

ITEM 2. C40 LARGE CITIES CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT – MEXICO CITY 2016**FILE NO: S122318.001****SUMMARY**

The C40 Large Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) is a group of more than 80 of the world's largest cities, representing 600 million people, committed to collaborative action to address climate change. Participating cities commit to practical action to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, stimulate business, community and government action on climate change and provide leadership internationally.

The City of Sydney has participated in the C40 for almost ten years. A delegation, led by the Lord Mayor, attended the second C40 Large Cities Climate Change Summit in New York in 2007. The Lord Mayor and a City delegation have since attended C40 Summits in Seoul in 2009, Sao Paulo in 2011 and Johannesburg in 2014. It is the most significant climate conference for cities in the world.

The City actively participates in a range of C40 events and has implemented projects with technical and practical information from the C40, including our LED street lighting rollout, Environmental Upgrade Agreements and Smart Green Apartments Program.

In 2014, the City was invited to co-lead the C40 Private Buildings Efficiency Network, along with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

The network is exploring ways to accelerate and inform best practice in energy efficiency by conducting an international review - once complete we'll make the results available to all C40 cities.

Late last year, we hosted the third workshop for the network with 13 cities represented including Tokyo, Shenzhen, London, New York, San Francisco, Singapore and Wuhan – representing over 100 million people.

As we developed our Energy Efficiency Master Plan, we used experiences from 10 other C40 cities around the world. These came from a report sponsored by Tokyo, which was a critical resource in helping us choose the right policies.

A five-year Memorandum of Understanding 2015-2020 outlining commitments between the City and C40 was approved by Council on 26 October 2015. The C40 Participation Standard requires City representatives to attend biennial Mayoral Summits.

This year, the sixth biennial C40 Mayors Summit will be held in Mexico City from 30 November to 2 December 2016. The Summit will bring together C40 Mayors from all over the world and hundreds of urban and sustainability leaders to advance urban solutions to climate change and highlight the leadership role of cities in addressing climate change.

The event will feature a series of roundtable discussions and working sessions on city driven climate actions and their impact. The discussions will be data-driven and outcome focused. Mayors, urban practitioners and technical experts will share successful projects, policies and programs across a range of sectors and action areas, including building energy efficiency, low carbon transport, green growth and climate resilience.

The City is also a member of the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance, which is holding a side event to coincide with the C40 Mayors Summit. The Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance is a collaboration of 20 international cities with substantial emissions reduction goals. This cities led initiative receives around \$1M USD philanthropy funding each year for cities to implement transformative projects. Sydney has received two grants to date.

Cities are at the forefront of climate action and environmental policy. Globally, cities consume 78 per cent of the world's energy and cause more than 60 per cent of all GHG emissions. Major cities have acknowledged this impact and taken responsibility through networks, including the C40, 100 Resilient Cities and Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance. Well planned urban living can provide the possibility for a lower carbon footprint.

Australia is a signatory to and will soon ratify the Paris Agreement (COP21) negotiated by 195 countries at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in November 2015. Signatories agreed to lower anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gas quickly and substantially – aiming for a goal of 1.5°C above pre industrial levels. Achieving this goal will require global “net zero” greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner.

Cities and regions were included at the Paris Conference for the first time. Taking place one year after the historic COP21 climate negotiations, the C40 Summit and associated Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance events provide a global forum to highlight the progress that cities are continuing to make on climate change through local action and global collaboration and are most significant opportunities to learn, inspire and share ways for meeting the Paris and individual city targets. The City's draft Environmental Strategy and Action Plan establishes the following targets for the local government area:

- carbon neutral by 2050;
- 70 per cent greenhouse gas emission reduction by 2030 (on 2006 levels); and
- 50 per cent renewable electricity supply by 2030.

This year's C40 Summit will also feature the fourth annual C40 Cities Awards, which recognise the role cities play in climate change action and showcase successful programs other cities can replicate. The City's CitySwitch Green Office program is a finalist in the Building Energy Efficiency category.

The Lord Mayor has delivered presentations to the previous C40 Summits and has been asked to present in Mexico City on Sydney's work.

The Summit is an opportunity to promote the City's innovative projects. Participating in the Summit will assist City staff to progress Sydney's role as a climate change leader through the exchange and contact with other C40 cities.

