
REPORT 9
(1215/52/IM)

ASIA-PACIFIC CITIES SUMMIT – REPORT BACK

1. Purpose of Report

This paper is a report back on attendance at the Asia-Pacific Cities Summit 2007.

2. Executive Summary

The Mayor, accompanied by an officer, attended the Summit in Brisbane from 31 August to 3 September 2007. The theme of the conference was *Renewing Asia-Pacific Cities*, and it covered a wide range of topics including issues affecting asia-pacific cities, sister city relationships, climate change, investment outlook, sustainability, urban development, economic development, and tourism.

Standout presentations were from Bernard Salt, a demographer and commentator from KPMG Australia, and Rod Oram, Adjunct Professor at the New Zealand Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at Unitec in Auckland.

The Mayor participated in a plenary session led by Geoffrey Robertson QC, a leading Australian human rights lawyer and host of the television show *Hypotheticals*. She also presented on urban renewal issues using development of the Wellington Waterfront as an example. As a key presenter all her expenses were met by the organisers of the Summit.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*

4. Background

The Asia-Pacific Cities Summit was founded in 1996 and is an initiative of Brisbane City Council. It is held biennially, the host city rotating between the City of Brisbane and bidding cities in the Asia Pacific region.

The summit's primary goal is to foster city partnerships and to encourage the sharing of information and ideas between local governments, technical experts and businesses within the region.

Each summit attracts between six hundred and nine hundred delegates. These include civic and business leaders and decision makers from more than 50 Asia Pacific cities.

Past summits have been held in:

- 2005 Chongqing¹ – 900 delegates from 127 cities in 41 countries
- 2003 Brisbane – 600 delegates from 96 cities
- 2001 Seattle
- 1999 Brisbane
- 1996 Brisbane.

Brisbane's existing sister cities had a strong presence at the Summit:

- Kobe (Japan) established July 1985
- Auckland, established August 1988
- Shenzhen (China) established June 1992
- Semarang (Indonesia) established January 1993
- Kaohsiung (Taiwan) established September 1997
- Daejeon (Korea) established June 2002
- Chongqing (China) established October 2005.

A concurrent program was run for youth delegates, with 100 attendees including some from New Zealand.

It was suggested by Brisbane that Wellington consider submitting a bid to host the 2007 Summit. Officers evaluated the benefits versus the costs of hosting such an event and concluded it was not a good strategic fit for the Council, and would carry significant financial risks due to the size of the conference and additional distance for likely Asian participants. A pattern has also emerged of linking the Summit to other major events happening in the host country, as noted below.

The 2009 Summit is to be held in Incheon, Korea, in conjunction with an 80-day World City Expo from August to November.

5. Discussion

The overall programme for the event (note that some sessions were run concurrently) ran as follows:

Friday 31 August

Welcome

- Mr Simon McNeilage, Principal Consultant, McNeilage & Associates
- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman
- Hon Peter Beattie MP, Premier of Queensland and Minister for Trade

¹ A city of approximately 5m people in central China at the confluence of the Jialing and Yangtze Rivers.

Sister City Projects for Business Opportunities

- Ms Jude Munro, CEO Brisbane City Council
- Auckland – Cr Richard Northey
- Chongqing – Mr Yuping Gan, Senior Adviser to Chongqing Municipal Government
- Daejeon – Mayor Seoung-hyo Park
- Kaohsiung – Vice Mayor Wen-Lon Cheng
- Kobe – Vice Mayor Hideo Kajimoto
- Shenzhen – Mayor Zongheng Xu

Local Government and Climate Workshop

- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman
- Mr Carlo Buontempo, Senior Climate Change Consultant, Hadley Centre for Climate Change
- Mr Wayne Wescott, Chief Executive Officer of ICLEI, Oceania
- Ms Misty Sanford, President, Environmental Affairs Commission, City of Los Angeles
- Mr Joel Cayford, Councillor, Auckland Regional Council
- Ms Suzie Guthridge, Executive Director, Green Building Council of Australia
- Mr Greg Bruce, Executive Manager, Office of Sustainability, Townsville City Council

