

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 29 September 2015

HC/12/2015

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

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from July to September 2015.

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

Twentieth Meeting – 21 September 2015

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

(a) Urban Design Study for the Wan Chai North and North Point Harbourfront Areas (UDS) – Progress Update

- The Planning Department (PlanD) reported that the Stage 1 Public Engagement (PE) for the UDS was concluded on 15 August 2015. The study team briefed Members on the events and activities organised during the PE period and the major comments received. Members noted the progress of the UDS, and raised specific comments on pedestrian connectivity along the waterfront and from the hinterland, water quality and suitable marine uses, marine accessibility, pet accessible areas, etc.
- PlanD updated Members that the study team was compiling the Stage 1 PE report which would include analysis on public views received. The public views received would form the basis for refining the urban design framework and formulating the preliminary harbourfront enhancement proposals for consulting the public in Stage 2 PE, which was tentatively scheduled for early 2016. PlanD and the study team would continue to work with the Working Group on the UDS under the Task Force in this regard.

(b) Temporary Uses at the New Central Harbourfront

- Harbour Unit updated the Task Force on the latest progress of temporary uses at two new Central harbourfront sites, one being used for operating observation wheel and the other for organizing events and activities. The Task Force was also consulted on the proposal of continuing the temporary uses concerned for one year and three years respectively.
- The Task Force noted the progress of the two temporary uses and supported the proposals as raised. Members made a few suggestions, that the subsequent administrative measures to put in place the agreed land uses ought to be transparent and justified; free public events to be organised within the event site should be convenient for public participation, and the Harbour Unit should start considering long-term implementation plan for all the sites under the Urban Design Study for the New Central Harbourfront.

(c) Proposed Coach and Private Car Parking Places at Hoi Yu Street

Temporary on-street meter parking for coaches at Hoi Yu Street, Quarry Bay

- The Eastern District Office (EDO) briefed Members on the six-month interim measure of using vacant Government land at Hoi Yu Street as a laagering point of coaches by providing on-street metered parking space. The measure was to relieve the traffic problems caused by coaches at Java Road, North Point.
- Some Members commented that the traffic problem caused by coaches at Java Road would require a long-term solution while the proposed metered parking spaces could only be a temporary measure. They suggested relevant Government departments to police the site to ensure that only coaches were being parked there, monitor the effectiveness of the measure while trying to identify a long-term solution. Members were mindful that it was undesirable for harbourfront areas to be used for parking.
- On balance, given the temporary nature of the proposal, majority of the Task Force agreed to give the proposal a try. EDO was asked to report to the Task Force the effectiveness

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of the measure and offer a long-term solution for the traffic problem in six-month's time.

Proposed Re-tendering of a Short Term Tenancy for Temporary Public Fee-paying Carpark at a Government Land at Hoi Yu Street

- The Lands Department and the Transport Department briefed Members on the proposed re-tendering of an existing short-term tenancy (STT) for a temporary public fee-paying carpark at Hoi Yu Street.
- Members noted that the existing car park was mainly for providing private car parking spaces for users of the waterfront promenade and local residents and supported the proposed re-tendering of the STT carpark. A Member suggested that the STT carpark should be phased out when the north-south pedestrian connections were improved.

Secretariat

**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments on Hong Kong Island
September 2015**