

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 29 September 2015

HC/13/2015

Progress Report from Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development

REPORTING PERIOD

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

MEETING HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Eighteenth Meeting – 18 August 2015

2. The Task Force discussed the following items –

(a) Kai Tak Approach Channel and Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter Improvement Works (Phase 2)

- Kai Tak Office (KTO) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) briefed Members on the proposed way forward for further water quality improvement works at Kai Tak Approach Channel and Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter. Following the principle underpinned by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, KTO conducted a comprehensive review and recommended an Interception and Pumping Scheme (IP Scheme) to substitute the original 600m opening at the former runway. The review suggested that the IP Scheme could achieve similar standard of environmental performance and cost-effectiveness as the originally-proposed opening.
- The Task Force shared the common vision of Kai Tak as a potential venue for hosting different kinds of water sports activities, and some Members questioned if the newly proposed IP Scheme could help reach this goal. On the understanding that the initial EIA report was aimed to reduce odour and pollutants at the waterbody, some Members believed that the IP scheme should be welcomed as a more preferable alternative over the 600m opening if the two could achieve basically the same targets.

Harbourfront Commission

HC/13/2015

- The Task Force concluded to accept the IP Scheme as the means in tackling odour, but advised that further works would have to be carried out for water quality improvement in the longer term.

(b) Pedestrian Environment Improvement Scheme for Transformation of Kwun Tong Business Area – Feasibility Study Stage 2 Public Engagement

- The Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO) commissioned a feasibility study in mid-2014 with a view to reviewing present pedestrian and traffic conditions at Kwun Tong Business Area and formulating methods to strengthen accessibility around the area. EKEO invited Members to participate in the public engagement exercise and provide comments for the proposed improvement strategies.
- The Task Force appreciated the innovative suggestions and EKEO's efforts in coordinating various departments to realise the scheme. The "Back Alley" project was a successful demonstration of upgrading formerly unpleasant environment with local character and artistic elements. Members encouraged EKEO to consider having themed design for street furniture and tackling loading/unloading activities at roadside in the next stage of the study.
- With the support from the Task Force, EKEO would take on board Members' views in improving pedestrian environment and connectivity to the harbourfront as they took forward the project.

(c) Tseung Kwo O – Lam Tin Tunnel (TKO-LTT) Project

- CEDD shared with Members latest progress of the project on TKO-LTT, which was one of the three sections of the strategic Route 6 express link between Kowloon West and Tseung Kwan O. TKO-LTT would be connected with Trunk Road T2 in Kai Tak and part of the tunnel would fall under Cha Kwo Ling waterfront. Construction of TKO-LTT was scheduled to start in February 2016 for completion in late 2020.
- Understanding that the Lam Tin Interchange would be located near the waterfront, some Members enquired whether its administration and ventilation buildings would impose visual impact on the ridge line. It was also

Harbourfront Commission

HC/13/2015

suggested that landscaping and enhancement of the slope of Cha Kwo Ling knoll could be included in the project scope. CEDD reassured Members that the Lam Tin Interchange would be situated behind the existing knoll and could not be seen from the Harbour.

- The Task Force noted the progress of the project and reminded the project team to take the opportunity for improving landscaping and minimising environmental impact to the waterfront during the construction phase.

(d) Promenade adjacent to the Hong Kong Children's Hospital (HKCH) at Kai Tak

- The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the Task Force on the preliminary design of the promenade fronting HKCH in the South Apron area. The project team drew Members' attention to the design theme – “Children and Aviation” – of the promenade and the target completion date of 2018 to tie in with the operation of HKCH.
- The Task Force had no in-principle objection to the proposed design. However, Members stressed the importance of providing a visual linkage between the promenade and the piazza in between the two hospital blocks. Future connection to the Kwun Tong Promenade in the east should also be considered in details. LCSD and ArchSD would take into account Members' comment in finalising the design.

**Secretariat
Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development
September 2015**