

**Harbourfront Commission**  
**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments**  
**on Hong Kong Island**

**Minutes of Thirty-third Meeting**

Date : 20 February 2019  
Time : 2:30 p.m.  
Venue : Conference Room, 15/F, North Point Government Offices,  
333 Java Road, Hong Kong

**Present**

Mr Ivan HO	Chair, Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island Representing Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design
Mr Vincent NG	Chair, Harbourfront Commission
Mr Andy LEWIS	Representing Business Environment Council
Mr LEUNG Kong-yui	Representing Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong
Mrs Karen BARRETTO	Representing Friends of the Earth
Mr Anthony CHEUNG	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Mr Evans IU	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects
Dr Eunice MAK	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Planners
Sr Francis LAM	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Ir Raymond CHAN Kin-sek	Representing Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Ms Elsa MAN	Representing Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
Mr Winston CHU (for items 1 to 3)	Representing Society for Protection of the Harbour
Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN (for item 4)	Representing Society for Protection of the Harbour
Mr Walter CHAN	
Mr Hans Joachim ISLER	
Mr Karl KWOK	
Ir Janice LAI	
Mr NGAN Man-yu	
Hon Tony TSE	
Ms Jacqueline CHUNG	
Mr Stanley HO	
Mr YEUNG Hoi-wing	
Miss Rosalind CHEUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary (Harbour), Development Bureau (DEVB)
Ms Anny TANG	Senior Manager (Tourism) 21, Tourism

Mr Keith CHAN	Commission (TC) Senior Engineer/Eastern & General, Transport Department (TD)
Mr Wilson MA	Chief Engineer/South 3, Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)
Mr Michael CHIU	Chief Executive Officer (Planning) <sup>1</sup> , Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
Mr Louis KAU	District Planning Officer/ Hong Kong, Planning Department (PlanD)
Mr Henry LAI	Secretary

**In Attendance**

Mr Ian CHENG	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) <sup>2</sup> , DEVB
Ms Jenny WONG	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) Special Duties, DEVB
Mr William CHAN	Project Manager (Harbour), DEVB
Mr Carlos FUNG	Engineer (Harbour), DEVB
Mr TONG Hui-ching	Architect (Harbour) <sup>2</sup> , DEVB

**Absent with Apologies**

Mr Ken SO	Representing The Conservancy Association
Mr Henry CHAN	Co-opted Member
Ms Lisa LAU	Co-opted Member
Ms Vivian YIP	Co-opted Member

**For Agenda Item 3**

Mr Ringo MOK	Deputy Project Manager (South), CEDD
Mr Wilson MA	Chief Engineer/South 3, CEDD
Mr Godfrey HO	Senior Engineer/6 (South), CEDD

**Action**

**Welcoming Message**

**The Chair** welcomed all to the meeting.

**The Chair** informed the meeting that Miss Rosalind CHEUNG, Principal Assistant Secretary (Harbour) of Development Bureau, attended the meeting on behalf of Ms Doris HO. Ms Anny TANG, Senior Manager of the Tourism Commission, attended the meeting on behalf of Mr Simpson LO. Mr Keith CHAN, Senior Engineer of the Transport Department, attended the meeting on behalf of Mr Eddie LEUNG. Mr Michael CHIU, Chief Executive Officer (Planning) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, attended the meeting on behalf of Ms Rebecca LOU.

## **Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting**

- 1.1 **The Chair** said that the Secretariat circulated the draft minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 15 February 2019. No comments were received from members. There being no other proposed amendments, the minutes were confirmed at the meeting.

## **Item 2 Matters Arising**

- 2.1 No matters arising were raised at the meeting.

## **Item 3 Proposed Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor (Paper No. TFHK/01/2019)**

- 3.1 **The Chair** remarked that the Secretariat received a letter from the Society for Protection of the Harbour (SPH) which was tabled for Members' reference.

### Briefing by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)

- 3.2 **Mr Ringo MOK and Mr Godfrey HO** briefed Members on the latest scheme of the proposed Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor (IEC) with the aid of a PowerPoint.

### Discussion

#### *Implementation Timetable*

- 3.3 **Mr Vincent NG, Dr Eunice MAK, Mr Winston CHU, Mr LEUNG Kong-yui, Ir Raymond CHAN Kin-sek, Sr Francis LAM, Mr Anthony CHEUNG, Mr Andy LEWIS, Mr Hans Joachim ISLER and Ms Elsa MAN** were all supportive to the proposed Boardwalk project and urged CEDD to compress the implementation timetable for early completion. **Mr Vincent NG** further stressed the importance of the Boardwalk in providing a continuous promenade along the harbourfront of Hong Kong Island. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** informed Members that the necessary statutory and

administrative procedures such as gazettal under the relevant Ordinance and seeking funding approval from Legislative Council would require a lead time of about two years. However, the project team would endeavour to explore completing and opening the proposed Boardwalk in phases for early public enjoyment.

### *Legality*

- 3.4 Quoting SPH's letter, **Mr Winston CHU** said that the latest scheme had demonstrated that there was no reasonable alternative to achieve the stated policy objective other than the Boardwalk and that the Boardwalk, with its latest alignment and width, could meet the requirement of minimum reclamation. While expressing reservation on the provision of any separated cycle tracks, he supported the current 10m wide Boardwalk scheme. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that legal advice had been sought and the Government was confident that the latest scheme could satisfy the requirements of the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance (PHO).
- 3.5 **Mr Walter CHAN** enquired whether the proponent had sought legal advice from external parties as well. **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** replied that external legal advice had been sought.

### *Cycle Track*

- 3.6 **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui** said that cycling was regarded as one of the most sustainable transportation modes and should not be banned on the Boardwalk. Given the congested roads and densely-built development in the northern part of Hong Kong Island, the proposed Boardwalk would be an ideal location for cycling in the area.
- 3.7 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** said that the pedestrian walkway and cycle track should not be segregated. He suggested the proponent making reference to the "shared-use" concept implemented in Kwun Tong Promenade. **Mr Andy LEWIS** and **Dr Eunice MAK** concurred with the "shared-use" concept. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that the project team would make reference to both local and overseas experience. He reiterated that in any case, users' safety would not be compromised.

*Construction*

- 3.8 **Mr Winston CHU, Ir Raymond CHAN Kin-sek** and **Sr Francis LAM** suggested that the space underneath the IEC structure should be fully utilised. **Sr Francis LAM** was of the view that if no reclamation or additional piling foundation was involved, there would be no PHO issue. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that about 1.3 kilometres of the Boardwalk would be put entirely or partially underneath the existing IEC structure as long as it was technically feasible. Due to the insufficient headroom, the remaining 400-metre boardwalk would be built outside the footprint of the IEC structure.

*Design*

- 3.9 On **Sr Francis LAM**'s query on the construction materials, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that the consultant to be engaged in the detailed design stage would make reference to overseas experience in selecting a durable and light-weight material for the Boardwalk.
- 3.10 **Dr Eunice MAK** and **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** did not prefer monotonous and industrial design for the railing. **Mr Andy LEWIS** added that the Boardwalk should not look bulky and heavy. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the current design was a conceptual design. The project team would work closely with the consultant and refine the design proposal at the detailed design stage, whereas professionals such as architects and landscape architects would also be engaged for architectural and beautification works of the Boardwalk.
- 3.11 In response to **Mr Anthony CHEUNG**'s query on the clear headroom, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that the minimum clear headroom of the Boardwalk would be about 2.7 metres.

