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Meeting Date: **Wednesday 26 April 2023**
Location: **Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online**
Time: **6.00pm**

Council Meetings will be recorded on audio tape for minute-taking purposes as authorised by the Local Government Act 1993. Council Meetings will also be webcast.

Statement of Ethical Obligations
Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993 and their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage Conflicts of Interest.

NOTICE OF BUSINESS

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LATE COUNCIL REPORT

13   REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - EVALUATION REPORT: CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN SMART CITY SUMMIT AND EXPO, MARCH 2023

Report prepared by: Executive Officer - City Economy
File No.: GRP/23/12 - BP23/206

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks to respond to the requirements outlined in Council Report No. 13 – CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN (listed on the Meeting Agenda for 28 February 2023) and the subsequent resolution of Council at the same meeting (MM2/23).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive and note this report.

ATTACHMENTS
1 Evaluation Report - Taiwan Delegation
2 Itinerary - Taiwan Smart City Expo and Summit

Report Prepared By:

Daniel Hughes
Executive Officer - City Economy

Report Approved By:

Michael Galderisi
General Manager - City Shaping

ITEM 13 (continued)

Discussion

Previous resolution of Council

At its meeting on 28 February 2023, Council resolved as follows (MM2/23):

(a)   That Council notes participation in the Smart City Summit & Expo could help deliver economic and social benefits to the City of Ryde.

(b)   That Council notes the new International Relations Policy has a strong focus on good governance, transparency, evaluation, and reporting.

(c)   That Council notes to minimise the financial burden of its operations on the City of Ryde's ratepayers, Council resolves:-

1.   That Council Report No. 13 – CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN and Council Report No. 20 – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLICY (listed on this Meeting Agenda) be dealt with in conjunction with this Mayor Minute.

2.   That instead of the recommendations in Council Report No. 13 – CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN (listed on this Meeting Agenda), that Council:-

i.   Accepts the invitation from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office to participate in the Smart City Summit & Expo (the Summit) in Taiwan from 27 March to 31 March 2023, which also incorporates the associated 2050 Net Zero City Leaders Summit, meetings with delegations from over 30 countries, major multinational companies, the Smart City Mayors' Summit, and over 10 City and Regional governments.

ii.   Endorses the Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM to attend the Summit, as Council's VIP representative.

iii.   Nominates Councillor Brown, Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – City Shaping and Executive Officer – City Economy attend this summit.

iv.   Noting the financial contributions being made by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, including the Mayor's airfares, ensure no City of Ryde money shall be spent on the Mayor or Councillor delegates whatsoever, meaning food and incidentals not covered by tour providers (including airfares for Councillor delegates) will be at the personal expense of each delegate.

ITEM 13 (continued)

> *v. Notes the obligations of delegates set out in Council Report No. 13 – CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN (listed on this Meeting Agenda), including those relating to evaluation, disclosure, and reporting back to Council.*

> *3. That Council endorse the Council meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 28 March 2023 be moved to Tuesday, 4 April 2023 (due to the Mayor, Councillor and/or staff attendance at the Summit from 27 to 31 March 2023).*

<u>Evaluation Report</u>

- Council staff have prepared a report, attached, evaluating the City of Ryde's participation in the 2023 Smart City Summit & Expo in Taiwan. This report addresses the following:

  o Background on the City of Ryde, including a snapshot on the City, Macquarie Park Innovation District, and Macquarie University.

  o A statement of compliance with Council policy and resolutions.

  o Background information on Australia-Taiwanese relations, including the economic opportunities that could be pursued in the City of Ryde.

  o An overview of the 2023 Smart City Summit & Expo, including a detailed account of the 39 different meetings delegates from the City of Ryde participated in.

  o A summary of topics covered in the Net Zero City Leaders Summit and the Smart City Mayor's Summit: Mayors' Roundtable, of which delegates from the City of Ryde observed.

  o An account of the City of Ryde's visit to Hsinchu County for additional meetings (in place of a day of cultural tours arranged as part of the summit).

  o A high-level evaluation of the delegation to Taiwan, including a description of costs and the identification of potential benefits for the City of Ryde.

  o A conclusion that summarises whether participation in the 2023 Smart City Summit & Expo created value for the City of Ryde.

  o A comprehensive itinerary of the meetings and activities undertaken by the City of Ryde delegation.

ITEM 13 (continued)

Pecuniary Interests disclosures

- All Council delegates, staff and Councillors, have included the delegation to Taiwan in an updated Pecuniary Interest Form submitted to Council's Governance Team prior to the meeting of the Council on 26 April 2023.

Ongoing pursuit of MoUs and direct investment into the City of Ryde

- In an effort to be transparent, the Evaluation Report includes the identification of ongoing activities with institutions, cities, and companies. These matters are sensitive, and in part commercial-in-confidence.

- In accordance with Council's International Relations Policy MoU will be reported on to Council for consideration, following an objective assessment of their merit and ability to deliver benefits to the City of Ryde.

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EVALUATION REPORT:

City of Ryde delegation to the 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

Prepared by the Executive Officer City Economy

26 April 2023

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

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Acknowledgements

The City of Ryde acknowledges the sincere efforts made by representatives of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Sydney, the Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the hosts of the 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo (Taipei Computer Association), and the delegates, officials, and representatives who gave us their time to engage with them on matters of trade, economics, education, arts, and culture.

ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 1**

Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

The Report provides an evaluation for the City of Ryde's (**Ryde**) participation in the 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo (**SCSE**), which was held in the cities of Taipei and Kaohsiung in Taiwan between 28-31 March 2023.

1.2 Background on the City of Ryde

1.2.1 City of Ryde

Ryde is 12km from Sydney's CBD and encompasses an area of approximately 40 square kilometres, including waterways and parklands in Greater Sydney's North. It includes 16 suburbs and neighbours Hornsby Shire and the Ku-ring-gai in the north, Willoughby City and Hunters Hill in the east, and the City of Parramatta to the West.

Ryde is the third oldest European settlement in Greater Sydney, established in 1792. For thousands of years, however, the area that includes Ryde was home to the Wallumedegal clan of the Darug People.

Local Government is the level of government closest to the community, and which arguably has the community's interests most at heart. Ryde Council actively engages with our residents, businesses, and visitors to ensure it is delivering the outcomes that matter most to them.

Ryde Council is responsible for strategy, planning, policy, regulation, and service delivery for the Ryde local government area. Between 2021-2025, Council will deliver a half-billion-dollar program of investment in infrastructure and services, with a focus on delivering new infrastructure and maintaining the City's existing assets, as well as high quality services for residents.

1.2.2 Macquarie Park: Australia's original innovation district

Macquarie Park is Sydney's premier innovation district and employment centre and is home to market leaders in a diverse range of industries, including technology, communications, pharmaceuticals, health, education, and various retail sectors. Its location adjacent to the Lane Cove National Park offers a uniquely green setting.

Macquarie Park has more office space than other centres such as North Sydney and Parramatta. However, the district retains an image as a sprawling campus-style business park, with buildings set in landscaped grounds and green, tree-lined streets.

Macquarie Park is the northern anchor of Sydney's *Eastern Economic Corridor* "the State's greatest economic asset – contributing two-thirds of NSW economic growth in 2015-16". Home to Macquarie University and more than 180 large international and 200 small businesses, the 170-hectare precinct is recognised as a leading health and education precinct and a strategic centre for Greater Sydney.

Macquarie Park is currently the largest non-CBD office market in Australia and is on track to become Australia's fourth largest commercial precinct by 2030. The City's GRP growth rate in 2020-21 was 4.8%, far exceeding the NSW growth rate of 1.2% in the same fiscal year. Ryde is a significant contributor to the NSW State economy, representing 3.77% of Greater Sydney's GRP, 2.85% of the State's GRP, and 0.89% of Australia's GRP.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

Macquarie Park is forecast to diversify and grow. The possible extent of this growth is in a dynamic position in a post-COVID world. The table below provides a snapshot of a conservative growth forecast for Macquarie Park from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's *Macquarie Park Innovation Precinct Place Strategy*:

Table 1 - Growth forecasts, Macquarie Park

Year	2021	2036
People	12,800	38,050
Dwellings	5,450	17,750
Jobs	72,850	83,500

1.2.2.1   Macquarie Park's major economic functions and business clusters

Major economic functions are the unique economic concentrations that Macquarie Park exceeds in when compared to other precincts. They include:

- Education – Macquarie University is one of Australia's top-ranking research institutions and has one of the highest ranked MBA programs in Australia.
- Research and development – Many businesses and institutions operating within Macquarie Park invest in research, including through partnerships with Macquarie University. Researchers operating in Macquarie Park include companies such as Abbott Australasia and AC Nielsen Research.
- Knowledge intensive sectors – Macquarie Park is home to significant clusters of pharmaceutical (e.g., Johnson & Johnson, Cochlear, AstraZeneca), technology (e.g., Dell, Schneider Electric, Meridian IT Australia, LX Group), and telecommunications (e.g., Optus, Ericsson Australia, Macquarie Park Data Centre Campus) sectors.
- Health services: Macquarie University Hospital (Australia's first and only fully integrated academic health sciences centre) is located within the Macquarie Park District.

Additional to these major economic functions, Macquarie Park has a substantial number of business clusters, including:

- Medical and pharmaceutical (including AstraZeneca, Biogen, Cochlear, Johnson & Johnson, Abbott, Sanofi)
- Media and telecommunications (including Optus, Ericsson, Foxtel, Australian Radio Network)
- Digital (including Canon, Fujitsu, Konica Minolta, Schneider Electric, Phillips, Panasonic)
- Transport and logistics (including Transport for NSW, Hyundai, Volvo, Kia, CHEP)
- Advanced manufacturing & technology (including 3M, BAE systems, Boc Ltd, Memjet, Ecolab Australia, Proctor & Gamble Australia), and
- Other (including Arbonne cosmetics, Aristocrat, Raytheon Australia, Relyon Australia).

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1.2.2.2   Macquarie Park's position in Sydney's wider economic geography

Macquarie Park has a higher concentration of employment in professional, scientific and technical services as well as education and training compared to the Sydney average. Key firms contributing to this specialisation range from medical, pharmaceutical, technology and telecommunication companies.

Relative to the other innovation-focused districts in Sydney, Macquarie Park is Sydney's greenest office market unique in its' landscape, characterised by its proximity to the Lane Cove National Park and its connection to Macquarie University and Macquarie University Hospital.

Macquarie Park is home to 10% of the world's top 100 companies and is the number one postcode for Intellectual Property registrations in Australia. Supported by Macquarie University, two incubators are operating in Macquarie Park, which have supported over 120 different start-ups, creating over 320 new jobs since their establishment.

1.2.3   Macquarie University

Anchoring life-long learning for the Ryde local government area and northern Sydney is Macquarie University. Established in 1964, Macquarie University was built to break away from the traditional tertiary education institutions in Australia by working in tandem with industry to deliver outcomes for students and industry.

Recognised globally for excelling in a range of key research disciplines, Macquarie University is in the top 1% of universities globally, ranked 195 in the QS World University Rankings 2023.

With world-leading facilities, industry connections, flexible curriculum, and an award-winning internship program, graduates from Macquarie University get the real-world experience they need to get ahead.

Renowned for their expertise in areas like business, health and medical sciences, Macquarie University offers a wide range of exceptional undergraduate, postgraduate, and higher degree research degrees that are informed by their world leading research discoveries.

In addition to providing tertiary education, Macquarie University is a leader in delivering partnerships with business and industry. Macquarie University welcomes corporate partnerships and is committed to tailoring the partnerships to the specific objectives of their business partners – aiming to create mutually beneficial outcomes.

Macquarie University has partnered with organisations such as Cochlear, Phillips Emory, Fujitsu, Johnson & Johnson, Konica Minolta and Optus.

1.3   International relations policy

Due to a combination of its cultural and linguistic diversity, the presence of Macquarie University and TAFE NSW campuses, and the presence of Australian headquarters of global companies, Ryde attracts considerable attention from international parties seeking to collaborate with Council and invest in Ryde and its people.

Ryde is also home to economically and culturally diverse and growing centres, such as Eastwood, West Ryde, Meadowbank, and Gladesville. The economic functions of Ryde, in particular Macquarie Park, are global in their outlook.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

To deliver economic and social outcomes aspired to in Ryde's *Community Strategic Plan*, the Council resolved, on 28 February 2023, to establish a new *International Relations Policy*. The Policy established the following five guiding principles for international relations:

1) Investment attraction – Council's international relations activities will be guided by the desire to attract and retain international investment, in particular investment into businesses and education, into Ryde.

2) Strategic outcomes – Council will take a proactive and strategic approach to international relations, seeking to build relationships that lead to social and economic opportunities for Ryde.

3) Transparency – Underpinned by best-practice governance protocols, Council will be transparent in its approach to international relations. Best practice includes monitoring, reporting, and evaluating Council's work and keeping the community informed of the efficacy of international relations activities.

4) Cooperation and collaboration – Council will seek out international partners who want to cooperate and collaborate in delivering positive outcomes for Ryde.

5) Delivering benefits – All international relations activities must deliver social, environmental, or economic benefits to Ryde. These benefits need to be considered and evaluated as part of Council's international relations activities.

