

Task Force on Water-Land Interface

For discussion
on 2 Apr 2014

TFWL/01/2014

An Overview of Ferry Piers Within the Victoria Harbour

PURPOSE

This paper provides an overview of ferry piers within the Victoria Harbour.

BACKGROUND

2. The Task Force on Water-Land Interface was briefed on the public landing facilities around the Victoria Harbour by the Harbour Unit of Development Bureau (“DEVB”), the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”), the Transport Department (“TD”) and the Marine Department (“MD”) at the meeting on 3 August 2012. The Task Force was also briefed on the public piers and landing facilities in Kai Tak Development, Central and Wan Chai Districts and West Kowloon Cultural District at the meetings on 12 November 2012 and 19 March 2013. This paper focuses on giving the Task Force an overview of ferry piers (other than the public piers and landing facilities) within the Victoria Harbour.

LOCATION OF FERRY PIERS

3. The location of ferry piers within the Victoria Harbour is set out in **Annex 1**.

TYPES, LAYOUTS AND SIZES OF FERRY PIERS

4. There are mainly two types of ferry piers, for operation of passenger ferry services and vehicular ferry services

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respectively. The layouts of passenger ferry piers and vehicular ferry piers are shown in **Annex 2**. The size of a specific ferry pier and the form it takes depend on the number and type of ferry service(s) expected to use the pier, the anticipated passenger volume and the type of ferry vessels to be deployed for the service(s). These are taken into account during the design and planning stage of the pier construction by the relevant Government departments, including CEDD, MD and the Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”).

CURRENT SITUATION

Ferry Piers for Scheduled Ferry Services

(a) Ferry Services

5. Most of the passenger ferry piers are designated for operation of public ferry services across the Harbour serving as an alternative to land transport. Central Piers Nos. 2 to 6 are currently used for providing ferry services to the outlying islands.

6. Vehicular ferry piers in North Point and Kwun Tong are used for ferries carrying vehicles with dangerous goods both on a regular basis and subject to demand arising from time to time. They also serve as the berthing points for vehicular ferry services during emergencies between the urban area and Lantau Island.

7. A list of the concerned ferry piers, with ferry services being operated, is at **Annex 3**.

8. All these ferry services are operated under the provisions of the Ferry Services Ordinance (Cap.104), as well as the relevant Franchise (in the case of the “Star” Ferry Co. Ltd.) and the Ferry Service Licences (in the cases of licensed ferry operators).

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Commercial Uses

9. Franchised and licensed ferry operators are allowed to sublet part of the area within ferry piers for use of commercial concession, such as food and beverage shops, convenience shops and other retail services. This arrangement helps ferry operators generate non-farebox revenue for cross-subsidising their ferry operations so as to maintain the financial viability of the ferry services and alleviate the burden of fare increase on passengers.

10. DEVB and the Government Property Agency (“GPA”) are responsible for approving applications for commercial uses at ferry piers submitted by franchised and licensed ferry operators respectively. Concerned Government departments will also be consulted as appropriate.

Ferry Piers for Vessel Berthing

11. The Hung Hom ferry services to Central and Wan Chai ceased operation in August 2011. The Hung Hum (South) Ferry Pier has since been left vacant. TD has in principle approved two ferry operators to use this ferry pier for berthing of vessels in order to support ferry operation and enable crew members to have rest. This ferry pier will be modified soon to facilitate shared use by the concerned ferry operators.

Control of Occupancy

12. For ferry piers used by licensed ferry services, GPA acts on behalf of TD and enters into tenancy agreements with the licensed ferry operators to regulate the use of these ferry piers and set out the pier rentals. As for franchised ferry operator, ferry piers designated for its use and their respective quarterly rentals are specified in the Government Gazette. The uses of these ferry piers is in turn governed by the Franchise issued under the Ferry Services Ordinance.

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Ferry Piers for Uses other than Ferry Operation

13. Vacant space in ferry piers which is not rented to franchised and licensed ferry operators for operation of ferry services or related commercial use is managed by GPA who decides on their use and conducts tender exercises for occupancy. Apart from using ferry piers for berthing the tenants' vessels, the tenants may, with GPA's prior written approval, use ferry piers for any combination of convenience stores, supermarkets, or retail shops ancillary to pier use.

