



**REPORT TO: CITY MANAGER TO BE REFERRED BY THE OFFICIAL TO MAYCO
VIA THE FUTURE PLANNING AND RESILIENCE SECTION 79
COMMITTEE [AFTER CONSIDERATION BY CITY MANAGER]**

1. ITEM NUMBER

2. SUBJECT

**FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN BY HUGH COLE, DIRECTOR: POLICY AND
STRATEGY FROM 3 TO 9 MARCH 2024 TO ATTEND THE 8TH
URBANIZATION AND POVERTY REDUCTION RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN
WASHINGTON D.C.**

2. ISIHLOKO

**INGXELO EMALUNGA NEHAMBO KUMAZWE APHESHEYA/
ANGAPHANDLE KWEMIDA YASEMZANTSI AFRIKA ENGEHAMBO,
EQHUTYWE NGU HUGH COLE, UMLAWULI WEZOMGAQONKQUBO
NOCWANGCISOBUCHULE, ESUSELE KOWE 3 UKUYA KOWE 9
KWEYOKWINDLA 2024 NGENJONGO YOKUZIMASA INKOMFA YE 8
ENGEZOPHANDO KUKWANDA KWEDOLOPHU NOKUCUTHWA
KWENDLALA, ESE WASHINGTON D.C.**

2. ONDERWERP

**TERUGVOERVERSLAG OOR DIE INTERNASIONALE REIS BUITE DIE
GRENSE VAN DIE RSA ONDERNEEM DEUR HUGH COLE, DIREKTEUR:
BELEID EN STRATEGIE VAN 3 TOT 9 MAART 2024 OM DIE 8STE
NAVORSINGSKONFERENSIE OOR VERSTEDELIKING EN
ARMOEDEVERLIGTING IN WASHINGTON D.C. BY TE WOON**

Q3450

3. EVENT SUMMARY

EVENT DETAILS	
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	THE 8TH URBANIZATION AND POVERTY REDUCTION RESEARCH CONFERENCE
OTHER	
DATE	3 – 9 MARCH 2024
VENUE	
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	R 20 365.31
CITY	WASHINGTON D.C
COUNTRY	USA

ATTENDEE DETAILS	
NAME AND SURNAME	DESIGNATION
HUGH COLE	DIRECTOR: POLICY AND STRATEGY

PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION / CITY
The conference was jointly organized by the World Bank and the International Growth Centre, in collaboration with George Washington University and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. The International Growth Centre is a partner of the City of Cape Town. The International Growth Centre (IGC) works with policymakers in developing countries to promote inclusive and sustainable growth through path breaking research. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, part of the World Bank Group. The world's largest development bank, IBRD provides financial products and policy advice to help countries reduce poverty and extend the benefits of sustainable growth to all of their people. Specifically, I was hosted by the Development Economics part of the IBRD and the Cities that Work programme of the IGC.

4. OBJECTIVE

Hugh Cole was invited to attend the 8th Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Research conference as a presenter and as a respondent to the keynote address. As a guest speaker, the trip was sponsored by the Organisers.

The overarching theme of the conference was “urban expansion and the future spatial organization of cities”. The purpose of the conference was to bring together academics and development practitioners to present and discuss questions relating to **urban expansion and the future of cities**.

The theme was of increasing importance to academics and policy makers alike as the supply of ideas and demand for solutions to address the challenges of urban expansion are growing. Cities in some developing countries are growing at faster rates and at lower income levels than those in developed countries. If well-directed and well-managed, expansion and densification of urban areas can bring economic growth while also offering poverty reduction opportunities. If poorly directed and managed, the result can be congested, unsustainable, and unproductive environments.

Planning for the cities of tomorrow is thus a crucial task, but one benefitting from a multi-disciplinary approach. This edition of the conference drew from experts at the interface of policy and research to understand which new ideas, new methods, and new collaborations can bring about necessary changes.

The attendance of the conference was in the best interests of the City for the following reasons:

- It informed critical IDP programmes on evidence based decision making and economic analysis.
- It informed the Long-Term Plan currently under development
- It could be leveraged for developing new relationships (or building existing relationships) with donors and international finance institutions

Informing the implementation of IDP programmes

IDP for 2022-2027 has a programme on evidence-based decision-making (Programme 16.3), which commits to invest in robust decision-making that can cope with uncertainty and complexity. This programme contains an economic analysis project (16.3.C). The description of this project is as follows:

In support of economic growth, the City will enhance the use of different types of economic analyses to understand the Cape Town economy, make better investment choices, and assess whether investments have the desired effect. This will include the application of cost-benefit analyses and economic modelling tools to support infrastructure projects preparation and major policy and programme decisions.

