

6.6 Proposal travel, Queensland, September 2025

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Executive Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to provide for City of Melbourne participation in the 2025 Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism (Summit) to be held in Queensland in September 2025.
2. The Summit aims to convene more than 100 Mayors, Councillors and Local Government representatives from across Australia to share best practices, devise innovative strategies, policies and action plans to identify and implement steps to address the rise in antisemitism and combat all forms of hatred.
3. The 2025 Summit will be the first to be held in Australia.

Recommendation

4. That Council approves participation by Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell and Councillor Rafael Camillo in the 2025 Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism to be Queensland between 3 and 5 September 2025 at an estimated cost of \$2080 per person.

Purpose

5. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for City of Melbourne (CoM) to participate in the 2025 Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism (Summit) to be held in Queensland between 3 and 5 September 2025.

Background

6. Summit organisers have extended invitations to local government representatives across Australia and included the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and many Councillors.
7. The Summit, to be hosted by the Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM) and the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) will gather representatives from all levels of government, community and religious leaders from all denominations from across Australia to explore tangible strategies and solutions towards building more inclusive communities.
8. The City of Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate will chair the Summit and will be joined by the 2024 Summit host from the United States, Beverly Hills Mayor Sharona Nazarian.
9. This is the first time that the conference will be held in Australia, following previous gatherings from across Europe, North America and Latin America.

Key considerations

10. Local government is uniquely positioned to proactively promote inclusive, respectful, and safe communities to combat all forms of racism, including antisemitism.
11. CoM's leadership role in promoting inclusive and safe communities in Victoria is vital. This is recognised by CoM's inclusion, through the Lord Mayor, in the newly established Victorian Anti-Hate Taskforce. Led by the Premier of Victoria, this taskforce brings together state and local government representatives, community leaders and law enforcement agencies to strengthen responses to hate-fuelled behaviour, improve legal protections, and ensure communities feel safe and supported.
12. The Summit will provide participants with many insights and learnings to help inform building stronger local action plans, namely through the following:
 - 12.1. Strategic insights from local leaders including Nova Peris OAM, Jilian Shirley Segal AO, Australia's special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and Lorraine Finlay, Human Rights Commissioner.
 - 12.2. A global and local overview of antisemitism trends and feature expert analysis to equip attendees with a comprehensive understanding on the issues being faced and practical strategies that foster respect and partnership across diverse communities.
 - 12.3. Presentations from law enforcement and digital experts that will examine antisemitic behaviours as a security issue, highlighting community protection and the proactive role Councils can play in building cyber-safe communities.
13. Following consideration by Councillors on CoM participation, it is proposed that attendance at the Summit be provided through the Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor Rafael Camillo whose portfolio responsibilities include city safety.

Legal

14. There are no direct legal implications as a result of the recommendation from management.

Finance

15. Costs associated with travel by the Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor Camillo will be met by the City of Melbourne and are estimated at \$2080. This includes the airfare (\$1000), accommodation for 2 nights (\$520) Summit registration (\$260) and incidentals (\$300).

Conflict of interest

16. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a material or general conflict of interest in relation to the matter of this report.

Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

17. The recommendation contained in this report is compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006 (Charter) as it does not raise any human rights issues.
18. CoM participation in the Summit supports the Charter by seeking to uphold the right to equality, cultural rights and freedom from discrimination.

Health and Safety

19. Councillors will undertake personal safety and awareness precautionary steps which apply to all travel destinations.

Consultation

20. In developing this proposal, no consultation was required.

Relevance to Council Plan and Council Policies

21. CoM's Inclusive Melbourne Strategy embodies a vision for Melbourne as a city where all cultures and backgrounds are welcomed, celebrated and protected.
22. The proposed travel proposal accords with the requirements of the travel guidelines outlined in the Council Expenses Policy.

Social and environmental impacts**Social impacts**

23. Participation in the Summit and learnings gained will support building social cohesion.

Gender Impact Assessment

24. A Gender Impact Assessment is not considered necessary for this report.

Environmental impacts

25. The carbon emissions resulting from air travel will be offset with the purchase of credits.

Attachment List

Nil