For discussion on 5 May 2020

HC/03/2020

Progress Report from Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from October 2019 to April 2020, where one Task Force meeting had been conducted.

MEETING HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Thirty-sixth Meeting – 9 April 2020

2. The Task Force discussed the following items –

(a) Public Open Space in Private Development at Area 4 of Former Runway

- The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) briefed Members on the design proposals for the Public Open Space (POS) at Sites 4A1, 4B1, 4B2, 4B3, 4B4, 4C1, 4C2 and 4C3 in Kai Tak Former Runway, where developers concerned are required to construct the adjoining promenade under the public open spaces in private developments (POSPD) approach.
- Members recognised the efforts made in coordinating eight design proposals put forward by different developers. It was also observed the proposals included various design merits, such as the adoption of fence-free design where applicable to bring people closer to the water, provision for Sunday market and ad-hoc activities to activate the promenade, as well as inclusion of water and playscape features to add vibrancy to the waterfront.
- On the other hand, Members suggested that more seating, shelters and shading should be provided. Members also considered that the proposals could be further improved by incorporating more versatile design elements and enhancing biodiversity.

HC/03/2020

• All in all, the Chair concluded that the Task Force was generally supportive of the design proposals. He invited the project team to take into account Members' comments in taking forward the detailed design and implementation programmes.

(b) Designing Hong Kong Limited's Rezoning Application

- Designing Hong Kong Limited briefed Members on its Section 12A application which seeks to rezone four locations from "Open Space" and "Open Space (2)" to four sub-areas of "Other Specified Use" (OU) annotated "Waterfront Related Commercial, Recreational and Leisure Uses" Zone.
- The Planning Department explained that, from the planning perspective, the proposed uses were either always permitted under the current zoning or could be achieved by way of a Section 16 application.
- While Members in general agreed that the intended uses proposed under the planning application were in line with the long-held visions of the Harbourfront Commission to bring vibrancy to the waterfront, Members recognised that there were wider considerations in assessing the merits of a planning application for rezoning, some of which may fall outside the purview of the Task Force.
- The Harbour Office proposed that opportunity could be taken to include the proposal in the project scope of the Metro Park project, which would be funded by the earmarked \$6.5 billion dedicated funding for harbourfront enhancement.
- In conclusion, the Chair concluded that, despite the shared aspiration to activate the harbour, the Task Force is not in a position to consider the planning application.

Secretariat Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development May 2020