

Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development

For discussion
on 23 November 2010

TFKT/05/2010

“Building our Kai Tak River” Public Engagement

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to brief Members and invite Members’ views on the public engagement programme for “Building our Kai Tak River”.

BACKGROUND

2. The existing Kai Tak Nullah is about 2.4 km in length. It flows from Po Kong Village Road along Choi Hung Road, then pass Tung Tau Estate and San Po Kong into Kai Tak Development area before discharging into Victoria Harbour. The nullah is one of the major flood relief waterways in East Kowloon area. The upstream, midstream and downstream sections¹ of the Kai Tak Nullah are as shown at **Annex**. As the water quality in the nullah gradually improves, many members of the public refer to the waterway as “Kai Tak River” rather than Kai Tak Nullah. There is a general desire to revitalise the nullah into a special green river and townscape feature.

3. We are carrying out the design of the Kai Tak Nullah improvement and plan to start the flood protection works in 2011, so as to enhance the discharge capacity of the nullah at the earliest. In line with public aspirations, the space created over the nullah will be used for greening and traffic improvement.

4. Taking the opportunity of improving the nullah, we plan to work with the public on the planning and design of the land use and greenery for the Kai Tak River. Our vision is to make the Kai Tak River an attractive green river corridor through urban areas, which will provide space for leisure and public activities serving the community while meeting the needs for flood protection and traffic improvement.

¹ Upstream section from Po Kong Village Road to Tai Shing Street; middle stream section from Tai Shing Street to Prince Edward Road East; downstream section is located within Kai Tak Development Area.

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

5. In view of the public interest in the Kai Tak River, we are launching a public engagement exercise to gather public views on the design feature.

6. Kai Tak River is primarily a drainage channel that has to adequately discharge stormwater runoff² and treated effluent from the Tolo Harbour Effluent Export Scheme. On this basis, we propose the following design principles as guidelines:

(a) Kai Tak River, with enhanced visual quality and image, will serve as a unique urban and landscape axis linking and integrating the old urban districts and the new development areas in Kai Tak Development; and

(b) The public space alongside Kai Tak River will provide room for leisure, recreation, education and community art in line with the adjoining land uses and developments.

7. We propose a two-stage public engagement programme:

(a) Stage 1: Understanding Concerns and Envisioning

The objective of Stage 1 is to raise public awareness on the project, consult the public and set the approach regarding the design principles and theme. In addition to briefing and consulting the Harbourfront Commission and other consultative bodies, we will organise two community envisioning workshops at the end of 2010. Views provided via letters, phone calls and the Internet are also welcome. The consolidated views will be made public on the Internet.

(b) Stage 2: Building Consensus

The objective of Stage 2 is to build consensus on the design approaches. The views collected from Stage 1 will be consolidated, reviewed and analysed for deciding on the appropriate design approaches. We plan to arrange consultative meetings or workshops at mid-2011 to present the

² Kai Tak River Catchment Area includes Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Diamond Hill, Wang Tau Hom, Tsz Wan Shan and part of Western Kowloon.

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consolidated views, and to seek consensus on the proposed design approaches on greening and townscape.

ADVICE SOUGHT

8. Members are invited to comment on the arrangements for the public engagement programme.

**Civil Engineering and Development Department
Drainage Services Department
Planning Department**

November 2010

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啓德明渠位置圖
Location of Kai Tak Nullah