

Global experts from World Cities Summit Knowledge Council 2024 to address growing urban challenges

4 June 2024 – The Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) announced the second iteration of the World Cities Summit Knowledge Council. The Council, comprising eminent urban thought leaders, will discuss future-oriented solutions to shape liveable, sustainable, and resilient cities in the face of complex global challenges. Council members bring a wealth of experience and expertise, making them ideally suited to contribute to global thought leadership to address the challenges cities face.

2 Led by Professor Lily Kong, President, Singapore Management University, the Council comprises 13 industry and thought leaders across diverse backgrounds and sectors. Members are appointed for two years, from 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2026. Please refer to the Annex for a full list of Knowledge Council members.

3 The new Council had their first meeting and discussion at the World Cities Summit (WCS) 2024, in Singapore, with a focus on two key themes – the future of urban liveability and the future of resilient and low-carbon cities, aligned with the Summit's theme "Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Rejuvenate, Reinvent, Reimagine".

4. The objectives of the Council are to:

- Provide thought leadership on global trends in relation to urban challenges and opportunities,
- Advise on the Centre for Liveable Cities' research agenda, and
- Guide the content of the World Cities Summit agenda and strategic initiatives and participate as speakers.

5 The inaugural WCS Science of Cities and Urban Resilience Knowledge Councils, convened during WCS 2022, made significant contributions during their two-year term. Members provided valuable perspectives and guidance in the following areas:

- CLC's research projects (e.g. the Integrated Care Dementia Friendly Study and the Dementia Friendly Neighbourhood Design Guide, Sustainable Mobility),
- Research congress and symposiums (e.g. 2023 Science of Cities Symposium, Urban Science Workshop),
- Research publications and articles (e.g. the International Journal for Smart and Sustainable Cities, CLC's Urban Solutions)
- Collaborations (CLC-Ramboll Memorandum of Understanding on regenerative design for climate-positive, low-carbon cities of the future).

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About the World Cities Summit

The biennial World Cities Summit (WCS) is an exclusive platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge new partnerships. Jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), key highlights of the Summit include the WCS Mayors Forum, the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize and the WCS Young Leaders Symposium. For more information, visit www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg.

About Centre for Liveable Cities

Set up in 2008 by the Ministry of National Development and the then-Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) aims to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities.

The CLC's work spans four main areas: Research, Capability Development, Knowledge Platforms, and Advisory. Through these activities, it hopes to provide urban leaders and practitioners with the knowledge and support needed to make our cities better.

For more information, please visit www.clc.gov.sg

About Urban Redevelopment Authority

The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) is Singapore's land use planning and conservation agency. Our mission is 'to make Singapore a great city to live, work and play'. We strive to create an endearing home and a vibrant and sustainable city through long-term planning and innovation, in partnership with the community.

URA's multi-faceted role includes being the main government land sales agent. We attract and channel private capital investments to develop sites that support planning, economic and social objectives. We also partner the community to enliven our public spaces to create a car-lite, people-friendly and liveable city for all to enjoy. In shaping a distinctive city, URA also promotes architecture and urban design excellence. Visit www.ura.gov.sg for more information.

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List and Biographies of WCS Knowledge Council Members

Name	Designation	Name	Designation
Lily Kong (Chair)	President, Singapore Management University		
Angelene Chan	Chairman, DP Architects Pte Ltd	M Jae Moon	Underwood Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Management; Director of Institute for Future Government
Barbara Norman	Emeritus Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Canberra Honorary Professor, ANU Insitute of Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions, Canberra	Mark Watts	Executive Director, C40
Bree Trevana	Australasia Foresight Leader and Associate Principal, Arup	Rahul Mehrotra	Professor of Urban Design and Planning John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization Graduate School of Design, Harvard University; Founder Principal of RMA Architects
Clarence E. Anthony	CEO and Executive Director of the National League of Cities (NLC)	Richard K Green	Professor, Price School of Public Policy Marshall School of Business; Professor, Department of Economics; Director and Chair, Lusk Center for Real Estate; Chair, Smith Department of Real Estate Development; University of Southern California
Cristina Gamboa	CEO, World Green Building Council (WorldGBC)	Rohit T. Aggarwal	Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection; New York City Chief Climate Officer
Dan Hill	Director of Melbourne School of Design, University of Melbourne	Xue Lan	Cheung Kong Chair Distinguished Professor and Dean of Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University

