



REPORT TO: CITY MANAGER

TO BE REFERRED BY THE OFFICIAL TO MAYCO VIA THE RELEVANT COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH 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 FROM 9 OCTOBER 2022 TO 11 OCTOBER 2022 TO ATTEND THE CITYLABS SUMMIT IN AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

INGXELO YASEMVA KOHAMBO KUMAZWE APHESHEYA/NGAPHANDLE KWEMIDA YASEMZANTSI AFRIKA EQHUTYWE UKUSUSELA NGOWE9 UKUYA KOWE11 KWEYEDWARHA 2022 UKUZIMASA INKOMFA ENGE CITYLABS, EBISEAMSTERDAM, ENETHERLANDS

TERUGVOERING OOR DIE REIS NA DIE BUITELAND/BUITE DIE RSA SE GRENSE ONDERNEEM VAN 9 OKTOBER 2022 TOT 11 OKTOBER 2022 OM DIE CITYLABS-BERAAD IN AMSTERDAM, NEDERLAND, BY TE WOON

REF: P1545

3. EVENT SUMMARY

| EVENT DETAILS | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| CONFERENCE/SEMINAR | CityLabs 2022 Summit |
| OTHER | |
| DATE | 9-11 October 2022 |
| VENUE | Anantara Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky |
| TOTAL COST TO THE CITY | R4073.44 |
| CITY | Amsterdam |
| COUNTRY | The Netherlands |

| ATTENDEE DETAILS | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| NAME AND SURNAME | DESIGNATION |
| Natacha Berkowitz | EPIDEMIOLOGIST |
| | |
| | |

| PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION / CITY |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>CityLabs was hosted by Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Aspen Institute.</p> <p>Bloomberg Philanthropies works to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people by focusing on five key areas: the arts, education, the environment, government innovation, and public health. The City of Cape Town is a partner City of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Vital Strategies Partnership for Healthy Cities.</p> <p>The Aspen Institute is a global nonprofit organization committed to realizing a free, just, and equitable society across a variety of sectors including Health.</p> |

4. OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this summit was to connect city officials from across the globe to share experiences and innovations to address pressing urban issues such as pandemic recovery, combating climate change and improving the health and wellbeing of people living in Cities.

As a Bloomberg Healthy Cities Partnership City, this was also an opportunity to connect with the project leads from Bloomberg and Vital Strategies, and to learn from and share with other City Officials in the network.

5. OUTCOMES

Public Health lessons learnt from participatory events included:
Implementing cycling as a form of non motorised transport

Understanding drug legalisation and the benefits thereof.
Prioritising public health within Cities and how this has been accomplished internationally.
Heat adaption in Cities and impact on Public Health.

Networking:

With the aim of achieving the IDP Urban Health Monitoring Project, a number of contacts from different cities were made. This included the Head of Public Health for Greater London Authority (Mayors Office), as well as the Senior Vice President of Vital Strategies New York.

Sharing of City of Cape Town Innovation and Progress:

Amongst the Partnership for Healthy Cities colleagues I had the opportunity to share the Urban Health vision for the City, as well as the achievements during the Covid-19 pandemic.

6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

1. Follow up webinars/exchanges with City officials working on Public Health issues to learn from their experience (Greater London Authority, Vital Strategies)
2. Engage with presenters on Cities and Heat with regards to monitoring the health impact of heat.
3. Engage with Vital Strategies vice president to develop Environmental Health outcomes indicator set.
4. Continue to strengthen the City of Cape Town and Partnership for Healthy Cities partnership. Motivate for attendance at the Mayors workshop in London 2023.

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.

NOTE: POPIA Section MUST be completed otherwise the report will be returned to the author for revision.

Contact your Directorate POPIA Stewards should you require assistance.

The City has a contract in place with XL Embassy Travel for the safe-keeping of Traveller's personal information as required by the POPI Act.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the feedback report on the trip CityLabs 2022 undertaken by Natacha Berkowitz on 9 – 11 October 2022 **be considered and noted.**

Kundululwe ukuba **makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe** ingxelo yasemva kohambo olungeCityLabs lwango2022, oluqhutywe nguNatacha Berkowitz ukususela ngowe9 ukuya kowe11 kweyeDwarha 2022.

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoeringverslag oor die reis na Citylabs 22 van 9 – 11 Oktober 2022 onderneem deur Natacha Berkowitz, **oorweeg en daarvan kennis geneem word.**

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

CityLabs was an excellent opportunity to network and share experiences pertaining to innovation across a variety of international Cities. Annexure 1 highlights the top 10 key moments of the summit.