Presentations by other Asia Pacific Cities

- Mr Gavin Blakey, Principal Officer, Stakeholder Engagement, Brisbane City Council
- Taipei – Mayor Lung-bin Hau
- Busan – Vice Mayor Kweon-sang Lee
- Chengdu – Vice Chair Ms Ninsheng Zhang
- Goseong County – Mayor Hak Lul Lee
- Guangzhou - Ms Qin Hong
- Incheon – Mayor Sang-Soo Ahn
- Sharjah – Dr Salah Taher Al Haj
- Tainan – Mayor Tain-Tsair Hsu
- Mr Geoff O'Connell - Austrade

Sustainable Architecture tour of Brisbane Square

Saturday 1 September

2007 APCS Opening Ceremony

- Mr Patrick Condren
- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman
- The Hon Fran Baily MP
- The Hon Anna Bligh MP

Opening Plenary: Asia Pacific Cities in 2026 Hypothetical

- Mr Geoffrey Robertson QC
- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman

- Mayor Lung-Bin HAU, City of Taipei
- Mayor Kerry Prendergast, City of Wellington
- Mayor Tim Shadbolt, City of Invercargill
- Ms Patrice Derrington, Chairperson, Brisbane Inner City Advisory Committee
- Mr Charlie Hargroves, Co-founder and Executive Director, The Natural Edge Project
- Ms Tan LE, Co-Founder, Emotiv Systems
- Mr Robert Lees, Member of the Board of Directors Global Sources Ltd (Hong Kong); Senior Adviser to Abeam Consulting Ltd (Tokyo)
- Mr Lars Olsen, “Orphan’s Champion”; 2007 Suncorp Young Queenslander of the Year
- Ms Molly Harriss Olson, Director, Eco Futures Pty Ltd
- Mr Maha Sinnathamby, Chair, Springfield Land Corporation
- Mr Gary Smith, Chairman, QLD Tourism Industry Council
- Dr Mulugetta Birru, Executive Director, Economic Development, Wayne County

Plenary: Trends Renewing Asia Pacific Cities

- Mr Bernard Salt, KPMG, Head of Asian Demographics
- Mr Rod Oram, NZ Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at Unitec

Plenary: Building Sustainable Cities

- Mr Guy Gibson, Queensland General Manager, Delfin Lend Lease
- Professor John Worthington, Founder DEGW
- Dr Jane Murray, Head of Research, Asia Pacific, Jones Lang LaSalle

Cities & the Super Yacht Industry

- Mr Tim Wright, Senior Project Officer, Economic Development, Brisbane City Council
- Mr Lance Cushion, Chief Executive Officer, Superyacht Base Australia

Professional Services

- Ms Kay Hallt, Change Manager, Property Projects Team, Brisbane City Council
- Dr Peter Brain, Executive Director NIEIR
- Ms Jenny Hutson, Managing Director, Wellington Capital, Queensland Businesswoman of the Year
- Mr Stuart Cioccarelli, Partner, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd
- Ms Amanda Hawes, Director, Nielsen Australia
- Mr Ron Jumelet, Group Development Manager, Toll Holdings

ICT

- Mr Frank Verver, Partner and Board Director, GDI
- Ms Rosemary Sinclair, Managing Director, Australia Telecommunications User Group (ATUG)
- Professor Bill Caelli, Queensland University of Technology
- Mr Geof Hayden, Director of Innovation and Market Development, Alcatel Lucent, Asia Pacific

- Professor Brian Lovell, The University of Queensland

Building & Construction

- Mr Jim McKnoulty, Chairman, Conics Limited
- Mr Ken Maher, Chairman Hassel
- Mr Maha Sinnathamby, Chair, Springfield Land Corporation
- Mr Richard Filewood, Senior Consultant, McCormick Rankin Cagney
- Mr Christian Delvoie, Director, Sustainable Development Department, East Asia and the Pacific Region, World Bank
- Mr Keshav Varma, Sector Director of Sustainable Development, China, World Bank

Great Places to Visit are Great Places to Live

- Mr Tony Charters, Principal, Tony Charters & Associates
- Dr Wendy Sarkissian, Sarkissian Planners
- Mr Graeme Osborne, CEO Tourism Auckland
- Mr Tony Walsh, Tony Walsh & Associates

