
REPORT 3
(1215/11/IM)

ASIA PACIFIC CITIES SUMMIT 2007, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, FRIDAY 31 AUGUST – MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2007

1. Purpose of Report

To provide information on and to seek approval for the Mayor and one Councillor to attend the 'Asia Pacific Cities' Summit to be held in Brisbane, Australia, Friday 31 August – Monday 3 September 2007.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of the Mayor and one Councillor at the 'Asia Pacific Cities' Summit to be held in Brisbane, Australia, Friday 31 August – Monday 3 September 2007 and agree that the costs associated with attending the conference are met from the Elected Members Budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Note that if Council submit a bid for Wellington to host the 2009 Asia Pacific Cities Summit which is shortlisted, registration for one attendee will be complimentary.*
4. *Note that a report back on the meeting will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting in accordance with Council policy.*

3. Discussion

The Asia Pacific Cities Summit has been held biennially since 1996, rotating between Brisbane and other bidding cities in the Asia Pacific region. The goal of the summit is to develop city partnerships and encourage the sharing of information between local governments and businesses within the region.

For the purposes of the summit, the Asia Pacific region includes Australia, Japan, China, Korea, the Pacific Islands, the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Attendance at each summit is generally between six hundred to nine hundred delegates who include decision makers and civic leaders from the region. The aim for the summit this year is 1000 delegates representing a minimum of 70 cities.

The theme of the 2007 summit is 'Renewing Asia Pacific Cities' and will focus on business growth, trade, investment and economic outcomes. The summit provides an opportunity to develop strategic partnerships between cities and businesses for economic growth and prosperity.

Although traditional core responsibilities of city administrators have not changed, areas of what a city does and should be doing is shifting. These shifts will be explored at the Summit with a focus on changes in the Asia / Pacific region over the next 20 years.

Conference streams will focus on sustainability, liveability, economic development and leadership and governance, covering issues such as:

- Sustainable leisure and tourism
- Urban renewal and waterfront development
- Economic development, ports, transport infrastructure and logistics

Themes of the conference will also be explored during a Mayors' Forum and for the first time a Summit Youth Forum.

Parallel workshops will be run over the three days of the forum on topics such as:

- Great places to visit are great places to live
- Urban renewal for cities dealing with change
- Creating liveable cities for future generations
- Guaranteeing cities sustainable economic futures

Plenary sessions will cover a wide range of topics including 'trends on renewing Asia Pacific cities', 'building sustainable cities' and 'cities with prosperous futures'. This session will look at case studies from "cities around the world that have invested for prosperous futures from a sustainability, liveability and economic perspective".

Mayor Prendergast has been invited by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane to present a case study on Wellington City which will focus on how the city has built pride, profile and vibrancy. The presentation will also focus on Wellington City's investment in economic development and quality of place with a particular focus on compactness. This invitation to speak will allow the Mayor to showcase the achievements of Wellington City to be a sustainable, innovative and liveable place to work, live and visit.

It has been suggested by Brisbane that Wellington considers submitting a bid to host the next Summit in 2009. Officers are currently evaluating the benefits versus the costs of hosting such an event before deciding whether to seek approval for a bid to be submitted. As part of this evaluation, discussions will be held with NZ Trade and Enterprise and others to gauge their interest in being involved. The closing date for bids is 29 June 2007 so a decision will be needed by the end of May in order that a bid document can be prepared in line with the bid criteria.

In the event the Council decides to submit a bid and Wellington is subsequently short listed, Brisbane City Council will provide one complimentary registration for the 2007 summit. A Wellington representative will be required to attend the Summit Closing Lunch and, if the bid is successful, to formally accept the selection on behalf of the city. It would make sense in these circumstances for the Mayor to fill that role. Since, as a guest speaker, she is already receiving a complimentary registration, the Council could choose another councillor to accompany her to take advantage of the second complimentary registration if a Wellington bid is submitted and short listed.

It is the intention of management to send a senior officer to this conference.

3.1 Considerations

When deciding whether the Mayor and one Councillor should attend this conference, consideration should be given to:

- the cost; and
- the impact of attendance on the budget; and
- the other conferences elected members may wish to attend later in the financial year.

The total cost for the Mayor and one Councillor (if no additional complimentary registration is received) to attend this Summit is expected to be \$4,102.72 and will be met from the conference budget.

As the Mayor has been invited to speak, registration is complimentary. The cost of attendance of the Mayor and one other Councillor is broken down as follows:

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

The impact on the budget of the Mayor and one Councillor attending this summit is outlined below:

	2006/2007 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees	\$34,000.00	\$27,314.69 ¹	\$6,685.31
Impact of sending the Mayor and one Councillor to the conference	\$4,102.72	\$31,417.41	\$2,582.59

4. Conclusion

A decision is required as to whether the Council should approve the attendance of the Mayor and one Councillor at the 'Asia Pacific Cities' Summit to be held in Brisbane, Australia, 31 August - 3 September 2007.

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¹ The attendance of 5 Elected Members at the LGNZ Conference at a cost of \$5000.00.
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the TRAFINZ Conference at a cost of \$2310.00
The attendance of 2 Elected Members at the Safer Communities Conference at a cost of \$400
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Digital Earth 06 Conference at a cost of \$1800
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Youth and Local Government Conference in New Plymouth at a cost of \$776
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the LIANZA Conference in Wellington at a cost of \$500
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the RMLA Conference 2006 at a cost of \$1,825.
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the NZ Walking Conference 2006 in Christchurch at a cost of \$865
The attendance of 2 Elected Members at Climate Change: The Policy Challenges Symposium in Wellington at a cost of \$350
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the New Zealand Recreation Association Conference in Auckland at a cost of \$748.75
The attendance of the Mayor and 1 Elected Member at the Commonwealth Local Government Conference in Auckland at a cost of \$2,450.00
The attendance of 2 Elected Members at the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment 20 Forum – The New Context Forum in Wellington at a cost of \$900.
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at Accelerating Now! Local Action, Sustainability iclei Conference in Melbourne at a cost of \$2,029.19. Reimbursement subsidy of \$1000 for Accelerating Now! Local Action, Sustainability iclei Conference.
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Sister Cities Conference in Te Anau at a cost of \$2,026.25.
The attendance of 4 Community Board members at the New Zealand Community Boards Conference in Manukau City at a cost of \$5067.40.

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