

Report to the Future Melbourne (Prosperous City) Committee

Agenda item 6.6

Post travel report by Councillor Louey: Business Partner City Roundtable: Bandung, Indonesia and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 2019

4 February 2020

Presenter: David Livingstone, Manager International and Civic Services

Purpose and background

1. To report to the Future Melbourne Committee on the travel undertaken by Councillor Louey to the Business Partners Cities (BPC) meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Bandung, Indonesia from 17 to 23 November 2019.
2. On 27 August 2019, Council approved the proposal for Councillor Louey to travel to Bandung, Indonesia and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the period 17 to 23 November 2019 to participate in the annual BPC Roundtable and undertake meetings with current and potential partner organisations in support of Council's international business approach.
3. Councillor Louey was accompanied by a City of Melbourne officer.

Key issues

4. The primary purpose of the trip was to participate in the BPC network meeting in Kuala Lumpur. The BPC is a valuable network of cities promoting mutual prosperity through trade and civic engagement. The theme for the BPC Roundtable meeting was Industry 4.0. Councillor Louey's presentation highlighted Melbourne's smart city agenda and City of Melbourne's interest in continuing to learn and share best practice in this area.
5. Councillor Louey's visit to Kuala Lumpur was well supported by the Victorian Government Trade and Investment Office in Kuala Lumpur. The Deputy Commissioner arranged and keenly participated in meetings with Malaysian government and industry stakeholders. Objectives included gaining a better understanding of Malaysia's Smart City framework and to discuss future opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration. Outcomes include an offer from the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) to become a knowledge partner.
6. Councillor Louey also visited Bandung, Indonesia. The meetings and site visits promoted building inclusive prosperity in Melbourne's key capability sectors of liveability, smart cities and innovation.
7. Bandung City Government confirmed its strong interest in collaborating with Melbourne on projects of mutual benefit, particularly in the areas of liveability, startups and innovation and the creative economy. The Mayor of Bandung indicated that he plans to visit Melbourne in 2020 to formalise closer city-to-city collaboration.
8. Bandung City Government also confirmed their intention to continue collaboration on the Open Innovation Competition and make it an ongoing city to city activity. Waste minimisation and innovation, a key focus for both cities, has been proposed as the topic for the 2020 competition.
9. Other substantive discussions with stakeholders included the Institute of Technology Bandung, BLOCK71 Bandung and the West Java Creative Economy Agency identified several areas of mutual interest and benefit for Melbourne. These include building stronger connections between university-linked incubators to connect startup communities in both cities and provide 'landing pad' support, as well as foster design exchanges around key events such as Melbourne Fashion Week and Bandung Design Biennale.

Recommendation from management

10. That the Future Melbourne Committee notes this report and attached summary of benefits and outcomes of Councillor Louey's visit to Bandung and Kuala Lumpur.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 8)
2. Outcomes and Benefits of Travel (Page 3 of 8)
3. Travel photos (Page 5 of 8)

Supporting Attachment

Finance

1. The total costs associated with this travel for Councillor Louey were \$7089.21. This included airfares (\$6,144.13), accommodation (\$617.82) and incidentals (\$327.26).

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 General Manager City Economy and Activation has confirmed that the travel costs accord with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Councillor Expenses and Resources Guidelines.

Environmental sustainability

4. Carbon emissions resulting from air travel to Malaysia and Indonesia were offset with the purchase of credits.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS OF TRAVEL

Outcomes and Benefits

1. The outcomes and benefits arising from the travel include:
 - 1.1. The Bandung City Government expressed strong interest in identifying projects to collaborate with Melbourne, including that the Open Innovation Competition collaboration become an annual occurrence. They are eager for the relationship to expand beyond government linkages to create connections more broadly between businesses, academia and people. The Mayor of Bandung has indicated that he would like to visit Melbourne in 2020 to sign an MoU to formalise closer city-to-city collaboration.
 - 1.2. In Bandung, day one focused on the two cities mutual interest in enhancing city liveability; particularly the challenges of sustainable waste and water management and effective planning. Councillor Louey received presentations from the planning, waste management, water management and environment departments. Similarly to Melbourne, Bandung has a focus on waste reduction and has introduced zero waste model areas and a waste minimisation program. Key challenges include education around recycling and waste minimisation and incorporation of technological solutions. Potential areas identified for collaboration include waste treatment infrastructure, technological systems for treating organic waste and participatory waste management systems. Given the common interest in this area, it was agreed that 'waste minimisation and innovation' would be a beneficial topic for the 2020 Open Innovation Competition. Discussions are underway to progress this initiative.
 - 1.3. Cr Louey visited Bandung Technopolis (BT). BT is a new city centre area about 20km from the current CBD and is planned to be a technology park as well as housing the Bandung City Government and a campus of the Institute of Technology Bandung. While still a greenfield development, 95 percent of the residential area is already built, however, the commercial area is still under development along with the terminal for a new high speed rail connection with Jakarta (to be finished in 2025). The plan is to attract technology businesses to this area.
 - 1.4. Day two focussed on innovation, startups and the creative economy. Councillor Louey met with The Greater Hub incubator at Institute of Technology Bandung (the commercialisation hub of the University). They were very positive about their involvement in the 2019 Open Innovation Competition with Melbourne and are keen to increase collaboration. In particular, they would like to connect with university-linked incubators in Melbourne. Ideas for collaboration include creation of an international network of mentors for incubatees, an international bootcamp, landing pad support and joint competitions/programs. They also host an annual Bandung Pitch Competition with local venture capitalists, and would welcome Melbourne startups participation in the competition. Since the visit, the Director of the Greater Hub visited Melbourne in December 2019 and the International & Civic branch arranged meetings for her with RMIT Activator, Melbourne Accelerator Program, Spark Deakin and The Generator (Monash) to progress discussions around collaborative opportunities.
 - 1.5. Councillor Louey also visited BLOCK71 Bandung. Opened in 2018, it is a partnership between NUS Enterprise (Singapore University) and the Innovation Factory (digital arm of Salim Group). BLOCK71 was first established in Singapore and has since opened hubs in San Francisco, Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta and Suzhou with plans to open more in Vietnam and Japan in the near future. Their model is to be a global connector and ecosystem builder, offering access to funding, international markets, talent and business partnership opportunities. While sector agnostic, startups need to have a focus on technology and innovation. BLOCK71 has a range of global programs to support startups including collaborations with JETRO and Singapore Airlines. They

