

Melbourne Conversations

Sustainable Communities: Collaborating, Planning, Delivering.

The desire for sustainable communities is the touchstone of city forming when comparing major cities across the globe. As city design and planning experts from major cities around the world meet in Melbourne as part of the C40 group, never have the challenges of city growth been so great nor the achievements so promising. Hear about our local achievements and those of comparable large world cities. Have your say by jumping into the “hot seat” to make your point.

Date: Thursday 29 March 2012

Time: 6pm to 7.30pm

Venue: BMW Edge Federation Square, Melbourne

Panellists

Romilly Madew is Chief Executive of the Green Building Council of Australia, Australia's peak industry association responsible for transforming the built environment to design, construct and operate sustainably. Romilly is an experienced green building, sustainable communities and cities advocate. Romilly's recent achievements include Chair of the Australian Sustainability Built Environment Council Cities task group and the International Rating Tools Committee. Founder and steering committee member of the Built Environment Meets Parliament (BEMP), National winner of the Telstra Business Women's Awards 2009 (Community and Government) and a regular media commentator on ABC 24's 'Newsmakers' program.

Ms. Li Lixin is Deputy Chief of Air Pollution Control Division, Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau engaging in ambient air quality control, responsible for drafting and developing policies, regulations and standards to control air pollutants. Prior to this Ms. Lixin was also involved in environmental policies research, Environmental Impact Assessment, solid waste management and brown field remediation.

Ms **Melanie Nutter** is Director San Francisco Environment Department, USA which helps all San Francisco residents and businesses take an active role in protecting and enhancing the urban environment, produces and publicizes information on sustainable practices, and develops innovative and practical environmental programs for all residents. Ms Nutter has served as Deputy District Director for the U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, where she managed the Speaker's district office by supervising staff, addressing constituent concerns, and advising on local policy issues. Nutter functioned as the district policy liaison to Speaker Pelosi's policy advisors on issues including the environment, energy, transportation, environmental health, women's issues, and food policy.

Prof Jan Gehl of Gehl Architects, Copenhagen, Denmark. Jan Gehl is the retired Professor of Urban Design, The School of Architecture, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. Jan's international teachings include universities in Edinburgh, Vilnius, Oslo, Wroclaw, Dresden, Toronto, Calgary, Melbourne, Perth, Berkeley, San José, Guadalajara, Jogjakarta and Cape Town. Jan has been connected with city improvement projects carried out in Europe, America, Australia and Asia – most recently New York, Seattle, San Francisco, Amman, Oman, Sydney and Melbourne. Publications include "Life Between Buildings – Using Public Space", "Public Spaces – Public Life", "New City Spaces", "New City Life" and "Cities for People". Jan has been awarded the "Sir Patrick Abercrombie Prize for exemplary contributions to Town Planning" by The International Union of Architects as well as an honorary doctors degree from Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh. Jan Gehl is an Honorary Fellow of The Royal British Institute of Architects of, the American Institute of Architects, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and the Planning Institute of Australia.

Prof Billie Giles-Corti, Director, McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing, Melbourne School of Population Health, the University of Melbourne. Encouraging people to live healthy lifestyles has been the central theme of Professor Billie Giles-Corti's career to-date. After a successful twenty year association with the University of Western Australia, where she has been at the forefront of research into the effect of built environments on public health, Professor Giles-Corti, a NHMRC Principal Research Fellow, has recently taken on the role as Director of the McCaughey Centre at the University of Melbourne.

Melbourne Conversations is a City of Melbourne initiative.

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