14. As a special arrangement by the Administration, the eastern berth of Central Pier No. 8 is currently occupied by the Hong Kong Maritime Museum under a lease valid for 10 years from 1 August 2011, with the Home Affairs Bureau as the lessor. The Museum, which was relocated from its former site in Stanley, was inaugurated on 25 February 2013.

Unused Ferry Pier

15. A ferry pier, or any part of a ferry pier, which is no longer used for ferry operation, will be either handed over to GPA as surplus Government premises for consideration of other uses (as mentioned in para. 13 above), or re-assigned for use by other licensed ferry operators to meet their additional operational needs after consideration of the operators' applications, policy clearance of relevant bureaux and comments of relevant departments.

16. The eastern berth of Central Pier No. 2 and the western berth of Central Pier No. 8, which are not being used by any ferry operator, are reserved as replacement ferry piers for continuation of the ferry services currently operating at Central Piers Nos. 4, 5 and 6 during the construction of additional floors at these piers. Subject to the funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, the construction works will commence by end of 2014.

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17. The vehicular ferry pier at Kowloon City is currently left unused. Although there is no plan at the present stage on the use of the pier, the Government is conducting feasibility studies on the provision of barrier-free facilities at this ferry pier for future use upon the request of some disabled groups.

MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF FERRY PIERS

18. At present, TD is responsible for regulating the use of ferry piers. The day-to-day management, including control of passenger flows, cleansing, patrolling and security, power and water payment and reporting of defects to relevant Government departments, are taken up by the franchised and licensed ferry operators using the ferry piers.

19. Various Government departments are responsible for the maintenance of the erections and equipment provided at the ferry piers. The division of work is as follows:

Department	Area of Works
CEDD	Inspection, repair and maintenance of substructure (at and below deck slab), such as foundation and support of vertical and raking piles, fender system and cathodic protection system.
ArchSD	Inspection, repair and maintenance of superstructure (above deck slab), such as the structural walls and columns, the roof drainage system, soil and waste drainage system, structural floor slabs and staircases and sprinkles tasks.
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Inspection, repair and maintenance of electrical and mechanical systems, such as the lifts and ramp, the fire services system and the emergency power supply.

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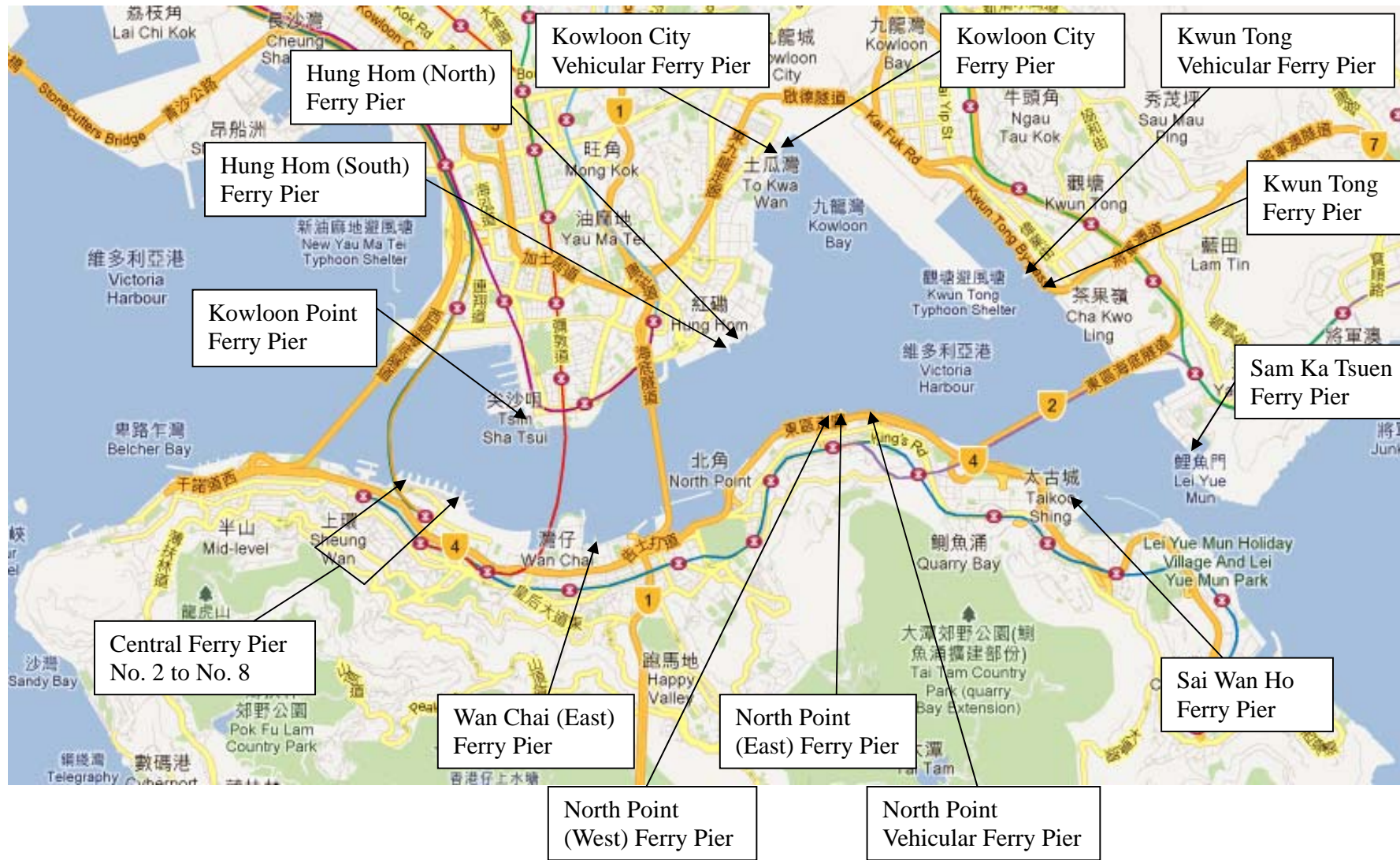
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ADVICE SOUGHT

