Top News of Chongqing Liangjiang New Area
(September 2016)

1. Chongqing leads way in transportation innovation

The mountain city of Chongqing has become the first city in Asia to welcome the debut of car2go, Daimler AG’s car-sharing rental service, on April 15. The company has gained more than 100,000 local app-users during its four-month operation.

The service came to Chongqing with 400 blue-and-white smart fortwo vehicles, and another 200 cars are expected to join the service soon. All car2go vehicles can be rented using the smartphone app, and all vehicles are automatically turned off once the rental is completed.

The app has been used successfully 115,000 times in the past four months, and coverage extends through the downtown area to Chongqing North Railway Station, Jiangbei Airport, and Liangjiang Happiness Square; according to Rainer Becker, the chief executive officer of car2go China.

For the Chinese market the company is known as Ji Xing car2go, "ji xing" meaning “ready to go with” or “immediately hit the road” in Chinese.

The company provides a groundbreaking transportation service, focusing on providing smarter, greener, more innovative and sustainable transport solutions for modern urban cities. About 12,500 car2go vehicles are currently operating in 29 locations and are used by more than a million members in North America and Europe.

Car2go has chosen to base itself in an industrial area of Chongqing. The location is home to a large number of businesses, and has China’s highest rate of growth, at 11 percent of GDP in 2015.
2. Liangjiang signs agreement with Singapore's Oxley

Liangjiang New Area has signed a cooperation agreement in the field of medical education with a Singapore-based property company, Oxley Group, as part of the Sino-Singapore Cooperation Program, liangjiang.gov.cn reported on Sept 5.

Oxley Group will introduce high-end medical products and professional medical staff from Singapore, South Korea and Japan. It will cooperate with Liangjiang New Area to establish several medical projects, including a training base for medical staff and an international medical service zone.

The company is a Singapore-based property developer which is principally engaged in the business of property development, logistics management and medical services, with an overseas presence in eight different countries.

The cooperation will combine both sides' advantages in industry, capital, technology, and management expertise; and there is also huge potential in the medical education industry, according the Li Yihan, the president of Oxley Group.

The China-Singapore (Chongqing) Demonstration Initiative on Strategic Connectivity was launched on Jan 8, focusing on financial services, the aviation industry, transportation, logistics, and information and telecommunications. By the end of June 2016, Chongqing had approved significant foreign investment of $4.5 billion, mainly focused on leasing, business services, hotels, manufacturing, and transportation.

3. Liangjiang officials visit Shanghai and Shenzhen FTZs

A delegation from Chongqing's Liangjiang New Area paid a visit to the free trade zones (FTZ) of Shanghai and Shenzhen on Sept 7 to 9, investigating the construction and development of the special economic areas.

Tang Zongwei, deputy director of Liangjiang New Area, led the delegation.

At the Shanghai FTZ, Tang visited the Pudong Administrative Service Center and learned about its administrative approval procedures. Cao Hongying, deputy director of Shanghai FTZ detailed the area's investment management, trade and financial regulations.

At the Shenzhen Qianhai FTZ, Tang visited its exhibition hall. Qianhai provides an extensive platform for young people to start businesses and innovate. A symposium was held and Yao Wenkai, an official from Qianhai's Free Trade Port Zone explained the history and system of innovation in Qianhai.

Shenzhen's Qianhai & Shekou FTZ was launched in 2015, specializing in finance and innovation.

After visiting the FTZs in Shanghai and Shenzhen, Tang said that he hopes that Liangjiang can develop a FTZ of its own in the future.
4. Liangjiang firm to help Hyundai save on its energy bills

Liangjiang Changxing Electric Power launched a new project on Sept 8 to save electricity at Hyundai's production base in Chongqing.

The project is estimated to save Hyundai more than 260 million yuan ($38.93 million) during its test and pilot production period.

Hyundai begun the construction of its Chongqing production base last June and it is now undergoing a test period. Hyundai is currently paying an estimated 440,000 yuan a month on transformers, a fee that can be eradicated at the completion of the project.

5. Liangjiang starts to provide family doctor service

This year, hospitals in the Liangjiang New Area have started to provide a family doctor service. At present, approximately 30 family doctor groups are serving the area and 3,693 local families have used the service, according to the Liangjiang administrative committee.

An official from Liangjiang pointed out that after local residents sign the family doctor service agreement, they can receive medical care and health management services from doctors. By the end of November, 20 percent of Liangjiang local residents are expected to have signed the family doctor service agreement.
According to a senior member of staff from Liangjiang First People's Hospital, the family doctor service helps to connect doctors with local residents. Doctors are now able to look at all aspects of a patient's health, including physical and psychological health.

Liangjiang local residents sign agreement with the family doctor service.

Doctors from Liangjiang First People's Hospital publicize the family doctor service.
6. Chongqing safeguards intellectual property rights

The Chongqing government signed a cooperation agreement with Chongqing Investment Consultation Group on Sept 12, to jointly build a comprehensive service platform to protect intellectual property (IP) rights.

The service platform is supported by a professional team including lawyers, patent agents, translators and senior engineers. It aims to provide a package of comprehensive services from application and usage, to protections of intellectual property rights, such as trademarks, copyright, patents, industrial design rights and trade secrets.

The platform also offers six types of derived services, including IP confirmation, information, consultancy, commercial services, legal affairs, and educational training, according to a manager from the company.

As China is accelerating its innovation-driven development strategy on a path toward becoming an IP powerhouse, the service platform is a pioneering step in incentivizing local companies to innovate. The local government will also provide the service platform with favorable government policies to create an innovation-friendly climate in Chongqing.