The Policy outlines the use of a *Memorandum of Understanding* (**MoU**) to document formal relationships with an international party. Replacing 'Sister Cities' and 'Partnership/Friendship Agreements' the MoU approach provides more structure to international relations, with MoUs requiring:

- Agreement to the content of the MoU between both parties (i.e., negotiated at the officer-level)

- An objective assessment (by Council staff) of the merits of the MoU against the Policy and any other applicable procedures or guidelines, and

- A resolution from Council endorsing the MoU and the Mayor signing the MoU on behalf of Council.

1.3.1.1   Compliance with Policy and Council resolutions

The efforts of Council staff to participate in the 2023 SCSE and to pursue MoUs with international partners is compliant with Council's International Relations Policy, which was approved by Council at its meeting on 28 February 2023 (ref: MM2/23).

Council's participation the 2023 SCSE was also approved by Council at its meeting on 28 February 2023 (ref: MM2/23).

Further to the above, at its meeting on 25 October 2022, Council unanimously passed a resolution (ref: NOM11) that requested Council staff focus on building relationships with cities in South Korea and Taiwan.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

2 Australia–Taiwan Relations

This section of the report is based on information produced by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs, specifically the *Australia-Taiwan relationship brief* and the *Taiwan trade/economic fact sheet*, which are used by Australian Government ministers and representatives.

Australia-Taiwan relations have been steadily growing in recent years, with both countries maintaining strong economic ties. Despite the absence of formal diplomatic recognition, the two nations have maintained a robust economic partnership that benefits both sides.

2.1 Economics and Trade Relations

Australia and Taiwan share a significant trading relationship, with bilateral trade accounting to approximately $18 billion in 2020[1]. Taiwan is Australia's ninth-largest trading partner and fourth-largest export market in the Asia-Pacific region[2]. The primary products that Australia exports to Taiwan are natural resources such as coal, natural gas, and iron ore, while Taiwan exports mainly electronics, machinery, and manufactured goods to Australia. Taiwan is also a significant market for Australian agricultural products, such as beef, lamb, and wheat.

In recent years, there has been growing cooperation between the two countries in the areas of renewable energy, education, and tourism. Australia has abundant natural resources that could be used to develop renewable energy technologies, while Taiwan has expertise in the manufacturing of renewable energy products. Additionally, increasing numbers of Taiwanese students are studying in Australia, and Australian tourists are visiting Taiwan.

2.1.1 Economic opportunities

There are several opportunities for Australia and Taiwan to strengthen their economic partnership. One area of potential cooperation is the growing middle-class market in Taiwan, which presents an opportunity for Australian companies to export premium products to Taiwanese consumers. With an increasing focus on health and wellness, Australian products such as wine, organic food, and skincare could appeal to Taiwanese consumers.

Another area of opportunity is the development of high-tech industries, where both countries have made significant investments in recent years. Australia has a strong research and development sector, while Taiwan has expertise In the manufacturing of high-tech products, particularly semi-conductors. Cooperating in this area could lead to the development of new products and technologies that could benefit both countries.

Lastly, another key area of opportunity would be an increased intake of international students from Taiwan to local universities, particularly Macquarie University. In addition to boosting the university revenue, the presence of international students can boost the local economy as international students typically spend money on accommodation, food, transportation, and other expenses, which generate economic activity in the local community. Money spent by international students supports job creation in hospitality and service sectors, which brings additional benefits to the broader community. Cultural exchange and a broader alumni network are also beneficial, with graduates returning to

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1 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2020). Australia-Taiwan Trade and Investment.
<https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/taiwan/pages/taiwan-country-brief> accessed 12 April 2023.
2 Australian Trade and Investment Commission. (2021). Taiwan Country Profile.
<https://www.austrade.gov.au/australian/export/export-markets/countries/taiwan/country-profile>

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

Taiwan becoming ambassadors for Macquarie University and Ryde – promoting its reputation and attracting more students from Taiwan in the future.

2.2   City of Ryde-Taiwan Relations

Following a Council resolution from October 2022, Council staff worked towards establishing formal relations with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (**TECO**), Sydney. Over the months of December 2022-March 2023, these relations strengthened, with the Director-General of TECO also coming to the City of Ryde's Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival as an official VIP guest on 4 February 2023.

Linked to the economic opportunities identified in Section 2.1.1 above, Council's efforts focused on:

- Ryde's cultural and linguistic diversity (for example, 5.9% of the people born in Taiwan and living in NSW living within Ryde[3])

- The presence of academic institutions such as TAFE NSW campuses, Macquarie University, and the Macquarie University Hospital

- Economic trade (import and export) opportunities for businesses of all sizes within the City, and

- Macquarie Park Innovation District being a globally competitive district for innovation, collaboration, and investment.

2.2.1   Attending the 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

On 10 February 2023, the Director-General of TECO (on behalf of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs within the Taiwanese Government) invited the Mayor of Ryde to be a VIP guest at the Taiwanese "Smart City Summit and Expo" from 28-31 March 2023. The invitation included an offer for a delegation of up to five more Council representatives to join the Mayor (six in total).

The Smart City Summit and Expo is Asia's biggest smart city summit, anticipated to host 150,000+ visitors and 600+ exhibitors. It was held in the Taiwanese cities of Taipei and Kaohsiung. Through various forums and networking activities, the summit covered a broad range of topics, including:

- Sustainability
- Net Zero
- Digital technologies
- Telecommunications
- Healthcare
- Education
- Building architecture, and
- Government policy (particularly e-governance).

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[3] *Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2021). Census (Country of Birth)*

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In addition to the opportunity for learning and networking, delegate participation in the summit was seen as positively contributing to Australia-Taiwan relations, creating a platform for Council to deliver economic and social benefits for the City of Ryde.

2.2.2 Itinerary

Please refer to Attachment A for a final version of the itinerary achieved by delegates.

2.2.3 Delegation participants

The following persons participated as delegates representing Ryde:

1. Mayor Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM
2. Councillor Trenton Brown
3. Chief Executive Officer
4. General Manager City Shaping
5. Executive Officer City Economy

The Ryde delegation was also joined by Macquarie University's Pro-Vice Chancellor Research, Innovation and Enterprise as a sixth delegate.

Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

3 Smart City Summit and Expo

3.1 Overview of the 2023 Smart Cities Summit and Expo, Taiwan

SCSE is an industry event that focuses on Internet of Things solutions, and every year is accompanied by experience exchanges on smart cities with international city leaders, as well as professional activities in various fields, such as transportation, healthcare, education, construction, and energy, organised by associations across domains and countries.

2023's SCSE was themed around "Digital Transformation Takes Smart Cities to New Heights", emphasising digital technology in business operations and urban revitalisation.

The SCSE was also complimented through the concurrent organisation of the "2050 Net Zero City Expo". Recognising that most countries around the world have committed to achieving net zero by 2050, Taiwan too made a national-level commitment to net zero by 2050 in early 2023. As it was the 10th anniversary of the Expo, the hosts identified an opportunity to recognise the role of smart technologies for not only helping with digital transformation for businesses and cities, but also its ability to promote green transformation.

The SCSE exhibition featured a total of 1,950 booths, with pre-registration data indicating that over 41 countries, 111 cities, and more than 1,350 overseas delegates would be attending the event. There were more than:

- 80 City leaders at the Mayoral or Deputy Mayoral level
- 10 central Government officials at the Deputy Minister level, and
- 1,000 attendees from corporate offices.

Registration data suggests that the 2023 SCSE was the largest ever, which enticed organisations such as the Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association, Industrial Technology Research Institute, and Institute for Information Industry to conduct business match making activities.

SCSE was jointly organised by the Taipei Computer Association, the National Development Council, Taipei City Government, and Kaohsiung City Government.

3.2 Engagement activities

3.2.1 Formal events

There were several formal events requiring the participation of delegates, including:

1. Guided tours of the exhibition centres in Taipei and Kaohsiung
2. Participation in opening ceremonies in Taipei and Kaohsiung, including observing award ceremonies
3. Exhibition dinners (buffet style) to support networking and observation of Taiwanese culture through performance arts
4. Seminars on smart city governance and smart city sustainability, and
5. The following summit forums:
    a. Net Zero City Leaders Summit, and
    b. Mayors' Roundtable.

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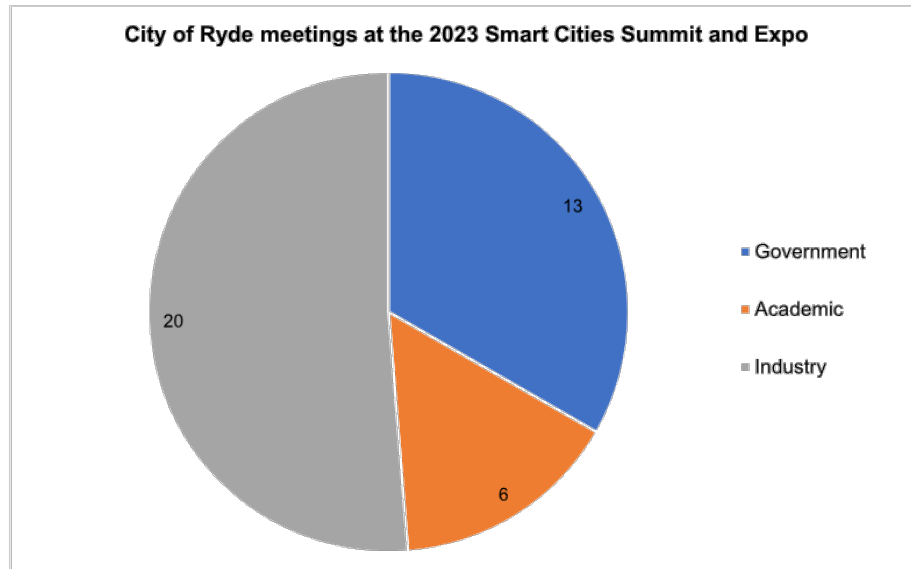
3.2.2   Meetings

In addition to formal events, the City of Ryde delegation held 39 face-to-face meetings with government, academic, and industry representatives between Tuesday 28 March and Thursday 30 March 2023 (in both Taipei and Kaohsiung).

To have meetings and participate in forums, the delegates were split into smaller groups on different days. Elected representatives participated in summits, while most of the meetings were led by Council staff.

The average working day per delegate (i.e., the time between leaving the hotel and returning to the hotel) was 12-hours, not including any other work activities that may have been completed by staff.

The graph below provides a breakdown of the type of organisation the City of Ryde delegation met with (government, academic, industry) during the SCSE.

Figure 1 - Meetings held during 2023 SCSE

City of Ryde meetings at the 2023 Smart Cities Summit and Expo

- Government: 13
- Academic: 6
- Industry: 20

3.2.2.1   Taipei City Government, Taiwan

As the capital of Taiwan, Taipei is not only the political, economic, and cultural centre, but also a global leader in smart city development.

Taipei actively promotes smart city initiatives by integrating technological innovation into various aspects of urban development and creating a service-orientated government to continuously enhance residents' quality of life, making the city more liveable and sustainable.

Taipei City utilises Public-Private Partnerships as a part of their smart city strategy – taking the government as a platform and Taipei City as a living lab – to create the "largest and most friendly smart city in Taiwan", allowing the government and private sectors to work together to advance urban innovation and promote industry transformation and upgrading.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

Discussion

Discussion covered a range of initiatives being championed by the Taipei City Government, including smart government, smart buildings, smart transportation, smart education, smart health, smart environment, smart security, and smart economy.

A particular area of interest was how Taipei City worked collaboratively with industry and academia to implement innovative smart city applications within the city's governance and municipal service strategies.

3.2.2.2   Kaohsiung City Government

Kaohsiung City has a world-class international airport and seaport, and access to large numbers of scientific and technological resources. This has attracted world-class semiconductor supply chain companies, such as TSMC, ASE Group, and others to base themselves in Kaohsiung.

Kaohsiung also boosts the largest 5G demonstration test field, the "Kaohsiung New Bay Area 5G AIoT Innovation Hub". As Kaohsiung gathers talent and technologies, this area will become a key place for global smart industries.

Kaohsiung City's approach to smart cities focusses on people-orientated development, providing convenience and smart living for their citizens. To support their city becoming a test field, Kaohsiung City Government provides an innovative value-added service to resolve any city administration pain points.

Discussion

Discussion with Kaohsiung City Government focussed on e-governance, and how the City Government is delivering a test bed for projects under a range of categories, such as smart living, smart transportation, smart education, smart safety, smart industry, and smart environment. Also discussed was the role their concierge service has played in reducing administrative pain points, which has helped them attract significant investment into their City.

3.2.2.3   New Taipei City

New Taipei City is a sprawling metropolis located in northern Taiwan, adjacent to the capital city of Taipei. It is the most populous city in Taiwan, with a population of over 4 million people.

The city is known for its modern infrastructure, diverse cultural offerings, and stunning natural landscapes, which included scenic mountains, hot springs, and beaches.

New Taipei City is a hub for business, technology, and education, with many universities and research institutions located within the city.

Discussion

Discussion with New Taipei City representatives explored the benefits of innovation and the clustering of businesses with universities and research institutions. Ryde delegates asked about the city's approach to establishing quite a diverse economic profile, with representatives from New Taipei City expressing the importance of mixing business, technology and education with the city's built and natural assets to provide a high quality of life for local workers and residents.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

Discussions evolved into the possibility for collaboration between Ryde and New Taipei City, including the possibility of an MoU to formalise collaboration on matters such as education, trade, and economics. These conversations are ongoing and have been further enhanced following the trip to Taiwan.

