

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

**Minutes of Thirty-fourth Meeting**

Date : 28 May 2019  
Time : 3 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
Mr Vincent NG	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design
Mrs Margaret BROOKE	Chair, Harbourfront Commission
Mr LEUNG Kong-yui	Representing Business Environment Council
	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
Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN	Representing Society for Protection of the Harbour
Dr CHUNG Shan-shan	Representing The Conservancy Association
Mr Walter CHAN	Individual Member
Mr Hans Joachim ISLER	Individual Member
Mr Karl KWOK	Individual Member
Ir Janice LAI	Individual Member
Mr Henry CHAN	Co-opted Member
Ms Jacqueline CHUNG	Co-opted Member
Mr Stanley HO	Co-opted Member
Ms Lisa LAU	Co-opted Member

Ms Doris HO	Deputy Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)1, Development Bureau (DEVB)
Ms Anny TANG	Senior Manager (Tourism) 21, Tourism Commission (TC)
Mr Eddie LEUNG	Chief Traffic Engineer / Hong Kong, Transport Department (TD)
Mr Wilson MA	Chief Engineer/ South 3, Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)
Mr Michael CHIU	Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1, Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
Mr Louis KAU	District Planning Officer/Hong Kong, Planning Department (PlanD)
Mr Henry LAI	Secretary

**In Attendance**

Miss Rosalind CHEUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary (Harbour), DEVB
Ms Jenny WONG	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) Special Duties, DEVB
Mr Gavin YEUNG	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) 2, DEVB
Mr TONG Hui-ching	Architect (Harbour) 2, DEVB
Mr Carlos FUNG	Engineer (Harbour), DEVB
Mr NG Shing-kit	Engineer (Harbour) Special Duties, DEVB

**Absent with Apologies**

Mr Terence LEE	Representing Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
Mr NGAN Man-yu	Individual Member
Mr Hon Tony TSE	Individual Member
Mr YEUNG Hoi-wing	Co-opted Member
Ms Vivian YIP	Co-opted Member

**For Agenda Item 3**

Mr Ringo MOK	Deputy Project Manager (South), CEDD
Ms Esther YUNG	Chief Engineer/ South 4, CEDD
Mr Henry TSANG	Senior Engineer/1 (South), CEDD
Ms Carrie TENG	Engineer/1 (South), CEDD
Ms Annette CHU	Director of Eureka

## Welcoming Message

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

**The Chair** informed the meeting that (a) Ms Anny TANG, Senior Manager of the Tourism Commission, attended the meeting on behalf of Mr Anson LAI; (b) Mr Michael CHIU, Chief Executive Officer of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, attended the meeting on behalf of Ms Rebecca LOU.

## Item1 Confirmation of Minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

- 1.1 **The Chair** said that the Secretariat circulated the draft minutes and the revised draft minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 21 and 27 May 2019 respectively. 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 West Landscaped Deck under Wan Chai Development Phase II (Paper No. TFHK/02/2019)

### Introduction by the Harbour Office

- 3.1 Upon **the Chair's** invitation, **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** briefed Members on the background of the proposed West Landscaped Deck (WLD) as follows:
- (a) the WLD was proposed under the Harbour-front Enhancement Review – Wan Chai, Causeway Bay and Adjoining Area spearheaded by the former Harbour-front Enhancement Committee. The alignment and shape of the WLD, inter alia, were gazetted in 2009 as part of the Wan Chai Development Phase II (WDII) project. No objections were received then. Subsequently, the Legislative Council approved funding for the WDII project including the WLD in the same year; and
  - (b) apart from serving as an ordinary footbridge linking

central Wan Chai to the Victoria Harbour, the WLD had its own attractive features to draw pedestrians towards and linger at the harbourfront. Its design had also taken into consideration the comments collected in the Public Engagement Exercises for the Urban Design Study for the Wan Chai North and North Point Harbourfront Areas (Wan Chai UDS) conducted in recent years.

