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## CITY OF RYDE MAYOR TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SUMMIT IN BRISBANE

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Artin Etmekdjian, will attend the 2011 Asia Pacific Cities Summit in Brisbane to help forge international partnerships that will benefit the City of Ryde community, in the world's fastest growing market – the Asia Pacific.

The Summit, which is an initiative of Brisbane City Council, takes place at the Brisbane Exhibition Centre between 6 and 8 July and brings together business and civic leaders from across the Asia Pacific, Europe, Middle East and Americas

Clr Etmekdjian said he was happy to be representing the City of Ryde at the Summit and looked forward to establishing new business and civic links and learning world best practice in several areas for public interest.

"The Summit attracts many international dollars in investment and I hope to negotiate partnerships which will bring a boost to the City of Ryde economy and will directly benefit our community," the Mayor said.

Brisbane City Lord Mayor Graham Quirk said he was keen to use the Summit as an opportunity to showcase that Brisbane is back to business following the January floods, and demonstrate Brisbane's strengthening position.

"We will welcome delegates from more than 100 cities to Brisbane from inter-state and overseas, and look forward to hosting world-renowned speakers, presentations and case studies," Cr Quirk said.

"Brisbane is back to business and the 2011 Asia Pacific Cities Summit will deliver considerable trade and investment opportunities between our regions.

"At the last Summit in Incheon, Korea, trade deals brokered by Brisbane businesses through facilitated business matching were in the vicinity of \$4 million, and these transactions and relationship continue to grow. The Summit provides local businesses with the platform to start the conversation with Asia and accelerates growth strategies for doing business in the Asia Pacific region.

"There are great opportunities for City of Ryde business and civic leaders, via the Summit's business matching program for networking, partnering and trade and investment among delegates, sponsors and government agencies."

The Summit will bring together more than 1,000 delegates from more than 100 cities, focusing on three streams: the business of green cities, the business of smart and connected cities, and the business of growing cities.

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To register for the Summit or for more information on the high-profile international keynote speakers, call 07 3858 5582, visit <u>www.apcsummit.org</u> or email info@apcsummit.org