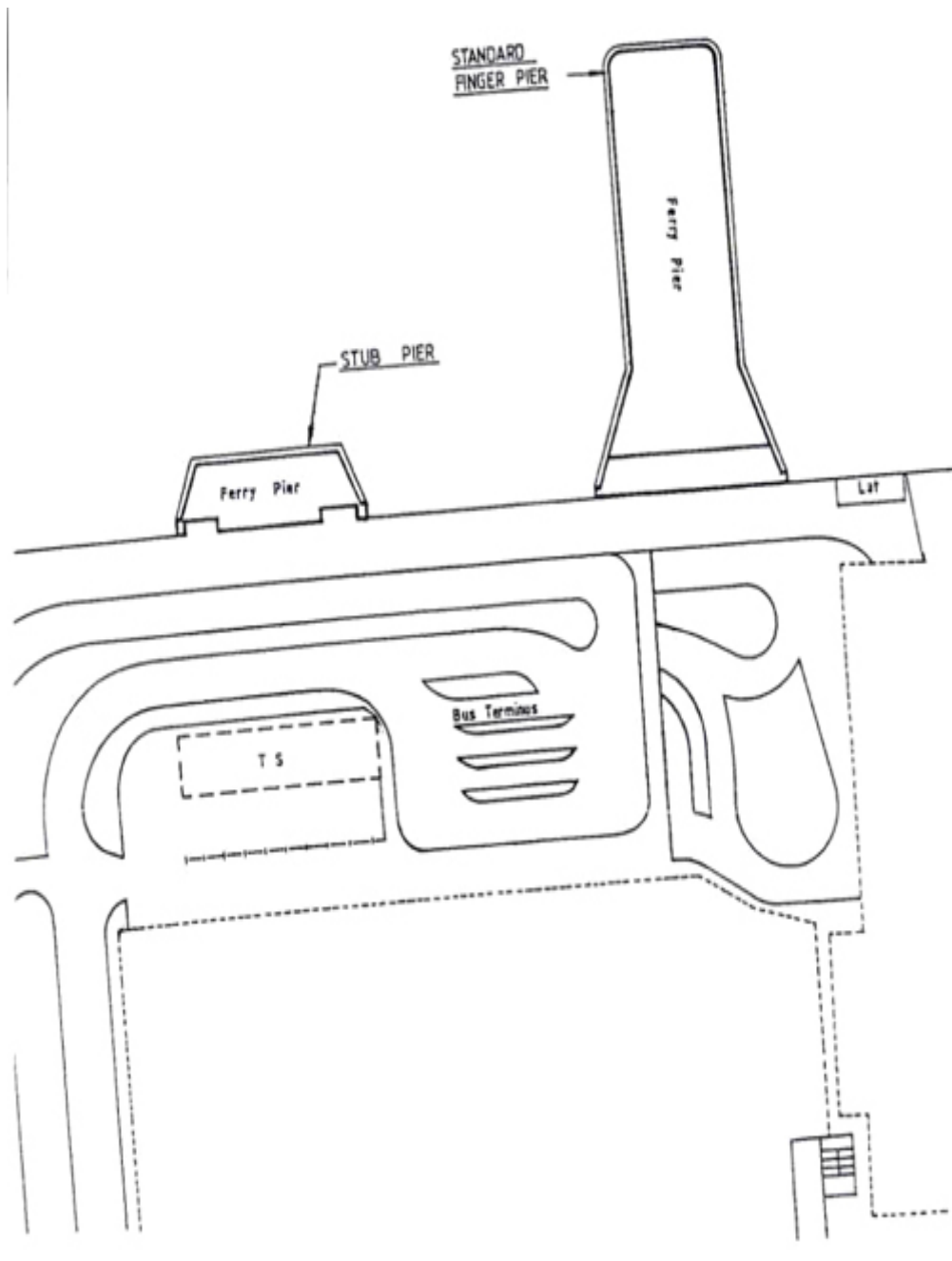
20. Members are advised to note the current situation of ferry piers within the Victoria Harbour.