10. ANNEXURES

Annexure 1: 10 Memorable moments from 2022 CityLab Summit

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| DATE | 21 October 2022 | | |
| NAME | Natacha Berkowitz | CONTACT NUMBER | 0834066755 |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS | Natacha.berkowitz@capetown.gov.za | | |
| DIRECTORATE | CS&H | FILE REF NO | HS 7/4/3/2 |
| SIGNATURE : | | | |

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MS ZUKISWA MANDLANA

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

COMMENT:

SIGNATURE:

NAME

DATE

MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

DR. DENVER VAN SCHALKWYK

SIGNATURE:

DATE

COMMENT:

Actions noted

☐ 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 content of the report.

CITY MANAGER

☒ NOTED

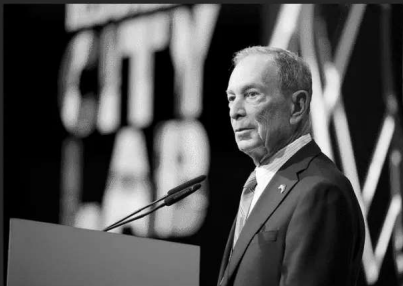
☒ REFER TO THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE VIA THE RELEVANT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE

DATE

COMMENT:

CityLab

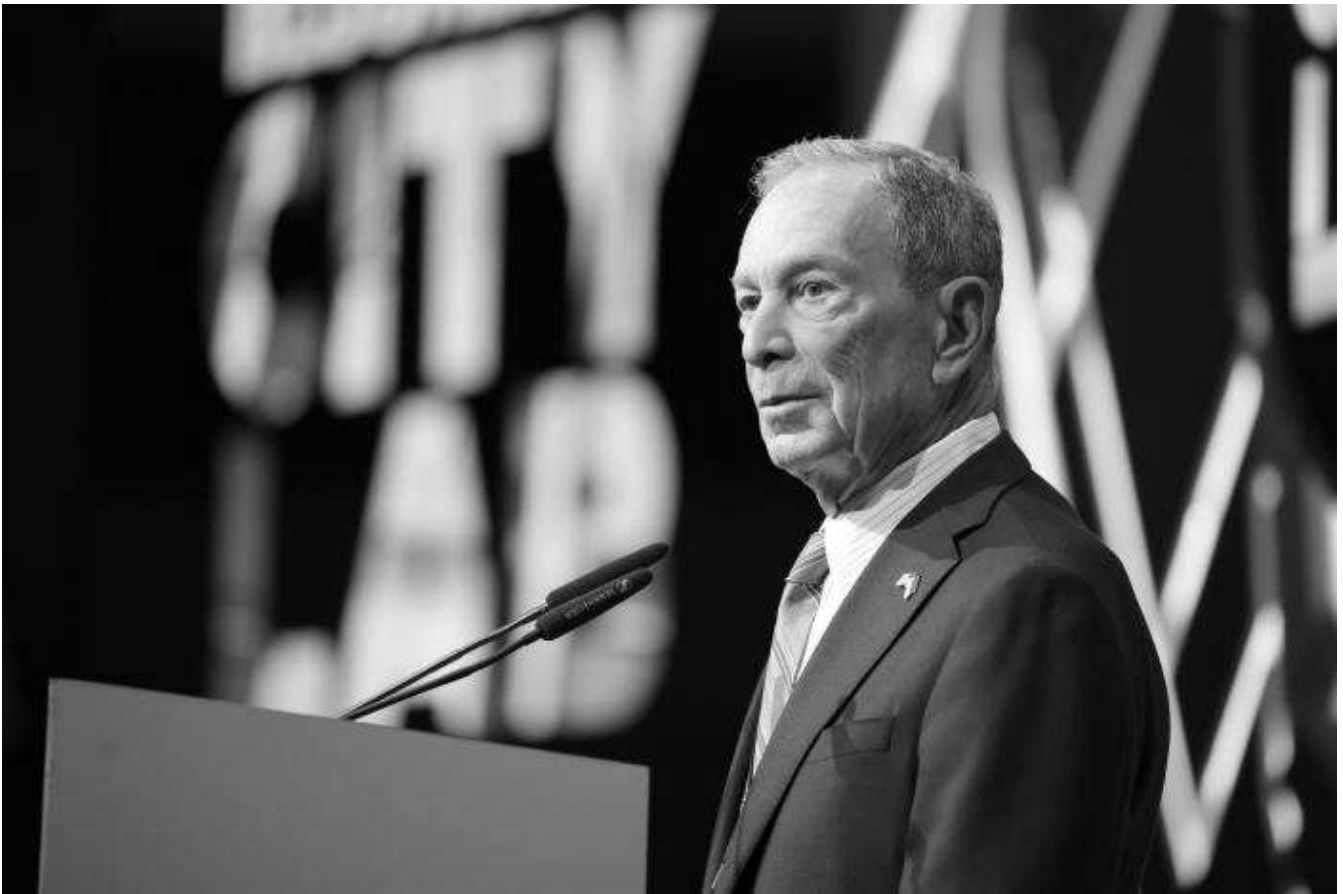
10 memorable moments from CityLab 2022



October 19, 2022

The [Bloomberg CityLab summit](#) took place in **Amsterdam** last week. For the participating mayors, city innovators, urban experts, artists, business leaders, and advocates, it was a time to share ideas for solving tough challenges, raise their ambitions, and reconnect in-person for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are ten of the most memorable moments from the summit.