A policy on accelerating the implementation of the innovation-driven strategy released by the central government in March 2015, noted the significance of strict IP protection and enhanced support for technological innovation in the capital market, and called for exploring IP securitization and IP-collateralized financial services.

7. 3D version of ancient art masterpiece debuts in Chongqing

A 3D version of the ancient masterpiece, Riverside Scene At Qingming Festival, made its debut in Chongqing on Saturday, adding a strong flavor of traditional art to the last day of the Mid-Autumn Festival national vacation.

Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival is one of 10 most famous Chinese ancient paintings. It was created by well-known painter Zhang Zeduan of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127) and long crowned as China's top art classic. The painting is more than 500cm long and over 20cm wide, and features vivid scenes of the lives of people from every walk of life in the dynasty's capital at the time, Bianjing city, in today's Kaifeng city, Henan province.

The 3D version was created based on the ancient artwork. By magnifying an image of the original painting 10 times in size, the high-tech edition brings the Song Dynasty's capital of 900 years ago back to life. The busy ancient waterways, the bustling streets, farmers, merchants, monks and street-storytellers seem alive. Nearly 1,000 different characters are depicted in the 3D painting, and the effect attracted a slew of visitors.
The exhibition is held at the Binjiang Cultural Life Zone in Chongqing.

The 3D version of the ancient masterpiece painting, Riverside Scene At Qingming Festival, is displayed in Chongqing for the first time on Saturday.
A section of the original ancient masterpiece painting, Riverside Scene At Qingming Festival, shows its unique details.

**8. Tourism summit brings investment to Chongqing**

The World Tourism Cities Federation's annual summit kicked off in Chongqing on Sept 19. About 400 guests from 89 cities and 47 institutions worldwide gathered at the event.

The ceremony was co-hosted by the Chongqing government and the World Tourism Cities Federation (WTCF), with the event being held at Chongqing Yuelai International Convention Center.

Forums on shared economy, tourism promotion sessions and investment fair were held during the summit.

A total of 40 tourism investment projects valued at 80 billion yuan ($12 billion) have been agreed during the signing ceremony of the 2016 Fragrant Hill Tourism Summit, Sept 20, as reported by Chongqing Daily.

In the run up to the ceremony, 44 tourism companies presented their projects at a negotiation meeting with 23 investment institutions, including CITIC Private Equity Funds Management Co.

Promising projects, such as a Thai themed park, Wuling Mountain development project and a skiing resort, attracted lots of investors, among which a project proposed by Luneng Group and Hechuan District of Chongqing won an investment of 10 billion yuan ($1.5 billion).
During the summit, WTCF signed strategic partnership agreements with Tencent Technology, Travel Channel and iQIYI. In addition, Chongqing tourism bureau signed a MOU with Washington DC Tourism Bureau and Airbnb.

The summit is a renowned annual tourism event that attracts industry leaders worldwide. It is hoped that the event can help develop Chongqing into a world famous tourism destination.

The Fragrant Hill Tourism Summit, regarded as WTCF’s main event, has been held on four previous occasions. The first three events were held in Beijing and last year’s event was held in Rabat, Morocco.
Chongqing Rail Transit Line 3 bears the signage of 2016 WTCF Chongqing Fragrant Hill Tourism Summit.

9. Secondhand housing paperwork goes online in Liangjiang New Area

Chongqing Liangjiang New Area opened its online secondhand housing transaction system at the end of August. The system is designed to regulate the real estate market and avoid potentially illegal transactions, according to an official from Chongqing Liangjiang New Area land resource and housing administration, on Sept 22.

Real estate agents can conduct secondhand housing transactions on the online system only when houses with legal property rights certificates have had their information verified. Both parties to the transaction can fill in and sign their contracts on the Internet, which will ultimately save time and money.

The system is designed to streamline the real estate market and make housing transactions more efficient. It also aims to minimize the potential for unlawful behavior.

Secondhand house buyers will benefit directly from the online system. Previously, individuals wishing to buy a secondhand house often needed to overcome several potential hazards, such as houses being sold below their true value, and the problem of fake contracts.

The online system is expected to be a transparent platform to disclose genuine property records, prices, and the number of transactions that have taken place on a particular property. The new measures should help safeguard buyers and sellers in the secondhand market. Under the new platform, house owners can be confident of their full legal rights.
10. Chongqing looks to services to push economy to the next level

How to develop Chongqing’s services sector was the question on everyone’s lips as officials and business leaders gathered for the 11th Annual Meeting of the Chongqing Mayor’s International Economic Advisory Council (CMIA), which was held at Chongqing Yuelai International Conference Center on Sept 24-25.

More than 30 presidents and CEOs of world-class multinational companies including ABB, Lafarge, and Suez Environment and Energy Group attended the meeting as economic advisors, with discussions this year focusing on how to develop Chongqing’s services sector in accordance with China’s Made in China 2025 and Internet Plus strategies.

The talks were divided into three sessions, concentrating on developing Chongqing’s services sector in line with the Made in China 2025 strategy, promoting services in Chongqing in line with the Internet Plus strategy, and how to create a Chongqing services sector with key strategic advantages, respectively.

According to an official from the CMIA organizing committee, the consensus among the advisors was that Chongqing should take advantage of its solid industrial base and unique geographic location as part of both the Yangtze Delta Economic Belt and the Silk Road Economic Belt.

Chongqing should also integrate the Internet, services and technologies into the city’s industrial upgrading, taking a leading role in the development of Southwest China and merging into a larger and more open market in China.

CMIA has become an annual event since it was first held in 2006. It plays an important role in Chongqing’s economic and social development, promoting Chongqing to the rest of the world.