

# **Attachment A**

**Report on International Travel – Hong Kong,  
Chengdu, Chongqing, Tokyo and Nagoya**

# REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO HONGKONG, CHENGDU, CHONGQING, TOKYO AND NAGOYA

Travel Report: Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Cr Robert Kok

## 1. Executive Summary

On Monday 19 March 2018, Council endorsed a City delegation led by the Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Cr Robert Kok to travel to Chengdu and Tokyo, with side trips to Hong Kong and Chongqing in China, and Nagoya in Japan.

We travelled to Hong Kong on Tuesday 15 May and returned from Nagoya on Saturday 25 May, in time for Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Cr Robert Kok to attend the important opening of the Green Square community and cultural precinct.

In Hong Kong, we met representatives from the Hong Kong Environment Bureau and Hong Kong Development Bureau. Although it was a short stay, we were impressed by the city's sophisticated public transport network, green space, and the work the city is doing to create a more liveable city.

The visit to China was an outstanding success. Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Councillor Kok



DEPUTY LORD MAYOR JESS MILLER ADDRESSES THE GLOBAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

both gave keynote addresses at the Mayor's Forum of the Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum and took part in a number of significant media interviews to promote the City of Sydney and Sustainable Sydney 2030. We were also the only delegation to receive a courtesy call with Mayor Luo Qiang, who came to visit Sydney in 2017

In Chongqing, we had a courtesy call with Vice Mayor Liu Guiping and visited their late night precinct, where restaurants open from 8am-2am. We also visited TESTBED2 – a pre-liberation printing factory transformed into a 'creative park' to house a mix of artist and maker spaces, retail, restaurants, accommodation, a traditional tea room and outdoor space for live music and photo shoots. The government plans to roll out the model to create workspaces for start-ups.

Our participation in the Tokyo Forum for Clean City and Clear Sky promoted Sydney's strong track record taking climate action as a member of the C40 Cities network. Governor of Tokyo, Ms Yuriko Koike introduced us to the traditional Japanese concept of 'mind, skill, body' – which they have applied to their city's environmental policies.

Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller spoke at the Mayoral Plenary Session 1: Aiming for a Sustainable Urban Environment – Current Global Trends and the Role of Cities. She also took part in a session on the Circular Economy. Cr Miller talked about the City's focus on sustainability and liveability through

Sustainable Sydney 2030. She told them about key initiatives such as the Better Buildings Partnership and our new waste strategy. Deputy Lord Mayor and Clr Kok attended a C40 Regional meeting co-hosted by Tokyo and C40. The City's Sustainability Manager Chris Derksema also took part in the Tokyo Forum in a session on waste management. The two key areas of focus and opportunity globally were the need to address food waste and clean air.

We travelled to Nagoya for the final two days to acknowledge our historic sister city relationship established since 1986. Mayor of Nagoya, Mr Takashi Kawamura hosted us for a Courtesy Call in Nagoya City Hall. We also met with University of Nagoya and visited the Higashiyama Zoo.

The cost for the 11 days travel including flights, accommodation, meals and transfers was an average of \$4191.5 per person. The Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor Kok were accompanied by two staff, providing language, international relations and communications support.