Urban Renewal for Cities Dealing with Change

- Mr Ben Pritchard, Manager, Urban Renewal Teams, Brisbane City Council
- Ms Patrice Derrington, Chairperson, Brisbane Inner City Advisory Committee
- Mr John Byrne, Adjunct Professor in Urban Design, Queensland University of Technology
- Mr Charles LIN, Director-General of Construction and Planning Agency, Ministry of the Interior

Creating Livable Cities for Future Generations

- Professor Nell Arnold, Director of GLADES – Global Enterprise Innovation Pty Ltd
- Mr Peter Dogsé, Programme Specialist, Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO (France)
- Professor Kwi-Gon KIM, Professor Environmental & Ecological Planning Laboratory, Seoul National University, Korea, UNESCO (Seoul)
- Professor Helen Ross, Professor School of Natural and Rural System Management, The University of Queensland, Gatton, UNESCO (Brisbane)
- Mr Hubert J. Gijzen, Director and Representative UNESCO Office, (Jakarta)
- Mr Natarajan Ishwaran, Director of UNESCO's Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences

Guaranteeing Cities Sustainable Economic Futures

- Mr Robert Lees, Member of the Board of Directors Global Sources Ltd (Hong Kong); Senior Adviser to ABeam Consulting Ltd. (Tokyo)
- Mr Keshav Varma, Sector Director of Sustainable Development, China, World Bank
- Mr Jonathan Fink, Faculty, Department of Economics, Palo Alto College, San Antonio, Texas
- Madam Ai Jun LI, Chairwoman, Li International Investment Co Ltd

Mayors Forum (for Mayors only)

Sunday 2 September

The Economic Impact of Urban Renewal

River tour showcasing the Brisbane City Council Urban Renewal Initiative.

- Mr Ben Pritchard, Manager, Urban Renewal Teams, Brisbane City Council
- Ms Alison Quinn, Chairperson Urban Renewal Brisbane

Sustainable, Economic and Liveable Waterfront Urban Renewal

How to achieve a balance between public and private use of waterfront land

Presentations

- Madam Ai Jun LI, Chairwoman, Li International Investment Co Ltd
- Mayor Kerry Prendergast, City of Wellington

Panel Discussion:

- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman
- Ms Alison Quinn, Chairperson Urban Renewal Brisbane
- Madam Ai Jun LI, Chairwoman, Li International Investment Co Ltd
- Mayor Kerry Prendergast, City of Wellington
- Cr Richard Northey, Auckland City Council
- Mr Charles Lin

Monday 3 September

Plenary: Sustainable Tourism Future Directions for Cities

- Mr Richard Register, USA Ecocities Builders
- Mr Ken Chapman, CEO Skyrail & developer Ngong Ping 360 Hong Kong
- Ms Molly Harriss Olson, Director Eco Futures Pty Ltd
- Mr Andrew Skeat, CEO Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- Mayor Tim Shadbolt, City of Invercargill
- Mr Ian Kean, Chief Executive, Sustainable Tourism Cooperative Research Centre
- Ms Liz Ampt, Director, Behaviour Change, Sinclair Knight Merz

The Asia Pacific Business Forum

- Presented by the Australia China Business Council
- Mr Tim Harcourt, Chief Economist Austrade
- Mr Andrew Low, Head Corporate Finance (Asia), Macquarie Bank
- Mr Christian Delvoie, Director, Sustainable Development Department, East Asia and the Pacific Region, World Bank
- Mr Robert Lees, Member of the Board of Directors Global Sources Ltd (Hong Kong); Senior Adviser to Abeam Consulting Ltd. (Tokyo)

- Mr Kevin Hobgood-Brown, National Chairman, ACVC (Partner, Deacons Lawyers)
- Mr Michael Mann, President, RMIT International University Vietnam

Plenary: Ports, Transport and Logistics

- Mr Mulugetta Birru, Executive Director Economic Development, Wayne County
- Ms Wendy McMillan, General Manager Australia TradeCoast
- Mr Peter Keyte, General Manager Port Operations, Port of Brisbane

Official signing of the Brisbane Accord

(Mayors only)

Government House

Reflections Plenary, Formal 2007 Asia Pacific Cities Summit Closing

Two standout presentations from the Summit were those from Bernard Salt and Rod Oram.