3.2.2.4   Taichung City Government, Taiwan

Taichung City is in the centre of Taiwan, making it a key location for industrial development and improved transport connectivity. Taichung's population has grown year on year, making it the second largest city in Taiwan.

In 2022, Taichung won first place in Taiwan in eleven economic indicators evaluated by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. In December 2022, the Taichung City Government established a "Digital Affairs Bureau", which aims to strengthen the City's competitiveness and connect with industries to accelerate becoming a smart city, promoting Taichung to the rest of the world.

Discussion

Taichung City Government is incorporating 5G technology into its projects to improve matters such as park (open space) governance efficiency, safety management, water quality, energy conservation, and more.

Discussions with Taichung highlighted technology applications in intelligent governance, transportation, and the environment and were actively seeking engagement with other governments, industries, and universities to facilitate more cooperation and exchange to establish themselves as a role model for smart cities.

3.2.2.5   Smart Development Centre, Tainan City Government, Taiwan

In response to the creation of the Internet of Things (**IoT**), digital citizenship, and other environmental changes, Tainan City Government implemented technology policies, including digital government digital economy, cyber community, and smart city as new opportunities for smart governance. To support this, Tainan City Government also took the lead on strategic decisions relating to information development and the integration of cross-technology and cross-domain innovation applications.

The Smart Development Centre delivers Tainan City Government's Information Intelligence Strategy, focusing on Digital Innovation, Smart Application, and Information Management.

Discussion

Discussions covered how Tainan City Government worked with ASUS Cloud to pioneer a "City Dynamic Image AI Sensing Platform" which uses 5G and AI recognition technology to quickly conduct image analysis and support municipal decision making in real time. This technology has been utilised to improve traffic flow management as well as pedestrian flow and activity to improve place outcomes.

Additionally, Tainan City Government highlighted their efforts to assist technical upgrades for local industry. One example they gave the delegation was their work supporting a start-up called Aeon Motor, which has developed a smart dashboard for motorcycles to improve safety and to improve rider experience (e.g., by including roadside parking assistance).

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

3.2.2.6   Hsinchu City Government, Taiwan

Hsinchu City (along with Hsinchu County) houses the first-ever Science Park in Taiwan, as well as the Xiangshan Industrial Park, and other clusters for high-tech and traditional industries. It also accommodates five universities, the industrial Technology Research Institute, and the Taiwan Space Agency. These higher education and top research organisations power and support, from various aspects, Hsinchu City to become an international smart city with four mainstays: digital, technology, IoT, and innovation.

Discussion

Discussions noted the Ryde delegation's plans to meet with Hsinchu County (a higher-level of Government), with Hsinchu City Government representatives supportive of Council's efforts.

Hsinchu City Government representatives highlighted their ambitions for a future 'Smart Hsinchu', with efforts being focused on sustainability, transportation, tourism, education, safety, architecture, healthcare, and culture.

3.2.2.7   National Health Insurance Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan

The National Health Insurance Administration (NHIA) of Taiwan uses "My Health Bank", which was developed in 2014 to help people take care of their health and provide access to personal health information.

Discussion

NHIA demonstrated how they work with industry and academia to develop tools and applications to improve health outcomes. They explained how they combine technology and new business models to promote applications of health data through the public's authorisation of the use of personal information (medical treatment and medication), which can be shared with trusted applications to help people manage their health.

3.2.2.8   Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Taiwan

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Taiwan is charged with administrating all aspects of transport and communications within Taiwan. Its operational duties are divided among four major categories: transportation, tourism, meteorology, and communications. In addition to its operational areas of responsibility, the Ministry is also responsible for establishing policies and formulating laws and regulations related to transportation and communications, and for overseeing the operation of agencies under it.

Discussion

Ministry representatives presented on their efforts to promote the integration and public release of transport data. They noted their efforts to build public-private data partnerships to inspire cross-domain applications and advance transport data exchange plans that contribute to the development of the digital economy.

Agenda of the Council Meeting No. 4/23, dated Wednesday, 26 April 2023.

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3.2.2.9   Asia Silicon Valley Development Agency (ASVDA), Taiwan

To develop applications for Artificial Intelligence of Things (**AIoT**) and improve the start-up investment environment, the Taiwanese Government produced an 'Asia Silicon Valley Development Plan 2.0'. ASVDA is responsible for delivering the plan, which focuses on accelerating industrial evolution with AIoT, expanding the application of AIoT technologies, upgrading Taiwan's start-up ecosystem, and consolidating the export capacity of system integrators.

The Asia Silicon Valley Development Plan 2.0 incorporates AI, 5G, and other critical technologies of the digital economy to expand the scope of internet-of-things applications, encourage the export of AIoT solutions and accelerate the growth and exit of star-ups to make Taiwan the key digital innovator in Asia.

Discussion

ASVDA were promoting local 5G and AIoT solutions as a part of their contributions to "Taiwan's Pathway to Net-Zero Emissions by 2050". Discussions highlighted the importance of behavioural change linked to the potential for smart cities technologies to accelerate the obtainment of Net Zero goals.

3.2.2.10   Administration for Digital Industries

The Ministry of Digital Affairs, Taiwan, was established at the end of August 2022 and is responsible for driving digital development in Taiwan. The core idea behind the Ministry was to build the digital resilience of citizens, promote innovation and the reform of digital policies, assist the government and industries to utilise digital tools, improve service quality and efficiency, and accelerate the digital transformation of services.

Discussion

The Ministry of Digital Affairs was represented by the Administration of Digital Industries, who presented their work on exploring innovative concepts for smart cities, with a particular focus on meta-education and blockchain innovation industries. Engagement focussed on their ability to improve customer service outcomes, with representatives highlighting some of their solutions to improve smart city solutions in healthcare, governance, transportation, education, and agriculture.

3.2.2.11   Fukuoka Smart East (Fukuoka City Government, Japan)

With a population of 1.63m, Fukuoka City is a liveable compact city with an airport and port close to the city centre. Fukuoka City is Japan's No.1 start-up city, with the highest rate of business openings, and is also working on becoming a smart city.

Discussion

Representatives from Fukuoka discussed their 'Fukuoka Smart East' project, which is aiming to solve social issues, such as the declining birth rate and aging population, through the use of advanced technology. Discussions evolved into the possibility for collaboration between Ryde and Fukuoka City, including the possibility of an MoU to formalise collaboration on matters such as education, trade, and economics. These conversations are ongoing and have been further enhanced following the trip to Taiwan.

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3.2.2.12   National Centre for High-performance Computing National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs), Taiwan

The National Centre for High-Performance Computing (NCHC) was founded in 1991 and is Taiwan's only national-level supercomputing centre. The NCHC plays a leading role in cloud technologies that possess a large computing, storage, networking, and platform integration needs. They provide domestic users with a Cloud Integration Service of High-Performance Computing, high quality networking, high efficiency storage, big data analysis, and scientific engineering stimulation.

The goal of the NCHC is to become an internationally renowned HPC Centre that promotes scientific discovery and technological innovation. The NCHC provides professional technologies and platform services to academia, government, and industry, and helps cultivate local talent in HCP-related fields.

Discussion

The NCHC is interested in working with domestic and foreign research and development teams to develop HPC and big data applications focussing on engineering and science, environmental and disaster prevention, biomedicine, and digital content creation. Discussions highlighted an openness to working with research and development teams from Australia.

3.2.2.13   Chang Gung University, Taiwan

Chang Gung University is a comprehensive university with leading innovative technology and research and development capabilities, including collaboration with the Chang Gung Memorial Hospital to deliver a clinical platform and test medical technology.

Chang Gung University is active in industry, education and translation, and application of innovative industrial technologies. For future medical development needs, Chang Gung University links the resources of top domestic and foreign enterprises, focusing on the development of medical forward-looking technologies, and accelerating the industry's international integration.

Discussion

Discussions with Chang Gung University focussed on the potential to collaborate with Macquarie University and other universities within NSW. Representatives demonstrated a sample of their work using AI for diagnosis and treatment of common retinal vascular diseases, a channel information processing system and method for identifying neonatal epileptic seizures, and a deep learning system analysing hip joint growth conditions based on ultrasounds.

3.2.2.14   Kaohsiung Medical University

Kaohsiung Medical University (KMU) was founded in 1954. It has been devoted to the cultivation of clinical and research talent in relevant medical, pharmaceutical, and bio-technological fields. KMU has five related hospitals. The biomedical service platform includes pharmaceutical trial, animal trial and clinical trial. Students graduating from KMU ty are engaged in work placements both domestically and internationally in the field of public medical care, contributing to Taiwan's advancements in medical science.

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Discussion

Our discussions with KMU focussed on the potential for research and development in collaboration with Macquarie University. Some of the items presented to the delegation included the university's work treating the early stages of Osteoarthritis, repairing cartilage, 3D printing ceramic bone replacements, Alzheimer's disease assessment systems, and an AI-based prediction model to analyse retinal lesions in patients with diabetic retinopathy.

3.2.2.15   National Taiwan University

The National Taiwan University is considered to be one of Taiwan's best universities (ranked 77 in the 2022 QS World University Ranking and 187 in the 2023 Times Higher Education World University Rankins), catering to over 35,000 students.

Due to limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the university moved its participation in international education exhibitions and student enrolment and orientation activities online. The University also invested in improvements to their website's accessibility and created Virtual Reality (VR) venues to encourage interaction between students and educators.

Discussion

Discussions focussed on the National Taiwan University's support for students to broaden their international perspectives and experiences through the university's participation in academic and cultural exchange programs. The university also talked about their *Voyage of Aspirations Scholarship*, which was launched in 2019 to open more doors for disadvantages students to join international exchange programs.

3.2.2.16   Ming Chi University of Technology

Founded in 1936 as the Ming Chi Institute of Technology, the Mi Chi University caters for approximately 4,300 students focussing on engineering, environment, management, and advanced research. Mi Chi University is located in New Taipei City, with the campus occupying approximately 62ha of space, including large parcels of green areas.

Discussion

Representatives discussed an approach to education and part-time practical training that was similar to the methods used by TAFE NSW. Ming Chi representatives spoke about how they are seeking to foster a culture of problem solving through real-world practical training in a hope to be contributing to a pipeline of talent that is directly relevant to the surrounding businesses.

3.2.2.17   Aone Traffic Research and Development (ATRD), Korea

The Korean Government handpicked Aone Traffic Research and Development, a Korean start up, to participate in 2023 SCSE. ARTD has created a new LED traffic light indicator, used in Seoul, which is a 'floor type pedestrian traffic light'.

Discussion

ARTD representatives explained how their new LED as it is moisture proof and able to dissipate heat. The problem ARTD is trying to solve is the reduction in 'Smombie' accidents – accidents caused by people walking on their smartphones not being aware of their surroundings (i.e., "smart phone zombies"). ARTD is interested in technology applications in Australia.

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3.2.2.18   Metal Industries Research & Development Centre, Taiwan

MIRDC is the only research institute in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. MIRDC has been engaged in the research, development, and production of metal related technologies since 1963. MIRDC continue to assist companies in the industrial upgrading and transformation in response to policy development, proactively promoting technical innovation and high-value applications of new technologies.

Discussion

MIRDC presented a range of products they developed in response to what they described as a 'impacted labour structure' linked to post pandemic times, as well as digital transformation and energy conservation requirements. Some of the products they demonstrated included tools to improve spinal surgery navigation and 3D printing sand moulds, which are used as aids for people with visual impairments.

3.2.2.19   Chunghwa Telecom (CHT Global), Taiwan

Chunghwa Telecom is Taiwan's largest integrated telecommunications services company that provides fixed-line, mobile, broadband, and internet services. The company also provides information and communication technology services to corporation customers with its big data, information security, cloud computing, and IDC capabilities, and is expanding its business into innovative technology services such as IoT and AI.

Through these efforts, Chunghwa is offering better communications and more convenient lives for its customers. Moreover, the company is developing proactive partnerships with telecom providers in other countries in order to establish a stronger international presence.

Discussion

Chunghwa Telecom presented several innovative 5G technologies and total solutions that can be applied by different industries. A highlight was their work on real time smart transportation, where they are analysing the time and place of traffic congestion to help City Governments alleviate traffic congestion and improve the timeliness of emergency service response times.

3.2.2.20   TECO Electric & Machinery Co., Ltd.

Founded in 1956 for motor manufacturing, TECO Electric & Machinery (TECOEM)has formed a green-energy ecological system, capable of providing solutions for energy generation, energy storage, and energy conservation.

For its core electromechanical products, TECOEM has developed low-carbon industrial solutions, air system solutions, automated and intelligent products, and optimal energy-conservation and emission reduction solutions.

Discussion

Discussions centred around TECOEM's aim to attain carbon neutrality and its corporate mission of energy conservation, emissions reduction, intelligence, and automation. Discussions with TECOEM also focussed on smart building solutions, including integration of AI with air conditioning systems and the development of a one-stop electromechanical service model for green buildings.

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3.2.2.21   Acer Group

Founded in 1976, Acer is one of the world's top ICT companies, with a presence in more than 160 countries (including Australia). Acer is evolving with the ICT industry and changing lifestyles of consumers by continuing to push for innovation in existing businesses, while expanding into new territories.