Details

Chair

Name	Lily Kong	
Designation / Company	President, Singapore Management University (SMU)	
Region	Singapore, Asia	
Area of Expertise	Urban transformations, particularly social and cultural change, in Asian cities.	
Brief Bio	<p>Professor Lily Kong has been President of Singapore Management University (SMU) since 2019. She is the fifth President and the first Singaporean to lead the 24-year-old university. She is also the first Singaporean woman to serve as President of a university in Singapore. She was previously Provost of SMU (2015-2018). Before joining SMU, she was a faculty member at the National University of Singapore's Department of Geography for nearly 25 years, where she held various senior management roles.</p> <p>An award-winning researcher and teacher, Professor Kong has received five international fellowship awards including the Commonwealth Fellowship Award and the Fulbright Fellowship Award. She has also won the Robert Stoddard Award from the Association of American Geographers for her contributions to the study of religion. Professor Kong was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 2006 and Public Service Star (Bintang Bakti Masyarakat) award in 2020 as part of Singapore's National Day Awards. She was recognised in Forbes Asia's Power Businesswomen list (2020), Forbes inaugural 50 over 50 (Asia 2022) and Tatler's Asia's Most Influential (2022). Professor Kong was inducted into the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame in 2022.</p> <p>Widely known for her research on urban transformations, and social and cultural change in Asia, Professor Kong has published a large body of work on inter-communal religions and social cohesion, national identity, cultural policy and cultural industries, creative cities and creative economy, urban heritage and conservation, smart cities, migration and education. In a global study by Stanford University (2020), Professor Kong was identified as among the world's top 1% of scientists in the field of Geography.</p> <p>She has co/authored 11 books, co/edited 12 books, published nearly 120 refereed journal articles, and contributed over 70 book chapters.</p>	

List of Members (Arranged In alphabetical order)

Member 1


Name	Angelene Chan	
Designation / Company	Chairman, DP Architects Pte Ltd	
Region	Singapore, Asia	
Area of Expertise	Human-centric design and architecture, climate-responsive architecture, sustainable development	
Brief Bio	<p>Ar. Angelene Chan is the chairman of DP Architects and its group of companies (DP); an influential multi-disciplinary practice with 8 architecture-related specialist firms and 17 offices worldwide. She has steered and continues to oversee the practice's strategic growth towards greater international presence, and higher design and service delivery benchmarks through increased specialization in architecture-related disciplines and use of technology.</p> <p>An award-winning architect, she is recognized for her human-centric designs and collaborative approach across project scales and types. She was named one of Singapore's 20 leading architects under the age of 45 by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) in 2010 and accorded P*DA (President's Design Award) Designer of the Year, Singapore's highest design accolade, in 2018.</p>	

Member 2

Name	Barbara Norman	
Designation / Company	Emeritus Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Canberra Honorary Professor, ANU Insitute of Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions, Canberra	
Region	Australia	
Area of Expertise	Urban and regional planning, sustainable cities and regions, coastal planning, climate change adaptation	
Brief Bio	<p>Professor Barbara Norman is Emeritus Professor of Urban & Regional Planning at the University of Canberra and an Honorary Professor at the Australian National University, Australia. She is Chair of the Urban Policy Forum advising the Australian Government and National Chair of the Australian Coastal Society. Barbara is also the Director of the Urban Climate Change Research Network Oceania Hub (Columbia University, USA) and co-chair of Planners for Climate Action (UN Habitat). Professor Norman is a global expert in sustainable cities and regions, smart infrastructure, coastal planning, climate change adaptation and urban governance. Professor Norman has a combined professional and academic background, having worked at all levels of government and run her own practice. She is a former national president of the Planning Institute of Australia, and an honorary member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (UK). Recent international research includes Sustainable Pathways for our Cities and Regions: planning within planetary boundaries (Routledge, 2018); Are autonomous cities our urban future? Comment in Nature Communications (Nature Communications, 2018) and Apocalypse Now: Australian Bushfires and the future of Urban Settlements (Nature Urban Sustainability). Professor Norman’s recent book is Urban Planning for Climate Change (Routledge, October 2022).</p>	


