

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

Agenda item 6.1a

**Proposed travel by Councillor Pinder-Mortimer: Guangzhou International
Urban Innovation Conference and 2014 Chinese International Friendship
City Conference, Guangzhou, China November 2015**

11 November 2014

Presenter: Ian Shears, Manager Urban Landscapes

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for Councillor Pinder-Mortimer to travel to Guangzhou to attend the Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference and the 2014 Chinese International Friendship City Conference for the period 26 to 29 November 2014.

Key issues

2. Attendance at the Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference will provide Council with an opportunity to gain valuable insights into urban governance and development from some leading cities internationally and to promote Melbourne's position as a global leader for climate adaptation and innovation.
3. The conference will provide a platform to further develop relationships with a range of international cities and to share the solutions to tackling urban challenges, to exchange experiences and ideas on urban innovation which will further support City of Melbourne's strategy and policy development. It is expected that over 200 Mayors and City officials will attend this conference (refer Attachment 2 for conference outline).
4. The City of Melbourne's Urban Landscapes Climate Adaptation Program has been shortlisted as one of 15 finalists from 259 international submissions for 2014 Guangzhou Award. City of Melbourne is the only Australian city listed as a finalist. Each of the 15 shortlisted cities is invited to make presentations as part of the conference (refer Attachment 3).
5. City of Melbourne has also been invited by the Tianjin Foreign Affairs Office to attend the 2014 Chinese International Friendship Cities Conference which coincides with the Guangzhou Urban Innovation Conference.
6. Councillor Pinder-Mortimer may also use the opportunity to further strengthen Guangzhou-Melbourne business ties through meetings with the Guangzhou Municipal Government following two separate agribusiness focused delegation visits to Melbourne in October and November 2014 respectively.
7. The City of Guangzhou has advised they will cover the economy class return air fare, accommodation and local travel expenses for one elected and one technical representative to attend the events in Guangzhou. Council will be responsible for the cost of Chinese visa application and incidental expenses.
8. It is proposed the Team Leader, Urban Forest and Ecology will accompany Cr Pinder-Mortimer to provide the technical presentation to the Urban Innovation Conference. The Chief Representative, Melbourne Office Tianjin will travel to Guangzhou provide high level advice and support for the International Friendship City Conference and inter actions with the Guangzhou Government.

Recommendation from management

9. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 9.1. approves Councillor Pinder-Mortimer's participation in the Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference and 2014 Chinese International Friendship City Conference.
 - 9.2. approves an amount of \$338.50 to cover the incidental expenses and visa application fees.
 - 9.3. notes that Councillor Pinder-Mortimer will prepare a report to the Future Melbourne Committee or Council within 60 days of return from travel.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment
2. Draft conference agenda
3. List of shortlisted initiatives

SUPPORTING ATTACHMENT

Finance

1. The estimated cost of \$338.50 for the incidental expenses and visa application fee for the proposed travel will be met from the existing budget allocation. The City of Guangzhou has offered to pay for economy class airfares, accommodation and local travel for the Council representative.

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 Director, City Design has confirmed that the travel proposal accords with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Councillor Expenses and Resources Guidelines.
4. The proposed travel will support Council's international leadership position on climate adaptation and further promote Melbourne's reputation as a global innovator supporting both our Eco City and Prosperous City Goals.

Environmental sustainability

5. Strategies promoting environmental sustainability will prominently feature in the program agenda. Discussions will provide an opportunity to learn more about how Council can further improve sustainability outcomes for the city.



2014 China International Friendship Cities Conference Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference Draft Agenda

Nov. 26 (Wed.)	8:30-24:00	Registration	
	9:00-12:00	Preparatory Meeting of the 2nd Guangzhou Award Shortlisted Cities(Invitation only)	
	10:00-12:00	Jury Meeting of the 2nd Guangzhou Award (Invitation only)	
	12:00-13:00	Luncheon	
	13:30-17:00	Jury Meeting of the 2nd Guangzhou Award (Invitation only)	
	14:00-17:00	Preparatory Meeting of the 2nd Guangzhou Award Shortlisted Cities(Invitation only)	
Nov. 27 (Thu.)	8:30-24:00	Registration	
	8:30-12:00	Infrastructure and Smart Cities (Session 1)	Guangzhou Forum (South Campus of Sun Yat-sen University)
		Sustainability and Environmental Protection (Session 2)	
	12:00-13:00	Luncheon	
	13:30-18:10	Social Services and Governance (Session 3)	
		Integrated Development and Strategic Planning (Session 4)	
Capacity Building and Civic Engagement (Session 5)			
18:30-20:00	Opening Reception of Exhibition on the History of CPAFFC and World Urban Innovation Exhibition	Jury Appointment Ceremony of the 2nd Guangzhou Award(Invitation only)	
Nov. 28 (Fri.)	9:15-10:15	Opening Ceremony of 2014 China International Friendship Cities Conference & Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference	
	10:15-10:30	Tea Break	
	10:30-12:00	Top Talk of Cities	
	12:00-13:30	Luncheon	
	13:30-15:15	Theme Forum I: Urbanization and Smart City	
	15:15-15:30	Tea Break	
	15:30-17:15	Theme Forum II: Silk Road and Local Governments Cooperation	
	18:30-20:00	Welcome Banquet	
20:30-22:00	The 2nd Guangzhou Award Ceremony		
Nov. 29 (Sat.)	9:00-9:30	Newly-Twinned Friendship Cities Signing Ceremony	
	9:30-10:00	Friendship City Awards Ceremony	
	10:00-11:00	Experience Sharing by Awards Winners	
	11:00-11:30	Closing Ceremony	
	12:00-14:00	Luncheon	
	14:00-18:00	City Tour	
Nov. 27-29	All Day	Exhibition on the History of CPAFFC and World Urban Innovation Exhibition	

List of 15 Shortlisted Initiatives (By alphabetical order)

No. City	Initiative
1 Abu Dhabi	Estidama
2 Antioquia	Educational Parks: innovating the educational system in Antioquia.
3 Boston	Youth Lead the Change: Participatory Budgeting Boston
4 Bristol	Smart City Bristol
5 Buenos Aires	Buenos Aires City's Collaborative Roundtable for Innovation and Creativity
6 Christchurch	Christchurch: Our Ever Evolving City
7 Dakar	Dakar Municipal finance program: Accessing the Power of Capital Markets to Improve the Quality of Life for the Urban Poor
8Eskisehir	Cherish the Memory of the City. Eskisehir City Memory Museum
9 Gwangju	GHGs Emission Program in Household Carbon Bank in Gwan
10 Hamburg	The International Building Exhibition IBA Hamburg and its Climate Protection Concept "Renewable Wilhelmsburg"
11 Hangzhou	Public bicycle system
12 Jakarta	The Pluit Reservoir Revitalization Project: (Socially-Inclusive Coastal Protection Today and for 2030)(Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Jakarta)
13 Linköping	Linköping Carbon Neutral 2025-where ideas come to life
14 Melbourne	4°C Cooler – Using green infrastructure to build a climate resilient and prosperous Melbourne
15 Rio de Janeiro	Rio Operations Centre: integrating data and monitoring utilities in a truly intelligent system