Discussion

Acer representatives highlighted the company's strategies around exploring new opportunities, expanding into adjacent territories, and cultivating multiple business 'engines'. Of particular note was their focus on smart solutions for smart cities, smart transportation, AI, energy storage systems, medical science, water quality, and water conservation.

3.2.2.22   Quanta Computer Inc.

Established in 1988, Quanta Computer is one of the world's leading notebook manufacturers. Aside from their work manufacturing notebooks, Quanta have extended into cloud computing business, enterprise network solutions, mobile communications products, smart home products, autotronics, smart healthcare, IoT, and AI applications to proactively expand the integrated deployment of their operations and to explore new business opportunities.

Quanta is a Fortune 500 company, with production and service locations across Asia, North America, Latin America, and Europe.

Discussion

Discussions explored Quanta's product lines across information, communications, consumer electronics, and cloud computing areas. In addition, how Quanta is actively developing their main operational centre in Taiwan, while integrating manufacturing sites in the Americas, Europe, and Asia to maintain strong competitiveness in global manufacturing and sales, with the potential to expand into Australia in the future, as there are a number of AI Platforms being developed by Quanta that could be of interest, particularly platforms for smart medicine, telemedicine, and patient care.

3.2.2.23   MiTAC Information Technology Corp., Taiwan

MiTAC Information Technology Corp. is a provider of AIoT solutions for smart cities and digital transformations. Established in 2010, MiTAC has inherited experiences in systems integration and core technology from MiTAC Inc. and accumulated technological capabilities in various fields.

MiTAC cooperates with governments and enterprises, helping customers with digital transformation from end to cloud, from electronisation to AI and developed successful business models in smart transportation, smart government, smart manufacturing, smart enterprise, smart education, smart banking, and smart tourism.

Discussion

MiTAC presented their AI decision making platform as well as their smart tourism/ticketing solutions alongside AIoT solutions for smart cities (e.g., AI that can be used to support the operations of autonomous vehicles). MiTAC are interested in the Australian market.

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3.2.2.24   Askey Computer Corp.

Established in 1989, Askey Computer Corp. is a member of ASUSTek Computer Inc. and specialises in the development of network communications and electronics manufacturing. Askey is headquartered in New Taipei City, Taiwan, with advanced manufacturing sites both domestically and abroad, inkling in Taiwan, China and Vietnam.

Askey is also investing in research and development establishing such activities in Taiwan, China, Brazil, Japan, America, and more.

Discussion

Discussions with Askey Computer Corp centred on their strong desire on the potential to bring their research and development activities into Macquarie Park in the City of Ryde. Discussions with Askey Computer Corp. are ongoing and thus commercial-in-confidence at this point-in-time.

3.2.2.25   Hyundai Rotem

Hyundai Rotem Company has supplied various types of railway vehicles, including high speed trains, light rail vehicles, locomotives, and passenger coaches and freight wagons to 38 countries across the world.

Hyundai Rotem Company has expanded its business to integrated railway systems, which includes signalling, communications, electricity, point-of-sale-devices, and rail services (including operations, maintenance, parts, and repairs).

Discussion

Discussions highlighted the presence of Hyundai Rotem's sister company, Hyundai Motors, having a head office in Macquarie Park. Representatives expressed a keen interest in Australia's rail efforts, in particular the pursuit of high-speed rail and upgrades to existing rail fleet. Ryde delegates provided an overview of publicly available information on NSW Government and Federal Government aspirations over both metro, inter-regional rail and high-speed rail.

3.2.2.26   Stadler Rail AG

Stadler is world-renowned partner for tailormade and modular vehicle solutions, alternative traction concepts, innovative train control systems and customised services over the full life cycle.

Stadler Rail's product range in the field of mainline railways and urban transport includes high-speed trains, intercity trains, regional and suburban railways, underground railways, light railways and trams. In addition, Stadler produces main-line engines, shunters and passenger carriages.

Discussion

Stadler expressed an interest in large infrastructure projects occurring in Australia, including metro and high-speed rail. Ryde delegates provided an overview of publicly available information on NSW Government and Federal Government aspirations over both metro, inter-regional rail, and high-speed rail.

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3.2.2.27   ST Engineering

ST Engineering is a global technology, defence and engineering group with offices across Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the U.S., serving customers in more than 100 countries. The Group uses technology and innovation to solve real-world problems and improve lives through its diverse portfolio of businesses across the aerospace, smart city, defence, and public security segments.

Discussion

ST Engineering's smart cities solutions have helped to make cities around the world a better place to live in, delivering urban efficiencies while keeping them safe and secure. Discussions with ST Engineering focussed on the possibility of establishing a research and development presence in Macquarie Park.

Discussions with ST Engineering are ongoing and thus commercial-in-confidence at this point-in-time.

3.2.2.28   Taoyuan Aerotropolis Co., Ltd., Taiwan

A gateway city of Taiwan, the Taoyuan International Airport is located in an advantageous location for international logistics while also providing a strategic location for international connections across Asia-Pacific cities. As such, the Taoyuan International Airport is expanding through the construction of a third runway.

The Taoyuan Aerotropolis Project has been initiated to support this expansion, with the project responsible for the acquisition of land and the refinement of urban planning approaches to promote the airport's development and the advancement of globalisation for different industries across Taiwan.

Discussion

Representatives highlighted the similarities between their work and the work being conducted on the Western Sydney Airport (Aerotropolis). They identified the need for development around the Taoyuan Aerotropolis to be diversified, yet targeted – focusing on the industries of cloud computing, international logistics, aviation support industries, biotechnology, green energy, and smart automobiles. Ryde delegates spoke about the broader NSW objectives for the Western Sydney Aerotropolis, including its future connections to areas such as Macquarie Park via new metro rail connections.

3.2.2.29   Ionex Energy, Taiwan

Ionex Energy is a company focusing on making 'going electric easy' through 'zero-wait' charging for e-scooters. Ionex provides three key technologies for scalable private and public transportation networks. This includes vehicle selection (e-scooters), energy stations (exchanging batteries), and cloud operating systems.

Discussion

Discussions with Ionex highlighted the efforts that had been made to make their model as simple and as user friendly as possible. Demand was a key factor, and the Taiwanese Government's efforts to shift people away from private vehicle ownership and into sharing has supported Ionex's implementation. Representatives demonstrated the plug and play simplicity of their products.

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3.2.2.30   Quadlink Technology Inc., Taiwan

Quadlink Technology is committed to improving better quality food and friendly environments. They focus on developing IoT systems and related smart farming market applications.

Discussion

Quadlink presented their water monitoring system, which is powered by solar energy and continuously monitors difference aspects of water condition. The technology is used by fisherman, who can actively monitor and improve aquacultural production.

3.2.2.31   IoE Intelligent Technology Co., Taiwan

IoE Intelligent Company is one of the world's leading companies for the design and manufacturing of smart wireless multi-mode traffic light systems (i.e. an integration of smart pole technologies with traffic light systems).

Discussion

Representatives emphasised the value of their product having wireless capabilities, which allows for integration with telecommunication networks, such as 5G technologies, to communicate with other smart city technologies, including smart/driverless vehicles.

3.2.2.32   Foxconn, Taiwan

Foxconn is a Taiwanese multinational electronics contract manufacturer, established in 1974 in New Taipei City, Taiwan. They manufacturer electronic products for major American, Canadian, Finnish, and Japanese companies. Some of the products they manufacturer include iPhones and iPads, Sony devices, Google pixel devises, and devices for Nintendo.

At the 2023 SCSE, Foxconn was focussing on their "CityGPT Smart City Platform" which integrates multiple databases and used AI to create new service models and technology applications that benefit the public, drive industry innovation, and improve government governance efficiency.

Discussion

Ryde delegates were fortunate enough to explore a 'Model T' electric bus developed by Foxconn. The bus's battery range is approximately 240km, with the buses equipped with advanced driver assistance systems (e.g., AI assessing road users and pedestrians to alert the driver to potential risks, and screens linked to 360-degree cameras replacing side mirrors and reducing blind spots). These buses also link to real time passenger information services to improve customer experiences.

These buses are being manufactured for Taiwanese and American markets (left-hand drive); however, Foxconn expressed an interest in finding test locations within an Australian market. There is a potential for future collaboration in this regard.

3.2.2.33   Foxtron, Taiwan

Focussing on electric vehicle technologies, Foxtron provides a range of technical services to manufacturers and technologies companies working in the EV market. These services include product planning, styling, engineering solutions, prototype development, and engineering and vehicle testing.

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Discussion

Ryde delegates met Foxtron representatives following Foxconn's presentation of the Model T bus. Foxtron highlighted their approach to partnering with different organisations to integrate solutions and improve product development. They had a strong focus on EV platforms but highlighted their growing knowledge of AI and the potential applications of AI in transportation. They expressed an interest in the Australian market, noting there are challenges with access to data and information, as well as the ability to integrate with smart city networks (e.g., CCTV).

3.2.2.34   Master Transportation Bus Manufacturing LTD.

Master is a relatively new electric bus manufacturing company, becoming qualified as a e-bus manufacturer in Taiwan in 2019. Master's first electric bus in Sanmen was equipped with 72kWh of battery capacity, and was running for more than 170kms a day using Master's fast charging system. A new bus being launched in New Taipei City is expected to run for more than 400kms a day.

Discussion

In addition to sharing information about their bus fleet, Master's discussed the role of prototyping in cities, highlighting the planned creation of an 'Electric Bus Industrial Park' in Changhua Erlin (covering approximately 20ha of land). The goal of this park is to become a global centre for the supply of electric busses, with an aim to bring research and development and manufacturing together into a single park.

3.2.2.35   World Smart Sustainable Cities Organisation (WeGO), South Korea

WeGO is an international association that promotes worldwide transformation of cities to smart sustainable cities through facilitating public-private partnership (PPP). Established in 2010, WeGO currently has over 200 members around the world. The current president of the organization is the Mayor of Seoul, and their Secretariat is located in Seoul, Korea. WeGO also has 3 regional offices (Abuya, Nigeria; Chengdu, China; and Beyoglu, Turkey) that support WeGO's mission in their respective regions.

Discussion

Discussions with WeGo focussed on the potential for Ryde to become one of the first Australian cities to become members. Discussions also explored opportunities for WeGo to help facilitate international collaboration as the potential for Ryde to house a future Australian head office for WeGo.

Discussions with WeGo are ongoing and thus commercial-in-confidence at this point in time. The Executive Leadership Team of Council are considering membership of WeGo based on the potential benefits to the City of Ryde.

3.2.2.36   SIDEC, Malaysia

The Selangor Information and Digital Economy Corporation (SIDEC) is under the purview of the Standing Committee of Trade and Investment of Selangor, Malaysia. A government agency, SIDEC is responsible for leading the digital transformation of Selangor as ASEAN's digital hub.

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Discussion

Discussions with SIDEC representatives focussed on their efforts to improve digital economy outcomes through a focus on incubating start-ups, a number of smart city initiatives, and the facilitation of e-commerce. SIDEC then introduced delegates to several representatives from Malaysian-based start-ups that had joined them at the SCSE.

3.2.2.37   WaveGIS Technology Co.

WaveGIS was founded in 2004 and headquartered in Taipei, Taiwan. It provides a range of software and hardware solutions that connect data to the management of services, integrating locational information with sensors, cloud and mobile application technologies. More recently, WaveGIS has focused on smart water management, identifying methods to improve flood resilience, water drainage, sewage, and water sustainability.

Discussion

WaveGIS presented a sensor that detects water pressure at a relatively high level of accuracy while consuming very little power. This sensor allows cities to acquire real-time water level date to improve responses to flood events and to better inform water management practices. WaveGIS also discussed their efforts to improve the integration of these sensors with other technologies, such as CCTV, manhole cover sensors, toxic waste sensors, and more. They also demonstrated how they are using this data to in scenario modelling to improve infrastructure planning and response timeframes during flooding events.

3.2.2.38   Advanced Semiconductor Engineering Inc.

Advanced Semiconductor Engineering (also known as ASE Group) is a leading provider of semiconductor packaging and test services. ASE provides turnkey services, including substrate design and manufacturing capabilities, and delivers innovative advanced packaging and system-in-package solutions to meet growth momentum across a broad range of end markets, including 5G, automotive, and high-performance computing.

Discussion

ASE discussed how they use AI, big data and clous computing to empower the manufacturing process to think, detect, learn and adjust. Their technology seeks to be deeply embedded and extended across multiple applications to improve smart management practices in manufacturing. In addition to packaging and testing technologies, ASE discussed some of their work in smart management and smart healthcare.

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4 Net Zero City Leaders Summit

4.1 Background

A closed-door event, the Net Zero City Leaders Summit provides a high-level of dialogue platform for Mayors and city leaders from around the world to exchange their ideas on Net Zero strategies, governance, initiatives, and visions for the future.

The Net Zero City Leaders Summit gathered more than 100 city representatives together to hear a keynote speech from Edwin Liu, President of Taiwan's Technology Research Institute, a keynote speech from Gino Van Begin, Secretary General of the ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. followed by short presentations from a select number of global city leaders speaking to one of two topics:

1. The trend of zero-carbon urban environments, and

2. Using smart technology to reach zero-carbon building.

The five-hour summit was attended by Ryde Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM with support from the City of Ryde's Executive Officer City Economy.

