



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: March 30, 2017
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: April 11, 2017

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Deputy City Clerk
SUBJECT: Share 2017: Sharing Cities Summit - Travel Approval Request -
May 2017

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council authorize Deputy Mayor Geoff Meggs to attend Share 2017: Sharing Cities Summit from May 17-19, 2017, to be held in New York, NY, with expenses estimated to be at \$1950.00 funded from the 2017 Councillors' Travel Budget.

REPORT SUMMARY

Councillor Geoff Meggs, as Deputy Mayor, requests funding under the City's Mayor and Councillor Expenses By-law No. 11529, to represent the City of Vancouver at the Share 2017: Sharing Cities Summit.

The Sharing Cities Summit, held last year in Amsterdam, brings together Deputy Mayors from more than 30 cities on six continents to share experiences on the challenges and opportunities of the sharing economy, as well as facilitate sharing of best practices and strategies across cities. The event is hosted by Alicia Glen, New York City's Deputy Mayor for Housing and Economic Development.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Mayor and Councillors Expenses Bylaw No. 11529 requires Council approval for Council members' reimbursement of expenses incurred while on City business.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager submits the foregoing for Council's consideration.

REPORT

Background/Context

The Sharing Cities Summit, held last year in Amsterdam, convenes a small group of 50 elected officials, thought leaders and industry executives from cities around the world to discuss the issues faced by cities as the sharing economy evolves and expands. Key topics to be explored by speakers from Harvard Business School, New York University and the World Economic Forum and other academic and business centres include:

- Data collection, especially data sharing between business and government to support city policy development;
- Worker protection and benefits, including measures to ensure fair compensation and access to benefits; and
- Consumer protection and market fairness.

Strategic Analysis

Cities around the world are now confronting unprecedented regulatory and policy challenges as a result of the emergence of the "sharing economy," new digital technology that allows consumers to share a wide range of goods and services through online platforms.

These technologies are familiar to British Columbians, where the province is wrestling with policy solutions for ride-sharing and the City of Vancouver, along with many other municipalities, is seeking to find ways to manage online short-term rentals.

The Sharing Cities Summit will bring together academic and business experts with elected officials from five continents to share experiences and best practices. The conference program includes a series of workshops as well as optional visits to a number of New York businesses, including Google and Etsy, which are engaged in expanding and developing the sharing economy.

In particular, workshops will focus on how data produced by new sharing economy companies can be used to facilitate policy-making, and explore consumer protection, particularly the need for market fairness and equal access to services.

The program begins with an evening panel discussion and is followed by a day of workshops and a second day of specific optional site visits.

*Implications/Related Issues/Risk**Financial*

The estimated costs to be funded from the Councillors' 2017 Travel Budget are as follows:

Item	Estimated Costs
Airfare: Vancouver - New York return	\$740.00
Ground Transportation	\$280.00
Accommodation 2 nights at \$375 per night	\$750.00
Per Diem: \$60 per day	\$180.00
Total Estimated Costs	\$1950.00

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