Presentation by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)

- 3.2 **Ms Esther YUNG** and **Ms Annette CHU** briefed Members on the design of the WLD to be implemented under the WDII with the aid of a PowerPoint.

Discussion

*Comments by Members at the informal briefing on 21 May 2019*

- 3.3 **The Chair** thanked the CEDD for summarising Members' comments made at the informal briefing on 21 May 2019 in the PowerPoint and urged the department to continue to follow up on the comments.

*Design*

- 3.4 **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui, Ir Raymond Chan Kin-sek, Mr Henry CHAN, Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** were generally supportive of the design of the WLD.
- 3.5 **Dr Eunice MAK** and **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** enquired whether the deck of the WLD could be further widened. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that technically speaking, there was very limited space at both the underground and above-ground level for structural components, hence it would almost be impossible to further widen the WLD, but the CEDD would make every endeavour to enhance the WLD's design with a view to fulfilling public needs.
- 3.6 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** and **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** enquired about the usage of the space beneath the northern tip of the WLD. They suggested extending the WLD to cover a larger area above the future advance promenade for accommodating facilities like food and beverages, and wedding pavilion. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the CEDD would explore different possibilities of making better use of the space below

the WLD. **Mr Vincent NG** remarked that while the Harbourfront Commission had a strong aspiration to enhance the diversity of the harbourfront, it might not be of greatest public benefits to introduce all activities into one single project. Considerations should also be given to the site characteristics and constraints of individual projects.

- 3.7 **Dr CHUNG Shan-shan, Dr Eunice MAK and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** suggested the CEDD further fine-tuning the design of the WLD for better integration with the surrounding environment. **Dr Eunice MAK** added that the design should be light-weight and not bulky. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the design ideas were to use light-weight material to present a softer outline and foster better integration with the advance promenade.
- 3.8 **Sr Francis LAM, Mr Walter CHAN and Mr Anthony CHEUNG** suggested engaging neighbouring bodies such as the Hong Kong Arts Centre (HKAC), the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) and the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) in enriching the design and promoting the diversified use and vibrancy of the WLD including introduction of performances. **Mr Henry CHAN** also welcomed the opportunities to engage the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for the same purpose. **Mr Ringo MOK** said that the art gallery on the WLD was proposed with a view to enhancing the synergy with neighbouring agencies. The CEDD would approach the relevant parties for incorporating their views into the design as appropriate.

#### *Lighting and shades*

- 3.9 **Ir Janice LAI** suggested adopting a fine design for the lighting of the WLD given the footbridge would become a major backdrop of the Wan Chai harbourfront. **Dr CHUNG Shan-shan** suggested using renewable energy for the lighting system. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that they would explore the possibility of incorporating interesting and environmentally-friendly lighting to the bridge. Due to the limitations of the undulating cover of the WLD and the effect on energy efficiency, installation of solar panels on top of the cover was considered inappropriate, but the CEDD would examine if there was other suitable energy-saving technology.
- 3.10 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** enquired about the need of a continuous cover at the deck, as it would occupy space and such a cover also did not exist at the deck of Tamar Park. **Mr**

**Evans IU** carried a different view and considered that a continuous covered walkway was necessary. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that the covered walkway would be 4 metres in width to meet the needs of circulation. The cover could also serve as shading for both commuters and visitors.

- 3.11 On a similar note, **Mr Evans IU**, **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** and **Ir Janice LAI** also opined that more shades were needed for people to walk and stay comfortably on the WLD in particular the lawn area. **Ir Janice LAI** further asked if shading and sunlight analysis was conducted during the design stage. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the CEDD was exploring the possibility of expanding the canopy and adding more shading facilities to the WLD.

