In this case, just the financial component will be awarded, not the broader project
- This advice must be predominately financial in nature – nominations of other advice (e.g. engineering, design, strategic, legal or policy advice) are encouraged to submit in the Advisory Excellence category
- Note: generally, the Judging Panel will consider the Advisory Excellence and Financial Excellence as mutually exclusive



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:**

- A unique set of financial settings or a transaction of unprecedented size, scale or complexity that the financial service or advice is seeking to solve for
- Beneficial, measurable, and enduring financial outcomes
- The financial advisors went beyond a typical advisory role and provided a unique or innovative solution, structure, or outcome. Particular regard will be given if this solution, structure or outcome can become a replicable solution for industry



## Questions

1. Please state the nature of the financial services being nominated for this category (e.g. financing, refinancing, restructuring, executing a sale, etc)
2. Please list all organisations that should be recognised for their financial advice or service on the project
3. Please list the client who received the financial advice or services (as specific granular as possible i.e., a specific department)
4. Describe (in 250 words or less) how the financial services meet the judging criteria

# GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS EXCELLENCE

Recognises excellence in the delivery of infrastructure or a service through a genuine partnership between government and the private sector, using this partnership to overcome challenges or exploit opportunities.

## Eligibility

- The partnership must have been completed, delivered or in a steady state during 2024. Judges will also consider a partnership that has changed or been optimised during 2024
- Must include at least one Government entity and one private sector entity



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:**

- A genuine partnership or collaboration that demonstrates clear benefits, either directly to the end user or through the efficient and effective use of public resources
- A unique approach to partnership either by a new structure or enduring collaboration that will continue to provide beneficial outcomes
- A partnership or approach that resulted in new, replicable best practices for industry



## Questions

1. Please list the government entities being recognised for this award
2. Please list the private entities being recognised for this award
3. Briefly explain (250 words or less) why this project meets the judging criteria

# CONTRACTOR EXCELLENCE

Recognises exceptional work completed by a contractor including the achievement of innovative, sustainable, safety, or quality objectives.

## Eligibility

- The project must have been fully completed and operational during 2024
- The project should have an exemplary safety record
- Projects must be major infrastructure in nature (while judges will use some discretion, this will be defined as \$300 million for economic infrastructure and \$100 million for social infrastructure)



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate as many of the below criteria as applicable:**

- Meets or exceeds traditional time, quality, and cost objectives
- A unique set of circumstances/challenges/opportunities in which the project was being delivered
- Innovative techniques that considerably aided in the planning, delivery, or safety outcomes that exceeded the project's objectives
- Advancements in sustainable or carbon reducing practices that contribute to the construction sector's responsibility to decarbonise
- Exceptional community engagement that resulted in a clear, discernible, positive outcome for the project



## Questions

1. Please list the contractors and constructors being recognised for this award
2. Briefly explain (300 words or less) how the nomination meets the judging criteria

# OPERATOR & SERVICE PROVIDER EXCELLENCE

Recognises excellence in the delivery of services or management of operations of a major infrastructure asset.

## Eligibility

- The project or service must have been operating during 2024. Operations or services must have commenced, been optimised, or achieved persistently strong outcomes during 2024



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate the following:**

- A unique set of issues/challenges/opportunities that the operations or services is seeking to solve for
- Operations or services that persistently delivered quantifiable exceptional outcomes
- Extra regard will be given to operations or services that resulted in new, replicable, best practices for industry



## Questions

1. Please list the service providers, operations or management organisations being recognised for this award
2. Briefly explain (250 words or less) how the project meets the judging criteria



# INNOVATION EXCELLENCE

Recognises innovation in a major infrastructure project or service. This may be through the use of technology, intelligent engineering, innovative business models, system optimisation, modernisation, or disruption.

## Eligibility

- The specific innovation must be complete and operational during 2024 even though the broader project may not yet be complete
- The project must be genuinely innovative being the first development or deployment in Australia
- This category can include capital and non-capital solutions



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:**

- A unique set of issues/challenges/opportunities that the project is seeking to solve for
- Genuine innovation being the first of its kind in Australia
- The use of technological or innovative solutions to improve the design or delivery of infrastructure or the associated operational outcomes
- Extra regard will be given to an innovation that resulted in new, replicable best practices for industry



## Questions

1. Please list the organisation/s that contributed to innovation in the project or service
2. Briefly (250 words or less) explain how this project meets the judging criteria

# INDUSTRY CHOICE

Voted on by Infrastructure Partnerships Australia's membership and the attendees of the 2025 Awards Dinner, the award recognises a project that demonstrates exceptional customer outcome and/or community benefits. The judging panel will determine the shortlist.