Transport Department
April 2014

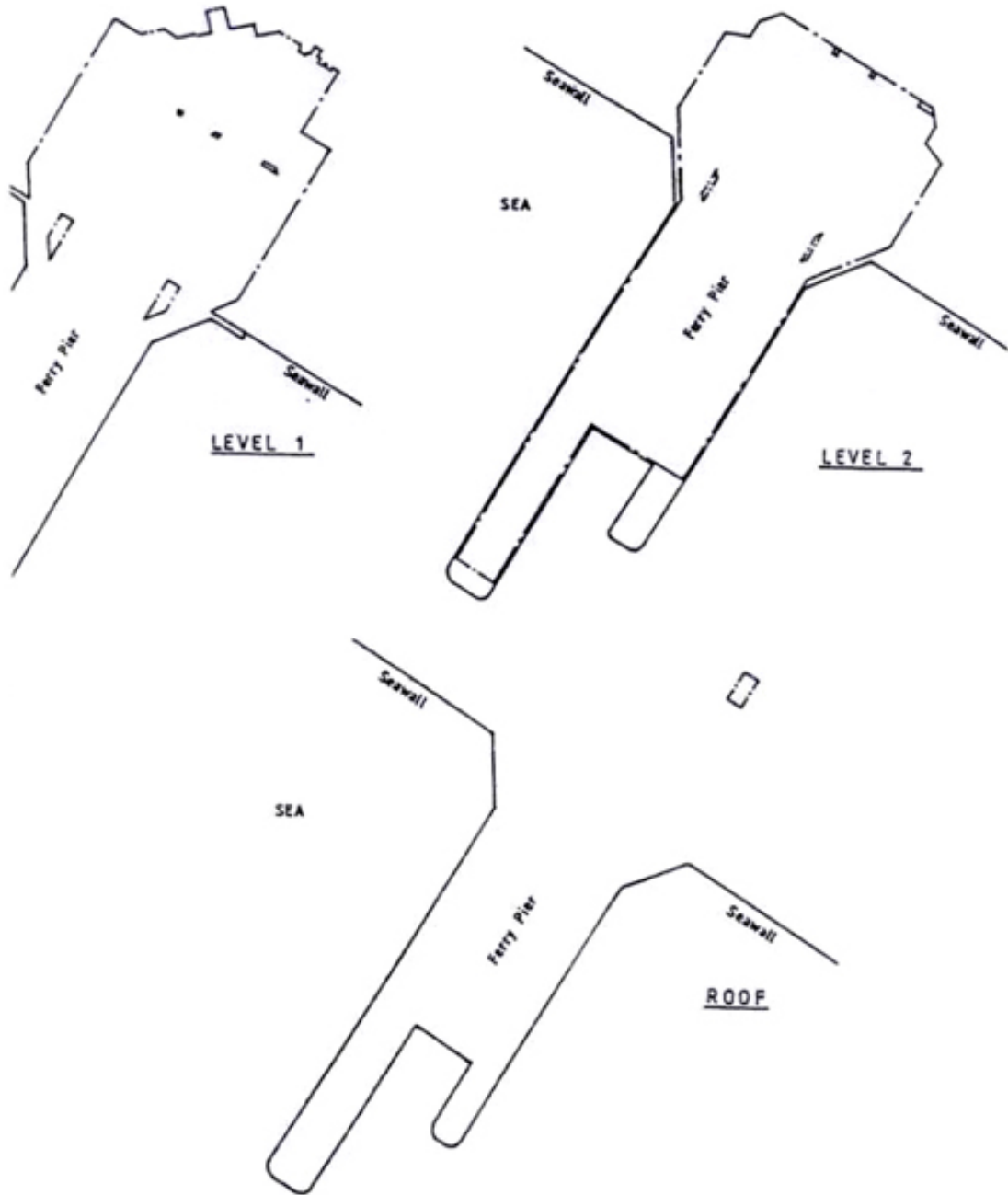
Location of Ferry Piers within the Victoria Harbour



