New initiatives on Harbourfront Development

26<sup>th</sup> Harbourfront Commission meeting
23 January 2017
Views received during Public Engagement

• General support to the need of a new mindset in taking forward harbourfront enhancement
• Different opinions on the establishment of a statutory Harbourfront Authority (HFA)
2017 Policy Address

• Paragraph 127:

“There is a general consensus in the community for the need of a new mindset in taking forward harbourfront enhancement. However, it is premature to establish a statutory Harbourfront Authority. The Government has decided to first partner with the Harbourfront Commission and implement harbourfront enhancement initiatives through a dedicated team with dedicated funding. The aim is to further extend the waterfront promenade along both sides of the Victoria Harbour, beautify areas in the vicinity and improve accessibility of the waterfront. The Government has earmarked $500 million for the first stage for taking forward harbourfront development.”
Proposed Framework

To enhance role and involvement of HC

- provide guidance and inputs to the formulation, study, prioritisation and implementation of harbourfront enhancement projects
- assume role of “project proponent“ to advocate and explain initiatives
- establish project groups
- HC to build up experience and credentials over actual delivery of projects
Proposed Framework

To set up a dedicated Harbour Office (HO)
• support HC to holistically plan, design, construct, operate, manage and maintain selected harbourfront sites
• an extension of the existing Harbour Unit
• multi-disciplinary team with relevant expertise
Proposed Framework

To have dedicated funding

• by making use of the dedicated funding, the projects advocated by HC would not need to compete for resources with other public work projects at internal resources allocation exercises
Proposed Framework

To demonstrate the Government’s commitment –

• initial injection of $500 million
• recruit a non-civil service contract architect to strengthen the existing Harbour Unit in preparation of setting up HO
Proposed projects to be funded by the $500m

- Urban park in front of Hung Hom Ferry Pier
- Open space at Eastern Street North, Sai Ying Pun
Proposed projects to be funded by the $500m

- Advance promenade from Central and Western District Promenade (Central Section) to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
- Enhancement of exiting waterfront pedestrian walkway at the Tsuen Wan Waterfront
Proposed projects to be funded by the $500m

Two Studies –

• Consultancy study for the formulation of a new model to plan, manage, operate and maintain future integrated harbourfront developments

• Streetscape and signage improvement in harbourfront areas
Other Harbourfront Projects to be Funded

• As stated in paragraph 219 of the Policy Address, the Government has decided to spend a total of $20 billion in the coming five years to develop new or improve existing sports and recreation facilities. Among them, there are some projects that involve open spaces.
• Among the open space projects in the five-year plan, 12 fall within harbourfront areas, amounting to a total of about $3 billion.
• Separately, DEVB would seek funding to take forward the Boardwalk project underneath the Island Eastern Corridor, as well as the enhancement of the North Point Ferry Piers.
Proposed projects

- Kai Tak Avenue Park
- Waterfront promenade adjacent to the Hong Kong Children's Hospital at Kai Tak
Proposed projects

- Kai Tak Station Square
- Hoi Sham Park extension
Proposed projects

• Open space at Hung Hom Waterfront
• Open space at Hoi Fan Road
Proposed projects

• Open Space at Hoi Fai Road

• Improvement of Tsuen Wan Riveria Park and Tsuen Wan Park
Proposed projects

- Kwai Chung Park
- Improvement of Hoi Bun Road Park and adjacent area
Proposed projects

- Sports Centre and Open Space at Aldrich Bay
- Improvement of North Point Ferry Piers
Proposed projects

• Boardwalk underneath Island Eastern Corridor
Proposed projects

• When all these projects are implemented, there would be an increase in open space provision by nearly 50 hectares, while the length of accessible waterfront promenade along both sides of the Victoria Harbour would be extended by 3,400m.
Considerations

• Achieve some key objectives of HFA
• Earmarked dedicated funding allows flexibility for HC/HO to prioritise and implement proposed projects
• HO comprises multi-disciplinary team of administrative and professional staff that has project implementation and contract management capabilities
• HO could work under a new set of management rules devised under guidance from HC
• Less public concern as HO is subject to public scrutiny and financial control
Thank you