



Campbell Newman

Lord Mayor

MEDIA RELEASE



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Weather researchers hit Brisbane streets

Researchers are taking to City streets over the next year to collect weather data that will assist architects, urban designers and building designers make our future cities more livable.

Using a purpose built weather cart, researches will measure micro-climates in the CBD throughout the day for a week at a time.

Lord Mayor Campbell Newman said the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for *Construction Innovation*'s research would fill a void in CBD-specific weather data.

"The information being collected by the *Construction Innovation* researchers is essential to gauge the impact of modern construction on climate, and will provide valuable information for the future planning of sustainable urban areas.

"Brisbane is growing rapidly, and without careful planning, we run the risk of creating an 'Urban Heat Island', with high temperatures and increased greenhouse gas emissions and pollution.

"Much of the data currently available about Brisbane was collected at the airport, 20 kilometres away, so it's not an accurate measure of climate in the CBD."

The weather cart, which has been purpose built and programmed by QUT for this project, will be complemented by a fixed data recorder which will record air temperature, solar radiation, humidity, rainfall and airflow (and its direction) for 12 months.

"The climate data will be used to develop a 3D computer modelling tool that architects and town planners can use to assess the impact a new building will have on sunlight, air movement, rain exposure, temperature and relative humidity for it and the surrounding area," Cr Newman said.

"It will also be used in future growth management strategies to ensure Brisbane remains a livable and subtropical city."

Initial stages of the research will involve weather data measurements in Brisbane's CBD – bounded by Adelaide and Albert Streets, Queen Street Mall and George Street – using the mobile cart.

This project is being conducted by the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for *Construction Innovation*'s partners including Brisbane City Council, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), CSIRO and the Queensland Department of Public Works.

The CRC for *Construction Innovation* (www.construction-innovation.info) brings together 19 industry, government and research partners in a collaboration to find innovative solutions to improve the economic, environmental and social benefit of the design, property, construction and facility management sectors as well as the Australian community.

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