### *Connectivity*

- 3.12 **Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** was supportive of the WLD from a district perspective as it would enhance the north-south connectivity of Wan Chai.
- 3.13 **The Chair** said that improvement of connectivity between the hinterland and the harbourfront should be taken into account when designing the WLD.
- 3.14 **Dr Eunice MAK** opined that the current route between the Wan Chai station and the WLD was indirect and not entirely covered, causing inconvenience to pedestrians.
- 3.15 **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui** said that since the connection between the hinterland and the waterfront might be affected during demolition of the Wan Chai Government Offices Compound (WCGOC), it was imperative to ensure that the WLD would be well connected with the ground level and the existing footbridges. **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** suggested exploring an above-ground, same-level pedestrian access from the future WCGOC redevelopment to the WLD.
- 3.16 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** asked about the connection of the WLD to the entrance of Phase II of HKCEC. **Sr Francis LAM** asked if a covered connection from the Roof Garden west of Grand Hyatt and the HKCEC would be feasible. He also suggested linking up the existing footbridge in front of HKAC with the existing footbridge across Gloucester Road and Fenwick Street. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the CEDD would maintain communication with the HKCEC, neighbouring organisations and stakeholders to explore feasible measures to further

enhance the connectivity in the area. The CEDD would also keep in view the programme of redevelopment of the WCGOC. He said that a ground level footpath connecting HKCEC Phase II to the WLD had already been added under the WDII project.

*Environmental impact*

- 3.17 **Mrs Karen BARRETTO** raised a concern on the effect of air and noise pollution from the traffic below the WLD to the pedestrians above it. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that there was no adverse impact according to the relevant findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

*Management and maintenance*

- 3.18 **Ir Raymond CHAN Kin-sek** reminded that watering a large piece of greenery at the WLD might affect the drivers below. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that the CEDD was considering other irrigation system instead of an open type. **Ir Janice LAI** said that the maintenance cost for a drip-pipe irrigation system might be high and suggested minimizing the impact to the drivers by using glass balustrade and carrying out irrigation at night time. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that the comments received would be taken into account in the detailed design.
- 3.19 **Mr Evans IU, Dr Eunice MAK and Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** enquired about grass maintenance and recurrent cost. **Mr Evans IU** supported the idea of a green passageway at the south-western part of the deck, but was concerned that the grass might die quickly due to high circulation. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** said that the CEDD would carefully select the wear tolerant species of grass and the irrigation method in consultation with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). Further details would be drawn up in the detailed design. He added that given the recurrent cost had been included in the construction budget, additional funding from the District Council was not required.
- 3.20 **Ms Lisa LAU and Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** asked about activities allowed at the WLD. **Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** also enquired about the usage of the lawn and whether application would be required. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that discussions on an acceptable management model with relevant Government departments were ongoing.

*Signage*

- 3.21 **Ms Lisa LAU** enquired about the design and the location of the signage for the WLD. In response, **Mr Ringo MOK** reassured that the future signage would merge well with the environment.

*Food and beverages (F&B)*

- 3.22 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** suggested that F&B facilities should be provided at/ near the WLD to encourage people lingering on it. On the other hand, **Mr Vincent NG**, **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** and **Dr CHUNG Shan-shan** commented that it might not be suitable for having F&B services on the WLD. **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** suggested providing these services at the future advance promenade. **Dr CHUNG Shan-shan** suggested using reusable utensils. On balance, **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that provision of a kiosk underneath the northern tip of the WLD could be explored.

*Construction timetable*

- 3.23 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN**, **Dr Eunice MAK** and **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui** asked about the time frame of construction and the reason for not commencing the construction earlier. **Mr Ringo MOK** explained that the construction of the WLD could only commence after the formation of land under WDII which was completed in recent years. The optimum window was to commence in mid-2020 and finish by late 2023.
- 3.24 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** viewed that further discussion on fine-tuning the WLD design would be beneficial. On the other hand, **the Chair** and **Mr Vincent NG** preferred commencing the works for the WLD as soon as practicable. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that it would be necessary to commence the construction works in mid-2020 in order to complete the piling works in the vicinity of railway tunnels of Shatin-Central Link project before commissioning of the new railway network.