*Gradient*

- 3.12 Noting that the eastern section of the Boardwalk had an elevation of 3.7 metres (+9.2mPD) at the intersection points with the existing piers for North Point Vehicular Ferry Pier and North Point Fire Station, **Ir Raymond CHAN Kin-sek** enquired if the proponent could further liaise with the operator of North Point Vehicular Ferry Pier and Fire Services Department on the possibility of shared-using the two piers. He opined that the gradient of the Boardwalk might not be user-friendly for some users and suggested reducing it. **Mr**

**Hans Joachim ISLER** and **Mr Winston CHU** echoed his views. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** explained that the vertical profile of the latest scheme had taken into account the operational needs of the existing facilities underneath the Boardwalk. He added that the proposed Boardwalk would comply with the design standards for walkway and cycle track and barrier-free-access requirements, and the project team would work closely with the consultant with a view to further moderating the gradient of the Boardwalk.

#### *Modes of Management and Procurement*

3.13 On **Mr Anthony CHEUNG**'s query on the management agent, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that it was still under deliberation and would be explored and determined in the detailed design stage.

3.14 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** suggested considering a "Design and Build" approach for the project. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the consultants would review different procurement methods and submit recommendations for consideration at the detailed design stage.

#### *Accessibility*

3.15 **Mr Walter CHAN** appreciated the provision of three additional access points in the latest scheme so that the connectivity between the Harbour and the hinterland could be further enhanced.

#### *Vibrancy*

3.16 Apart from setting up a "fishing platform", **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** suggested providing more activities so as to enhance the vibrancy and promote water-friendly culture. **Mr Ringo MOK** thanked for his suggestion and said that the consultants would explore the feasibility of providing more water-related activities for public enjoyment.

#### *Marine Ecology*

3.17 Noting the Boardwalk would maintain a general width of at least 10 metres and cast a shadow on the water underneath, **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** enquired about the impact on marine ecology. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the consultant would carry out appropriate assessments during the detailed

design stage in this regard.

*Other Comments*

- 3.18 In response to **Hon Tony TSE**'s query on the reasons for not pursuing the first scheme as discussed in 2013, **Mr Ringo MOK** explained that the proposed Boardwalk in 2013, which was a major harbourfront enhancement initiative proposed under Planning Department's "Hong Kong Island East Harbour-front Study", was a conceptual plan not supported by any engineering assessment. With the technical feasibility of the proposed Boardwalk established in 2014, CEDD commissioned in 2015 the "Boardwalk underneath IEC - Investigation" study to formulate the alignment of the proposed Boardwalk and to ascertain if the proposal could comply with the requirements of the PHO. The project team then launched two rounds of Community Engagement (CE) exercises and consulted the Harbourfront Commission (HC) in February 2016, January 2017 and March 2017. The latest scheme had already taken into consideration all the views received from the CE exercise including the District Council as well as HC.
- 3.19 **Ms Elsa MAN** suggested checking and handling the affected marine access right from private land nearby, if any, in early stage to avoid unnecessary delay to the implementation.

*Way Forward*

- 3.20 **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** said that the Government shared the same vision with Members of providing a vibrant public open space along the harbourfront. She noted Members' suggestions of having an innovative design, enabling diverse activities and adopting more flexible management. She said that the project team would consult the Task Force again during the detailed design stage.
- 3.21 **The Chair** concluded that Members rendered unanimous support to the scheme and urged the project team to compress the implementation timetable for its early completion.

#### **Item 4 Any Other Business**

- 4.1 In response to **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN**'s query on the progress of the reprovisioning of Queen's Pier and the preservation of HMS Tamar, **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** said that the Government was reviewing the diverse views received in the community engagement exercise conducted and would formulate the way forward taking into account the views received. As for the large metal object found in the Wan Chai Development Phase II, a detailed marine archaeological investigation was being conducted and the team would update Members in due course.
- 4.2 In response to **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN**'s query on the updates of the Central Military Dock (CMD), **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** said that the Chief Executive in Council approved the concerned Outline Zoning Plan in January 2019. She added that the Government would proceed with the follow-up work accordingly.
- 4.3 There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

**Secretariat**

**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island  
Harbourfront Commission  
May 2019**