For the C40 Mayors Summits in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2014, Council authorised the Lord Mayor to visit a limited number of additional cities with programs/initiatives in place that were closely aligned with Sustainable Sydney 2030, including climate action, public transport, public space design, cycleways, economic and cultural strategies.

Consistent with this approach, it is proposed that the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer (including up to three City staff), visit New Orleans to learn about the city's recent resilience planning activities.

In August 2015, having faced a variety of recent challenges and disasters, including hurricanes, an oil spill, shifting geographic terrain, chronic income inequality and financial recession, the city of New Orleans released one of the world's first strategies for building city resilience.

The strategy is considered ground breaking and was recently awarded a best practice planning award by the American Planning Association.

The opportunity to learn first-hand from those who developed the leading resilience strategy for New Orleans will be beneficial as part of the development of the City's own work creating and implementing a resilience strategy for the whole Sydney metropolitan area.

The C40 will again cover travel costs for the Lord Mayor and one City official, with up to five City delegates invited to participate in the Summit.

It is proposed the Lord Mayor will be accompanied by her Policy Manager and Deputy Chief of Staff, as the visit will include significant international engagement, media commitments and the opportunity to promote the City's work and achievements in taking action against climate change. Also attending will be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the City's Sustainability Director who will both be active participants in the Summit.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the Lord Mayor's international travel to the 2016 C40 Mayors Summit in Mexico City from 30 November to 2 December 2016;
- (B) endorse the Chief Executive Officer and up to three City staff to travel to the 2016 C40 Mayors Summit from 30 November to 2 December 2016;
- (C) endorse, in conjunction with travel to the 2016 C40 Mayors Summit, the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer (accompanied by up to three City staff) to visit New Orleans to learn about that city's leading resilience planning; and
- (D) note that the Lord Mayor will provide a report to Council after the travel.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

BACKGROUND

1. The City became a member of the C40 Large Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) in 2007 and has participated in C40 Summits held in New York in 2007, Seoul in 2009, São Paulo in 2011 and Johannesburg in 2014.
2. Information on the C40 is available at www.c40.org.
3. C40 was established in 2005 and has grown to more than 86 affiliated cities, which represent 25 per cent of global GDP and have listed over 10,000 actions that address themes including adaptation and water; energy; finance and economic development; measurement and planning; solid waste management; transportation; and urban planning and development.
4. Participating cities commit to taking collaborative action to cut greenhouse gas emissions; stimulate business, community and government action on climate change; and provide leadership internationally. The C40 organisation facilitates active exchange and collaboration across the cities, with a focus on sharing technical expertise on best practices.
5. The City is implementing actions identified in Sustainable Sydney 2030, which prioritises addressing climate change through a strategic approach to city planning, based on lowering emissions from buildings, power generation and city transport.
6. A key component of the C40 program is the retrofitting of existing buildings to reduce energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions. The City continues to implement a program to introduce energy efficiencies within our property portfolio, as well as working with businesses through programs such as CitySwitch and the Better Buildings Partnership, which is modelled on international programs.
7. Attending C40 conferences provides cities with a shared understanding and agreement about effective ways to address climate change, to exchange best practices and agree solutions across a range of sectors and thematic areas.
8. The biennial C40 Summit enables cities to learn from the programs and projects being undertaken internationally. Between these Summits are smaller more technical workshops hosted by C40 cities on particular issues of common interest to the sustainability agendas of cities.

C40 SUMMIT 2016

9. The sixth biennial C40 Mayors Summit will be held in Mexico City from 30 November to 2 December 2016.
10. Hosted by Mayor of Mexico City, Miguel Ángel Mancera, and led by C40 Chair, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro, Eduardo Paes, this event brings together C40 Mayors from around the world to advance urban solutions to global climate change through individual efforts, as well as international engagement and collaboration.
11. By bringing together hundreds of international climate change leaders and C40 Mayors from some of the world's largest cities, the Summit will provide an opportunity to build the international relationships and knowledge required to advance urban solutions to global climate challenges.