Kindling a spirit of learning



Michael R. Bloomberg: 'The mayor's job is to open eyes to what's possible.'

Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg LP and Bloomberg Philanthropies, kicked off CityLab with a call for cities to learn from each other and test new ideas. When he was mayor in **New York City**, Bloomberg said, he borrowed ideas about bicycle infrastructure from Amsterdam, bus infrastructure from **Bogotá**, and fighting poverty from **Mexico City**. “The mayor’s job is to open eyes to what’s possible,” Bloomberg said, and part of that is taking “the attitude that we don’t know everything. Others have good ideas and [we can] learn from what others do.”

In that spirit, Bloomberg announced a new program for cities. The Bloomberg Initiative for Cycling Infrastructure, or BICI, will award ten global cities up to \$1 million to create safe, interconnected, and innovative cycling infrastructure and provide sustainable mobility options to their residents. ([Watch the video here.](#))

A call for a 'digital republic'



Amsterdam Mayor Femke Halsema called for cities to create 'a new public space that promotes digital sovereignty.'

Amsterdam Mayor Femke Halsema welcomed global city leaders to her city with a challenge. Big tech companies have become too powerful in controlling the digital platforms that have become essential to public life, she said. Mayor Halsema called on city leaders to join forces with each other, with citizens, and with civic-minded tech companies to create a “new public space that promotes digital sovereignty.” In this “digital republic,” citizens will always be the owners of their own data, rules and regulations would come through a democratic process, and the value of connection would be shared among users rather than mined by companies. “The digital republic,” she said, “can be the moonshot project that inspires progressive, innovative forces in our cities.” ([*Watch the video here.*](#))

‘Please, stay with Ukraine’



Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi: 'Victory together!'

The war in Ukraine took center stage at CityLab just as Russia launched missile attacks on cities across the country. Ukrainian mayors from **Lviv** and **Bucha** left the summit early to handle the crisis at home—and then re-joined again the next day by video link. Before heading home, Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi jumped on stage, fist in the air: “Thank you for your support,” he exclaimed. “We must believe in our victory. Victory together!”

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko also addressed CityLab in a pre-recorded interview. Asked what he would want other mayors to know, Klitschko responded: “We appreciate the help: the economical support, the political support, the defensive weapons....Please, stay with Ukraine. It’s key for peace and freedom in the whole region.” (*Watch the videos [here](#) and [here](#).*)

Transforming streets with art



Asphalt Art projects like this one in London are making streets safer.

During CityLab, 19 European cities learned they are receiving grants from Bloomberg Philanthropies to undertake projects that use art and design to improve street safety, revitalize public spaces, and engage residents. These “Asphalt Art” projects have been a huge success in other cities. Not only have they brought delight to city streets and underpasses, but they also have reduced car crashes with pedestrians and cyclists, and built innovative collaborations between city leaders, community leaders, and artists. “It’s inspiring. It’s impactful. It’s economical. And it’s not hard to do,” said Bloomberg Philanthropies Chief Executive Officer Patricia E. Harris. “The ingredients for the projects are simple: paint, pavement, and passion.” (*Watch the video here.*)

Mexico City’s digital ambitions



James Anderson of Bloomberg Philanthropies interviewed Mexico City Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum by video.

The digital transformation happening under **Mexico City** Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum is staggering. She's rolling out the largest free Wi-Fi system anywhere in the world. She's consolidated a confusing array of 40 different apps into one. And more than 4 million residents are using a new single sign-on key to access services.

James Anderson, who leads Government Innovation programs at Bloomberg Philanthropies, interviewed Sheinbaum about her ambitious digital agenda. She said it starts with her vision for a city that ensures all people can access the rights they deserve. "Digital innovation in Mexico City is a way to reduce brutal inequalities of the past," Sheinbaum said. The strategy is driven by a consolidated digital services agency, one that has brought software development in-house with a team of 40 mostly young city employees. This is saving millions of dollars and enabling the city to move faster. "It's very important to not involve the city in long-term contracts to private enterprises," she said. ([*Watch the video here.*](#))

Celebrating city storytellers



Baratunde Thurston (right) interviews Dilla Thomas, Chicago's 'TikTok historian'

Across the two-day CityLab program, Baratunde Thurston, host of the ["How to Citizen"](#) podcast, interviewed creative artists who are finding new ways to tell the story of their cities. Colombian muralist Nathalia Gallego Sanchez described her hopes to unify and engage residents of communities with massive outdoor paintings. Nigerian artist Peju Alatise discussed how her native Lagos influences her sculpture. And **Chicago's** Dilla Thomas talked about why he's taken to telling stories about Chicago history through [short videos on TikTok](#).

