

# Harbourfront Commission

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For discussion  
on 19 August 2014

HC/11/2014

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

### **REPORTING PERIOD**

This progress report covers the period from May to July 2014.

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

#### Sixteenth Meeting – 19 May 2014

2. The Task Force discussed the following issues/items –

#### **(a) Proposed New Piazza Fronting City Gallery and City Hall**

- Harbour Unit sought Members' views on the project which aimed to implement one of the recommendations of the Urban Design Study for the New Central Harbourfront to develop a new piazza fronting City Gallery and City Hall. The site concerned covered the original site of the Queen's Pier.
- Members in general welcomed the project to reactivate the site concerned into an attractive open space for public enjoyment. It had become less vibrant after the shoreline was shifted northward. Majority of the Members held the view that the piazza should contain features to commemorate the history of the site. Some considered that the overall design should be kept simple to enhance visual permeability to the harbourfront and individual features proposed within the site should be further enhanced to take into account urban design, landscaping and architectural considerations.
- On Task Force's suggestion, a workshop was organised on 20 June 2014 for Members to provide further input on the design of the project. Most Members attending the workshop welcomed the amendments proposed by the

project team, and asked Harbour Unit to take forward the project and continue to refine the design having regard to Members' comments.

**(b) Hong Kong Observation Wheel at the New Central Harbourfront**

- The tenant of a site fronting Central Piers No.9 and No.10 briefed the Task Force on the arrangement to operate an observation wheel with ancillary entertainment facilities at the site. Members supported the project, and were eager to see that the operation of the wheel could bring diversity and vibrancy to the harbourfront.
- Some offered suggestions on providing more ancillary facilities such as food and beverage facilities, shelters and sitting-out areas within the site; offering discounted package for elderly, children and underprivileged; coordinating the operation with the tenant of the adjacent event site; and including visual and acoustic information inside the wheel cabin. The tenant advised that the wheel was expected to become operational in September 2014.

**(c) Draft Planning Brief for the “Comprehensive Development Area” Site at the Exhibition Station Site of the Shatin to Central Link in Wan Chai North**

- The Planning Department (PlanD) briefed the Task Force on the draft planning brief (PB) for the “Comprehensive Development Area” site at the Exhibition Station of the Shatin to Central Link in Wan Chai North.
- Some Members commented that underground commercial space of the development should be taken into account when the Government studied the proposed underground space under the Victoria Park, so as to attract tourists and reduce pedestrian flow on the ground level. Provision of only one pedestrian linkage from the podium level to Wan Chai North as planned in the draft PB was not sufficient and pedestrian connections should be provided at different levels.
- Some Members expressed the view that more flexibility should be allowed in the draft PB to facilitate the future proponent to achieve better interface with the study area of the Urban Design Study for the Wan Chai North and North

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Point Harbourfront Areas. The ground level development should be different from the standard design of public transport interchange and become an iconic public facility which could achieve better than usual streetscape enhancement.

***(Note: The summary of discussion on this item was conveyed to the Town Planning Board on 30 June 2014.)***

**(d) Proposed Amendment to the Draft Central District (Extension) Outline Zoning Plan No. S/H24/8 from “Open Space” and “Road” to “Other Specified Uses” Annotated “Site Reserved for Commercial, Cultural, Institutional and Recreational Uses” at No. 1 Lung King Street (aka. Fenwick Pier), Wan Chai, Hong Kong**

- The private proponent briefed the Task Force on the details of its planning application in respect of the proposed amendment to the Draft Central District (Extension) Outline Zoning Plan No. S/H24/8.
- Members had no objection to the proposal from harbourfront enhancement perspective as the Fenwick Pier would maintain the same site area and not become a bigger building.
- Some expressed the view that the site should be integrated with the adjoining future extension of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) and sufficient connection should be provided within the site to connect the public open space to the north. A Member also opined that as part of the site would be designated as open space connecting to food & beverage facilities, these facilities should be affordable to the mass public.

***(Note: The summary of discussion on this item was conveyed to the Town Planning Board on 23 June 2014.)***

**Secretariat  
Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island  
August 2014**