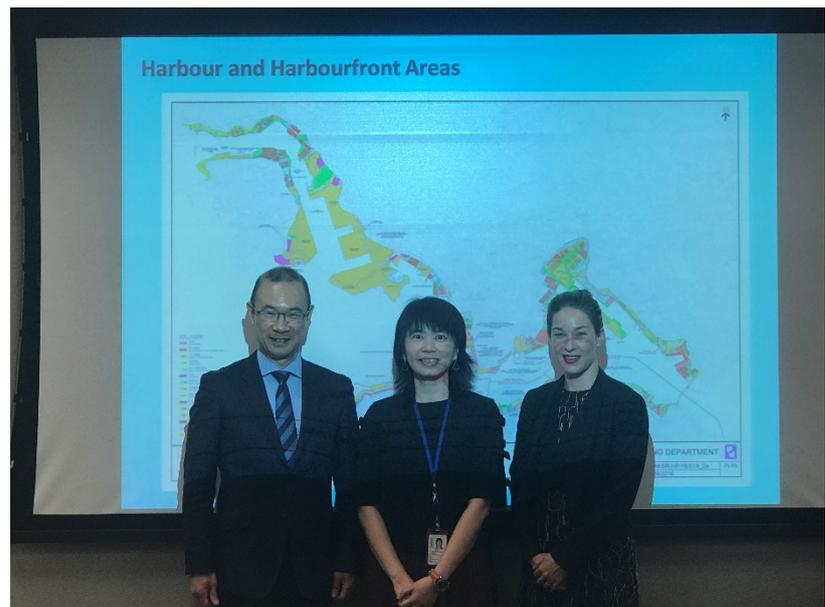
## 2. Hong Kong



In Hong Kong, we were impressed by the interconnectedness of the city, the ease of catching public transport through the city and the vibrant late-night culture. The cultural precinct was green, with green walls, rooftops and mature trees incorporated into the high-density city. Lots of shelter offered places to escape from the heat and there were many water features and public artworks spread throughout the city. The city was very easy to navigate and pedestrianised.

### HONG KONG

In our meeting with the Deputy Secretary of the Development Bureau, Ms Doris Ho, she advised that only 24.3 per cent of Hong Kong is built-up land out of a total 1100 square kilometres. The other 75.7 per cent is non built-up land, including national parks and conservation areas. The population is currently 7.4 million and expected to rise to 8.2 million in 2046, when the population will then begin to shrink due to an ageing population and low fertility rate. With households shrinking and young families getting smaller,



CR KOK AND DEPUTY LORD MAYOR JESS MILLER MEET WITH MS HO

there is an increased demand for housing units, and similar to Sydney housing affordability is emerging as an issue.

Their long-term plan Hong Kong 2030 is based on a comprehensive review conducted two years ago and aims to:

- create a more liveable environment;
- diversify the economy; and
- ensure that the growth of the city is sustainable and inclusive.

By 2046, Hong Kong will experience a shortfall of land supply by 1200 hectares, including land for housing, economic development and public and community facilities. The government has responded by establishing a Task Force for Land Supply and recognises that younger generations are increasingly dissatisfied with the government because they are working very hard and struggling to find housing. In Hong Kong, 45 per cent of residences are located in Hong Kong. There are two types of accommodation: you can either pay rent or purchase units at a subsidised price. The waiting list for public housing is 5.1 years, which is contributing to dissatisfaction.

The Development Bureau is also responsible for harbourfront enhancement. The West Kowloon Cultural Area is being developed by public organisations backed by legislation – the model sees the government provide a one-off injection of funds and the allocation of land to allow organisations to more flexibly partner with developers to build infrastructure. The 320 hectare site from the old airport is being redeveloped into a mixed-use site, one of the few built-up areas in Hong Kong being developed into residential, commercial and open space. Major infrastructure includes the express link China to West Kowloon train which will be operational by September 2018 and a bridge between Hong Kong and Macau on the mainland.

We then met with the Secretary of the Environment Bureau, Mr K.C. Wong. His portfolio covers air and water quality, energy conservation, nature conservation and climate change. Mr Wong would also be presenting a session on air quality at the Tokyo Forum for Clean City and Clear Sky. Due to the high density and industry, air pollution is a big problem in Hong Kong. Over the last few years, their work has



CR KOK AND DEPUTY LORD MAYOR JESS MILLER MEET WITH MR WONG

focused on vehicles, power and the burning of cheap diesel by ships as one of the main pollutants. With one of the biggest container ship ports in the world, they are moving to container ships as the next biggest pollutant, becoming the first harbour city in the world to legislate that container ships

have to use a cleaner fuel from 1 January. There are more than ten monitoring stations around Hong Kong and the city is collaborating regionally to develop air-monitoring stations together.



SUCCESSFUL EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS TEACH RESIDENTS IN HONG KONG TO REDUCE WASTE AND RECYCLE

Currently, half of the energy in Hong Kong is generated by coal and they intend to reduce this to 20 per cent by 2020 to reduce their carbon footprint and further improve air quality. Through an agreement with the power company, they are buying back energy from solar or renewable sources – claiming that their new agreement since the Paris Agreement is the ‘greenest ever’. Through the Energy Saving 2015 Plan, Hong Kong intends to reduce energy intensity by 40 percent by 2040, limit use of fossil fuel and encourage greener buildings and design standards (buildings in Hong Kong consume 90 per cent of total electricity).

Significant work is also being done to address stormwater discharge into the harbour, which in recent years prevented the well-known harbour swimming challenge.