The conference this year was multi-disciplinary but it is still rooted in economics. Previous participation in this conference helped to inspire and shape the use of economics in CCT, leading to the creation of this project in the IDP and the uptake of Cost Benefit Analysis in the City. Being invited to participate again in this conference allowed CCT to benchmark its progress, gather fresh ideas and make new research partnership connections.

In addition to the benefits above, the conference was directly relevant to the following IDP programmes:

4.2 Infrastructure planning and delivery support programme
4.1 Utility Business Model Reform programme
16.3.A. Data project

5. OUTCOMES

Informing the Long Term Plan

The City is developing a Long Term Plan, which will attempt to address exactly this question of “urban expansion and the future of cities” in the context of Cape Town. The programme of the conference related directly to some of the most difficult parts of the plan to formulate. The learnings from this conference will be used to inform this Long Term Plan.

Fundraising for technical partnerships

Representatives of the World Bank, C40 and Millennium Challenge Corporation were in attendance at the conference, allowing opportunities for the Director Policy and Strategy (who is responsible for the CCT partnerships unit) to explore new technical partnerships. Arriving before the conference started allowed the Director to have bi-lateral meetings at the World Bank, to build on conversations initiated by the Mayor in January.

Launch of a new spatial economic model

At the conference a new spatial economic model co-developed by the IGC, World Bank and CCT was launched. Video interviews were done with key participants in the project, which will be used for a short video to promote this model.

There will be additional launches of the model in the coming months, including one in Cape Town in due course.

This model was developed to meet the needs of CCT but it is intentionally open source and available to other city governments.

New connection with World Bank impact evaluation specialists

Through the conference, Hugh Cole was able to establish a new connection with the specialists in the World Bank who lead impact evaluation. This is an area which CCT would benefit from developing.

Profile for CCT with key stakeholders and researchers

Hugh Cole spoke on behalf of CCT in the following sessions:

- Keynote address: The Promises, Problems, and Policy Pitfalls of Urban Development
- Using spatial economic models for policy
- City Structures (referring to urban form)

These contributions were all positively received and helped to raise the profile of the City.

Hosting the conference in Cape Town in 2025

As a result of the partnership the Policy and Strategy Department has built with the IGC and the World Bank the decision has been made to host the 9TH URBANIZATION AND POVERTY REDUCTION RESEARCH CONFERENCE in Cape Town in 2025. This will be the first time the conference is being hosted in Africa.

6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

All required actions have all been initiated by Hugh Cole. These are:

1. Follow up with the World Bank Development Impact Evaluation group
2. Connecting interested researchers with the CCT research branch
3. Planning for further launch and promotion events for the Spatial Economic Model
4. Planning to host this conference in 2025

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Constitutional and Policy Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.2 Environmental implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.3 Financial Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.4 Legal Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.5 Staff Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.6 Risk Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.7 POPIA Compliance

☒ It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA Compliance.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the feedback report on the 8th Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Research Conference undertaken by Hugh Cole, Director: Policy and Strategy on 3 – 9 March 2024 **be considered and noted**.

8. IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe ingxelo engesemva kohambo obelujoliswe kwiNkomfa engeye8 engoPhando kuLwandiso lweDolophu nokuCuthwa kweNdlala, oluqhutywe nguHugh Cole onguMlawuli wezoMgaqonkqubo noCwangcisobuchule, esusele ngowe3 ukuya kowe9 kweyoKwindla 2024.

8. AANBEVELINGS

Daar word aanbeveel dat oorweging geskenk word aan die terugvoerverslag oor die reis onderneem deur Hugh Cole, direkteur: beleid en strategie van 3 tot 9 Maart 2024 om die 8ste navorsingskonferensie oor verstedeliking en armoedeverligting by te woon, en daarvan kennis geneem word.

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

None

10. ANNEXURE

None

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

DATE	24 April 2024		
NAME	Hugh Cole	CONTACT NUMBER	021 400 5650
E-MAIL ADDRESS	hugh.cole@capetown.gov.za		
DIRECTORATE	Future Planning and Resilience	FILE REF NO	
SIGNATURE :			

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: FUTURE PLANNING AND RESILIENCE

GARETH MORGAN

The ED's signature represents support for report content and confirms POPIA compliance.

COMMENT:

Benefits are clear. It is valuable for the City and its officials to be present at such high profile international events. _____
Mr Cole is requested to please submit future feedback reports within 2 - 3 weeks post return from an overseas trip.

SIGNATURE:

NAME

DATE

MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

DR. DENVER VAN SCHALKWYK

COMMENT:

SIGNATURE:

DATE

☐ REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

☐ NON-COMPLIANT

COMMENT:

NAME

TEL

DATE

Certified as legally compliant based on the contents of the report.

CITY MANAGER

☒ NOTED

☒ REFER TO THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE VIA THE RELEVANT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE

DATE

COMMENT: