

Cities After Dark Summit Program

Presented by City of Maribyrnong

Friday, 28 August

11.00am **Guest arrival, entertainment, lunch and refreshments**

11.50am **Welcome**

12.10pm **Dr Daniel Mulino MP**

12.20pm **Dreaming big for Footscray: Creativity as a catalyst**

Cr Mohamed Semra, Mayor of Maribyrnong

An address on how Creative West can harness Footscray's cultural strengths to revitalise the city centre, support inclusion and strengthen Melbourne's west.

Discover a bold vision for Footscray's future and the role creativity can play in shaping a vibrant, inclusive and thriving city centre.

12.40pm **Life after dark: Who is it built for?**

Rebecca McIntosh, Churchill Fellow, artist and night-time economy expert

A research presentation exploring night-time economies, arts and culture, and safer cities for women and marginalised communities.

Explore how inclusive planning, arts and culture can create safer and more welcoming night-time experiences for everyone.

1.00pm **International insights: Local focus**

Mirik Milan, Former Night Mayor of Amsterdam; Co-Founder, VibeLab

Lessons from Amsterdam's nightlife transformation and global night mayor models.

Gain insights from one of the world's leading night-time economy innovators and learn what global success stories could mean for Footscray.

1.20pm **Art is infrastructure — and after dark it is everything**

A panel discussion featuring ***Mirik Milan, John Collins (JC), Dr Anna Edwards, Jess Scully, and Jody Haines.***

Exploring the power of the creative economy to support safer, more inclusive and more vibrant public spaces.

Join leading thinkers and practitioners as they examine how arts and culture can transform public spaces and strengthen community connection after dark.

2.20pm **Afternoon tea**

2.45pm Introduction of A practical case study session: **Key Drivers of Life After Dark — This Is How To Do It**

- Case study 1: **The conditions for culture after dark to thrive**
Tim Hunt, urban strategist and night-time design specialist
A case study exploring transport, lighting, walkability, identity, governance and public space.
Learn what it takes to create vibrant, safe and successful night-time precincts, from urban design to governance and infrastructure.
- Case study 2: **How governance, policy and regulation ignite or smother art and culture**
Victoria Moxey, Director Programs, Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner
A case study sharing examples and lessons for the night-time economy.
Explore how policy settings can either enable or constrain creative activity and discover practical lessons from across the sector.
- Case study 3: **The power of cultural programming**
Karen Bryant, CEO Creative Director, Midsumma
A case study exploring how cultural programming can create safer, more inclusive night-time experiences.

Discover how strategic cultural programming can drive visitation, strengthen belonging and create vibrant communities after dark.

- **Case study 4: The importance of the high street**
Joyce Watts, President of Mainstreet Australia
Insights on the conditions that help local centres succeed after dark.
Learn why successful high streets remain at the heart of thriving communities and what it takes to support their long-term vitality.

4.00pm Dreaming Big for Footscray Businesses

Hear local success stories and explore the opportunities a stronger night-time economy can create for Footscray businesses and entrepreneurs.

4.15pm State address

Katie Hall MP, Member for Footscray

4.25pm Wrap up, Rebecca McIntosh

Join the conversation as key themes are reflected upon.

5.00pm Close