## 3. Chengdu and Chongqing

### 3.1 Courtesy call with Mayor Luo Qiang, Chengdu & Site Visits



BROAD AND NARROW ALLEYS CHENGDU

Chengdu has sustained rapid growth as a city and is the economic, scientific, financial, cultural, transport and communications centre of China. Ten metro lines are currently under construction in the city. We were also informed that Chengdu is the 'rap capital' of China. Chengdu's thriving nightlife is popular with young people.

During our courtesy call, Mayor Luo Qiang of Chengdu told us he was very impressed by our city and the hospitality he received when he visited in June 2017. Mayor Luo commended the Green Square project as 'an inspiration of sustainable cities' that Chengdu sees it as a role model. He was particularly interested in cultural exchange opportunities between Chengdu and Sydney artists, students and young people, inviting artists from Sydney to perform at their Youth Music Festival in every July. Chengdu is the new hub for performance industries and is quickly becoming the startup capital of China.

The Sydney delegation was joined by representatives from two Sydney based peak organisations:

- Mr Philip Gregory, Managing Director China, the George Institute for Global Health;
- Mr Xinyu Li, Vice President, Managing Director of Greater China, Cochlear.

Both of the organisations have strong connections with Chengdu. The George Institute for Global Health has been working with prestigious hospitals in Chengdu in Research and Development and Cochlear has built a new headquarter in Tianfu New Development Zone, the Chengdu's Green Square project, as Mayor Luo Qiang referred.



COURTESY CALL WITH MAYOR LUO

The Consulate General of Australia in Chengdu welcomed the Sydney delegation. The Deputy Consul General Mr Tony Walter accompanied the delegation in Chengdu and Chongqing on behalf of the Australian Government and he expressed gratitude for the visit.

The Deputy Lord Mayor and staff visited the Panda Base and the Broad and Narrow alley in the centre of Chengdu – two ancient streets turned into a bustling tourist attractions which stay open late into night.

Clr Kok, Mr Philip Gregory, and Mr Xinyu Li visited the 1,100 Square Meters Tianfu New Development Zone under Mayor Luo’s request and Mr Liu Renyuan, the Deputy Director, Tianfu New Development Zone Management Committee, hosted Clr Kok for a briefing of the project. The delegation also visited the new headquarters of Cochlear.

### 3.2 Courtesy call with Vice Mayor Liu Guiping, Chongqing & Site Visits

We travelled by high-speed train to Chongqing, about one and a half hours from Chengdu, for a half-day visit. This was the first official delegation from Sydney to Chongqing since Chongqing’s participation to the City’s Chinese New Year Festival in 2010.



Chongqing has a reputation as an innovative city, which is friendly to private enterprise. During our courtesy call, Vice Mayor Liu Guiping noted that the relationship with Sydney goes back a long time. Chongqing is home to 33.9 million people across 82.4 square kilometres.

Its major industries are automobile and IT, with one in eight cars in China having parts designed or manufactured in Chongqing and 400 million units of smart terminals produced last year. They are the second largest producer of mobile phones worldwide, producing 270 million units last year.

THE VISION FOR CHONGQING IN THE FUTURE



SYDNEY DELEGATION WITH VICE MAYOR LIU GUIPING



WITH DEPUTY DISTRICT MAYOR DENG GUANGHUAI



DEPUTY LORD MAYOR JESS MILLER AT TESTBED 2 WITH THE VICE GENERAL MANAGER CHEN YIZHONG

The site visits in Chongqing were particularly impressive. TESTBED 2 is a cultural and creative park located at the top of a hill in the Yuzhong District – transforming a number of warehouses previous operating as a printing facility pre-Liberation into diverse and interesting spaces for retail, restaurants, cafes, artist and maker spaces, exhibitions and more. We also visited the thriving markets and late night precinct and Mr Deng Guanghuai, the Deputy District Mayor of Yuzhong District, accompanied us for a site visit to Jiefangbei Pedestrian laneways.

### 3.3 Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair, Chengdu



Sydney was invited by Mayor Luo as the key participant in a whole day event- the 2018 Innovation Forum for Mayors of International Sister Cities of Chengdu. At the Forum, Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Councillor Robert Kok addressed representatives from around the world. In their keynote session, the Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor Kok promoted the City of Sydney's economic growth, lively creative scene and thriving startup sector.

The Deputy Lord Mayor firstly introduced in the Mayors' Roundtable Session about Sydney's profile in general and highlighted the City's focus on sustainable development. Councillors also took the opportunity to join the discussions with other global cities including Los Angeles, Vienna, Dublin, and Tel Aviv. They talked about the ways they are supporting and promoting innovative and entrepreneurial cultures and funding in their cities.