Member 3

Name	Bree Trevana	
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Designation / Company	Australasia Foresight Leader and Associate Principal, Arup	
Region	Australia	
Area of Expertise	Critical geography, policy and futures practice	
Brief Bio	<p>Dr Bree Trevena works at the edge of critical futures and built environment practice.</p> <p>An impassioned urban designer, dedicated social researcher and leader of Arup Foresight in Australasia, Bree has spent twenty years in public and private sector roles bringing a future-focused lens to place-based policy and strategic design, creative industries, R&D commercialisation and infrastructure delivery.</p> <p>Across a career traversing multiple sectors, Bree's consistent purpose remains finding new ways to envisage, plan and realise more inclusive, equitable and regenerative futures.</p> <p>She holds a PhD from the University of Melbourne focused on emergence and complex adaptive systems in precinct governance, design and operations.</p>	

Member 4

Name	Clarence E. Anthony	
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Designation / Company	CEO and Executive Director of the National League of Cities (NLC)	
Region	United States	
Area of Expertise	Public health and safety, economic development and sustainability	
Brief Bio	<p>Clarence E. Anthony is CEO and Executive Director of the National League of Cities (NLC), the largest and oldest organization representing America's cities, towns and villages and their leaders. Under his leadership, NLC delivered billions of dollars in direct, flexible federal relief through the CARES Act and historic American Rescue Plan Act to help support local governments respond, recover and rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Mr. Anthony is a member of the Council on Underserved Communities, appointed by U.S. Small Business Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman and tasked along with his fellow committee members with developing supportive policy recommendations for underserved small business owners. He also serves on the Advisory Board for the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Urban Forum and is a member of the Board of Destination DC. In 2020, Mr. Anthony received the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) Marks of Excellence Award.</p> <p>Most recently, Mr. Anthony has focused his efforts on helping local leaders combat the rising tide of partisanship at the local level. He authored a report in 2021 titled, "On the Frontlines of Today's Cities: Trauma, Challenges, and Solutions," which focused on the decline of civility and democratic institutions at the local level.</p>	

Member 5

Name	Cristina Gamboa	
Designation / Company	Chief Executive (CEO) World Green Building Council (WorldGBC)	
Region	United Kingdom	
Area of Expertise	Sustainable development, responsible business, global advocacy for enabling policy environments to progress on SDGs and meeting the Paris Agreement through the sustainable transformation of the built environment, just transition, social value in the built environment, green Finance.	
Brief Bio	<p>As the CEO of the World Green Building Council, Cristina Gamboa leads the world's largest and most influential local-regional-global action network, spearheading the sustainable transformation to decarbonised and resilient built environments for everyone, everywhere.</p> <p>As a leading voice within the #BuildingToCOP Coalition, Cristina continues to play a pivotal role in championing globally the built environment as not only a priority climate change solution, but key to driving resilient, regenerative and equitable spaces to thrive.</p> <p>As an economist with a leadership record in sustainability, policy and multi-stakeholder partnerships, Cristina has been a trusted convener and advocate for sustainable development at international platforms such as the UN COP Summits, WEF and IEA.</p> <p>Cristina is from Colombia and resides in London, UK.</p>	

Member 6

Name	Dan Hill	
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Designation / Company	Director of Melbourne School of Design, University of Melbourne	
Region	Australia	
Area of Expertise	Urban strategy, urban design, urban technology, social infrastructures	
Brief Bio	<p>Dan Hill is Director of Melbourne School of Design, the graduate school in the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning at the University of Melbourne. A designer and urbanist, Dan's previous leadership roles include the Swedish government's innovation agency Vinnova in Stockholm, Arup in London and Sydney. Fabrica in Treviso, the Finnish Innovation Fund SITRA in Helsinki, and the UK government's Future Cities Catapult and the BBC in London. Dan is also a Visiting Professor of Practice at UCL's Institute for Innovation and Public Practice and a founder member of the Council on Urban Initiatives.</p>	

Member 7

Name	M. Jae Moon	
Designation / Company	Underwood Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Management; Director of Institute for Future Government	
Region	South Korea, Asia	
Area of Expertise	Digital government, public sector innovation, futures	
Brief Bio	<p>M. Jae Moon is currently Underwood Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Management and Director of the Institute for Future Government at Yonsei University. He is currently a member of the Presidential Committee on Digital Platform Government and also chairs the Digital Government Document Innovation Forum as well as a member of External Advisory Group for Digital Technology for Development for the Asian Development Bank. He also cochairs the Organizing Committee for Seoul Smart City Prize which is conferred by the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO). He is an elected Fellow of National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) and was selected as one of world's 100 most influential people in Digital Government 2018 and 2019 consecutively by <i>Apolitical</i>. He received Order of Service Merit-Red Stripe from the Government of the Republic of Korea for his contribution to the public sector innovations.</p>	