4.2 Speakers

4.2.1 Keynote speeches

4.2.1.1   Edwin Liu, Industrial Technology Research Institute: "Achieving a Net-Zero Society"

Edwin Liu, President of Taiwan's Industrial Technology Research Institute, was the first keynote speaker. Mr Liu spoke on Taiwan's efforts towards achieving a "Net-Zero Society" through the guidance of twelve key strategies:

1. Wind Power / Solar PV
2. Hydrogen Energy
3. Innovative Energy
4. Power System & Energy Storage
5. Energy Saving & Energy Efficiency
6. Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage
7. Transportation Electrification & Decarbonisation
8. Resource Recycling & Zero Waste
9. Carbon Sink
10. Green Lifestyle
11. Green Finance, and
12. Just Transition

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A key point raised in the Mr Liu's speech was the importance of 'no one being left behind', hence the identification of a just transition strategy – linking efforts in transportation, buildings, and materials into lifestyles.

Given the focus of the two sessions, the keynote speech addressed:

- Transportation decarbonisation, including the focus on avoiding the use of private vehicles, transferring people to public transport, and improving outcomes for the use of private vehicles (e.g., electrification, self-driving cars, etc.)

- Sharing Economy, including encouraging a mentality of 'use, not own' when it comes to vehicles such as motorcycles (of which there are 14.19 million in use in Taiwan – 6 motorcycles per 10 people)

- Innovative technologies, including hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and e-fuels

- Retrofit and new constructions initiatives, including solar reflective coating/sheets and low thermal conductivity mortars and coatings

- Energy management, including a green energy technology demonstration site for residential and commercial buildings

- Low carbon materials and low carbon ecosystem, including new materials, recycled materials, and improved manufacturing methods

- Behaviour change – this was seen as the biggest challenge and priority for the Taiwanese Government. Changing the behaviours of consumers, residents and businesses to realise and ambitiously accelerate the achievement of Net Zero goals.

4.2.1.2   Gino Van Begin, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability: "ICLEI's Climate Neutrality Framework"

Gino Van Begin, Secretary-General of the ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, was the second keynote speaker. Mr Van Begin spoke about ICLEI's "Climate Neutrality Framework", which is built on a tailor-made approach for local and regional governments around the globe. ICLEI supports an integrated approach to climate action – climate resilience, climate change adaptation, and mitigation – across all sectors and all themes.

Mr Van Begin outlined the following elements of ICLEI's Climate Neutrality Framework:

- **Lead:** Commit to tackle climate change and track progress in governmental operations and territory – urged to achieve climate neutrality by 2040 (latest 2050).

- **Access:** Technical assistance and process guidance to analyse, act and accelerate – integrating climate action into urban development policies and plans, processes and institutions.

- **Finance:** Identify finance and investment needs, submit priority infrastructure projects to *Transformative Actions Program* project pipeline, access project preparation support.

- **Together:** Explore multi-level governance and multi-stakeholder partnerships to enhance climate action across all levels of government and with key actors.

- **Progress:** Track developments, transparency – public reporting, network/share/learn, demonstrate leadership, inform advocacy messaging.

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Mr Van Begin noted ICLEI's definition of climate neutrality:

> "*The targeted reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and GHG avoidance in own operations and across the community in all sectors to an absolute net-zero emission level at the latest by 2050 – rather by 2040, as science shows we are not on track!*
>
> *In parallel to this, it is critical to adapt to climate change and enhance climate resilience across all sectors, in all systems and processes.*
>
> *To achieve climate neutrality local and regional governments should set a clear goal and advance rapidly following a holistic and integrated approach that leads to a wider range of co-benefits for sustainable development, such as creating socio-economic opportunities, reducing poverty and inequality, and improving the health of people and nature.*

4.2.1.3   City leader speakers

The table below provides a snapshot of the city leaders who spoke at the summit, split into each forum session.

Table 2 - Net Zero City Leader Summit - speakers

#	City, Country	Speaker	Topics
Forum 1: The trend of zero-carbon urban transport			
1.	Town of Morrisville, United States of America	TJ Cawley, Mayor	Master sustainability plan integrating smart technologies with net zero emission initiatives
2.	Vysocina Region, Czech Republic	Hana Hajnova, 1st Deputy president of the region	Strategic planning, integration of sustainable development goals
3.	Tel Aviv, Israel	Royi Elcabets, Head of Committee of Urban Renewal Projects for the City Tel Aviv Municipality	Municipal innovation centre to enhance the quality of human resources and incubate innovate solutions
4.	Edinburgh, United Kingdom	Cammy Day, Leader of the Council	A climate ready, net-zero capital by 2030. Emissions reduction in public buildings, conversion of fleet vehicles to EV
5.	Redland City, Australia	Cr Julie Talty, Deputy Mayor	Hydrogen innovation and opportunities, electrification of bus fleet
6.	Lublin, Poland	Artur Szymczyk, Deputy Mayor	Digital transformation, green energy solutions, net zero carbon emissions
7.	Guarulhos, Brazil	Gustavo Henric Costa, Mayor	Zero-carbon urban transport
8.	Poznan, Poland	Jacek Jaskowiak, Mayor	Zero-emission urban transport trends
9.	Port Coquitlam, Canada	Brad West, Mayor	Downtown revitalisation, regional coordination, strategic planning
10.	Rzeszow, Poland	Konrad Fijolek, Mayor	Net Zero Mission City, hydrogen buses, climate-neutral and smart cities, intelligent

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			transport systems, self-sufficient/smart bus stations and shelters, pocket gardens, smart environment
11.	Palmerston North, New Zealand	Grant Smith, Mayor	Smart innovations through strategy, talent acquisition, data collection, policy development, and delivery
12.	Asan City, South Korea	Park Gyeong-Gwi, Mayor	Challenges of a lack of urban infrastructure and depletion of natural resources, urban development project 'Tangjeong 2'
13.	National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan	Professor Jin-Li Hu	Taiwan's pathway to net-zero emissions, carbon pricing, corporate governance 3.0 – sustainable development roadmap, 100% e-scooter target by 2040
Forum 2: Using smart technology to reach zero-carbon building			
14.	Budapest, Hungary	Gabor Kerpel Fronius, Deputy Mayor	Zero carbon building, climate vision, Budapest solar map
15.	Chiang Mai, Thailand	Ratchanee Chomchune, Deputy Mayor	Revitalisation of Mae Kha Canal
16.	South Moravian Region, Czech Republic	Petra Korlaar, Deputy Mayor	Working with partners to realise a net zero tourism industry
17.	Gladstone City, Australia	Matt Burnett, Mayor	Gladstone Hydrogen Hub, transition economy strategy
18.	LGU-Iligan, Philippines	Frederick Siao, Mayor	'Ilig-on-novation' (innovation districts), Iligan development goals
19.	Bydgoszcz, Poland	Michal Sztybel, Deputy Mayor	Zero-emission city, rail and road infrastructure, improvements in key industries (tool making and plastics process; IT and telecommunications)
20.	Montgomery in Maryland, United States of America	Marc Elrich, ounty Executgive	Climate policies, city infrastructure, whole of government approaches
21.	Gdyina, Poland	Batosz Bartoszewicz, Deputy Mayor	Counting carbon footprint, eco transport, EV public transport and public EV charging stations, energy efficient buildings
22.	Newark City, United States of America	Ligia Spencer De Freitas, Deputy Mayor	Telecommunications and smart city initiatives (Newark Broadband Expansion Plan)
23.	Leuven, Belgium	Thomas Van Oppens, Deputy Mayor	Strategic planning, renewable energy, renovating existing historic building stock, circular economy
24.	Belize	Oscar Requena, Minister of Local Government	Low carbon development strategy, vulnerability to climate change (island nation),

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			using smart city technology to improve data collection
25.	Kieve, Ukraine	Volodymyr Bondarenko, Deputy Mayor	Smart city technologies to improve Kiev's resilience (early detection of air raids, location of nearest bomb shelters, free access to information, evidence and reporting of destruction)
26.	Architecture and Building Research Institute, Ministry of Interior, Taiwan	Chief Secretary Chung-Pi Luan	Global trends for net zero and Taiwan's contributions/net zero pathway focussing on net zero buildings

4.2.2   Additional engagement activities during Net Zero City Leaders Summit

The 26 speakers listed in Table 2 were joined in attendance by approximately 80-90 additional city leaders, including Ryde's Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM. The presence of so many city leaders provided the opportunity for networking and the raising of brand awareness on behalf of Ryde.

Of note were discussions with representatives from Matsuyama Ehime (Japan), Palmerston North City (New Zealand), and Moravian-Silesian (Czech Republic). These discussions had a consistent theme of wanting to learn from others on how each city can achieve net zero targets.

The reason these three cities are of note is that they are geographically, demographically, and economically diverse when compared to Ryde (for example, Matsuyama is a regional council with similarities to Australian cities such as Newcastle and Townsville), yet they are tackling the same obstacles as Ryde when it comes to achieving net zero outcomes.

Officer-level conversations are ongoing between representatives from Palmerston North City and Matsuyama Ehime, who have shared an interest in ongoing collaboration on policy and strategic planning.

Image 1 - Mayor of Ryde, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM, with world city leaders at the Net Zero City Leaders Summit

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5   2023 Smart City Mayor's Summit: Mayors' Roundtable

Attended, as observers, by Councillor Trenton Brown, Council's CEO and General Manager City Shaping, the 3-hour Smart City Mayors' Summit, which gathered smart city mayors and regional representatives from around the world to share and discuss the latest governance strategies and trends for smart cities.

*Note, the Smart City Mayor's summit occurred at the same time as the Net Zero City Leaders Summit. Mayor Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM had a formal invite to the Net Zero City Leaders Summit. Observation of the Mayor's Summit was only permitted to Ryde delegates on the day.

5.1   Speakers

5.1.1   Keynote speech

Keynote speakers included Muhammed Berdibek, a representative of the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei, and Shih-Lung Chao, Commissioner for the Department of Information Technology for the Taipei City Government.

5.1.1.1   Muhammed Berdibek, Turkish Trade Office in Taipei

Mr Berdibek touched on the impacts of severe earthquake that impacted Turkey on 6 February 2023. Mr Berdibek noted the generosity of other countries coming to the aid of Turkey as an example of how cities and countries from across the world can come together for the greater good.

Mr Berdiebek noted the economic impacts, in particular those relating to tourism, and highlighted the opportunity the earthquake has created to develop smart city initiatives to improve the ability to predict, respond, and reduce the impact of natural disasters.

5.1.1.2   Shih-Lung (Jack) Chao, Commissioner Department of Information Technology, Taipei City Government

Mr Chao discussed the challenges and opportunities arising from the developing Taipei's smart city, focussing on new opportunities for digital transformation in the public sector. The development vision of a "Smart Taipei" is focussed across three focus areas: city Internationalisation; liveability and sustainability; and industrial globalisation.

Mr Chao highlighted the importance of digital services as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, there is a growing need for city governments to implement digital strategies that balance the needs of users with the services delivered by governments.

Mr Chao noted a number of initiatives being tackled by the Taipei City Government, including:

- Improving cashless payment in markets and stores
- Digital infrastructure (aiming to realise digital equality)
- Exploring capacities and applications of 5G technology (e.g., smart poles, CCTV, service accessibility)
- Building an entrepreneurship ecosystem, and
- Building international links for investment promotion.

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5.1.1.3   Roundtable discussions

There were two key topics for the roundtable discussions:

1. Session 1: Industry development for addressing public service needs.

   - Discussion focussed on a key question "*Under the post-pandemic economy recovery, what should cities focus on in terms of digital transformation?*"

   - Responses to this question broadly touched on the need for the government sector and private sector to cooperate on solutions; the need for leadership within city governments; and the need to create an environment the support developing proofs of concept for innovative technologies, products and services.

2. Session 2: Building and establishing intelligent communities

   - Discussion focussed on a key question "*How can citizen benefits be enhanced by creating an intelligent community with information technology?*"

   - Responses to this question broadly touched on the need to build intelligence infrastructure and implement energy efficient disaster and health management systems, as well as messages about ensuring benefits of smart cities technologies for older adults and the underprivileged.

5.1.2   Additional engagement activities during Mayors' Roundtable

Ryde delegates were able to network with several delegates from different cities. Delegates had interesting discussions with representatives from the Gornoslaski Institute of Technology (Poland), Business Tampere (Finland), Kandy (Sri Lanka), New Jersey (United States of America), Fukuoka City (Japan), and Chiang Mai Municipality (Thailand).

Discussions with representatives from Fukuoka City and Chiang Mai Municipality were positive, particularly around the interest in collaborating with Ryde on a range of initiatives relating to smart city and net zero outcomes. Conversations with both cities are ongoing, with an opportunity to work on MoUs with both cities around economics and trade, as well as net zero, education, arts, and culture exchange.

Discussions with representatives from Kandy, Tampere, and New Jersey were also enlightening, with discussions touching on differences between them and the City of Ryde, yet the shared goals of achieving Net Zero, smart cities, and safe and welcoming cities.

Image 2 - Ryde delegates meeting representatives from Chiang Mai, Thailand

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6 Hsinchu County visit

6.1.1 Background

Instead of participating in a cultural tour of Taipei (as a part of the SCSE), Ryde delegates were privileged to be hosted on a separate site visit to Hsinchu County, organised and facilitated by TECO, Sydney, and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Taiwan. This was only provided to Ryde delegates, as a result of the efforts of Council staff to build a relationship with TECO representatives.