5.1 *Bernard Salt presentation*

Bernard Salt is a demographer and commentator from KPMG Australia. He is a leading commentator and advisor on consumer, cultural and demographic trends.

His presentation focussed on the impact of demographic and societal changes that would occur over the next 40 years as the “baby boomer” generation moved into retirement and generation “X” and “Y” came to the fore. In particular he looked at the impact on the workforce in developed countries and the way in which it would typically cease growing and even shrink over a relatively short period.

The critical message he conveyed is that although western societies had been talking about the ageing population and “war for talent” for some time, the change had arrived and would accelerate rapidly over the next few years.

5.2 *Rod Oram presentation*

Rod Oram is an international financial journalist of many years standing and is currently Adjunct Professor at the New Zealand Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at Unitec in Auckland.

Rod Oram’s presentation was on the four civic essentials that cities need to be successful, i.e.

- Culture – the idea that we need to identify unique, distinctive aspects of each city’s culture, and that we can only succeed if we are true to the best aspects of our cultures. He related this to New Zealanders ability to “think differently” - at our best, we are skilled generalists, who multi task using knowledge and experience across a range of functions. We are creative, fast-moving, self-starting, team-working and not expert

specialists with narrow skills; working in silos; hard to co-ordinate, which is typical of large companies overseas. Our companies are quick, innovative, lateral thinkers and as subsidiaries of multinationals we pioneer skills and ideas to take globally.

- Commitment - in a very particular way, i.e. the commitment of leaders and their communities to work very closely together, in respectful, supportive and productive ways.
- Communication – particularly the Internet and all its allied technology and services. Communication is fundamentally changing our world, giving us limitless access to knowledge, and to each other. From mainstream media ('push' technology) – "I'm the professional, trust me to tell your story", to citizen media ('pull' technology) - you are empowered to tell your own story, "how can I help you?". This is a profound revolution for people and our communities, by drawing people into deeper knowledge and relationships, by empowering them.
- Communities - communities are evolving fast, we are only just beginning to see the power of that in business (small companies building customers around the world), in academia (people collaborating with fellow researchers around the world), in interest groups and Non-Government Organisations (such as environmental groups seeking to change the world), to government, social, cultural and political groups...what ever you can imagine, communication is changing the very nature of that community...and creating ones we've never dreamed of before...or could never manage to create. And of course, it means that if people go away from your community to learn, work, live somewhere far, far away...you can still engage with them, keep them involved in their old community and hopefully contribute from abroad their new found resources and skills...helping their to keep their relationships, and their commitment.

Further information on the Summit is available on their website:

http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE:1359257894:pc=PC_2466

It is expected that all presentations including those discussed above will be made available on the website by 21 September 2007.

5.2 Financial report

Attendance at the Summit was approved by Strategy and Policy Committee on 23 May 2007 and it was agreed that that costs associated with attending the conference be met from the Elected Members Budget (GVEM01). At that point, as the Mayor had been invited to speak, one registration was complimentary. The estimated cost of attendance of the Mayor and one other Councillor was therefore broken down as follows:

Item	Cost
Registration (1)	\$1,100.00
Return Flights	\$872.72
Accommodation	\$2,130.00
Total	\$4,102.72

The Mayor was also entitled to allowances for meals not provided at the Conference and other incidentals. In subsequent discussions with the organisers they agreed to meet all of the Mayor's expenses as a key presenter. The actual costs were therefore:

Item	Cost
Registration	\$nil
Return Flights	\$nil
Accommodation	\$nil
Allowances	\$355.75
Total	\$355.75

6. Conclusion

The 2007 Asia-Pacific Cities Summit was a valuable opportunity to hear about the challenges and opportunities facing cities in the region, and to share ideas and best practice.

Contact Person: *Mayor Kerry Prendergast*

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

This project supports Outcome 3.6 – More competitive: Wellington will attract and retain an increasing diversity of vibrant, internationally competitive people, targeted investment, and businesses and industries of all sizes.

2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Project 3.6.1 Creative workforce.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Not applicable.

4) Decision-Making

This report does not seek a decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

Not applicable.

b) Consultation with Maori

Not applicable.

6) Legal Implications

Not applicable.

7) Consistency with existing policy

Not applicable.