

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 7.1

Attendance at Retrofit and Repurpose Summit 2023, Sydney, September 2023

15 August 2023

Presenter: Councillor Elizabeth Doidge

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Future Melbourne Committee approval for Councillor Elizabeth Doidge to travel to Sydney to attend the Retrofit and Repurpose Summit 2023 (Summit) on 6 September 2023.
2. The Summit will bring together leading owners, investors, developers, constructors, architects, engineering firms, consultants, regulators, city governments and energy service companies to discuss strategies to successfully transition real estate to meet decarbonisation targets and tenant expectations, reduce portfolio risk, generate better investment returns and enhance our cities.

Key issues

3. The Summit will feature presentations, interactive panel discussions, roundtables and networking activities and proposes to focus on four key themes:
 - 3.1. Building for a Net Zero Future: How Retrofit offers building owners the opportunity to make structures more efficient and cost effective through modern design initiatives.
 - 3.2. Evolving Communities/Social impact: Refurbishing and reinvigorating existing structures to include human-centric design elements to inspire high performance.
 - 3.3. Smart Buildings: Implementing new technology systems that connect building occupants with surrounding networks to ensure more agile, energy-efficient and competitive spaces.
 - 3.4. Heritage and Design: How Retrofit allows building owners to revitalise and regenerate structures to better connect to the public realm without compromising nostalgic appeal.
4. As the Portfolio Lead of Sustainable Building, Councillor Doidge's participation is considered beneficial as many of the important sustainable building themes are being discussed at the Summit. The themes and issues align with a number of key City of Melbourne strategies, initiatives and programs, namely:
 - 4.1. Council Plan Major Initiative 30 – Progress initiatives by improving the environmental performance of existing and new buildings, in order to reduce emissions to zero by 2040.
 - 4.2. The development and implementation of Retrofitting Melbourne – Zero Carbon Buildings Plan, currently underway by City of Melbourne.
 - 4.3. Identifying innovative mechanisms for local governments to overcome barriers to retrofitting buildings.
5. The estimated cost of Councillor Doidge's participation is \$1,053.

Recommendation

6. That the Future Melbourne Committee approves participation by Councillor Elizabeth Doidge in the Retrofit and Repurpose Summit 2023 in Sydney on 6 September 2023 at a cost to Council of \$1,053.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 2)

Supporting Attachment

Finance

1. The cost to Council of Councillor Doidge's participation is approximately \$1,053 which covers the cost of the Summit registration fee. Costs associated with airfare and any accommodation will be funded by Councillor Doidge.
2. Costs will be met from the existing budget allocation.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a general or material conflict of interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Health and Safety

4. In travelling to Sydney, Councillor Doidge will undertake standard personal safety and awareness precautionary steps which apply to interstate travel.

Relation to Council policy

5. The Executive Officer Councillor Liaison has confirmed that the travel proposal accords with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Council Expenses Policy.
6. The Summit program aligns with and supports Council's work in a number of areas including those relating to the following:
 - 6.1. Council Plan Major Initiative 30 – Improving the environmental performance of existing and new buildings.
 - 6.2. Delivery of the Zero Carbon Buildings Implementation Plan.

Environmental sustainability

7. The carbon emissions resulting from air travel will be offset with the purchase of credits.