Public Engagement Programme on Preservation of Lung Tsun Stone Bridge remains

The Lung Tsun Stone Bridge was built between 1873 and 1875. It was originally a landing pier at the coastline of the old Kowloon City originally for the local business. The Bridge was located in a strategic position and once allowed Chinese officials to gain access to the Kowloon Walled City to uphold Chinese jurisdiction therein under the Convention for the extension of Hong Kong.

- 2. In April 2008, remnants of the Bridge were unearthed during an archaeological investigation. Given its high historical value, "in-situ preservation" of the bridge remains was recommended under the approved Environmental Impact Assessment of KTD. The heritage assessment of the Antiquities and Monuments Office has classified the extant sections of the Bridge as high significance.
- 3. The current Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan, which was approved in November 2007 before unearthing the remnants, makes no particular provision for preservation of the Bridge. A plan showing the location of the Bridge site is at **Attachment**.
- 4. We propose the following principles as the guidelines for preservation of the Bridge site:
 - (a) the Bridge remains must be protected and preserved in-situ as a special cultural heritage asset;
 - (b) convenient access and proper setting for the Bridge site should be provided to echo with the historical context for the Bridge itself as a transport node and its vicinity as an activity place; and
 - (c) linkage with existing cultural/heritage resources in the Kowloon City district, in particular the Kowloon Walled City Park, should be established to promote the public's awareness of Hong Kong's local history.
- 5. To this end, a two-stage public engagement (PE) programme is being launched on conservation of the Bridge and its integration with the KTD.

(a) Stage 1: Understanding Concerns and Envisioning

Stage 1 PE is to enhance public understanding on the issue and to identify and agree to the overall approach of the preservation and associated planning implications. Activities comprise presentations to the relevant District Councils and institutions, as well as two community envisioning workshops cum site visit held on 19 & 26 June 2010. Public views are collected through correspondence, telephone and website. The comments received will be summarised and posted on website for public information.

(b) Stage 2: Building Consensus and Moving Forward

Stage 2 PE aims at building consensus and agreement on the preservation options. The views collected at Stage 1 will be consolidated, reviewed and analysed for the formulation of a preferred option. Forums or further workshops would be arranged to present the findings and way forward.

6. In formulating the preferred preservation option, we should strike a proper balance between conservation and development in Kai Tak. As the Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan was approved by the Chief Executive in Council in 2007 before the discovery of the Bridge remains in 2008, the land use zonings in the vicinity will be refined to accommodate the preservation requirements.

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