

Report to the Future Melbourne (Economic Development) Committee

Agenda item 6.4

Proposed travel by Councillor Kevin Louey for BPC Roundtable Manila, Philippines, October 2015

11 August 2015

Presenter: Jane Sharwood, Manager International and Civic Services

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Committee's approval for the Chair, Future Melbourne (Economic Development) Committee, Councillor Louey, to travel to Manila, Philippines, to participate in the annual Business Partner Cities (BPC) Roundtable on 14 to 16 October 2015 (refer Attachment 1).
2. The City of Melbourne, in partnership with the Australian Industry Group (AI Group) has been a member of the BPC network since 1999. Council has attended each annual Roundtable since that time and hosted the event in 2000, 2007 and 2013.
3. *Melbourne: Doing Business Globally* (M:DBG) identified business opportunities, aligned to Melbourne's key industry sectors, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Singapore and Bandung, Indonesia. Kuala Lumpur and Singapore are members of the BPC and specific meetings (in addition to the Roundtable discussions) will be sought with these delegates.
4. The 2014 BPC Roundtable in Jakarta provided an opportunity to commence exploration of potential activity with Bandung, specifically aligned with M:DBG.

Key issues

5. The Roundtable is an important annual event at which Council to reaffirm and strengthen existing economic links with the BPC Network's founding city and secretariat, Osaka, and other member cities. The Roundtable offers a platform to promote Melbourne as an investment destination of choice.
6. While the Philippines is not a market focus contained within M:DBG, the 2015 roundtable presents an opportunity for side meetings with the Singapore and Kuala Lumpur government representatives; to gauge their views of potential business related activities to pursue with Melbourne. This is consistent with M:DBG.
7. The Roundtable also provides an opportunity for detailed planning discussions with the Cities of Osaka and Tianjin, in preparation for the 2016 City of Melbourne Business Mission to Japan and China.
8. The theme for the 2015 Roundtable is '*Building sustainable regional and global economies through SME (Small to medium size enterprise) participation*'. Council's presentation will highlight initiatives to support Melbourne's SME's (refer Attachment 2).
9. It is recommended Councillor Louey travel on 13 October 2015 and return 17 October 2015.
10. It is proposed a member of the International and Civic Services branch accompany Councillor Louey to provide support to achieve optimal business and civic outcomes during the Roundtable and stakeholder meetings in Manila.

Recommendation from management

11. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 11.1. approves Councillor Louey's participation in the 2015 Business Partner Cities (BPC) Roundtable to be held in Manilla on 14 to 16 October 2015
 - 11.2. approves an amount of \$5,464.70 to cover the travel costs including return business class airfare \$3812.70, accommodation \$732 (two nights at \$366 per night as two nights accommodation are paid for by BPC Roundtable organisers) and \$920 to cover meals and incidentals (four days at \$230 per day)
 - 11.3. notes that Councillor Louey will prepare a report to the Future Melbourne Committee or Council within 60 days of return from travel.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment
2. Invitation to attend BPC Roundtable 2015
3. Draft itinerary

Supporting Attachment

Finance

1. The estimated cost of the proposed travel to Manila for Councillor travel are \$5464.70, including return business class airfare \$3812.70, accommodation \$732 (two nights at \$366 per night as two nights accommodation are paid for by BPC Roundtable organisers) and \$920 to cover meals and incidentals (four days at \$230 per day). These travel costs will be met from within the approved 2015–16 overseas travel budget.

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 Economy and Activation has confirmed that the travel proposal accords with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Councillor Expenses and Resources Guidelines.
4. The travel aligns with Council Plan 2013–17, Goal 3: a prosperous city and the four year outcomes of a sustainable resilient municipal economy that is globally connected

Environmental sustainability

5. International air travel will increase consumption/generation of energy and greenhouse gases, however to mitigate carbon emissions from flights, carbon offsets will be purchased. The presentation will profile the capabilities of Melbourne's Small to Medium size Enterprise's providing a range of environmental services.



Osaka International Business Promotion Center (IBPC Osaka)

1-5-102, Nanko-kita, Suminoe-ku, Osaka 559-0034, Japan TEL (81) 6-6615-5522 FAX (81) 6-6615-5518

May 29, 2015

Councillor Robert Doyle
The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor
City of Melbourne
GPO Box 1603M,
Melbourne 3001,
Australia

Re: BPC Roundtable 2015 in Manila

Dear Lord Mayor Doyle :

Please accept my sincerest appreciation for all of your support and courtesies to the BPC exchange activities.

On behalf of City of Osaka, Osaka Business Partner City Council, and Foreign Trade Service Corps (FTSC), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippine, I am pleased to announce that the Business Partner City Roundtable 2015 will be held at Board of Investments or some hotel in Makati City on October 15, 2015 hosted by the FTSC of DTI, Philippine.

The theme for this year we would bring up for discussion is now under consideration. We are working on it with the FTSC and will inform you about details with exact venue later on.

The following is tentative overall schedule, and we will send the details with an invitation later on.

<October 14>	
Evening	Welcome Reception
<October 15>	
AM + PM	BPC Roundtable
PM	Business Matching between business delegation from BPCs and companies in Manila
	Visit to Manila FAME
Evening	Networking Reception
<October 16>	
AM	Business Site Tour

For your information, there is a Manila F.A.M.E. (Furnishings and Apparel Manufacturers' Exchange), which is a bi-annual showcase of craftsmanship, design innovation, eco-sustainability, and artisanship in Philippine products, around the same time as the BPC Roundtable.

- Manila FAME, The Design & Lifestyle Event, October 15 to 18, 2015 at SMX Convention Center
<http://www.manilafame.com/en/index.php>

Also we very much appreciate it if you could organize and dispatch business delegation with you on the occasion of the BPC Roundtable. The FTSC will organize individual business meeting in all sorts of business fields for your delegation. We believe that this is good opportunity for enterprises in your city/country to develop their business in Manila, Philippine.

For further information about the BPC Roundtable, please contact Mr. Masahiro ARITA, Chief of IBPC Osaka at +81-6615-5522 or email him at arita@ibpcosaka.or.jp

Best wishes for your continued good health, happiness, and success.

Sincerely yours,

Satoshi Tonai

Satoshi TONAI

Executive Director & Secretary General, Osaka Business Partner City Council

Managing Director, Osaka International Business Promotion Center

ST/ht

cc: Mr. Timothy Piper, Director Victoria, Australian Industry Group

Mr. Shane Mcilroy, International Advisor, Business and International, City of Melbourne

Proposed itinerary – Manila, Philippines

Date	City	Activity
Day 1 13 October	Manila	PM Arrival and Hotel Check-in
Day 2 14 October	Manila	In market briefing with the Australian New Zealand Chamber of Commerce; and/or the Philippine Australia Business Council
		In country briefing with the Australian Trade Commission
		BPC Roundtable 2015 Welcome Reception
Day 3 15 October	Manila	BPC Roundtable 2015 Building sustainable regional and global economies through SME (Small to medium size enterprise) participation
		Side meeting with City of Osaka – CoM 2016 Business Mission
		Side meeting with Tianjin People’s Municipal Government - CoM 2016 Business Mission
		BPC business Networking Reception
Day 4 16 October	Manila	Business site tour
		Side meeting Singapore
		Side meeting Kuala Lumpur
		Side meeting Jakarta
		Depart for Melbourne