

15th Meeting of Harbourfront Commission
held at 3:00 pm on 7 January 2014 at the Conference Room
on Upper Ground Floor, Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre,
Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Minutes of Meeting

Present

Mr Nicholas BROOKE	Chair
Mr Paul CHAN	Vice-Chair
Mrs Margaret BROOKE	Representing Business Environment Council
Prof Becky LOO	Representing Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong
Mr LAM Kin-lai	Representing the Conservancy Association
Mrs Karen BARRETTO	Representing Friends of the Earth
Mr Franklin YU	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Mr Evans IU	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects
Dr Peter Cookson SMITH	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Planners
Mr LAU Chun-kong	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Dr Sujata GOVADA	Representing Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design
Ir Peter WONG	Representing Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Mr Louis LOONG	Representing Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN	Representing Society for Protection of the Harbour (SPH)
Mr CHAN Ka-kui	
Mr Walter CHAN	
Ms Lily CHOW	
Mr Eric FOK	
Mrs Ayesha Macpherson LAU	
Mr Brian David LI	
Mr Vincent NG	
Mr Raj Sital MOTWANI	
Mr Thomas CHOW	Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)
Mr LING Kar-kan	Director of Planning

Ms Emily MO	Assistant Commissioner 2, Tourism Commission (TC)
Mr Albert LEE	Assistant Commissioner/Urban, Transport Department (TD)
Mr Edwin TONG	Project Manager (Hong Kong Island and Islands), Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)
Mr Bobby CHENG	Deputy Director (Leisure Services), Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
Mr TSANG Cheuk-yin	Assistant Director/Planning and Services (Acting), Marine Department (MD)
Mrs Winnie KANG	Secretary

In Attendance

Mr Eric MA	Under Secretary for Development
Miss Fannie KONG	Press Secretary to Secretary for Development
Mr Larry CHU	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) 1, Development Bureau (DEVB)
Mr Frederick YU	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) SD, DEVB
Miss Venus TSOI	Assistant Secretary (Harbour) 2, DEVB
Mr Peter MOK	Project Manager (Harbour), DEVB
Mr LEUNG Kong-yui	Chair, Task Force on Water-land Interface

Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Hok-fung

Action

Welcoming Message

The Chair welcomed all to the 15th meeting of the Harbourfront Commission (the Commission), and introduced Mr Eric MA, newly appointed Under Secretary for Development to Members. He informed Members that Ms Emily MO, Assistant Commissioner 2 of TC, was attending on behalf of Mr Philip YUNG; Mr Albert LEE, Assistant Commissioner/Urban of TD, was attending on behalf of Mrs Ingrid YEUNG; Mr Edwin TONG, Project Manager (Hong Kong Island and Islands) of

CEDD, was attending on behalf of Mr HON Chi-keung; Mr Bobby CHENG, Deputy Director (Leisure Services) of LCSD, was attending on behalf of Mrs Betty FUNG; and Mr TSANG Cheuk-yin, Assistant Director/Planning and Services (Acting) of MD, was attending on behalf of Mr Francis LIU.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes of the 14th Meeting

1.1 **The Chair** said that the Secretariat circulated the draft minutes of the 14th meeting to Members on 23 December 2013. After incorporating the proposed amendments received, the revised draft minutes were circulated to Members on 2 January 2014. There being no further amendments, the revised draft minutes were confirmed at the meeting.

Item 2 Matters Arising

A. *Public Landing Facilities near the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal (Paragraph 2.2 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.1 **The Chair** updated Members that the matter had been referred to the Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development (Kai Tak Task Force) and the Task Force on Water-land Interface for follow up as agreed at the last meeting.

B. *Resources for MD (Paragraph 2.6 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.2 As regards a Member's suggestion of allocating a new site near the New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter to MD for expanding its vessel inspection service, **the Chair** relayed MD's view that the existing site was well serving the need, and no additional site would be required.

2.3 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** commented that additional

space along the waterfront might be needed as more vessels would go to the site for service, and MD should assess whether a new site would be required. **The Chair** asked MD to note the comment.

C. *Amendments to the Approved Wan Chai North Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/H25/2 (Paragraph 3.3 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.4 **The Chair** reported that the Planning Department (PlanD) prepared a plan showing the pedestrian connections between the Exhibition Station and the proposed topside development at different levels, and it was tabled at the 14th meeting of the Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island (Hong Kong Task Force) held on 24 October 2013.

D. *The Proposed Temporary Government Land Allocation to CEDD as a Works Area for Constructing a Sewage Pumping Station at Ma Tau Kok (Paragraph 4.2 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.5 **The Chair** said that CEDD briefed the Kai Tak Task Force on the project at its 13th meeting held on 8 October 2013.

E. *Central Kowloon Route (CKR) Structures within the Kai Tak Development Area (Paragraph 4.3 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.6 As regards Members' suggestion that more vibrant uses should be put in place around the CKR structures in the Kai Tak Development Area, **the Chair** advised that the Highways Department (HyD) would consult the Kai Tak Task Force on the detailed design of the relevant structures in due course.

F. *Protection of the Harbour Ordinance (Paragraph 6.2 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.7 **The Chair** said that the matter would be discussed under “Any Other Business” of this meeting.

G. *Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Task Forces (Paragraph 6.3 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.8 **The Chair** informed Members that the three geographical task forces had confirmed their ToRs respectively at their first meetings in the new term, and the Secretariat of Task Force on the Water-land Interface would arrange a separate workshop for Members to further deliberate on Mr Tom CALLAHAN’s proposed changes to its ToR.

the Secretariat

(Post-meeting note: A separate workshop was organised on 11 February 2014 and the revised ToR of the Task Force on the Water-land Interface were further discussed at its 7th meeting held on 2 April 2014.)

