For discussion on 11 April 2016

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

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from January to March 2016.

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

Twenty Second Meeting - 29 February 2016

2. The Task Force discussed the following issues/items –

(a) Temporary on-street metered parking for coaches at Hoi Yu Street, Quarry Bay

- In response to Members' request, the Eastern District Office (EDO) briefed Members on the findings of the review conducted on the interim measure of using a vacant site at Hoi Yu Street as a laager point of coaches. The team also briefed members on the recommended extension of the current temporary measure for seven months up to 31 October 2016.
- Members had no in-principle objection to extending the current temporary measure, but requested relevant departments to record vehicle registrations and stopover time for reviewing the effectiveness of the measure, and also to look for a long-term solution for phasing out the temporary measure.
- EDO undertook to take into account Members' comments in their next review and report to the Task Force when ready.
- (b) Urban Design Study for the Wan Chai North and North Point Harbourfront Areas: Study Progress and Proposed Stage 2 Public Engagement Work Plan
 - The Planning Department (PlanD) reported the latest study

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progress and sought Members' comments on the proposed work plan for Stage 2 Public Engagement (PE).

- Members opined that the study team should engage the wider community in the upcoming Stage 2 PE and incorporate the winning entries of the Design Ideas Competition into the proposed design concepts. While the water sports sector should be fully engaged, public safety should be a core consideration when more diversified water activities are considered to be introduced in the area.
- The study team undertook to take into account members' comments and further engage the Task Force's Working Group on devising harbourfront enhancement proposals.

(c) Reassembly of Queen's Pier

- The Development Bureau (DEVB) and the Civil and Engineering Development Department (CEDD) briefed Members on the proposal to reassemble Queen's Pier between Central Piers No. 9 and 10, the PE plan and the implementation programme.
- Members commented on the three design options proposed and landing steps arrangements. In addition, Members also offered comments on related issues regarding the design of the future Ferry Plaza, public amenities, location of the reassembled Queen's Pier and the overall landscape design.
- The project team responded that they would take into consideration Members' comments when taking forward the reassembly works. The two-month PE was launched on 18 March 2016.

(d) Proposed Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor

- CEDD updated Members on the progress of their investigation study for the proposed boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor (IEC) and commencement of Stage 1 PE on 1 February 2016.
- Members tendered general support for the proposal. Some raised specific comments on the width of the boardwalk, possible connections with the hinterland and the overall landscaped plan. Some commented on the design of the

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questionnaire for the PE exercise. There was no consensus as to whether a cycle track should be provided within the proposed boardwalk.

- A four-month, two-stage PE exercise commenced on 1 February 2016. The project team would take into account Members' comments and the result of Stage 1 PE in formulating a detailed boardwalk scheme. Stage 2 PE was expected to take place in the second quarter of 2016. The Task Force would be consulted on the detailed scheme when ready.
- At the Chairman's request, a boat trip would be organized to publicize and raise public awareness of the proposal and Stage 1 PE.

(e) Proposed Short Term Tenancies for Government Land at Central Harbourfront for Staging of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) Formula E Championship – Hong Kong ePrix

- The Tourism Commission (TC) and the organiser consulted Members on the Short Term Tenancies (STT) of using five sites in the new Central Harbourfront to support the organisation of the event in October 2016.
- Members in general had no objection to the event and the proposed STT areas. They expressed specific comments mainly on accessibility to and around the waterfront by the public during the STT period. As fences and concrete barriers would need to be erected along the racing track and crowd control measures would be put in place, they were concerned about the possible blockage to the harbour view and public navigation around the area, notably with the proposed closure of the footbridge along Man Yiu Street for crowd management and safety reasons.
- The organiser responded that pedestrian route accessibility would be specially designed to ensure that the harbourfront would stay open to the general public and fences along the race circuits would be designed to minimize blockage of harbour view. They would provide layout plans and design of the race circuits as well as other supplementary information of the event to the Task Force when available.

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- (f) Ground Decontamination Works at the Site of the Ex-Kennedy Town Incineration Plant/Abattoir and Adjoining Area
 - In response to Members' request, CEDD briefed Members on details of the ground decontamination works including the decontamination method and the implementation programme.
 - Members queried whether the level of contamination underneath the Cadogan Street Temporary Garden (the Garden) and the source of contamination there were significant enough to warrant the proposed decontamination works. Some questioned if the Garden could be retained if no development was to be planned on top. The Planning Department was invited to review the future land use of the Garden site.

Secretariat Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island April 2016