For discussion on 7 January 2013

HC/01/2013

Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from November to December 2012.

MEETING(S) HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Eleventh Meeting – 30 October 2012

- 2. The Task Force discussed the following issues/items -
 - (a) Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link ("CWB") Appearance of CWB Noise Mitigation Measures at the Harbour-front of North Point
 - The project team briefed the Task Force on the aesthetic and greening design of the Central Wanchai Bypass noise mitigation measures to be implemented at the future Island Eastern Corridor Link in North Point.
 - Members expressed concerns on the accessibility to the landscape deck above the eastern tunnel portal as well as the visual permeability of the proposed noise mitigation measures. Some Members suggested that the project team should proactively consult the affected residents and invite them to consider whether the noise level would be acceptable if the proposed noise mitigation measures were not implemented.

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• The project team was asked to take into account Members' comments and provide written response to the Task Force.

(b) S.16 Application for Office Development with Eating Place, Shops & Services at CDA(1) Zone, 14-30 King Wah Road, North Point

- The project proponent briefed the Task Force on the latest design of the office development with eating place, shops and services at 14-30 King Wah Road, North Point.
- Members were generally supportive of the proposal and agreed that the proposal had responded to the Harbour Planning Principles, given the constraints of the site. Some Members suggested improving the visual permeability of ground level at the eastern boundary; providing pedestrian linkage between the proposed development and the future public open space underneath the Island Eastern Corridor; and moving the proposed café to the roof floor.
- The project proponent was advised to take into account Members' comments when further refining the proposal. (Note: Members' comments on the latest development were conveyed to the Town Planning Board on 4 December 2012.)

(c) Topical Study on the Proposed Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor

 The project team briefed the Task Force on the preliminary findings of the topical study on the proposed boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor at North Point waterfront.

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- Members suggested minimising the change in levels in the design of the boardwalk to enable comfortable walking environment for the elderly. Some Members opined that the proposed incorporation of cycle track into the boardwalk could not be justified by transport or recreational needs.
- The project team was asked to take into account Members' comments and continue studying the design of proposed boardwalk including the implications of the Protection of Harbour Ordinance, and update the Task Force when the study result became available.

(d) Action Areas: Central

Update on temporary uses of the New Central Harbourfront sites and proposed design of Areas F and G

- Harbour Unit updated Members on the temporary uses of the new Central Harbourfront sites and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) made a presentation on the proposed design of Areas F and G which would be used for developing temporary passive open space and pet garden respectively.
- Members were generally supportive of the proposed design. Some Members suggested that the change in level and use of kerb should be avoided in the areas. A Member suggested that fair-faced concrete separation wall for dogs should be replaced by artificial timber. ArchSD was asked to take into account Members' comments and work with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to refine the design.

Management of areas fronting Central Piers

• The Transport Department and the Civil Engineering and

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Development Department briefed the Task Force on the management of areas fronting Central Piers. A Member opined that designated space should be provided within the piers at ground floor so that the goods and equipments related to ferry and pier operations could be stored and moved away from the promenade.

(e) Any Other Business

Design of Lung Wo Road (P2)

• The Transport Department and CEDD tabled a response concerning the character and design standards of road P2. Members opined that whilst in the short term P2 might be providing relief to the heavy traffic congestion in Central, any suggestion of an increased speed limit would be strongly resisted and indeed in the longer term members expected that the original intention of a tree-lined boulevard to be met.

Secretariat

Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island
December 2012