H. *Co-option of Members (Paragraph 7.2 of the minutes of the 14th meeting)*

2.9 **Mrs Winnie KANG** reported that with Members’ agreement on the co-option arrangement at the last meeting, the Chair, the Vice-Chair and the three Task Force Chairs had discussed and come up with a list of proposed candidates for co-option. The list of co-opted members was tabled for Members’ information.

Item 3 Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island (Paper No. HC/01/2014)

3.1 **The Chair**, in his capacity as the Chair of the Task Force, presented the progress report. Members noted the contents of the report.

Item 4 Progress Report from Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development (Paper No. HC/02/2014)

4.1 **Mr Vincent NG**, in his capacity as the Chair of the Task Force, briefed Members on the progress report.

4.2 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** commented that the Kai Tak Development was a good opportunity for Hong Kong to showcase its excellence in harbourfront development. Therefore, the Government should allocate sufficient resources and allow flexibility to ensure that continuous improvements could be made to its development plan. He commented that the CKR structures would occupy a large piece of land in Kai Tak and, despite that Members had expressed concerns, HyD had only committed to make a few adjustments to reduce the footprints of road-related structures.

4.3 In response, **Mr Vincent NG** said that the planning of Kai Tak Development, which had undergone a two-year public engagement (PE) exercise, was people-oriented. The overall planning included sufficient provision of public open space and emphasized the importance of accessibility, in particular, at-grade pedestrian connections in between different parts of public open space, etc. The Commission had been monitoring the development progress closely to ensure that the planning would be satisfactorily executed when implementing individual works projects. On the other hand, he recognised that the interface between individual works projects might be worth closer attention, and opined that urban design expertise might need to be strengthened in the Kai Tak Office so that the Kai Tak Development would be taken forward in a more integrated manner.

4.4 **Mr Thomas CHOW** responded that the Government had spent substantial time and efforts to engage the community before drawing up the development plan for Kai Tak. The emphasis should be put on implementation at this stage. It was anticipated that there would be interface issues as various works

projects were planned and implemented in the area simultaneously. DEVB welcomed any suggestions which would make Kai Tak a better place for all to enjoy and Members might convey these suggestions to the Kai Tak Office for coordination.

4.5 **Mrs Margaret BROOKE** commented that the original people-oriented approach was no longer followed in some cases when the plans were implemented through works projects.

4.6 **Mr Vincent NG** said that he shared Members' concerns, and the Kai Tak Task Force would continue to work with the Kai Tak Office in this regard.

Item 5 Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (Paper No. HC/03/2014)

5.1 **Prof Becky LOO**, in her capacity as the Chair of the Task Force, presented the progress report.

5.2 In response to the Chair's enquiry, **Prof Becky LOO** said that the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) undertook to consider the Task Force's comments on maintaining the waterfront pedestrian link in the West Kowloon Cultural District to enhance its vitality. **Mrs Winnie KANG** supplemented that the Harbour Unit had conveyed the request of Members to the Home Affairs Bureau. Noting that the waterfront site between Xiqu Centre and Museum Plus was currently used by the MTR Corporation Limited as a works area, WKCDA would revert to the Task Force later on whether there was any opportunity of constructing a promenade connecting the two facilities.

5.3 **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** opined that the Kowloon West reclamation area was occupied by transport infrastructure, and therefore a plan showing the strategic and integrated

pedestrian network at different levels should be devised to facilitate accessibility to the waterfront. As regards the reprovisioning of Yau Ma Tei Police Station, he expressed disappointment to the Police's response in respect of not providing a public entrance at the podium level due to security concern.

5.4 **Dr Peter Cookson SMITH** commented that despite the justifications set out by the Police, he queried the necessity of constructing a new Yau Ma Tei Police Station.

5.5 Instead of devising a separate pedestrian plan for Kowloon West, **Prof Becky LOO** opined that the pedestrian network should integrate with the rest of the transport system to form a seamless, multi-model and people-oriented system, having regard to the specific local circumstances.

5.6 While agreeing that the security need might be a relevant concern, **the Chair** asked the Harbour Unit to convey Members' comment on the provision of a public entrance to the new Yau Ma Tei Police Station at the podium level to the Police again for consideration.

Harbour Unit

(Post-meeting note: Members' comments had been conveyed to the Police.)

Item 6 Progress Report from Task Force on Water-land Interface (Paper No. HC/04/2014)

6.1 **Mr LEUNG Kong-yui**, in his capacity as the Chair of the Task Force, presented the progress report. Members noted the contents of the report.

Item 7 Any Other Business

A. *A Research on Victoria Harbourfront by the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)*

7.1 On the Chair's invitation, **Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN** made a presentation on the background of a research on Victoria harbourfront to be conducted by the WPI, with the aid of a PowerPoint.

7.2 **Mrs Margaret BROOKE** said that the Harbour Business Forum was a co-sponsor of the research. She and **Dr Sujata GOVADA** opined that the research could provide some useful information for future planning of harbourfront enhancement initiatives including the business plan for the proposed HA.

7.3 **Prof Becky LOO** commented that the Commission should welcome all researches which were relevant to the work of the Commission or the Task Forces.

(Post-meeting note: A presentation session for the WPI study team to brief Members on the findings of the research was organised on 26 February 2014.)

B. *Date of Next Meeting*

7.4 **The Chair** informed Members that the next meeting had been tentatively scheduled for 29 April 2014. A list of tentative dates of Commission meetings in 2014 was tabled for Members' reference.

7.5 There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:30 pm.

**Secretariat
Harbourfront Commission
April 2014**