Member 8


Name	Mark Watts	
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Designation / Company	Executive Director, C40	
Region	United Kingdom	
Area of Expertise	Inclusive urban climate action, green jobs in cities, fossil fuel phase out	
Brief Bio	<p>Mark Watts has served as Executive Director of C40 since December 2013. The organisation has grown rapidly in scope and ambition under Mark's tenure and its 400+ global staff now support nearly 100 of the world's leading cities, representing around 700 million residents and 25% of global gross domestic product. Mark has been a thought leader and doer on climate matters for years, working in both the private sector and city government prior to joining C40. Mark was previously director at the pioneering consultancy firm Arup's energy and climate team, and before that was the climate and sustainable transport adviser to the Mayor of London Ken Livingstone, where he helped establish C40 and was described by the London Evening Standard newspaper as "the intellectual force behind Ken Livingstone's drive to make London a leading light of the battle against global warming." Under Mark's leadership, C40 was instrumental in pushing for the climate movement to adopt 1.5C as the global temperature rise limit, and today continues to focus on aligning climate action with what the science demands, inspiring transformational change that centres equity. In 2023 Mark was listed as a TIME100 climate defender.</p>	

Member 9

Name	Rahul Mehrotra	
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Designation / Company	Professor of Urban Design and Planning John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization Graduate School of Design, Harvard University; Founder Principal of RMA Architects	
Region	India, Asia / United States	
Area of Expertise	Architecture and urban design	
Brief Bio	Rahul Mehrotra is a Professor of Urban Design and Planning and the John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. and the Founder Principal of RMA Architects, which was founded in 1990 and has designed and executed projects for government and private institutions, corporate workplaces, private homes, and unsolicited projects driven by the firm’s commitment to advocacy in the city of Mumbai.	

Name	Richard K. Green	
Designation / Company	Professor, Price School of Public Policy Marshall School of Business; Professor, Department of Economics; Director and Chair, Lusk Center for Real Estate; Chair, Smith Department of Real Estate Development; University of Southern California	
Region	United States	
Area of Expertise	Housing economics, real estate economics, urban economics, public economics, demography	
Brief Bio	Richard K. Green holds the Lusk Chair in Real Estate and is Professor in the Sol Price School of Public Policy and the Marshall School of Business. He is Chair of Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development. He served a year as Senior Advisor for Housing Finance at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and is a Trustee of the Urban Land Institute. He consults for the World Bank. Dr. Green earned his Ph.D. and M.S. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He earned his A.B. in economics from Harvard University.	

Name	Rohit T. Aggarwala	
Designation / Company	Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection; New York City Chief Climate Officer	
Region	United States	
Area of Expertise	Urban sustainability, climate change, urban technology & innovation, history	
Brief Bio	<p>Rohit T. "Rit" Aggarwala is Commissioner of Environmental Protection and Chief Climate Officer for the City of New York. Previously, he was a founding executive at Sidewalk Labs, Alphabet's urban tech startup. Before that, he started Bloomberg Philanthropies' Environmental Grantmaking program; led the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group under Mayor Bloomberg's chairmanship; and navigated Mayor Bloomberg's appointment as a UN Special Envoy; and led the development and implementation of PlaNYC, NYC's sustainability plan. He started his career at McKinsey & Company. Aggarwala holds a PhD, MBA, and BA from Columbia University and an MA from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.</p>	

Name	Xue Lan	
Designation / Company	Professor and Dean, Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University	
Region	China, Asia	
Area of Expertise	STI policy, crisis management, and global governance	
Brief Bio	<p>Xue Lan is a Distinguished Chair Professor and Dean at Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University. He also serves as Co-Director of the Global Institute for SDGs. He holds adjunct positions at Carnegie Mellon University and the Brookings Institution. Dr. Xue advises the State Council, chairs China's National Expert Committee on Next Generation AI governance, and is a member of the Standing Committee of the Chinese Association of Science and Technology. He also serves on the board of UN Sustainable Development Solution Network, UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration, and Internet Governance Forum Leadership Panel. He earned his PhD in Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University.</p>	