12. Information on the Summit is available at <https://mayorssummit2016.c40.org>.
13. It is proposed the Lord Mayor and CEO attend the Summit, with up to three City staff. The C40 will again cover travel costs for the Lord Mayor and CEO.
14. For the C40 Mayors Summits in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2014, Council authorised the Lord Mayor to visit a limited number of additional cities with programs/initiatives in place that were closely aligned with Sustainable Sydney 2030, including climate action, public transport, public space design, cycleways, economic and cultural strategies.
15. Consistent with this approach, it is proposed that the Lord Mayor and CEO (including up to three City staff), in conjunction with travel to the 2016 C40 Summit, visit New Orleans to learn about the city's recent resilience planning activities and related initiatives.
16. In August 2015, having faced a variety of recent challenges and disasters, including hurricanes, an oil spill, shifting geographic terrain, chronic income inequality and financial recession, the city of New Orleans released one of the world's first strategies for building city resilience.
17. The objective of the strategy, titled "Resilient New Orleans", is to strengthen New Orleans to better manage risk and prepare for future challenges. Three key themes within the strategy are (1) embrace the city's changing environment, (2) connect to opportunity to create a more equitable city, and (3) transform city systems to become a more dynamic and prepared city.
18. The strategy is considered ground breaking and was recently awarded a best practice planning award by the American Planning Association.
19. In 2014, the City was chosen through a competitive global process to join the 100 Resilient Cities initiative pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation. This innovative project develops strategies to help cities survive, adapt and thrive as they face the challenges of the 21st century.
20. The City has received technical support and resources from 100 Resilient Cities to prepare a Resilience Strategy for the whole of the Sydney metropolitan area. Every local council in metropolitan Sydney has nominated a resilience ambassador to support the program and to ensure their part of Sydney is represented. A steering committee has also been established including representatives from other councils, NSW Government, business and community.

CARBON NEUTRAL CITIES ALLIANCE MEETING 2016

21. The Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance is a collaboration of international cities committed to aggressive carbon reduction goals. Sydney was selected because of its ambitious target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 70 per cent.
22. Information on the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance available at <http://usdn.org/public/page/13/CNCA>.

23. The Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance was developed by the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) in partnership with the C40. It is funded by the philanthropic Kresge Foundation, the Barr Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the Bullitt Foundation.
24. The City's Sustainability Director has been involved since the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance began in Copenhagen in June 2014, and has provided strong contribution to the groups aim to address what it will take for leading international cities to achieve deep emissions reductions and how they can work together to meet goals more efficiently and effectively.
25. A key outcome is the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance Innovation Fund, with its \$1 million USD funding secured annually for member cities to implement transformational low carbon projects. The City has received two grants to date totalling \$132,500 USD for projects on net-zero energy high rise residential buildings, and hydrogen refuelling infrastructure.
26. A meeting is being arranged by the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance in conjunction with the C40 Mayors Summit in Mexico City from 29 to 30 November 2016. The purpose of this meeting is to strategise and finalise expansion plans for the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance.
27. This meeting will be attended by the City's Sustainability Director, who has been an active participant with the Alliance.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Alignment – Sustainable Sydney 2030

28. The objectives of the C40 and the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance align closely with the Sustainable Sydney 2030 plan to become a sustainable global city, and one of the world's leading green cities. Participation in the Summit will enable Sydney to demonstrate environmental leadership, and learn from the experiences of other cities.
29. The City is committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 70 per cent and, subject to adoption of the City's draft Environmental Strategy and Action Plan by Council, achieving 50 per cent renewable electricity supply for the local government area by 2030.
30. Participation in the C40 Mayors Summit will reinforce and enhance the benefits already flowing from the City's membership of C40 and leadership on climate change initiatives, locally and internationally.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

31. It is proposed that the costs of flights, accommodation and meals be met by the City at an estimated maximum cost of up to \$15,000 per person.
32. Some travel assistance for the Lord Mayor and CEO will be provided by the C40, as has occurred with previous C40 Summits.
33. Funds are available within existing operational budgets.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

34. The 2016 C40 Mayors Summit will be held in Mexico City from 30 November to 2 December 2016. Planning needs to occur now to secure travel bookings and organise a beneficial itinerary.

KIM WOODBURY

Chief Operating Officer

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