

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 21 June 2016

HC/10/2016

Progress Report from Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from April to June 2016.

MEETING HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Twenty First Meeting – 1 June 2016

2. The Task Force discussed the following items –

(a) Planning and Engineering Study for the Development at Kowloon Bay Action Area (KBAA) – Feasibility Study

- The Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO) briefed members on the Preliminary Outline Development Plan (PODP) under the Planning and Engineering Study for the Development at KBAA. EKEO intended to adopt a sustainable development concept and integrate smart city elements in respect of refuse collection and handling, information dissemination, traffic management, building design and facility management and greening.
- Members in general showed support to the PODP and complimented the comprehensive study approach and vision of turning KBAA into a smart, green and walkable city.
- Members expressed concern over the connectivity of KBAA to the harbourfront and public transport facilities within the area. EKEO was urged to conduct further studies and come up with practical solutions in ensuring connectivity within the area. They noted that there would be a marked increase in the number of vehicles passing through the area in the future and hoped that EKEO would take this into consideration while planning for future transport plan. They would also like to examine two different scenarios in terms of connectivity with and without the Environmental Friendly Linkage System (EFLS).

- EKEO assured Members that the concern on overall connectivity and traffic conditions would be addressed. Subject to the comments of members and the feedback obtained from the upcoming consultation exercise on the PODP, further technical assessments would be conducted before formulating the Recommended Outline Development Plan for KBAA.

(b) Design of Hong Kong Children's Hospital at Kai Tak

- The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), Hospital Authority (HA) and Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed members on the detailed design and the latest progress of the project.
- HA explained to the meeting that the rehab garden should be reserved for children recovering from serious illnesses. Taking into consideration the possibility of infection, privacy of children patients and their families, as well as the availability of alternative access routes around the two sides of the hospital, it was not their intention to allow general passage through the rehab garden.
- The Task Force recognised the efforts made by the project team in integrating greening elements into the design of the hospital but stressed that it was of paramount importance that the hospital would not stand as an obstacle to prohibit people from gaining access to the future waterfront, which was a public open space for the enjoyment of all. The project team was reminded that harbourfront sites were allocated for hospital use on the condition that the hospitals would allow public access. While members agreed that disturbance to patients should be minimised, they recognised the importance of complying with harbour planning principles and guidelines which emphasized both visual and physical permeability.
- In response to members' concern, HA agreed to provide a controlled access route within the open space area of the site that would allow public access to the harbourfront promenade from Road D4. They would further provide details about the route to the Task Force.

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**Secretariat
Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development
June 2016**