*Other comments*

- 3.25 **Mr Anthony CHEUNG** and **Ms Lisa LAU** enquired whether the target of the WLD should be an end destination or a connector between the hinterland and promenade. **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** believed that given the unique location of the WLD, it should be targeted as an end destination where people could linger. **Mr Vincent NG** remarked that while the WLD should provide an attractive environment with enhanced experience as compared with a normal footbridge, it would



mainly serve as a comfortable connector for directing people to their destinations at the new harbourfront.

- 3.26 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** enquired whether the Hong Kong Police Force was consulted on crowd control matter including the necessary evacuation route and police access points during the design stage. He was particularly concerned about safety and crowd control at the edges of the viewing deck. **Mr. Henry CHAN** also highlighted the need of ensuring pedestrian safety during peak periods. **Mr Ringo MOK** said that they had taken into account the safety and crowd control issues and consulted relevant authorities.
- 3.27 **Ms Jacqueline CHUNG** enquired whether the CEDD had consulted the Transport Department (TD) on relevant traffic management issues during the 4-year construction period. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that they would consult TD and relevant authorities with a view to minimizing traffic impact during construction.
- 3.28 **Dr CHUNG Shan-shan** enquired whether there would be waste bins on the WLD. She also suggested installing CCTV surveillance system to monitor the hygiene situation. **Mr Ringo MOK** replied that waste bins would be provided on the WLD. As for the CCTV surveillance system, apart from the one to be installed in the elevator in accordance with Government standard, the CEDD would consult relevant departments on the need for installing CCTV on the WLD.
- 3.29 **Mr Walter CHAN** enquired about barrier-free access and facilities in the WLD. **Mr Ringo MOK** responded that they had taken into account barrier-free provision when designing the WLD. Two elevators would be provided at each end of the deck. The narrowest section of the current design was 4 metres wide, which was sufficient for a wheel chair user and other pedestrians to go through at the same time. The floor materials would also meet the relevant standards on durability and slip resistance.

#### *Way forward*

- 3.30 **The Chair** concluded that Members rendered unanimous support to the WLD project and urged for its early implementation. He invited the CEDD to take into account Members' comments in fine-tuning the details of the design, in particular on aspects pertaining to enhancing connectivity,

shading, environmental elements, and synergies with nearby stakeholders.

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

##### *Hong Kong Island Coastal Trail – Connection between the Victoria Harbour and Heng Fa Chuen via the Hong Kong Coastal Defence Museum*

- 4.1 **The Chair** informed that Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN would be making a presentation on his Hong Kong Island Coastal Trail proposal. **The Chair** drew Members' attention that the proposed route fell mostly outside the harbourfront areas and hence outside the jurisdiction of the Harbourfront Commission and the Hong Kong Task Force.
- 4.2 **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui** viewed that while the idea of having a coastal trail was good, the proposal should be for Members' reference instead of further discussion.
- 4.3 **The Chair** invited and **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** made a presentation with the aid of a PowerPoint.
- 4.4 **Mr Vincent NG** and **Mr Stanley HO** said that residents from Heng Fa Chuen should be fully engaged before taking forward the proposal. Specifically, **Mr Stanley HO** added that he was the district councillor of Heng Fa Chuen and comments received from the residents in previous public engagement activities to the proposal were largely negative.
- 4.5 **The Chair** agreed to convey the proposal to the LCSD and relevant Government departments for following up with Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN directly.

*[Post-meeting notes: Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN's proposal was conveyed to the LCSD and relevant Government departments for following up with him as appropriate.]*

##### *Building a Connected Harbourfront on Hong Kong Island*

- 4.6 **The Chair** invited and **Miss Rosalind CHEUNG** presented the latest progress of the harbourfront enhancement initiatives and upcoming projects on Hong Kong Island with the aid of a PowerPoint.
- 4.7 **The Chair** thanked the Government and the Harbour Office in taking forward various harbourfront initiatives. He also expressed his gratitude to Members for their dedicated efforts

in making the Victoria Harbour more vibrant, attractive and accessible for the Hong Kong people.

- 4.8 There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

**Secretariat**

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

**Harbourfront Commission**

**December 2019**