
REPORT 1
(1215/11/IM)

WORLD CITIES SUMMIT 2008 AND EAST ASIA SUMMIT CONFERENCE ON LIVEABLE CITIES, SINGAPORE, 23 – 25 JUNE 2008

1. Purpose of Report

To inform Councillors of the Mayor's invitation to speak at the World Cities Summit 2008 and East Asia Summit Conference on Liveable Cities – separate conferences being held concurrently in Singapore between 23-25 June 2008.

2. Executive Summary

The Mayor has been invited to give a presentation to the World Cities Summit 2008 on environmental sustainability and climate change, and to take part in a plenary session discussion on liveable cities at the East Asia Summit Conference. The two separate conferences are being held concurrently in Singapore between 23-25 June 2008.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Note that the Mayor has been invited to speak at the World Cities Summit 2008 and East Asia Summit Conference in Singapore between 23-25 June 2008.*
3. *Note that the airfare, accommodation, transfers and conference registration are being paid for by the conference organisers.*
4. *Agree that the daily travel allowance entitlement will be met from the Elected Members Budget (GVEM01).*
5. *Note that a report back on the conferences will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting in accordance with Council policy.*

4. Discussion

The Mayor has been invited to give a presentation to the World Cities Summit 2008 on environmental sustainability and climate change, and to take part in a plenary session discussion on liveable cities at the East Asia Summit Conference. The two separate conferences are being held concurrently in Singapore between 23-25 June 2008. They are also being held at the same time as the inaugural Singapore International Water Week, which has a theme of Sustainable Water Solutions for Cities.

The World Cities Summit is organised by the Singapore Ministry of National Development, the Singapore Civil Service College and Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and is billed as a premier international conference on effective public governance and sustainable development of cities. The invitation for the Mayor to speak came through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, after an approach to the New Zealand High Commission in Singapore. The theme of the Summit is liveable and vibrant cities.

The East Asia Summit Conference on Liveable Cities is being held in conjunction with the World Cities Summit and will focus on the interrelated issues of public governance, urbanisation, climate change and the environment. The plenary session the Mayor will take part in will be chaired by the Singapore Minister of National Development Mr Mah Bow Tan.

Singapore Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong will open the concurrent conferences and deliver the keynote address.

Other speakers include: Haruhiko Kuroda, President of the Asian Development Bank; Abdullah bin Abdul Rahman Al-Hussayen, Saudi Arabia's Minister for Water and Electricity; Melbourne Mayor John So; and Professor Peter Rowe, Harvard University's Raymond Garbe Professor of Architecture and Urban Design.

The Mayor will travel to Singapore on Monday 23 June and return to Wellington on Thursday 26 June. She has opted not to have an officer accompany her.

4.1 Considerations

The conference organisers are paying the Mayor's airfares, conference registration, accommodation and airport transfers. The only cost to be incurred by Council will be for the daily travel allowance entitlement.

The cost of attendance is broken down as follows:

Item	Cost
Registration	No cost
Return Flights	No cost
Accommodation	No cost
Daily Travel Allowance	\$312.94
Total	\$312.94

5. Conclusion

Councillors are asked to note that the Mayor has accepted an invitation to give a presentation to the World Cities Summit 2008 and take part in a plenary session discussion at the East Asia Summit Conference in Singapore in June 2008.

Contact Officer: Leigh Parker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

This project supports Outcome 7.2.B – More actively engaged: Wellington will operate an open and honest decision making process that generates confidence and trust in the Democratic system

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

Relates to C534: Elections, Governance and Democratic Process

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

Not required

b) Consultation with Maori

Not required

6) Legal Implications

Nil

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report is consistent with existing Wellington City Council policy