#### CLOSING NIGHT OF CHENGDU GLOBAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

In the keynote addressing, the Deputy Lord Mayor focused on Sydney's environmental innovation, and Cr Kok spoke on our achievement on digital and innovation, and shared with the international mayors about the City's "heat map" of Sydney's most innovative regions- three of the five most innovative hot spots are within the City of Sydney.

Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller and Cr Kok also took part in a number of significant media interviews:



CR KOK SPEAKING ON DIGITAL AND INNOVATION

Exclusive Interview, National Business Daily:

<http://cd.nbd.com.cn/articles/2018-05-19/1218566.html>

Chengdu Discovery:

<http://cd.nbd.com.cn/articles/2018-05-19/1218566.html>

7.30 News, Chengdu TV

<http://www.cditv.cn/show-230-1322972-1.html>

Chengdu Daily:

<http://www.cdrb.com.cn/epaper/cdrbpc/201805/18/c18386.html>

Chengdu Daily:

<https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/rnCJ9win2KDuHuiHZSoOgw>

Chengdu Daily Live:

<http://vshare.cdrb.com.cn/?from=singlemessage&isappinstalled=0#/live/live/2/48>

Chengdu Daily Live:

<http://vshare.cdrb.com.cn/?from=singlemessage&isappinstalled=0#/live/live/2/49>

## 4. TOKYO AND NAGOYA

### 4.1 Courtesy Calls with Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Japan National Tourism Organisation



THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR, CLR KOK, CHRIS DERKSEMA WITH DIRECTOR WAGAI

Supported and facilitated by the Consul General of Japan in Sydney, Mr Keizo Takewaka, the Sydney delegation visited the Japan National Tourism Organisation (JNTO) and met with the Executive Vice President, Mr Mamoru Kobori. Mr Kobori emphasized Sydney's role in Japan's priority market and advised that Sydney was regarded by Japanese people as a top tourism destination, according to a national survey conducted by JNTO.

On 22 May 2018, JNTO hosted the Japan National Tourism Organisation 2018 JAPAN Roadshow in Sydney. Due to the extreme popularity and demand of ski and snow-focused holidays in Japan by Australians, an increasing number of Australian investors are interested in Japan's ski industry, especially the winter resorts in north Japan.

Mr Yoshio Wagai, the Director General, Bureau of Environment, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, received the Sydney delegation on behalf of the Governor of Tokyo, Ms Yuriko Koike.

Mr Wagai warmly welcomed the delegation for its first official visit to Tokyo and recognised Sydney's participation in C40. He also commended the City's Sustainable Sydney 2030 strategy saying it showed a strong commitment and was a great role model for Japanese cities. He also talked about Sydney's co-chairing of C40's Private Building Efficiency Network with Tokyo and said it had successfully supported cities to develop policies and programs that improve residential and commercial energy efficiency.



SYDNEY DELEGATION WITH MR KOBORI

## 4.2 Tokyo Forum for Clean City and Clear Sky



**MAYORS DONATE OLD MOBILE PHONES TO BE TURNED INTO MEDALS AT THE TOKYO 2020 OLYMPICS**

At the Tokyo Forum for Clean City and Clear Sky, Governor Koike recognised that there was lots of rubbish and air pollution in the city in 1970. Since then, they have focused on reducing, reusing and recycling. They are reducing landfill by 70 per cent and regulating diesel to significantly improve air quality. The number of days that Mt. Fuji can be seen from Tokyo is increasing annually and they are determined to make Tokyo more sustainable

They are achieving this using a range of strategies that are based on traditional martial arts concepts:

- Mind – changing awareness, including a summer dress code that includes no ties or jackets to conserve energy during the hot summer months, and introducing residents to “mottainai” which means “too precious to waste”.
- Skill – using technological innovation to reduce emissions, increase LED lighting and promote greater use of renewable energies such as solar power and preventing water leakage.
- Body – regulatory framework, system and policies.

Another key speaker and facilitator was Ms. Helen Clark. Ms. Clark served as Prime Minister of New Zealand (1999-2008) and Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (2009-2017). She is an advocate of addressing climate change and environmental issues.

Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Miller participated in Mayoral Plenary Session 1: Aiming for a Sustainable Urban Environment – Current Global Trends and the Role of Cities. She also took part in a session focused on the Circular Economy. Cr Miller spoke about the City’s focus on sustainability and liveability through Sustainable Sydney 2030. She discussed key initiatives such as the Better Buildings Partnership and our new waste strategy. The City’s Sustainability Manager Chris Derksema also took place in the Tokyo Forum in a session on waste management.



**ZERO EMISSION BIKES ON DISPLAY AT THE TOKYO FORUM FOR CLEAN CITY AND CLEAR SKY**

There were representatives of cities and regions all over the globe, including Beijing in China, Milan in Italy, Durban in Ireland, Tomsk in Russia, Yangon City in Myanmar and Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia.

While many cities share similar challenges to the City of Sydney, there were also stark differences. For example, Milan is leading the way on managing food waste, while coal stoves and boilers in Ulaanbaatar contribute to 80 per cent of carbon emissions and air pollution seven times higher than the national index in winter.

The message was clear – to reach the targets set out in the Paris Agreement, cities need to accelerate action and demand collaboration across industry and other levels of governments.

### 4.3 C40 East, Southeast Asia and Oceania Regional Meeting



THE SYDNEY DELEGATION WITH A NEWLY RELEASED HYDROGEN CAR

The C40 Regional Meeting was an excellent opportunity for us to talk about Sydney and our work and to hear about the work of other cities. As an advocate in waste innovation and with a well-respected strategic approach, information exchanges were welcomed and of interest to both staff and councillors.

Common challenges all cities faced included dealing with waste – specifically food waste, and air pollution. In these areas, there was much to be learned from cities such as Milan, especially on food waste and air pollution. It was also great to hear that Japan is transitioning their vehicular fleet to the Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles ahead of the 2020 Olympics.

In the meeting, Governor Koike reaffirmed the role of cities in tackling climate change and the willingness of Tokyo to work with C40 cities. She also said, ‘Hand in hand with other C40 cities, Tokyo will devote its energies to finding solutions for the environmental issues we all share in order to benefit our planet and our children’.

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### 4.4 Courtesy call with Mayor Kawamura, Nagoya & Site Visits



COURTESY CALL WITH MAYOR TAKASHI KAWAMURA

Mayor Takashi Kawamura welcomed our delegation to Nagoya City Hall. He outlined our long and successful sister city relationship which has been supported by residents from the two cities since its establishment in 1980. We were advised to dress for the warm weather as the government was undertaking a Cool-Biz campaign, which included higher air-conditioning

temperatures to support national energy saving schemes.

Mayor Kawamura arranged for the delegation to visit Nagoya's cultural precincts including the Shirotori Garden and Tokugawa Museum. In Tokugawa Museum, the Vice Director Mr Yasuyoshi Ichihashi introduced the brief history of the Tokugawa family and its influence on Nagoya the City and the whole nation.



DEPUTY LORD MAYOR WITH VICE DIRECTOR ICHIHASHI

We then visited the Nagoya Castle- one of the most historical buildings in Japan. Mayor Kawamura and City of Nagoya are proactively proceeding with a major upgrade and renovation of the building. Clr Robert Kok talked about the renovation of Sydney Town Hall in 2007 to 2008.

The Delegation also visited the Higashiyama Zoo. Since 2014 it has been the home of Tilly, a koala from Taronga Zoo. The Sister Zoo Relationship was established in 1996 under the Sister City Relationship and has been well supported by residents in two cities.

#### 4.5 Meeting with Nagoya University

Nagoya University was established in 1871 and was the last Imperial University in Japan. It is one of the top three universities in Japan.

The visit to Nagoya University provided a great opportunity to promote Sydney to the students and further facilitate Nagoya University's collaboration with universities in Sydney.

Nagoya University attached great importance of this meeting, which was attended by:



MEETING WITH NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

- Yoshihito Watanabe, Trustee (International Affairs and Public Relations), Vice President;
- Nami Iwaki, Professor Director, Nagoya University Abroad;
- Yukitaugu Ono, Director, Education and International Affairs Department;
- Haruna Kawashima, Institute of International Education & Exchange , Assistant Professor; and,
- Matthew Linley, Designated Professor at International Education and Exchange Centre.

In the meeting, Nagoya University introduced its academic collaboration with universities in Sydney and its plan to attract more Australian students to study in Nagoya.

The delegation also met with a student who just completed her study in Cambridge University and would come to study in Sydney in September.