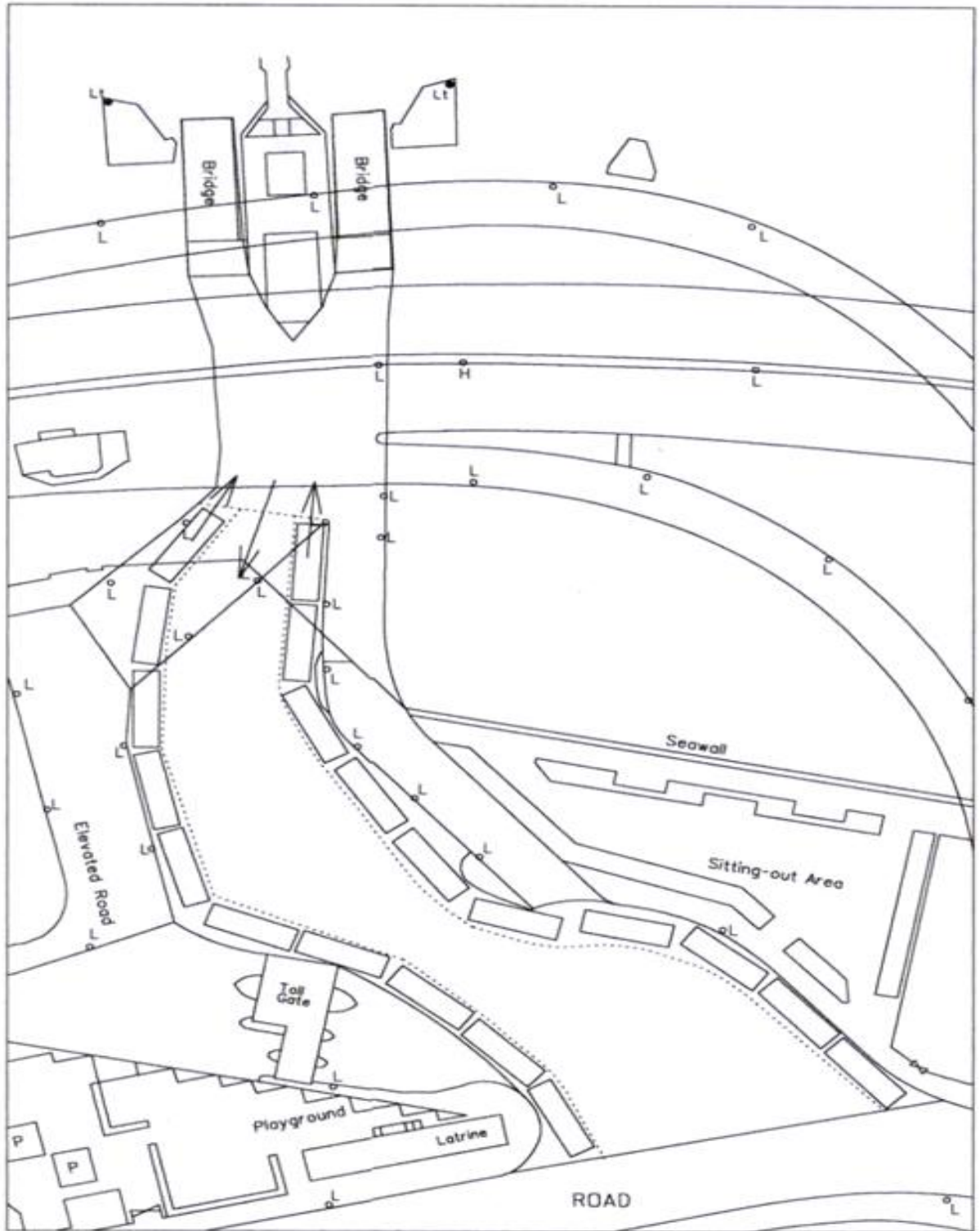
Standard Finger Pier and Stub Pier



Four Berth Finger Pier



Vehicular Ferry Pier



List of Ferry Piers Used by Franchised and Licensed Ferry Operators within the Victoria Harbour