6.1.1.1 Hsinchu County

Hsinchu County is a county located in northern Taiwan, adjacent to the capital city of Taipei. It covers an area of approximately 1,427kkm2 and has a population of approximately 550,000 people. The County is known for its high-tech industry, particularly in semiconductors, with many research and development centres located in the area, making it one of the most prosperous counties in Taiwan.

One of the most important areas in Hsinchu County is the Hsinchu Science Park, which is home to numerous high-tech companies and research institutions. The park covers an area of roughly 400ha and employs over 150,000 people.

6.1.1.2 Semiconductor industry

Hsinchu County is often referred to as the "Silicon Valley of Taiwan" due to its strong focus on the semiconductor industry. The Hsinchu Science Park is home to mangy semiconductor manufacturers, including TSMC, the world's largest contract chip manufacturer. The Park also houses the National Chip Implementation Centre, which provides facilities for research and development in the semiconductor industry.

Semiconductor manufacturing is a crucial component of Taiwan's national economy, accounting for a significant portion of the country's exports. In Hsinchu, the semiconductor industry is responsible for creating many high-paying jobs and driving economic growth in the region. The County is also home to several universities and research institutions that provide a stead stream of talented graduates for the industry.

6.1.2 Pursuit of an MoU

Through TECO, Sydney (prior to the SCSE), Council staff liaised with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Taiwan and representatives from Hsinchu County regarding the possibility of collaborating with Ryde on the advancement of innovation districts. This interest stems from the similar characteristics shared by several of the innovation districts in Hsinchu County and the Macquarie Park Innovation District.

Subject to approval from the Hsinchu County Magistrate and Ryde elected Council, the potential areas for cooperation (addressed through an MoU), may include trade and economics and the exchange of knowledge, experience, and training related to:

- The development of relevant policies and frameworks that facilitate responsible trade between Taiwan and Australia, specifically between Hsinchu County and Ryde;

- The promotion of an inclusive trade environment between Australia and Taiwan that promotes economic advancement for Hsinchu County and Ryde;

- The encouragement of partnerships between private sector operators within Hsinchu County and Ryde;

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- The encouragement of partnerships between education institutions within Hsinchu County and Ryde;

- The facilitation of opportunities aimed at promoting inclusive, sustainable growth and facilitating private and civil society engagement to stimulate trade and investment and cooperation between Hsinchu County and Ryde; and

- The exploration of opportunities for closer partnerships between Australian and Taiwanese companies in sectors such as health, education, advanced manufacturing, and technological advancements

6.1.3 Hsinchu County site visit

As noted above, instead of participating in cultural tours as a part of the SCSE on 31 March 2023, the Ryde delegation visited Hsinchu County, Taiwan, and:

- Met the Magistrate of Hsinchu County (highest office holder) and other government officials

- Toured the Hsinchu Science Park, including meeting with the representatives from the Park, and

- Toured the National Tsing Hua University, including meeting with key representatives from the University.

6.1.3.1   Meeting with Hsinchu County Government

Speech – Magistrate Yang Wen-ke

Council delegates met with the Magistrate of Hsinchu County, Yang Wen-ke, and other government officials. The Magistrate welcomed the delegation, offered his gratitude for the delegation's visit, and acknowledged the work of the Taipei Economic Cultural Office, Sydney, Director-General Fiona Fan. He highlighted the importance of science and technology in Hsinchu County as well as traditional connections to the Hakka people who are native to the area.

The Magistrate acknowledged the City of Ryde's interest in pursuing an MoU together, referring to other examples of Hsinchu County's efforts to collaborate with other cities on science, education, arts, culture and sports.

The Magistrate specifically acknowledged the similarities between Hsinchu County and the City of Ryde. He acknowledged the number of innovation parks in Hsinchu County, including others working on research and development and biomedicines in a similar manner to Macquarie Park in the City of Ryde.

Lastly, the Magistrate thanked the delegation for visiting and offered his hope for a welcome stay while in Taiwan.

Speech – Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Mayor for the City of Ryde, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM, reflected on Taiwan's history and its contribution to the world, and even to Cr Yedelian's time running a repair shop for electronics when he was younger. Cr Yedelian acknowledged Taiwan's efforts to support democracy and to continuously pursue advancement in technology and innovation.

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Cr Yedelian thanked the Magistrate for hosting the City of Ryde delegation and acknowledged the similarities of the Macquarie Park Innovation District and the innovation districts spread across Hsinchu County. He also spoke of the City of Ryde's interest in establishing an MoU that brings both cities together to collaborate on future innovations, including the potential for collaboration with Macquarie University. The Mayor also stated that he would write a letter to formally invite a delegation from Hsinchu County to visit Ryde and tour Macquarie Park.

Image 3 - Cultural gift exchange between the Mayor of Ryde and the Magistrate of Hsinchu County

Questions and answers

Representatives from Hsinchu County and the City of Ryde delegation exchanged high-level questions about each jurisdiction, focussing on how they work with industry and academia. Hsinchu County representatives presented their new "Blueprint for County Administration", which includes:

1. Five target developments in Hsinchu County, including:

    a. AI Smart Park – attracting leading international AI research and development technology companies to take residence in an area adjacent to the Hsinchu Science Park.

    b. High Speed Rail district plan in Zhudong – Improving the seamlessness of the transport journey between the Zhudong High Speed Rail station and the different innovation districts.

    c. Taiwan Knowledge-based Economic Flagship Park – Leveraging existing strengths in research and design, smart medical, biotechnology, and other technologies and partnership with the National Chiao Tung University Zhubei Campus to establish an industry-academia collaboration district.

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d. Construct independent waste treatment facility – Hsinchu currently commissions other countries and cities to dispose of its waste. This initiative focusses on created a PPP environment for the large-scale treatment of waste.

e. Life memorial park – An initiative to remove local taboos fear around funerals, Hsinchu County plans to construct funeral parlours, cremation sites, columbarium pagodas and eco-friendly burial sites that provide comprehensive and unified funeral services for a humans' 'life mile in life'.

6.1.3.2   Tour of the Hsinchu Science Park

Established in 1985 with a similar concept to Macquarie Park Innovation District, the Hsinchu Science Park includes some of the world's biggest and most innovative companies and research institutes and universities, including Anwell Semiconductor Corp, ASE Technology, Davicon Semiconductor, Jabil Circuit Taiwan Limited, Microtek International Inc, Nexcell Battery Co, Photron Semiconductor Corp, RDC Semiconductors Co, and, importantly, TSMC – the largest semiconductor manufacturing company in the world, with revenue exceeding $US47.85B per annum.

Ryde delegates were given a tour of the Science Park before meeting senior representatives responsible for administering the park. They provided staff with a comprehensive presentation, which made a particular note of their ability to support the Science Park's agility and responsiveness to market trends by nurturing an innovation ecosystem that brings government, industry, and academia together.

This agility, for example, is identifiable through the Science Park's historic ability to innovate and adapt to changes in the technology sector, such as the introduction of new technologies like personal computers, advancements in telecommunications, and new advanced manufacturing plant, equipment and processes.

Discussions then shifted towards the similarities of Hsinchu Science Park with the Macquarie Park Innovation District. Macquarie University highlighted the efforts they are making in terms of research, industry collaboration, and student enrolments and employability. Ryde delegates discussed the reinvigorated approach it is taking towards economic development and international relations, expressing an interest in learning how the administrators for Hsinchu Science Park work with stakeholders across industry, academia and government.

Hsinchu Science Park expressed an interest in Council's approach to international relations, and formal conversations are now being held between representatives from the Science Park, Council, and Macquarie University on the possibility of a tripartite MoU between the parties.

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Image 4 - Ryde delegates meeting officials from Hsinchu Science Park

6.1.3.3   Tour of the National Tsing Hua University

Following our meeting at Hsinchu Science Park, the delegation visited the National Tsing Hua University (NTHU), which is a renowned and comprehensive research university based in Hsinchu County. NTHU has 12 colleges, 35 departments and 30 independent graduate institutions and currently hosts approximately 17,000 students, including 1,700 international students form over 50 nations.

Delegates from Ryde and Macquarie University met with senior representatives from NTHU, including Ya-Wen Wen (Program Manager, Office of Global Affairs), Cheng-Yao Lo (Professor with the Department of Power Mechanical Engineering), and Chang-Hu Liu (Director of Global Research Collaboration). Our discussions focussed on the similarities of Hsinchu County and Ryde, and the possibility of collaboration between NTHU and Macquarie University.

Of particular interest to Ryde delegates was the potential for international student exchange program whereby students at international universities can study at NTHU and the tuition fee fat NTHU is waived (provided the student is paying tuition at their home institution). Semester costs for items like housing, books and supplies, and personal expenses range from approximately $US1,850-3,900.

NTHU is interested in holding further discussions with Macquarie University on a number of matters that are potentially commercially sensitive and thus will not be documented in this report.

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Image 5 - Ryde delegates on tour of the National Tsing Hua University

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7 Evaluation

7.1 Methodology

The evaluation included in this report includes:

- an assessment of the positive and negative impacts of the City of Ryde's participation in the SCSE and visit to Hsinchu County

- modelling of potential economic benefits linked to the signing of different MoUs, and

- modelling of potential economic benefits linked to new companies coming to Macquarie Park.

7.2 Costs

The total cost to the City of Ryde was **$5,970.24** made up of:

- Return flights (China Airlines, economy) for three staff = $5,078.50

- Cultural gift (framed reprint of 'Banjo Patterson Cottage' by Margaret Drake and a book of Banjo Patterson Poetry) = $462.95

- Incidentals:

    o parking at Sydney Airport = $200.79

    o excess baggage requirements = $228.00

7.2.1.1 Notes on costs

Note 1 - The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Sydney covered the cost of:

- Return flights (economy) for the Mayor, and

- Accommodation, meals, translators, and transfers for all delegates.

All delegates (Councillors and staff) are required to record the above in sections C and D of their pecuniary interest forms.

Note 2 – Wages for staff and Councillors were not included as a cost as they are annualised salaries. Furthermore, Council staff continued to conduct normal work activities while overseas and did not make any claims for overtime (staff worked on weekends and in times outside of delegation activities, averaging a 12-13hr working day - which exceeds Council's standard working week of 37.5 hours).

Note 3 – Councillor Trenton Brown paid for his airfares out of his own pocket. Macquarie University paid for the airfares of Professor Dan Johnson.

Note 4 – Meals not covered by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office were at the expense of individuals (i.e., meals at airports and coffees/snacks while at the SCSE).

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7.3   Potential benefits

This evaluation groups benefits into the following categories:

1. Delegate participation in the SCSE

2. Possible MoUs between Ryde and:

    a. Hsinchu County, Taiwan

    b. New Taipei City, Taiwan

    c. Fukuoka, Japan

    d. Chiang Mai, Thailand

3. Possible MoU between Ryde, Hsinchu Science Park, and Macquarie University

4. Possible direct investment from business who expressed an interest in investing in Ryde.

7.3.1   Potential benefits – Delegate participation in 2023 SCSE

To avoid duplicating the counting of benefits, benefits linked to securing MoUs and private investment into Ryde have been reported under separate headings.

The positive and negative impacts described below specifically relate to Ryde's participation in the SCSE.

7.3.1.1   SCSE Participation – negative impacts

Delegate participation, and the broader outcomes for Ryde's participation in the SCSE, were negatively impacted by adverse media coverage and negative Councillor discourse on the matter during Council meetings prior to the trip. Specifically, negative media linked to allegations of Council breaching rules of the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG) and the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) detrimentally impacted the delegation's efforts to secure:

*   meetings with high value stakeholders (Governments, industry and academia), and

*   an in-principle agreement from Hsinchu County for an MoU with Ryde during the trip.

Inability to secure the above to the extent possible negatively impacted the following stakeholders: Council's reputation internationally, Council delegates and staff, Hsinchu County representatives, TECO representatives, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Taiwan, and the NSW Government.

For Council staff and representatives, the allegations and the subsequent media coverage required a diversion of Council resources to respond to media enquiries and into repairing relationships staff established with TECO and representatives from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Taiwan. The ability for Council to secure meetings with stakeholders in the lead up to SCSE was also impacted, with many stakeholders not accepting formal meeting requests due to the adverse media coverage and behaviour and negative discourse by Councillors at Council meetings where the matter was discussed.

For the NSW Government, these allegations and the subsequent media coverage occurred during the NSW State election campaign period, which limited the NSW Government's ability to contribute to media coverage (positively or negatively) due to caretaker conventions.

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Further, commentary made referring to candidates for the State electorates (across electorates, across political parties) may have negatively impacted Council's future ability to work with State agencies and MPs on international relations post-election. Council's efforts to secure international investment into Ryde would greatly benefit from a collaborative approach with the NSW Government, particularly with agencies such as Investment NSW.

It is difficult to quantify these negative impacts in dollar values; however, the outcome of not receiving an in-principal agreement from Hsinchu County for an MoU with Ryde during the delegate's meeting with Hsinchu County representatives while in Hsinchu is a result of the negative media coverage. This is still a work-in-progress. This will also likely negatively impact the significant efforts by Council staff to establish international relations centred on economics, investment, trade, education, culture, and the arts with Japan, South Korea, and India, in particular.