## Eligibility

- The project must have been fully completed and operational during 2024
- This category is generally awarded to the project as a whole, not a subset of a larger project



## Judging Criteria

**Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:**

- Describe any unique attributes or parameters that make this project stand out as excellent
- How the project made a positive impact on a community or a distinct benefit to the infrastructure end users? This may be through the delivery of the infrastructure itself or through positive community engagement/outcomes during construction or operations



## Questions

1. Please list all organisations involved in the success of the project (this can include both delivery and client-side participants)
2. Briefly explain (250 words or less) how this project excels in the judging criteria

# FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE LEADER OF THE YEAR

The Future Infrastructure Leader of the Year Award recognises a person under the age of 35, who has made an outstanding contribution to the infrastructure sector.

The award recognises an individual who significantly contributed to a project, transaction, policy reform or advice during 2024. Particular regard will be given to individuals who have surpassed expectations and displayed the attributes of a future leader of the sector.

The winner of the Future Infrastructure Leader of the Year Award will be invited to participate in Infrastructure Partnerships Australia's program and its Future Infrastructure Leaders event series.

## Eligibility

- To qualify, the nominee must be in the early-mid stages of their career, typically defined by individuals under the age of 35
- The nominee must have contributed to a project, transaction, policy reform or advice during 2024
- All nominations must adhere to the word limits for each question. Any words submitted over the word limit will not be presented to the Judging Panel



## Questions

1. Please provide contact details of the nominee
2. Provide a brief professional bio for the nominee
3. Please provide an overview of a specific achievement made by the nominee in 2024. This may include a significant contribution they have made to a project, transaction policy or research
4. Provide any additional information to demonstrate how the nominee has contributed to the infrastructure sector and how they have shown potential to be a future infrastructure leader
5. Please provide references for the nominee

# WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Women's Achievement in Infrastructure Award recognises the success of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the infrastructure sector. In particular acknowledging their contribution to a project, transaction, policy reform or advice during 2024 or recognising their consistent, valuable demonstration of leadership.

The winner of the Women's Achievement in Infrastructure Award will be a significant contributor to the sector and will represent the impactful, unique, and critical role women play in advancing Australian infrastructure.

## Eligibility

- To qualify, the nominee must be an individual who has contributed to the sector during 2024
- All nominations must adhere to the word limits for each question. Any words submitted over the word limit will not be presented to the Judging Panel



## Questions

1. Please provide contact details of the nominee
2. Provide a brief professional bio for the nominee
3. Briefly outline the nominees career highlights and their overall contribution to the sector
4. Please provide a specific example where the nominee demonstrated a significant contribution to a project, transaction policy reform or advice during 2024
5. Please provide references for the nominee

# PROJECT OF THE YEAR

The coveted Project of the Year Award recognises a major, transformational infrastructure project, transaction or policy reform that has been exceptional across all phases of delivery.

## Eligibility

- The project must have been completed and/or began operations during 2024. The project must be fully complete and successfully providing its intended service.
- The Judging Panel will take it as a given that all projects nominated in this category will have been delivered on time, on budget and to scope
- This award is given to the entire project, not a smaller part of a bigger project
- The projects that will be finalised for this category will be no surprise to the sector.

## Past winners include:

- Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building (2024)
- Sydney Airport Transaction (2023)
- Bruce Highway, Haughton River Floodplain Upgrade Project (2022)
- New Parallel Runway (2021)
- Sydney Metro Northwest (2020)
- The WestConnex Transaction (2019)



## Judging Criteria

### Nominations will be judged based on their ability to demonstrate:

- The successful delivery of a high-quality infrastructure project that excels at every stage of delivery
- The project fundamentally changed the landscape of the sector, place, or policy environment in which it is operating
- The project of the year will typically be a 'st' – the best, the largest, the first, the most etc.
- The project is of significant scale, scope, or reach



## Questions

1. Please list all organisations involved in the success of the project (this should include both delivery and client-side participants)
2. Briefly explain (500 words or less) how this project excels in the judging criteria

