

**Mission to the United States of America by
The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier of New South Wales
21-26 February 2018
Mission Report**

PURPOSE OF TRAVEL

The NSW Premier undertook a mission to the United States of America (US) from 21 to 26 February 2018 to achieve the following objectives:

- Attend the US National Governors Association (NGA) 2018 Winter Session, at the invitation of the Honourable Joe Hockey, Australia's Ambassador to the US as part of a Commonwealth Government-led whole of Australia initiative. The Prime Minister of Australia; Premiers of Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia; and the Chief Ministers of the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory also attended.
- Address more than 40 US Governors on the success of asset recycling in NSW at a special joint session of the NGA.
- Attract international investment into NSW and generate interest in the NSW Government's significant infrastructure pipeline and the Western Sydney airport precinct.
- Grow NSW's relationship and business partnerships with senior US and Australian business leaders.
- Reinforce the importance of the US-NSW relationship.

BENEFITS OF TRAVEL FOR THE STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

International missions by the Premier are a critical part of the NSW Government's efforts to promote trade and investment. International trade and investment account for a significant portion of the NSW economy, supporting jobs in metropolitan and regional NSW.

The US is a priority market for NSW trade and investment. It is NSW's third largest merchandise trading partner and second largest source of tourists (2016-17 financial year).

The Premier's participation ensured NSW was represented at the highest level alongside the Prime Minister of Australia, the Premiers and Chief Ministers of five other Australian states and territories, and a senior delegation of Australian business leaders. This was reported to be the largest and most significant delegation of Australian government officials and business leaders ever to visit the US.

KEY MISSION OUTCOMES

Washington DC – 22 to 25 February 2018

Sought learnings from the challenges and opportunities facing state governments in the US

The key themes of the NGA 2018 Winter Session were economic development, health, education, innovation and energy, agriculture and veterans services. Australia was the exclusive international partner and had the largest international presence at the event.

The Premier and the Premier's official delegation heard from US Governors during the NGA open plenary sessions, and in separate meetings with US business representatives, to gain insight into US infrastructure plans, and approaches to energy and transport innovation. US counterparts sought NSW learnings in asset recycling and innovative financial management.

Showcased NSW success in asset recycling

The Premier addressed guests and participated in a Q&A at a luncheon hosted by the United States Studies Centre with Ms Lucy Turnbull AO, Chief Commissioner of the Greater Sydney Commission. The focus of the lunch presentation was promoting NSW's investment in infrastructure and the integration of planning into the effective delivery of that infrastructure.

At a special joint international session of the NGA, the Premier addressed approximately 40 US Governors on NSW strengths in asset recycling and infrastructure. The Premier's delegation also shared NSW learnings in this area in separate business meetings with US representatives.

Strengthened bilateral relationships

The Premier met with US Governors at a series of Embassy and NGA hosted events. The Premier built on existing relationships and encouraged the Governors of Kentucky, South Dakota and Maryland to consider opportunities for collaboration and knowledge exchange with NSW.

Supported stronger business partnerships and promoted investment opportunities in NSW

The Premier joined the Prime Minister of Australia and fellow Premiers and Chief Ministers to meet with senior business leaders from the US and Australia at a boardroom meeting and Joint Forum coordinated by the Australian Embassy. The Premier promoted investment opportunities in NSW, particularly in Western Sydney, and the strength of the NSW economy to the senior business leaders from both countries. As a group, they addressed trade, economic growth, defence and innovation issues and ways to enhance business and government ties between Australia and the US.

The Premier met with senior representatives of Boeing International to promote the Western Sydney Aerotropolis as a destination for investment and to recognise Boeing's existing presence in NSW. The Premier also met with the President of General Dynamics Mission Systems to promote opportunities for investment in the Western Sydney Aerotropolis.

The Premier attended a dinner hosted by the Business Council of Australia and the Business Council for International Understanding with senior business leaders from the US and Australia. The event explored key policy issues facing the US, economic and trade opportunities, and geopolitics in the Asia Pacific Region.

DELEGATION

The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier of New South Wales

Accompanied by:

Mr Tim Reardon
Secretary, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet

Ms Sarah Cruickshank
Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier

FINANCIALS

Minister	The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP
Portfolio	Premier of New South Wales
Destinations(s) visited a) Countries b) Cities	a) United State of America b) Washington DC
Dates of travel a) Departure date b) Return date	a) Wednesday 21 February 2018 b) Tuesday 27 February 2018
Number of official travel days	Six
Number of accompanying a) Minister's staff b) Government officials c) NSW Police	a) One b) One c) Nil
Accompanied by spouse a) in an official capacity b) in a private capacity	Nil

Costs	
Airfares a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials c) NSW Police	a) \$25,654.56 b) \$12,827.28 c) Nil
Accommodation (includes any meals/incidentals charged to room) a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials c) NSW Police	a) \$2,862.00 b) \$1,431.00 c) Nil
Official hospitality a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) Nil b) Nil
Other expenses a) Official gift presentation b) Ground transport c) Meals and refreshments d) Other miscellaneous costs	a) \$1,248.50 b) \$7,583.00 c) Nil d) \$1,377.20
TOTAL estimated travel cost	\$ 52,983.54
Currency conversion rate	1 USD = 1.2980 AUD (19/3/18)

This report does not include costs for data roaming, official passports, visas, vaccinations, insurance, translation of or printing of business cards.

MEETING DISCLOSURE SUMMARY

Date	Organisation/ Individual	Purpose
22 Feb 2018	Luncheon hosted by the United States Studies Centre	Address attendees on the strength of the NSW economy, asset recycling and infrastructure.
	Greystar	Tour Greystar Anthology building and gain insight into US build-to-rent investment class.
	General Dynamics Mission Systems	Meeting with Mr Chris Marzill, President, to promote opportunities for investment in Western Sydney Aerotropolis
	Dinner for Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers hosted by the Australian Ambassador to the US	Attend Embassy welcome event for Australian government officials and senior business leaders.
23 Feb 2018	Boeing International	Promote the Western Sydney Aerotropolis as a destination for investment and recognise Boeing's contribution to the NSW defence industry.
	Maximus	Discuss social challenges facing governments and outline NSW priorities in health and human services.
	WSP USA (DPC Secretary and Premier's Chief of Staff only)	Gain insight into the US's proposed Infrastructure Plan. Share learnings from NSW's record infrastructure pipeline.
	Australian Prime Minister and senior US business leaders	Promote investment opportunities in NSW and the strength of the NSW economy.
	Joint Australia-CEO USA CEO Forum with senior US and Australian business leaders	Promote investment opportunities in NSW and discuss opportunities for the US and Australia to improve government and business two way engagement.
24 Feb 2018	Reception for the National Governors' Association (NGA) hosted by the Australian Embassy	Attend Embassy event honouring the NGA and celebrating the Australian Government's First 100 Years of Mateship campaign.
	Peabody Energy (DPC Secretary only)	Receive briefing on Peabody's NSW operations and proposals.
	NGA Saturday program	Strengthen bilateral ties with US Governors at a breakfast meeting and evening reception. Observe key note address by Australian Prime Minister. Observe signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the NGA and the Council of Australian Federation. Address US Governors on NSW strengths in asset recycling and infrastructure. Attend open plenary sessions on priority sectors for US Governors.
	Qantas and Australian Embassy	Attend unveiling of new Sydney signage on exterior of the Australian Embassy.
	Dinner hosted by the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU) and the Business Council of Australia	Attend BCIU event focused on US-Australia ties.
	25 Feb 2018	NGA Sunday program