7.3.1.2   SCSE Participation – positive impacts

Delegate participation, and the broader outcomes for Ryde's participation in the 2023 SCSE, has the following positive impacts:

- Networking – Networking between Ryde delegates with international professionals from industry, academia and government has led to new opportunities for engagement between Ryde and other international cities, companies, and institutions (both within and outside of Taiwan).

- Exposure for Ryde – The number of meetings, forums, seminars, and networking opportunities created multiple opportunities for Ryde delegates to educate international stakeholders from cities, companies, and institutions about Ryde and investment opportunities in Macquarie Park.

  o Ryde delegates presented stakeholders with copies of Council's *Advanced Technology Prospectus* for Macquarie Park in both English and Traditional Mandarin.

- Delegate knowledge and cultural exchange – participation in a conference is a professional development opportunity for participants, who benefit from knowledge and cultural exchanges that lead to learnings about new cultures, technologies, initiatives, policies, and concepts.

It is difficult to quantify these positive impacts in dollar values; however, from an evaluative mindset, the following table prescribes key performance indicators (KPI) for the delegation to the 2023 SCSE and the performance against those KPIs.

Table 3 - Meeting KPIs for 2023 SCSE

KPI	Pre-confirmed*	Result	% difference
No. meetings: Industry	13	20	+53.85%
No. meetings: Academia	2	6	+200%
No. meetings: Government	9	13	+44.44%
Total	**24**	**39**	**+62.5%**

*KPIs for meetings are based on the number of meetings pre-confirmed in the lead up to SCSE. They do not include interactions resulting from networking or formal activities, which would provide an even more positive outcome.

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7.3.2 Potential benefits from an MoU between the City of Ryde and Hsinchu County (Taiwan), New Taipei City (Taiwan), Fukuoka (Japan), and Chiang Mai (Thailand)

The signing of an MoU between Ryde and other cities could potentially deliver benefits to Ryde, such as:

- **Improved diplomatic relations:** The establishment of an MoU between Ryde and another City could improve diplomatic relations, leading to potential benefits such as increased trade and investment, cultural exchange, and cooperation on issues such as urban planning and sustainability.

- **Economic benefits:** Improved diplomatic relations can lead to increased trade and investment, which can result in economic benefits for both Ryde and another City. Additionally, cooperation on issues such as urban planning and sustainability can lead to long-term economic benefits promoting growth and attracting new businesses.

- **Improved image and reputation:** The establishment of an MoU between Ryde and another City can improve the image and reputation of both cities, which can have positive effects on tourism, investment, and economic development.

- **Increased opportunities for knowledge exchange:** The MoU between Ryde and another City can lead to new ideas and innovations that can benefit both cities.

Benefits are described as potential until formal MoUs are in place. Furthermore, benefits may not be fully realised at the signing of an MoU, with some benefits taking some time to be fully realised.

Following the signing of an MoU, Council will need to prepare a benefits realisation strategy for each MoU to ensure stewardship of the MoU and the realisation of intended benefits.

Guided by methods used by NSW Treasury, Council's benefit realisation strategies will utilise evaluation methods such as process-based evaluation, outcomes-based evaluation, and economic evaluation (e.g., reverse cost-benefit analysis) and be routinely reported on.

7.3.2.1 Modelling of potential benefits – Increased foreign investment

As noted above, the securing of an MoU between Ryde and other cities will deliver benefits to Ryde. At this early stage in the process, however, it is difficult to quantify the benefits coming to Ryde and other beneficiaries (e.g., NSW Government, Australian Government, international governments, Macquarie University, NSW TAFE, local businesses).

As an example of the potential benefit, Council staff have prepared a simple model that identifies a high, medium, and low scenario for growth in foreign investment from one Country (Taiwan, Japan, or Thailand) into Australia.

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7.3.2.1.1   Taiwan

Foreign investment from Taiwan into Australia is valued at $14.4b[4]. If the MoU were to result in increased foreign investment into Australia from Taiwan:

- High scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.5% increase in foreign investment from Taiwan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $72m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $3.6m.

- Medium scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.1% increase in foreign investment from Taiwan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $14.4m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.72m.

- Low scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.01% increase in foreign investment from Taiwan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $1.44m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.072m.

7.3.2.1.2   Japan

Foreign investment from Japan into Australia is valued at $131.8b[5]. If the MoU were to result in increased foreign investment into Australia from Japan:

- High scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.5% increase in foreign investment from Japan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $659m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $32.95m.

- Medium scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.1% increase in foreign investment from Japan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $131.8m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $6.59m.

- Low scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.01% increase in foreign investment from Japan into Australia, the increase would be valued at $13.18m.
  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.659m.

7.3.2.1.3   Thailand

Foreign investment from Thailand into Australia is valued at $5.67b[6]. If the MoU were to result in increased foreign investment into Australia from Thailand:

- High scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.5% increase in foreign investment from Thailand into Australia, the increase would be valued at $28.35m.

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[4] According to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, at the end of 2021, Taiwan's total stock of investment in Australia was valued at $14.4b. <https://www.dfat.gov.au> Accessed 12 April 2023.
[5] According to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, at the end of 2020, Japan was Australia's second-largest source of foreign direct investment, valued at $131.8b <https://www.dfat.gov.au> Access 12 April 2023.
[6] According to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, at the end of 2021, Foreign Direct Investment from Thailand was valued $5.671b <https://www.dfat.gov.au> Accessed 12 April 2023.

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  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.147m.

- Medium scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.1% increase in foreign investment from Thailand into Australia, the increase would be valued at $5.670m.

  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.284m.

- Low scenario: if the MoU leads to a 0.01% increase in foreign investment from Thailand into Australia, the increase would be valued at $0.567m.

  - Modelling this increase with a 5% profit margin would deliver net economic benefits of $0.028m.

7.3.3 Potential benefits from an MoU between the City of Ryde, Hsinchu Science Park, and Macquarie University

Similarly, to the signing of an MoU between Ryde and another city, the signing of an MoU between Ryde, Macquarie University and Hsinchu Science Park could deliver the following benefits:

- **Collaboration:** By working together, Ryde, Macquarie University, and Hsinchu Science Park can pool their resources and expertise to develop new projects and initiatives that can benefit all parties. This collaboration can lead to the creation of new businesses and job opportunities.

- **Innovation:** Universities and science parks are typically at the forefront of research and development and working with a city can provide them with access to a wide range of industries and sectors. Collaboration between Ryde, Macquarie University and Hsinchu Science Park can help foster innovation and the development of new technologies, which can lead to new products and services, and boost economic growth.

- **Investment:** When a city, university, and science park work together, they can attract investment from businesses and investors who are interested in the area's potential for growth and development. This investment can help to fund new projects and initiatives, which can create jobs and stimulate economic activity within the surrounding district.

- **Entrepreneurship:** By working together, Ryde, Macquarie University, and Hsinchu Science Park can create an environment that is conducive to entrepreneurship and innovation. This can lead to the creation of new businesses and start-ups, which can provide jobs and stimulate economic activity.

It is difficult to quantify the benefits at this early stage of the MoU process. The potential benefits, however, could be deemed as improving investment certainty through the inclusion of institutions such as Macquarie University. This improvement could contribute to a higher probability of achieving, and potentially exceeding, benefit scenarios.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

7.3.4 Potential benefits – Direct investment from international companies into Ryde

This report notes there are several companies and institutions interested in investing in Ryde and NSW. Significant dialogue with these companies in ongoing, with Ryde delegates having additional informal meetings with representatives to assist in establishing formal relationships on behalf of Ryde. These ongoing conversations include emailing electronic versions of the Macquarie Park Advanced Technology prospectus, which have been well received and distributed to senior management within companies, such as Stadler Engineering. Commercial-in-confidence discussions are currently underway with two companies interested in establishing a presence in Macquarie Park:

- Askey Computer Corp, and
- ST Engineering.

Without jeopardising these discussions, the potential economic benefits from attracting investment from multinational companies could include:

- **Job creation:** Multinational companies often employ large numbers of people, which can provide a significant boost to the local job market. This can lead to increased employment opportunities and higher wages, which can have a positive impact on the local economy.

- **Increased investment:** Multinational companies typically invest heavily in the areas in which they operate, which can lead to increased economic activity and growth. This investment can help to fund new projects and initiatives, which can create jobs and stimulate economic activity in the region.

- **Enhanced infrastructure:** Multinational companies often require specialised infrastructure, such as transportation, logistics, and technology, which can lead to the development of new infrastructure in the area. This can have a positive impact on the local economy by improving connectivity and facilitating trade and commerce.

- **Knowledge transfer:** Multinational companies often bring with them specialised knowledge and expertise, which can benefit the local workforce and businesses. This knowledge transfer can lead to the development of new skills and capabilities, which can improve the competitiveness of local businesses and help to attract further investment and growth.

- **Increased tax revenue:** Multinational companies typically pay significant amounts of tax, which can provide a significant boost to government revenues. This can help to fund new infrastructure projects and public services, which can benefit the broader community.

Overall, attracting a new multinational company to Ryde would have significant economic benefits, including job creation, increased investment, enhanced infrastructure, knowledge transfer, and increased tax revenue. These benefits can help to stimulate economic growth and improve the standard of living across Ryde and the broader Sydney region.

7.3.4.1 Modelling of potential benefits – New companies establishing in Macquarie Park

The economic investment linked to a new company establishing a presence in Macquarie Park can have a number of variables. The following is given as an example of potential benefits.

ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 1**

Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

High investment scenario – a new company invests heavily into the region, which creates more job opportunities, provides better wages, and improves the infrastructure in the area. This can lead to a positive multiplier effect, where the increased demand for goods and services generated by the company leads to further job creation and economic growth. In this scenario, the economic benefits could hypothetically be in the range of $10-15 million per year.

Medium investment scenario – a new company invests moderately in the region, creating some job opportunities and contributing to the local economy by increasing demand for goods and services. In this scenario, the economic benefits could hypothetically be in the range of $5-10 million per year.

Low investment scenario – a new company invests a small amount in the region, creating some job opportunities and contributing to the local economy. Demand for goods and services don't increase substantially. In this scenario, the economic benefits could hypothetically be in the range of $1-5 million per year.

Regardless of which scenario, a new company establishing in Macquarie Park would have a positive impact on the local economy. The higher the investment, the greater the economic benefits are likely to be.

Image 6 - Ryde delegates meeting with representatives from ST Engineering

Agenda of the Council Meeting No. 4/23, dated Wednesday, 26 April 2023.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

8 Conclusion

8.1 Reflection on value

8.1.1 Local Government participation in international relations

The value of local government participation in international relations can be significant in several ways.

Firstly, it is Ryde's experience that local governments are often the first point of contact for foreign visitors, and their interactions can shape the perceptions of a country or a region. Therefore, their participation in international relations can help to promote cultural understanding and facilitate communication between different nations.

Secondly, local governments can play an important role in promoting economic development and trade. Similarly to what the City of Ryde is trying to achieve, they can establish partnerships with foreign cities and regions to encourage investment, tourism, and the exchange of goods and services. This can create jobs and boost local economies, which in turn can contribute to the overall economic growth of a country.

Thirdly, local governments can work with international organisations to address global issues such as climate change, public health, and human rights. They can participate in international conferences, share best practices, and collaborate on projects to tackle these issues on a local level. This can help to build stronger and more resilient communities and contribute to the overall well-being of a nation.

8.1.2 Face-to-face engagement

Face-to-face engagement in international relations can be incredibly valuable for building professional relationships, facilitating communication, building trust, strengthening cooperation, and resolving conflicts. For example:

- Meeting face-to-face allows individuals to build personal relationships with each other. This is especially important in diplomacy and international relations, where personal connections can be crucial to successful negotiations and collaborations.

- Face-to-face engagement can help to facilitate communication and reduce misunderstandings. In-person conversations allow individuals to pick up on nonverbal cues, tone, and other subtleties that can be lost in written or electronic communications – even more so through translation.

- Face-to-face engagement can help to strengthen cooperation between countries. When representatives from different nations meet in person, they can identify areas of common interest and work together to achieve shared goals.

8.1.3 Cultural awareness

Cultural practices and traditions play a significant role in shaping our interactions and relationships with others, in particular those from other cultural and ethnic backgrounds. They provide a framework for how we communicate, build trust, and engage in meaningful dialogue. In particular, practices such as in-person meetings, two-way delegations, and ongoing dialogue are essential for building and maintaining relationships, especially in cultures where interpersonal connections are highly valued.

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Evaluation report: 2023 Smart City Summit and Expo, Taiwan

In-person meetings, for example, can be seen as a sign of respect and a way to establish trust. Face-to-face communication allows for non-verbal cues such as body language and tone of voice, which can help to clarify meaning and build rapport.

In many cultures, delegations that are both ways (i.e., reciprocated) are also essential to establishing mutual respect and trust. When both parties take the time to visit each other's communities and learn about their culture and way of life, it shows a willingness to understand and build a relationship.

Ongoing dialogue is another critical aspect of cultural practices and traditions. Regular communication helps to ensure that relationships are maintained and that misunderstandings are quickly addressed. By engaging in ongoing dialogue, parties can deepen their understanding of each other's perspectives and find ways to work together more effectively.

Cultural practices and traditions that emphasise the importance of in-person meetings, two-way delegations, ongoing dialogue, and mutual respect and trust are essential for building and maintaining positive relationships. By understanding and honouring these practices, individuals, institutions, governments and communities can work together more effectively and create stronger, more resilience partnerships and economies.

