

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 27 January 2022

HC/02/2022

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

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from mid-June 2021 to mid-January 2022, where one Task Force meeting and one visit were conducted.

MEETINGS HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

40th Meeting – 7 September 2021

2. The Task Force discussed one item –

Redevelopment of the Sites of Wan Chai Government Towers and Kong Wan Fire Station and Reprovisioning of Kong Wan Fire Station

- The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau briefed Members on the redevelopment of the sites where the three Government Towers in Wan Chai North and Kong Wan Fire Station (KWFS) were located into Convention and exhibition facilities, hotel and Grade A offices, as well as the reprovisioning of KWFS.
- Members expressed concerns on the capacity of existing footbridge at O'Brien Road since it was the major pedestrian route linking Wan Chai MTR station to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC). The connectivity from Admiralty to the subject site, and from Wan Chai to the subject site should be strengthened in order to cope with the increasing pedestrian flow when the subject site is open. Members suggested providing an additional access from Luard Road to the HKCEC so that the public could also walk from Hennessy Road to harbourfront through

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Luard Road. Considering that there were heavy loading/unloading activities along Harbour Road, Members also suggested constructing an underground carpark that will connect with various buildings around Kong Wan Road to avoid traffic congestion. Members also considered that a proper at-grade crossing should be provided at Harbour Road. Moreover, Members requested for a 24-hour access for people going from hinterlands to waterfront promenade.

- Members were also briefed on the proposal of the reprovision of KWFS. Members acknowledged the reprovisioning need and supported the proposal in principle. Some Members asked for opening the area where the old tree would be retained for public use, with a view to improving the pedestrian experience of walking along Fenwick Pier Street to Wan Chai.
- In conclusion, the Chairman asked the project team to critically consider releasing the south-western part of the site area and provide an open space for public use and widening the passageway to improve pedestrian walking experience along Fenwick Pier Street.

PAPER CIRCULATION

3. The following Task Force papers were circulated to Members during the period –

- (a) TFHK/C01/2021 – Proposed Short Term Tenancy for Temporary Public Fee-paying Carpark at the Site Underneath Connaught Road West Flyover near Eastern Street, Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong;
- (b) TFHK/C02/2021 – Traffic Arrangement to facilitate Pick-Up /Drop-Off of Coach Passengers visiting the Waterfront Areas in Wan Chai North and Alternative Proposal to Wan Shing Street Footbridge; and
- (c) TFHK/C01/2022 – Proposed Temporary Government Land

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Allocation to Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene for Temporary Cleansing Depot for the Storage of Cleansing Equipment at Government Land underneath the Flyover at Connaught Road West (GLA-THK 2057).

VISIT

4. The Task Force conducted a visit to Wan Chai on 27 August 2021. Members were briefed on the proposal of redeveloping the site where the Wan Chai Government Towers were located, as well as the reprovisioning of the KWFS. Members also visited Wan Shing Street where Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) briefed Members on their proposal of replacing the Wan Shing Street Footbridge by an at-grade walkway scheme for alleviating visual impact of the elevated structure near the harbourfront area and provide a more direct route to the eastern side of the Water Sports and Recreation Precinct. CEDD's proposal was agreeable to Members.

Secretariat

**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments
on Hong Kong Island
January 2022**