<u>Area</u>	<u>Pier</u>	<u>Berth</u>	<u>Ferry Service</u>	<u>Operator</u>
Hong Kong Island	Central Pier No. 2	Western	Central – Ma Wan	Park Island Transport Company Limited
		Eastern	Temporarily vacant (Reserved for berthing of ferry vessels currently operating at Central Piers Nos. 4, 5 and 6 during the construction of additional floors at these piers)	N/A
	Central Pier No. 3	Both	Central – Discovery Bay	Discovery Bay Transportation Services Limited
	Central Pier No. 4	Western	Central – Sok Kwu Wan	Winnertex Limited
		Eastern	Central – Yung Shue Wan	Islands Ferry Company Limited
	Central Pier No. 5	Both	Central – Cheung Chau	New World First Ferry Services Limited
	Central Pier No. 6	Western	Central – Peng Chau	Hong Kong & Kowloon Ferry Limited
		Eastern	Central – Mui Wo	New World First Ferry Services Limited

Annex 3

<u>Area</u>	<u>Pier</u>	<u>Berth</u>	<u>Ferry Service</u>	<u>Operator</u>
	Central Pier No. 7	Both	Central – Kowloon Point	The “Star” Ferry Company Limited
	Central Pier No. 8	Western	Temporarily vacant (Reserved for berthing of ferry vessels currently operating at Central Piers Nos. 4, 5 and 6 during the construction of additional floors at these piers)	N/A
		Eastern	Leased to Hong Kong Maritime Museum	N/A
	Wan Chai (East) Ferry Pier	Both	Wan Chai – Kowloon Point	The “Star” Ferry Company Limited
	North Point (West) Ferry Pier	Both	North Point – Hung Hom North Point – Kowloon City	New World First Ferry Services Limited
	North Point (East) Ferry Pier	Western	Temporarily vacant (managed by GPA)	N/A
		Eastern	North Point – Kwun Tong	Fortune Ferry Company Limited
	North Point Vehicular Ferry Pier	Both	North Point – Kwun Tong North Point / Kwun Tong – Mui Wo /	The Hongkong & Yaumati Ferry Company Limited

Annex 3

<u>Area</u>	<u>Pier</u>	<u>Berth</u>	<u>Ferry Service</u>	<u>Operator</u>
			Kau Shat Wan	
	Sai Wan Ho Ferry Pier	Single berth	Sai Wan Ho – Kwun Tong Sai Wan Ho – Sam Ka Tsuen	Coral Sea Ferry Service Company Limited
Kowloon	Kowloon Point Ferry Pier	All	Central – Kowloon Point Wan Chai – Kowloon Point	The “Star” Ferry Company Limited
	Hung Hom (South) Ferry Pier	Both	Temporarily vacant ¹	N/A
	Hung Hom (North) Ferry Pier	Single berth	North Point – Hung Hom	New World First Ferry Services Limited
	Kowloon City Ferry Pier	Both	North Point – Kowloon City	New World First Ferry Services Limited
	Kowloon City Vehicular Ferry Pier	Single berth	Temporarily vacant	N/A
	Kwun Tong Ferry Pier	Western	North Point – Kwun Tong	Fortune Ferry Company Limited
	Kwun Tong Vehicular Ferry Pier	Both	North Point – Kwun Tong North Point / Kwun Tong – Mui Wo / Kau Shat Wan	The Hongkong & Yaumati Ferry Company Limited

¹ New World First Ferry Services Limited and Hong Kong & Kowloon Ferry Limited have been approved in principle to use the Pier for berthing spare vessels and provision of servicing to vessels. The relevant tenancy agreements are being prepared by GPA.

Annex 3

<u>Area</u>	<u>Pier</u>	<u>Berth</u>	<u>Ferry Service</u>	<u>Operator</u>
	Sam Ka Tsuen Ferry Pier	Single berth	Sai Wan Ho – Sam Ka Tsuen	Coral Sea Ferry Service Company Limited