

**Report to Future Melbourne (Finance and Governance) Committee**

Agenda item 6.4

**Proposed travel report by Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle: Chicago Forum on Global Cities and Private Roundtable with Mayor Rahm Emanuel and to Auckland for the 2017 Local Government New Zealand Conference**

2 May 2017

**Presenter:** Ben Rimmer, Chief Executive Officer**Purpose and background**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Future Melbourne Committee's approval for the Lord Mayor to travel to Chicago, for the period 5–10 June 2017 to present at the Chicago Forum on Global Cities hosted by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Financial Times.
2. The Mayor of Chicago, The Honourable Rahm Emanuel, has written to the Lord Mayor inviting him to be a keynote speaker at the Chicago Forum on Global Cities. Mayor Emanuel will be hosting a private roundtable of global mayors. Mayor Emanuel has invited the Lord Mayor to present at this high level discussion on the topic of financing the global city.
3. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs will cover the in-country expenses for the Lord Mayor and contribute \$5000 towards his airfare.
4. The Lord Mayor has also been invited to be the keynote Speaker at the 2017 Local Government New Zealand Conference in July. The Lord Mayor will travel to Auckland for the period 23–24 July 2017.

**Key issues**

5. The Lord Mayor received an official invitation from Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel to attend the Mayor's private roundtable. Some of the world's most influential Mayors are attending this event. The roundtable is exclusive to mayors of leading global cities.
6. The topic of the private roundtable is financing the global city. Mayor Rahm Emanuel has requested the Lord Mayor address the roundtable on this topic. The Lord Mayor will speak about the renewal of the Queen Victoria Market as an example of 'shared value' and its relevance to global Mayors as the largest renewal project of its type in the world today. This is the second time Mayor Emanuel has invited the Lord Mayor to attend this event, the first being in 2016.
7. The US Managing Director of the Financial Times and the President of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs have invited the Lord Mayor address the 2017 Chicago Forum on Global Cities. The Lord Mayor will speak on the topic of Melbourne's liveability and the key ingredients underpinning that success.
8. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs is ranked the No 1 Think Tank to Watch worldwide. Speakers at this year's event include Richard Florida, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, former Commissioner London Metropolitan Police and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.
9. During his address, the Lord Mayor has been asked to provide commentary on the challenges in the areas of urban design, city safety, infrastructure and governance.
10. The Summit will be attended by Government heads, thought leaders, business leaders and CEOs from more than 35 countries to discuss how cities are driving the global economy.
11. Australia's Consul-General to Chicago, Michael Wood, is developing a high level program of briefings for the Lord Mayor in conjunction with Mayor Emanuel's office.
12. Local Government New Zealand has invited the Lord Mayor to be the keynote speaker at their 2017 Conference. Local Government New Zealand is paying for the Lord Mayor's airfare and in-country costs.

**Recommendation**

13. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
  - 13.1. Approves the Lord Mayor travel to Chicago to attend the private roundtable hosted by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Chicago Forum on Global Cities for the period 5–10 June 2017.
  - 13.2. Approves the Lord Mayor travel to Auckland for the 2017 Local Government New Zealand Conference at which the Lord Mayor is giving the Opening keynote address for the period 23–24 July 2017.
  - 13.3. Approves an amount of \$7030 to cover the total travel costs to Council for the Lord Mayor.
  - 13.4. Notes that the Lord Mayor will prepare a report to the Future Melbourne Committee or Council within 60 days of return from travel.

**Attachment:**

1. Supporting Attachment

**Supporting Attachment**

---

**Finance**

1. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs will cover the in-country expenses for the Lord Mayor and contribute \$5000 towards his airfare. The costs to Council associated with this travel proposal are approximately \$6500. This does not allow for fluctuations in the airfare price quoted at the time of writing this report. The Lord Mayor will be accompanied by a City of Melbourne employee.
2. The cost to Council associated with the Lord Mayor's travel to Auckland, New Zealand is approximately \$530 which is for incidentals, should these not be already covered by the organiser.

**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 direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

**Relation to Council policy**

4. The Chief Executive Officer has confirmed that the travel costs accord with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Councillor Expenses and Resources Guidelines.
5. The Summit aligns with Council Plan 2013-17, Goal 3: a prosperous city and the four year plan outcomes of a sustainable and resilient municipal economy that is globally connected.