"Cities are people, and people are the stories that we know," Thurston said. "That's how we conceive of ourselves and our place in the world. And so who tells those stories matters just as much as what the story is." (*Watch the videos [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).*)

Walking with Amal



CityLab participants walked Amsterdam's streets with Little Amal.

CityLab participants experienced what it's like to walk with Little Amal, a 12-foot tall puppet and art project that has now visited 85 cities and is changing the conversation about refugees. Amir Nizar Zuabi, artistic director for The Walk Productions, described the concept. Amal is a 10-year old girl. She's alone, and lost in this world. As she walks in your city, what would you want to do to welcome her and make her feel safe? And what would you want to learn from her?

Amal brought CityLab participants—and a drum line—for a joyous walk through central Amsterdam. “There’s an unbelievable sense of welcome, and a very emotional reaction to her in the streets,” Zubai says. “We’re an excuse to get people together, thinking differently, and challenging a narrative or an instinct that they never really thought of. And when people are together consuming a story, a new community is created—a welcoming community.” ([Watch the video here.](#))

Leading in a time of protest



Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser (left) with Bogotá Mayor Claudia López (center) and Moderator Marianna Evenstein.

Protests against everything from COVID lockdowns to racial injustice have taken over city streets across the globe in recent years, sometimes resulting in violence.

Bogotá Mayor Claudia López described how she listened to the underlying economic concerns fueling protests in her city, and responded with a jobs plan for women and youth and a basic income guarantee to prevent hunger.

Unemployment and poverty both dropped precipitously, and the streets have calmed. “It took some time,” she said, “but after a year, things are better.”

Dealing with protests, especially in a national capital city, can be a “delicate balance,” added **Washington, D.C.**, Mayor Muriel Bowser. “Protest is in our city's DNA,” Bowser said. “Americans from all over the country come to Washington, D.C., to protest.” The mayor’s job, she continued, is to give room for people to express hurt and anger, but also to maintain order. “With a lot of planning, it’s achievable to give people the freedom to protest but not allow small groups within them to disrupt.” ([*Watch the video here.*](#))

Elevating data chiefs



Chief data officers were featured on a panel at CityLab.

More and more city halls these days are seeing the value in having a chief data officer on board, a trend that was celebrated on the CityLab stage. As **Louisville's** Grace Simrall said, the position became essential during the pandemic, when city leaders relied on data to make life-or-death decisions about how to reach residents with testing, vaccines, and other resources. "The chief data officer position was always of critical importance in Louisville," Simrall said, "but it became elevated into the topmost senior level position."

Justin Elszasz, chief data officer in **Baltimore**, has seen a similar rise in profile, especially during emergencies. Elszasz said senior leaders can make best use of a chief data officer when they see the role as critical for helping with decision making. That also means that chief data officers need to not only be good with the numbers but also good at telling stories about what the data mean. "That's what motivates people to change and to make decisions," Elszasz said. ([*Watch the video here.*](#))

Staying cool with chief heat officers



Chief Heat Officers Eleni Myrivili of Athens (left) and Marta Segura of Los Angeles.

As climate change brings record heat to cities around the world, a new position has been born in city hall to address it: chief heat officer. There's a good reason for that, said Eleni Myrivili, Chief Heat Officer for **Athens**, Greece. "Heat is a silent killer," Myrivili said. "Of all extreme weather phenomena, we lose the most people from heat today. And it's becoming more and more severe."

In **Los Angeles**, a big focus is what Marta Segura called "shade equity." Segura is L.A.'s new chief heat and climate emergency mobilization director. Her office studied the lack of shade trees in low-income neighborhoods and is laying out a data-driven plan to plant more trees in these neighborhoods. That plan caught the eye of Racheli Elkayam Rosette, manager of the innovation team in **Eilat**, Israel, where heat tops 110 degrees Fahrenheit six months a year. Rosette met with Segura the next day at CityLab to learn more about how Eilat could learn from L.A.'s experience. "This is something amazing," she said, "to be connecting like this at CityLab." ([*Watch the video here.*](#))

City government leaders and staff: Be among the first to find out where and when next year's CityLab will be. [Join the Bloomberg Cities Network today!](#)

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