

# Harbourfront Commission

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For discussion  
on 26 October 2017

HC/12/2017

## **Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island**

### **REPORTING PERIOD**

This progress report covers the period from July to October 2017.

### **MEETING(S) HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Twenty Eighth Meeting – 10 October 2017

2. The Task Force discussed the following issues/items -
  - (a) **Progress Report on the Urban Design Study for the Wan  
Chai North and North Point Harbourfront Areas**
    - The Planning Department briefed Members on the latest progress of the Urban Design Study for the Wan Chai North and North Point Harbourfront Areas (UDS) and provided detailed responses to Members' previous comments raised on the Harbourfront Enhancement Proposals (HEPs).
    - Members expressed their concern over the compartmented implementation of HEPs in various precincts due to different site availability schedules and division of responsibilities among different management agents. They were worried that the overall implementation without a single coordinator would not be able to achieve the holistic vision of the UDS. Members opined that the Commission should be the champion of this part of the waterfront and a statutory Harbourfront Authority or the proposed Harbour Office with sufficient provision of manpower and funding should become the lead implementation agent to develop and enhance the entire stretch of the waterfront.
    - Members offered further comments on individual HEPs such as installing permanent wave attenuation measures at ex-Wan Chai Public Cargo Working Area basin; including

facilities to provide fuel for vessels within the Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter, providing facilities to enable water events outside the East Coast Park; enhancing pedestrian connectivity towards the waterfront; and bringing in more activities in various precincts.

**(b) 2017 FIA Formula E Hong Kong E-Prix**

- The Tourism Commission and the organizer of the Formula E Hong Kong E-Prix sought Members' comments on the proposed arrangements and short-term occupation of government land along the new Central harbourfront for organising the race in December 2017.
- Members in general had no objection to the race and proposed temporary occupation of government land except one Member who expressed that the waste generated from the race should be reduced and the race should not be held at the waterfront since it was not in line with the vision of reducing private car ownership and would encourage car racing.

**(c) Update on the Transition of the Hong Kong Observation Wheel Site**

- The Harbour Unit reported the latest progress of the transition between tenants of the observation wheel site. It was expected that the legal procedures of the transaction of the observation wheel could be completed by end October and the handover of the site could be scheduled for early November. The incoming tenant aimed to complete renovation, obtain necessary licence and permits, and open the wheel to the public before the end of 2017.
- Members opined that the transitional arrangements in particular the suspension of the wheel service was not desirable and ways to maintain the service to the public during any transitional period should be explored in the future. In addition, whether to include an observation wheel in the permanent development of Site 7 should be further considered.

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## **(d) Industrial Building Development at Hoi Yue Street in Quarry Bay**

- The Harbour Unit reported that the lot owner of a site at Hoi Yue Street in Quarry Bay commenced construction works for an industrial building according to the building plans that were approved in 2001.
- Members expressed strong disappointment towards the decision of the lot owner on taking forward an industrial building development at such a prominent harbourfront site. The latest development was not in line with the Harbour Planning Principles and Guidelines. While acknowledging that the lot owner was fully entitled to take forward the construction works in legal terms, Members would like the Government to look into whether there would still be any other ways to achieve a “win-win” situation. Some opined that the future development of the Quarry Bay waterfront might need to be adjusted taking into account such an adjacent industrial building development.

**Secretariat**

**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island  
October 2017**