

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 21 December 2015

HC/19/2015

Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from October to December 2015.

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

Twenty First Meeting – 9 November 2015

2. The Task Force discussed the following issues/items -
 - (a) **Tsim Sha Tsui East and Tsim Sha Tsui West Action Areas – Updated Progress – Public Engagement Exercise of the Tsim Sha Tsui Waterfront Revitalisation Plan**
 - The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) briefed Members on the progress of the Phase 1 Public Engagement (PE) exercise for the Tsim Sha Tsui (TST) Waterfront Revitalisation Plan. This phase of the PE commenced in September 2015 to gauge views from the public on the updated design of the facilities.
 - Members expressed comments on the inclusiveness of some PE activities, the comprehensiveness and sufficiency of background information provided to the public during the engagement process, the design of the questionnaire and the survey method used, etc.
 - Members also provided specific comments on the updated design from the aspect of pedestrian connectivity from the hinterland, signage along the waterfront promenade, provision of seating and shades, choice of plants, design and use of railing, etc. Some enquired about the schedule of Phase 2 PE and composition of the Advisory Committee to be established to provide advice on management and operational issues.
 - The Task Force requested LCSD to provide a revised design with technical details and responses to major comments

received from the public. LCSD was also asked to provide the programme and materials about Phase 2 PE for Members' comments before rolling out.

- LCSD responded that they would present the final report of Phase 1 PE and seek Members' comments on a revised design in early 2016. Meanwhile, Phase 2 PE was expected to be launched in January 2016 and Members' comments on the PE could be considered beforehand.

(b) Progress Update on the West Kowloon Cultural District

- The West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) Authority updated Members on the progress of WKCD development including the design and construction of various facilities such as Xiqu Centre, Artist Square Development Area and the Park. It also sought Members' comments on the proposed marine access points and the design for the Artist Square Bridge.
- Members supported having the Authority to manage the proposed marine access points within WKCD and appreciated the Authority's efforts in considering water taxi and other water transport means to connect WKCD with Tsim Sha Tsui, Kai Tak and Hong Kong Island. Some Members suggested the Authority to explore providing water transport service to North Point. Provision and design of landing steps at the marine access points should be further reviewed and enhanced.
- On pedestrian connectivity, some Members opined that the pedestrian routings from Kowloon MTR Station to WKCD at both at-grade and elevated levels could be further rationalized. Also, WKCD should look into the technical feasibility of connecting the Artist Square Bridge to the existing footbridge system.
- On the design of Artist Square Bridge, one Member suggested a movable cover which could be adjusted according to the angle of sunlight. Another Member suggested that the cover should flexibly shield the bridge from road traffic exhaustion while enabling natural light into the bridge. There were other views that the Bridge could be given some colour instead of being blank white. If technically feasible, seating and kiosks could be provided

on the Bridge.

(c) Proposed Animal Welfare Centre for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) at Cheung Fai Road, Tsing Yi

- The proponent briefed Members on its planning application to construct an animal welfare centre in Tsing Yi. While the proposed land use was supported by Members, they expressed some concerns over the increase in plot ratio (from 1.462 to 2.79) and subsequent rise of building height following the reduction in site area as compared to the previous scheme as presented in 2012.
- Some Members enquired about the visual impact to neighboring developments arising from the increased building height. Some other Members considered that accessibility to the facility and the presence of educational activities for the general public would be important. Taking into account the rather remote location of the site, the possibility of providing public transportation to the site should be looked into.

(d) Road and Infrastructural Works at the Lin Cheung Road Site, Sham Shui Po

- The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) consulted Members on the alignment and landscaping design for the new public road and associated pedestrian walkways within the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market Phase 2 site.
- Members considered that the streetscape design of the road, especially along the pedestrian walkway from Nam Cheong MTR Station to the waterfront, should be further enhanced to the standard of a waterfront open space. Seating should be provided along the pedestrian access and tree species that could provide shades for pedestrians should be selected. CEDD was asked to seek Members' comments again on an improved design.