

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 7 January 2013

HC/04/2013

Progress Report from Task Force on Water-land Interface

REPORTING PERIOD

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

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

Fourth Meeting – 12 November 2012

2. The Task Force discussed the following items –

(a) An Overview of Public Landing Facilities within Kai Tak Development

- The Kai Tak Office (KTO) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department briefed Members on the public landing facilities within the Kai Tak Development (KTD) which were currently in place, under planning or disused.
- The Task Force advised that priority should be accorded to public landing facilities at the tip of the Runway to enhance marine access to the Cruise Terminal and the Runway Park Phase 1, which were due open in 2013.
- Members also commented that it was necessary to have long-term planning on water-land interfaces which complemented the planned land uses in KTD, and currently an overarching co-ordinating body was absent for this task. Members considered that pending identification of an

overarching body in the long-run, the Development Bureau (DEVB) should be in close liaison with the Energising Kowloon East Office and KTO in pursuing such works.

(b) Marine and Port Operations - Cargo Handling and Fish Landing in Victoria Harbour

- The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and Marine Department briefed Members on the fish landing and cargo handling facilities around Victoria Harbour.
- Members noted that commercial operations and activities other than embarkation/disembarkation of passengers and their accompanying luggage should be prohibited at public landings. Some Members suggested that the Government might consider allowing the marine operators to transport their tools via public landing facilities.
- Some Members proposed opening up some wholesale fish markets as a tourist attraction to showcase fish landing operations, which could be an integrated solution to preserve the working harbour and enhance public enjoyment. The Task Force noted that AFCD had been in collaboration with the Tourism Commission in promoting alternative uses of the wholesale food or fish markets. In parallel, the Task Force also acknowledged that DEVB was exploring enhancement opportunities at the four disused piers at the Western Wholesale Food Market and the adjoining harbourfront with relevant bureaux and departments.

(c) Proposed Framework on Water-land Interface Issues

- With the Task Force Chair's agreement at the last meeting, two Members - Mr Paul Zimmerman and Mrs Margaret

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Brooke - presented a proposed framework on water-land interface issues in Victoria Harbour, which proposed four broad categories of water-land interfaces for further study.

- Upon Chair's request, Harbour Unit of DEVB also introduced a matrix which outlined the possible short-term and medium- to long-term enhancement of some water-land interfaces.
- While Members generally agreed that the short-term deliverables floated by the Harbour Unit should be pursued, Members' views on the strategic review of water-land interface issues were diverse. Some Members suggested that a strategic and holistic review should be conducted through engaging an external consultant. In contemplating the way forward, the Chair asked Harbour Unit to explore how the strategic and holistic review could be done, and Members to offer more views for further deliberation in the coming meetings.

Secretariat

Task Force on Water-land Interface

December 2012