

Writing for the

Journal of Place Management
and Development



The prospect of writing for a journal can be a daunting one, not least for practitioners who may not have written for a peer-reviewed publication before. However, the process of putting together a paper needn't be too bad an experience. This leaflet explains how to write for the Journal of Place Management and Development in clear terms. We have also included some short testimonials from practitioners who have already had work published by us.

Step 1 Conceiving the idea

The first step to being published in a journal is the formation of the initial idea for a paper. For practitioners, this is likely to come from experience; perhaps a project has gone well and you feel others could benefit from the lessons learnt, perhaps involvement with local Government has led to you questioning some systems which govern your operation and opened your mind to possible alternatives? Or perhaps you have an idea which you feel is original and may be of interest to others? Either way, we are always open to hearing from practitioners who think they may be on to something. We will advise whether the idea fits with the journal's objectives and help you move the idea on from there. Indeed, this is how many of our published practitioner papers began.

"I found the process of submitting an article nearly effortless, mainly because I found the journal publication requirements easily understandable and the follow-up from the journal staff [via email] attentive and timely. For me, it was worthwhile to spend time doing the article because writing it helped

me focus my own thinking on patterns of behaviour I have been observing as a practitioner, and because it offered me the opportunity to participate in the world of scholarly publications, without myself being an academic." James Yanchula, Manager, Urban Design & Community Development Planning Department, City of Windsor, Canada.

Step 2 Writing the paper

For many practitioners the primary reason for not writing is the lack of time available. Whilst any paper is going to require a fair amount of time to put together, practitioners should be mindful that we are not necessarily expecting monographs! We publish a wide range of papers ranging from approximately 2000-5000 words. Up to now we have found that practitioners tend to write shorter papers – we are more than happy that this is the case, as it means that for the time-poor reader, there are articles in the journal which they can digest relatively quickly.

"I found submitting an article to the Journal of Place Management and Development a breeze" John Mant, Sydney, Australia.

Step 3 *Submission and review*

After the paper has been submitted, the editors will read over and, if appropriate, select relevant reviewers from our team of approximately forty Editorial Advisory Board Members from around the world. This process can take up to two months, depending on how quickly the reviews are returned. Once complete, the editor will add their comments before the reviews are returned to the author. Quite often there are some recommended revisions which will need to be made. Once the author has made these changes, the paper is returned to the reviewers who will confirm that they are happy that the paper has met their recommendations. The paper is then confirmed as accepted and the author is notified of the publication date. It is only, very rarely, that a practitioner article is rejected at the review stage.

"We live in a world where change is the one given! It behoves all of us to therefore record our research and our personal experiences of practical implementation, good and bad, so that others can learn and improve. It is also good to review and record in order to develop and tease out our own ideas and to share them with others." Neil Fraser SFIPM, Urban Inc, Johannesburg, South Africa.

The Journal of Place Management and Development is published three times per

year, meaning that there are no deadlines as such. If an author misses one issue, the next is just around the corner. We value the input of practitioners immensely and hope this leaflet has gone some way to removing some of the mystery behind the paper submission process. If you have an idea for a paper, please don't hesitate to get in touch to discuss it in more detail.

To discuss a possible submission, please contact either:

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