



**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]**

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**1. ITEM NUMBER**

**2. SUBJECT:**

**FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE  
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN FROM 16 TO 20 OCTOBER 2023 TO ATTEND  
THE WORLD FORUM ON URBAN FORESTS IN WASHINGTON D.C,  
UNITED STATES**

**ONDERWERP:**

**TERUGVOERING OOR DIE INTERNASIONALE REIS (BUITE DIE GRENSE  
VAN DIE RSA) VAN 16 TOT 20 OKTOBER 2023 VIR DIE BYWONING VAN  
DIE Wêreldforum oor Stedelike Woude in Washington DC,  
VERENIGDE STATE VAN AMERIKA**

**ISIHLOKO:**

**INGXELO ENGOHAMBO OLUYA PHESHEYA/NGAPHAYA KWEEBHODA  
ZOMZANTSI AFRIKA OLUTHATYATHWE UKUSUSELA NGOWE16  
UKUYA KOWAMA20 KWEYEDWARHA 2023 LOKUZIMASA IFORAM  
YEHLABATHI ENGAM AHLATHI ASEZIDOLOPHINI EWASHINGTON D.C,  
UNITED STATES**

**Ref: Q1834**

### 3. EVENT SUMMARY

<b>EVENT DETAILS</b>	
CONFERENCE	WORLD FORUM ON URBAN FORESTS
OTHER	Deliver 2 keynotes speeches, attend events and build networks.
DATE	16 – 20 October 2023
VENUE	Downtown Westin Hotel
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	R22 007.85
CITY	Washington D.C
COUNTRY	United States of America

<b>ATTENDEE DETAILS</b>	
NAME AND SURNAME	DESIGNATION
Tamsin Faragher	Principal Resilience Officer

<b>PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION</b>
<p>The Food and Agriculture Agency (FAO) and Arbor Day Foundation partnered with other organisations to organise the forum. The Arbor Day Foundation sponsored my visit.</p> <p>They work primarily in the United States to promote tree-planting in a variety of situations such as disaster-stricken areas, underserved neighborhoods in addition to fostering environmental justice in communities around the world <a href="https://www.arborday.org/programs/">https://www.arborday.org/programs/</a>.</p>

### 4. OBJECTIVE

The World Forum on Urban Forests' technical committee selected me to present a keynote speech as part of the Resilient Cities day activities. I was also invited to present a keynote at the "From concrete to Canopy: restoring Biodiversity and Ecosystems through Urban Forests by the UN Environment Programme.

The purpose of my visit was therefore to deliver the keynotes and participate in other forum activities. During the event I connected with scientists working in Southern California, an area that has also been exposed to the Polyphagus Shot Hole borer. They've offered to engaged online to share their experience of dealing with the outbreak, which they note was initially a concern that however changed over a relatively short time, becoming a non-issue. Another connection was with an organisation that works in Cape Town (amongst other cities) to plant indigenous 'forests'. Their work focuses on poor areas and are a City ally in developing climate adaptation and resilience.

Importantly, it has catalysed the belief that even though Cape Town is located in a biodiversity hotspot that is not naturally home to trees, they nevertheless play a role in urban place-making and climate adaptation.

## 5. OUTCOMES

1. A meeting is in the process of being arranged with specialists in California (United States of America) to discuss their experience of the Polyphagus Shothole Borer;
2. Feedback to be given to the staff responsible for tree planting and maintenance in the Recreation and Parks Department as part of a workshop they are arranging;
3. Renewed discussions around the potential for a Tree Strategy for Cape Town;
4. Connections to SUGi, an NGO that work to green cities and reimagine urban life around pocket forests that build biodiversity, climate resilience and well-being in communities. Opportunities to partner will be explored in the coming months;
5. Invitation to present to TreeKeepers, an NGO working in Cape Town to protect and maintain the tree canopy; and lastly
6. Invitation to the City to participate as a partner and champion in the 2nd Forum on African Forests to be held in September 2024 (tbc) in Johannesburg.

## 6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

1. Organise meeting to discuss Polyphagus Shot Hole Borer learnings;
2. Set up meeting to determine appetite and resources for a Tree Strategy for Cape Town;
3. Connect with SUGi to learn more about their work and identify opportunities to partner;
4. Present to TreeKeepers, date tbc; and
5. 2nd Forum on African Forests - no immediate action required. Await final concept note.

## 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 to Washington DC, USA to attend the 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests undertaken by Tamsin Faragher on 16 to 20 October 2023 **be considered and noted.**

### **AANBEVELING**

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoeringsverslag oor Tamsin Faragher se reis na Washington DC, VSA vir die bywoning van die tweede wêreldforum oor stedelike woude van 16 tot 20 Oktober 2023 **oorweeg word**, en dat daarvan **kennis geneem word.**

### **IZINDULULO**

Kundululwe ukuba makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe ingxelo engohambo oluya eWashington DC, USA lokuzimasa iForam yeHlabathi yesibini engamaMahlathi aseziDolophini oluthatyathwe nguTamsin Faragher ngowe16 ukuya kowama20 kweyeDwarha 2023.

## **9. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

A PDF copy of the presentation is attached as an annexure for information.

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## **10. ANNEXURES**

### **Annexure A - Presentation**

#### **FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:**

DATE	9 November 2023		
NAME	Tamsin Faragher	CONTACT NUMBER	021 400 4996
E-MAIL ADDRESS	tamsin.faragher@capetown.go.za		
DIRECTORATE	Future Planning & Resilience	FILE REF NO	
SIGNATURE :			

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

GARETH MORGAN

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:

Acting Manager while Dr Denver van Schalkwyk is travelling on official business.  
Actions are 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

NAME

TEL

DATE

COMMENT:

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

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**CITY MANAGER**

☒ NOTED

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

DATE

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COMMENT:

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