

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 7.2

Post travel report by Deputy Lord Mayor, Arron Wood: Science and the Sustainable City Summit and related forums, Singapore, July 2018

4 September 2018

Presenter: Deputy Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

Purpose and background

1. To report to the Future Melbourne Committee on travel undertaken by Deputy Lord Mayor, Arron Wood to Singapore to participate in the Science and the Sustainable City Summit and related forums in July 2018.
2. On 24 April 2018, Council approved the proposal for Deputy Lord Mayor to undertake travel between 7 and 11 July to participate in the Science and the Sustainable City Summit, which was organised by Springer Nature and formed part of the 2018 World Cities Summit.
3. In late December 2017, the Deputy Lord Mayor received an invitation to attend and participate on a panel to discuss high level innovative solutions to make cities more sustainable and to highlight Melbourne's sustainability initiatives.
4. In addition to the invitation to participate in the Science and the Sustainable City Summit panel, on 5 June 2018, an invitation was extended to the Deputy Lord Mayor to represent the City of Melbourne at the World Cities Summit Mayors Forum. This was limited to invitation-only and attended by 120 mayors, city leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and foster new partnerships.

Key issues

5. The 2018 World Cities Summit was themed 'Liveable & Sustainable Cities: Embracing the Future through Innovation and Collaboration'. The City of Melbourne was invited due to Council's international reputation for developing Melbourne into a sustainable, innovative and strategically organised city.
6. The Deputy Lord Mayor's participation in the Science and Sustainable Cities Summit, World Cities Summit and co-located events promoted the City of Melbourne's leadership and innovative approaches in tackling climate change, collaboration with various private and public enterprises and open data.
7. Included as Attachment 2 is an outline of key achievements, outcomes and commitments associated with the Summit and other engagements in Singapore. Highlights included delivery of the following:
 - 7.1. Addressing the World Cities Summit Mayors Forum on the topics: 'Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Embracing The Future Through Innovation and Collaboration', 'What Should Mayors Do to Embrace and Capitalise on Disruptive Innovations?' and 'No Investments, No Cities – What Can Mayors do to Attract Financing for Infrastructure Project'.
 - 7.2. Presentation and panel participation at a World Cities Summit sponsored event entitled 'Does public, private and people collaboration yield the best social innovations?'
 - 7.3. Presentation and panel participation at the C40 Cities and National Climate Change Secretariat event entitled 'Tackling climate change through innovative technologies'.
 - 7.4. Presentation and panel participation at the Science and the Sustainable City Summit entitled 'Putting Urban Science to Work: What's the state of the art in urban science, and how can cities put existing research to create sustainable solutions today'.

Recommendation

8. That the Future Melbourne Committee notes the report by the Deputy Lord Mayor, Arron Wood on travel to Singapore for the Science and Sustainable Cities Summit, the World Cities Summit and associated forums and meetings between 7 and 11 July 2018.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (page 2 of 4)
2. Key commitments and outcomes (page 3 of 4)

Supporting Attachment

Finance

1. The cost of the Deputy Lord Mayor's airfare and accommodation was jointly funded by the World Cities Summit and Springer Nature (\$5918.12). The cost to Council was \$458.05 for incidentals.

Conflict of interest

2. 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

3. The Chief of Staff, Lord Mayor's Office has confirmed that the travel costs accord with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Councillor Expenses and Resources Guidelines.
4. The objectives of the travel aligned with the Council Plan goal of *A City that cares for its environment* and a range of environmental and sustainability strategies and policies.

Environmental sustainability

5. The Deputy Lord Mayor's involvement in the Science and Sustainable City Summit, World Cities Summit and associated forums allowed him to participate in discussions that further Council's sustainability objectives and promotes Melbourne's reputation as a global leader.
6. The carbon emission resulting from air travel to Singapore will be offset with the purchase of credits.