8.2 Next steps

Council staff will continue commercial-in-confidence discussions with companies interested in locating operations within the City of Ryde and continue open dialogue with cities and institutions around the pursuit of MoUs. This dialogue includes working with partners such as TECO, representatives from NSW and Commonwealth Government agencies, trade commissioners, Ambassadors, and Consul-Generals to enhance relationships and secure collaboration on economics, trade, education, arts and culture.

The Director-General of TECO has also confirmed, post-trip, that she will advocate on behalf of the City of Ryde to senior executives from major corporations within Taiwan, including but not limited to, those who expressed an interest in direct investment in Macquarie Park, to partake in a multi-company delegation visit to the City jointly hosted by Council and TECO.

Regarding timeframes, Council staff are aiming to secure multiple MoUs by the end of the 2023 calendar year, with the MoUs with Hsinchu County, Hsinchu Science Park, and the City of Fukuoka (Japan) of highest priority.

Council staff will inform the elected Council and the community on the progression of these matters, with the approval of an MoU subject to a resolution of the Council.

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Image 7 - ASVD presentation during meeting with Ryde delegates

Image 8 – Model of the Hyundai Rotem Company's Hydrogen Tram

Image 11 - High Speed Rail Wayfinding in Hsinchu

Image 10 - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM's seat at the Net Zero City Leaders Summit

Image 9 - Ryde delegates meeting the Magistrate of Hsinchu County

ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Travel Itinerary

CITY OF RYDE DELEGATION TO TAIWAN: 2023 SMART CITY
CUMMIT & EXPO; HSINCHU COUNTY VISIT

26 MARCH – 1 APRIL 2023

ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

Flight information

Departure

Airport and terminal	Departure: Sydney Kingsford Smith, Terminal 1 Arrival: Taoyuan International Airport, Terminal 2
Airline	China Airlines ph.: +61 2 8339 9188
Flight No.	CI 52
Class	Economy
Departure date and time (Sydney)	Sunday 26 March, 10:10pm
Arrival date and time (Taipei)	Monday, 27 March, 4:40am local time (7:40am Sydney time)
Airport transfers	Delegates to make their own way to Sydney Kingsford Smith Transfers from Taoyuan International Airport are being arranged by host

Return

Airport and terminal	Departure: Taoyuan International Airport, Terminal 2 Arrival: Sydney Kingsford Smith, Terminal 1
Airline	China Airlines ph.: +61 2 8339 9188
Flight No.	CI 51
Class	Economy
Departure date and time (Taipei)	Saturday, 1 April, 11:30pm
Arrival date and time (Sydney)	Sunday, 2 April, 10:45am local time (8:30am Taipei time)
Airport transfers	Transfers to Taoyuan International Airport are being arranged by host Delegates to make their own way from Sydney Kingsford Smith

Hotel information

Date	Hotel
Monday 27 March	The Howard Plaza Hotel, standard room
Tuesday 28 March	
Wednesday 29 March	The Royal Gold Hotel, standard room
Thursday 30 March	
Friday 31 March	The Howard Plaza Hotel, standard room
Saturday 1 April	-

Agenda of the Council Meeting No. 4/23, dated Wednesday, 26 April 2023.

ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

Safety and emergency information

The following information has been extracted from the Australian 'Smart Traveller' website, operated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations/asia/taiwan

Travel

- Taiwan has restored the visa-exempt entry scheme for nationals of designated countries, including Australia.
- There are no quarantine requirements for Taiwan; however, on arrival you will be required to undertake seven (7) days of Self-initiated Epidemic Prevention (a self-monitoring process, not a quarantine process)
  - You'll be given a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT), which only needs to be used if you develop COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you lose your passport while in Taiwan, contact the consulate.

Currency

- The local currency is the New Taiwan Dollar (NTD)
  - **On 10 March 2023, the currency exchange rate was $1 AUD / 20.34 NTD**

Safety

- Normal safety precautions apply in Taiwan.
  - Civil unrest and political tension sometimes result in public protests and demonstrations (usually peaceful). Follow advice from local officials.

Health

- Travel insurance is required, and the policy needs to cover all overseas medical costs, including medical evacuation.
  - The Australian Government won't pay for these costs.
- COVID-19 remains a risk in Taiwan.
  - Indoor mask-wearing rules have been relaxed; however, delegates should travel with masks, particularly as they are required in all medical facilities.
- Insect-borne diseases such as Dengue, Zika, and Japanese encephalitic occur.
  - Speak to your doctor about the risks and whether you should get vaccinated.
- Waterborne, foodborne, and other infectious diseases, such as hand, foot, and mouth disease, are common.
  - Drink only boiled or bottled water.
  - Avoid ice cubes.
  - Wash your hands thoroughly and often.
- Some prescription medications are illegal in Taiwan. Authorities may hail or fine you if you have them.
  - Before you travel, check Taiwan Customs for limits and documents you'll need.

Local contacts

Emergencies

- Fire and Medical emergencies – call 199
- Police – call 110
  - Always get a police report
- Information for foreigners - call 1990

Consular contacts

- The Australian Officer, Taipei
  - 27th and 28th Floor, President International Tower, 9-11 Song Gao Road, Taipei, 110
  - Ph: (+886 2) 8725 4100
  - E: consular.taipei@dfat.gov.au
- 24-hour Consular Emergency Centre
  - From overseas: +61 2 6261 3305
  - From within Australia: 1300 555 135

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ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

Detailed Itinerary

Day 0-1 – Sunday, 26 March – Monday 27 March (Sydney to Taipei)

Time	Program
6:00pm	Arrive at Kingsford Smith Sydney Airport, check in, customs
10:10pm	Depart Kingsford Smith Sydney Airport
4:40am local time	Arrive Taoyuan International Airport, Taipei
4:40-5:30am	Pass through customs and collect luggage
5:30am	Board shuttle bus to Hotel
6:30am	Check in to Hotel
7:00am-8:00pm	Recover from flights, adjust to time zone, meet representatives from Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, meet and be briefed by Secretary (interpreter), personal time (conduct normal work activities, exercise, explore Taipei)

Day 2 - Tuesday, 28 March 2023 – Taipei, Taiwan

GROUP 1

Time	Program	
8:00am	Board shuttle bus from hotel	
8:30-9:00am	Arrival at SCSE 2023 @TaiNEX 2	
9:00-10:30am	Expo Tour	
10:30-11:30am	Opening Ceremony @Main Stage 1F	
12:00-1:00pm	Welcome Luncheon (buffet) @3F	
1:00-5:15pm	**Net Zero City Leaders Summit**	
	1:00-1.15pm	Registration @701AB Conference Room
	1:15-1:40pm	Opening remarks and photo session
	1:40-2:10pm	Keynote Speech 2 "Global Cities' Role in Net Zero Emissions"
	2:10-3:40pm	Session 1: The Development Trend of Zero Carbonisation in Urban Transport + Q&A
	3:40-5:10pm	Session 2: Utilising Smart Technology to Create Zero-Carbon Buildings + Q&A
	5:10-5:15pm	Closing remarks
5:30pm	Board shuttle bus from TaiNEX 2	
6:00-8:00pm	Smart City Tonight @1919 Arts and Cultural Centre (buffet style dinner)	
8.00-9:00pm	Shuttle bus and return to hotel	

GROUP 2 (a)

Time	Program
8:00am	Board shuttle bus from hotel
8:30-9:00am	Arrival at SCSE 2023 @TaiNEX 2
9:00-10:30am	Expo Tour
10:30-11:30am	Opening Ceremony @Main Stage 1F
12:00-1:00pm	Welcome Luncheon (buffet) @3F
1:00-1:30pm	Taipei City Government
1:30-2:00pm	New Taipei City Government
2:00-2:30pm	Taichung City Government
2:30-3:00pm	Taoyuan City Government

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ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

3:00-3:30pm	Taoyuan Aerotropolis Co.
3:30-4:00pm	National Taiwan University
4:00-4:30pm	Smart Development Centre, Tainan City Government
4:30-5:00pm	Hsinchu City Government, Taiwan
5:00-5:30pm	National Health Insurance Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan
5:30pm	Board Shuttle Bus from TaiNEX 2
6:00-9:00pm	Smart City Tonight @1919 Arts and Cultural Centre (dinner)
9:00pm	Board Shuttle Bus back to Hotel

GROUP 2 (b)

8:00am	Board shuttle bus from hotel
8:30-9:00am	Arrival at SCSE 2023 @TaiNEX 2
9:00-10:30am	Expo Tour
10:30-11:30am	Opening Ceremony @Main Stage 1F
12:00-1:00pm	Welcome Luncheon (buffet) @3F
1:00-1:30pm	Aone Traffic Research and Development
1:30-2:00pm	Ionex Energy
2:00-5:00pm	Smart City Mayor's Summit: Mayors' Roundtable
5:00-5:30pm	SIDEC
5:30pm	Board Shuttle Bus from TaiNEX 2
6:00-9:00pm	Smart City Tonight @1919 Arts and Cultural Centre (dinner)
9:00pm	Board Shuttle Bus back to Hotel

Day 3 - Wednesday, 29 March 2023 – Taipei and Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Time	Program	Notes
8:00am	Hotel check out	
8:30-9:00am	Board shuttle bus from hotel and arrive @TaiNEX 2	
9:00-9:30am	Ministry of Transportation and Communications	
9:30-10:00am	Administration of Digital Industries	
10:00-10:30am	National Centre for High-performance Computing NARLabs	
10:30-11:00am	MiTAC	
11:00-11:30am	ASVDA	
11:30-12:00pm	Chang Gung University	
12:00-12:30pm	Fukuoka Smart East (Fukuoka City Government, Japan)	
12:30-1:00pm	SCSE Luncheon (Buffet)	
1:30-2:00pm	CHT	
2:00-2:30pm	Ministry of Transportation and Communications (Taiwan)	
2:30-3:00pm	TECO	
3:00-3:30pm	Ministry of Economic Affairs	
3:30-4:00pm	Acer ITS Inc.	
4:00-4:30pm	Quanta	
4:30-5:00pm	Askey Computer Corp.	

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ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

5:00-5:30pm	Board Shuttle Bus
6:00-8:00pm	Board HSR No. 0153 to Kaohsiung (meal on HSR)
8:00pm	Shuttle bus pick up from HSR Station to hotel
9:00pm	Check in to hotel

Day 4 – Thursday, 30 March 2023 – Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Time	Program
8:30-9:00am	Shuttle bus from hotel and arrival at SCSE Kaohsiung Exhibition Centre
9:00-10.30am	IoE Intelligent Technology Co.
10:00-10:30am	Expo tour
10:30-11:30pm	Opening Ceremony
11:30-12:00pm	Quadlink Technology Inc.
12:00-12:30pm	Welcome luncheon
12:30-1:00pm	Kaohsiung City Government
1:00-1:30pm	Ming Chi University of Technology
1:30-2:00pm	WaveGIS Technology Co.
2:00-2:30pm	Kaohsiung Medical University
2:30-3:00pm	ASE (Advanced Semiconductor Engineering Inc.)
3:00-3:30pm	ST Engineering
3:30-4:00pm	MIRDC
4:00-4:30pm	Hyundai Rotem Company
4:30-5:00pm	Stadler Rail AG
5:00-5:45pm	WeGo
5:45-6:15pm	Foxconn and Foxtron
6:15-6:30pm	Master Transportation Bus Manufacturing
6:30-8:00pm	Dinner (Kaohsiung Exhibition Centre)
8:30pm	Arrive back at hotel

Day 5 – Friday, 31 March 2023 – Kaohsiung, Hsinchu, and Taipei, Taiwan

Time	Program
8:00am	Hotel check out
8:15-9:00am	Shuttle bus to HSR station
9:00-10:25am	HSR to Hsinchu
10:25-11:00	Shuttle bus to Hsinchu County Government
11:00-12:00pm	Call on Hsinchu County Government
12:15-1:30pm	Formal lunch
1:50-3:00pm	Tour and call on Hsinchu Science Park
3:00-4:30pm	Tour and call on National Tsing Hua University
4:00-4:30pm	Shuttle bus to HSR station
4:30-5:00pm	HSR to Taipei
5:00-6:00pm	Shuttle bus to hotel + check-in (Howard Plaza Hotel, Taipei)

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ITEM 13 (continued)   **ATTACHMENT 2**

Final Itinerary: City of Ryde Delegation to Taiwan (26 March – 1 April 2023)

Day 6/7 – Saturday 1 April 2023 – Taipei, Taiwan and Sydney, Australia

Time	Program	Notes
10:00-10:30am	Travel to National Palace Museum	
10:30-12:00pm	Guided tour of National Palace Museum	
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch and personal leisure time	
2:00-2:30pm	Travel to Dadaocheng, Taipei's oldest district	
2:30-4:00pm	Guided tour of Dadaocheng	
4:30-5:30pm	Visit Tamsui Old Street	
5:30-7:00pm	Dinner (at own leisure)	
7:00-8:00pm	Travel back to hotel and check out	
8:30-9:00pm	Travel to and arrive Taoyuan International Airport, Taipei	
11:30pm	Depart Taoyuan International Airport, Taipei	
10:45am local time (02/04/23)	Arrive Kingsford Smith Sydney Airport	
10:45-11:30pm	Pass through customs and collect luggage	
11:30pm	Depart Kingsford Smith Sydney Airport	

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