

Harbourfront Commission

For discussion
on 18 July 2011

HC/14/2011

Progress Report from Task Force on Harbourfront Developments in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from May to July 2011.

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

Fifth Meeting – 31 May 2011

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

(a) Action Areas

- The discussion covered three Action Areas, namely, West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), Tsim Sha Tsui (TST) East and TST West.
- For the WKCD Action Area, representatives of WKCD Authority briefed Members on the Authority's intention to make temporary use of the vacant portion of the project site for public enjoyment between end 2011 and commencement of the Phase 1 construction works tentatively in 2013-14. The initiative was welcomed by Members. Suggestions raised by Members included exploring water access to the WKCD site, charging concessionary rates for young artists/cultural groups, transforming from temporary use to the future cultural

district by progressive tree planting and installation of permanent facilities, etc.

- For the TST East Action Area –
 - (i) On behalf of The “Star” Ferry Company Ltd, Masterplan Ltd briefed the Task Force on the restoration and revitalisation proposal of the TST Star Ferry Pier, which aimed to, among other objectives, achieve the aims of providing public access to the roof and space on the roof level for restaurants and upgrading the access facilities within the pier to modern standards. The Task Force considered the proposal in line with the Harbour Planning Principles of promoting a vibrant and accessible harbour for public enjoyment and hence gave in-principle support to the proposal. Members considered it important to ensure easy and unobstructed public access to the open roof for enjoying sea view. Some Members had raised the issue on the visual impact of the proposed increase in building height while some agreed that the opportunity should be taken to improve the whole pier area.
 - (ii) Members noted that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department would consult the Task Force on a major renovation plan for the Museum of Arts at a later meeting. Members also urged the Government to expedite the TST piazza project.
- For the TST West Action Area, Members noted that developments and enhancement of this Action Area were driven by private initiative, and agreed to keep in view the development progress of any future projects from the private sector.

- The meeting agreed to discuss the Tsuen Wan, WKCD and Yau Ma Tei Action Areas at the next meeting.

(b) Refurbishment and Modification of the West Kowloon Transfer Station at Ngong Shung Road, Kowloon

- Representatives of the Environmental Protection Department briefed Members on the proposed refurbishment and modification of the West Kowloon Transfer Station. Some Members considered that the subject refuse transfer station was an important infrastructure for waste management and its current site being amidst industrial and maritime uses was a suitable location. A suggestion to provide onsite education facilities so that the next generation would know more about the operation of transfer stations in Hong Kong was also put forward. The Task Force gave in-principle support to the project.

Secretariat

**Task Force on Harbourfront Developments
in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing
July 2011**