are open to collaboration with Melbourne and offered support towards this year's Open Innovation Competition and cooperation around networking events.

- 1.6. Councillor Louey met with representatives from the newly formed West Java Creative Economy Agency. Tasked with developing creative hubs in each of West Java's 27 cities, their three creative sectors of focus are fashion, craft and culinary, as well as a concentration on digital technology. They are currently planning capacity building programs for the creative sector, developing a global network of innovation ambassadors and are looking to create a West Java startup launchpad. They were interested to hear about Melbourne Fashion Week and see potential for collaboration around this event. While Bandung doesn't have a fashion week, there is a month long Design Biennale each year in October which features events around fashion, architecture and design that may be of interest to Melbourne designers.
- 1.7. The final meeting in Bandung was with the West Java government. Governor Kamil has a vision for West Java to be the technological and creative hub of Indonesia and is looking for models of how best to achieve this. He is keen to learn from Melbourne and LaunchVic and plans to visit Melbourne in early 2020.
- 1.8. The Bandung visit program concluded with a Melbourne-hosted dinner, which brought together key stakeholders from Bandung, Melbourne, Victoria and West Java, including the Indonesian representative offices of RMIT and Monash Universities. There is a significant goodwill to further progress the Melbourne-Bandung relationship and an eagerness to maintain momentum.
- 1.9. Participation in the BPC Roundtable in Kuala Lumpur reaffirmed Melbourne's connections with major cities in the economically important region of the Asia Pacific. Cr Louey's presentation to the Roundtable was received with great interest, especially in relation to City of Melbourne's smart city agenda. There was particular interest in Melbourne's experience with smart bins by representatives from Ho Chi Minh City.
- 1.10. In a meeting with the Director of Planning at Kuala Lumpur City Hall, Councillor Louey was briefed on the recently completed Alibaba City Brain pilot program and their other smart city initiatives, including the KL Urban Observatory (a data collection hub) and an area specific rainfall hazard prediction model, which they are developing in partnership with Oxford University.
- 1.11. Councillor Louey also met with representatives from the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT). Established in 1993 as a technology think tank, MIGHT acts as a facilitator between government and industry and have a number of programs and projects in the smart cities space. MIGHT is interested in Melbourne becoming a knowledge partner to share best practice in creating smart and sustainable cities. They offered to host potential Melbourne/Victorian delegations and facilitate business matching with MIGHT industry members.
- 1.12. The final meeting of the official program was with the Malaysian Resources Corporation (MRCB). MRCB specialise in transport-oriented development and were responsible for the development of Kuala Lumpur Sentral, Malaysia's largest integrated transport hub. MRCB have offices in Melbourne and are now looking to expand in other areas, including waste-to-energy projects and social housing.

TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHS – BRIEFINGS, MEETINGS AND SITE VISITS



BPC Business Roundtable discussion on the topic “Moving forward with Industry 4.0”.



Councillor Louey presenting City of Melbourne’s smart city agenda at BPC.



Councillor Louey meeting with Mr Nurazizi Mokhtar, Executive Director – Planning Department, Kuala Lumpur City Hall.



Councillor Louey meeting with representatives from Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT).



Councillor Louey meeting with Malaysian Resources Corporation (MRCB).



Bandung City Government Heads of waste management, water management, environment and planning departments, following a roundtable discussion with Councillor Louey.



Councillor Louey with Bandung Mayor's First Deputy and Head of International Department for the City of Bandung.



Councillor Louey visiting the Bandung Planning Gallery, which includes plans for Bandung Technopolis.



Councillor Louey meeting with The Greater Hub incubator at Institute of Technology Bandung and West Java Creative Economy Agency.



Councillor Louey meeting with BLOCK71 Bandung representatives.



Councillor Louey meeting with Ms Ani Widiani, Head of Cooperation Division from West Java Government.



Councillor Louey hosted a Melbourne-Bandung stakeholder dinner on the final evening in Bandung.