

Thursday Sep 30, 8:30am-10:15am

Keynote: Remarkable Ideas for Building Better Cities

Presenter: Mick Cornett **Moderator:** Kam Napier

Former fourth term (2004-2018) Mayor of Oklahoma City, Mick Cornett will speak about how he helped completely transform the city into one of America's top up and coming places. To accomplish this and become more attractive, Oklahoma had to reconfigure its entire city planning and rebuilding its infrastructure by adding green spaces, jogging/bike paths, public transit, and waterways/front.

To be able to redo their undesirable waterfront they had to build dams and re-create waterways. The city invested nearly \$2 billion into schools and infrastructure dedicated to improving the city's quality of life. This investment generated nearly \$6 billion in private sector investments.

Nowadays, the area is completely changed, attracting highly educated people, and creating a business boom. This is really a tale of resilience, leadership and lessons learned that have a universal appeal.

During Mayor Mick's four terms in office, Oklahoma City created 100,000 new jobs and 9,400 new businesses.