SCIENCE AND THE SUSTAINABLE CITY SUMMIT AND RELATED FORUMS, SINGAPORE, JULY 2018

Overview of key commitments

Representing the City of Melbourne at a global forum and sharing information

- The first panel was a World Cities Summit sponsored event entitled 'Does public, private and people collaboration yield the best social innovations?' Fellow panellists were Nasima Razmyar, Deputy Mayor of Helsinki, Dr Frank Rijsberman, Director General of Global Green Growth Institute, Dr Goh Eng Lim, Vice President of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Hany Fam, Executive Vice President of Mastercard and David Wallerstein, Chief Exploration Officer of Tencent. The panel was moderated by Nicholas Fang, Executive Director, Singapore Institute of International Affairs.
- The second panel hosted by C40 Cities and the National Climate Change Secretariat was entitled 'Tackling climate change through innovative technologies'. Fellow panellists were Federico Gutierrez Mayor of Medellin, His Excellency Akinwunmi Ambode Governor of Lagos and Junko Inokuma Vice Governor of Tokyo.
- The third panel hosted by Springer Nature was entitled 'Putting Urban Science to Work: What's the state of the art in urban science, and how can cities put existing research to create sustainable solutions today'. Fellow panellists were Michele Acuto Professor of Urban Politics, Melbourne School of Design, Melbourne University and Xuemei Bai, Professor of Urban Environment and Human Ecology, Australian National University. The panel was moderated by Monica Contestabile, Chief Editor, Nature Sustainability.
- The Deputy Lord Mayor attended and participated in the World Cities Summit, the Mayors Forum and the 'Better Cities with Smart Technologies – Government and Business Flows in a Smart City Workshop' hosted by Mastercard.
- The Deputy Lord Mayor also promoted the following projects and initiatives to an international audience as a result of his involvement in the Science and the Sustainable City Summit and overall World Cities Summit:
 - Melbourne Renewable Energy Project
 - Melbourne HollowBlitz
 - Urban Forest Strategy
 - Open Innovation Competition and Open Data Platform
 - Melbourne Bioblitz
 - City Data Centre.

Building relationships with other city and industry leaders

- While in Singapore the Deputy Lord Mayor met with the following:
 - Mayor Marvin Rees of Bristol
 - President of 100 Resilient Cities, Michael Berkowitz
 - C40 Regional Director for East, Southeast Asia and Oceania, Milag San Jose-Ballesteros
 - C40 Regional Director for South and West Asia, Sanjay Sridhar
 - Managing Director of Dassault Systemes, Masaki (Sox) Konno
 - Senior representatives from Siemens.

Overview of key outcomes

- **Request to write journal articles**

Following the Deputy Lord Mayor's presentation and panel participation at the Science and Sustainable City Summit, Spring Nature invited the Deputy Lord Mayor to write an article for the Sustainable Earth and also the Scientific American. The pieces will explore 'Science in the City' and the importance of a holistic approach when getting the general public on board with sustainability-driven initiatives and the requirements from academic research which informs policy.

- **Commitment to meet with Dassault Systemes**

The Deputy Lord Mayor met with senior representatives of Dassault Systemes where they used this opportunity to showcase their virtual Smart City model of Singapore. Through the Deputy Lord Mayor, the managing director of Dassault Systemes, Mr Konno invited senior members of Melbourne's Smart City Office to observe a similar presentation of the 3D Experience Platform at their Melbourne office and also learn and share ideas on sustainability and digital transformation.

- **City of Melbourne to enter in the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2020**

The Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize was awarded at the World Cities Summit and organisers invited the Deputy Lord Mayor to nominate the City of Melbourne for the 2020 prize. The Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize is a biennial international award that honours outstanding achievements and contributions to the creation of liveable, vibrant and sustainable urban communities around the world. The Prize is awarded to cities and recognises their key leaders and organisations for displaying foresight, good governance and innovation in tackling the many urban challenges faced, to bring about social, economic and environmental benefits in a holistic way to their communities. The Prize Laureate will be presented with a gold medallion, an award certificate and a cash prize of S\$300,000 sponsored by Keppel Corporation. The City of Melbourne's Urban Strategy team is currently working through the nomination.

- **Invitation to attend the Global Parliament of Mayors**

Following a meeting with the Mayor of Bristol Marvin Rees, the Deputy Lord Mayor secured an invitation for the City of Melbourne to attend the Global Parliament of Mayors annual gathering in UK in October 2018.

- **Promoting MREP to C40 and National Climate Change Secretariat representatives**

The Deputy Lord Mayor presented at the C40 sponsored event while in Singapore and was requested to share further information on Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP). The event organisers shared the MREP video link detailing the background and the goals of the project to all event participants. The MREP procurement report and infographic was also shared.

- **Participation at the World Cities Summit Mayors Forum 2018**

The Deputy Lord Mayor was invited to attend and participate in the Mayors Forum, which is the flagship event of the World Cities Summit. Mayors and city leaders were given the opportunity to discuss pressing city challenges and share best practices and Melbourne was able to demonstrate its leadership in this area.