For discussion on 21 December 2010 HC/15/2010

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

REPORTING PERIOD

This progress report covers the period from November to December 2010.

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

Second Meeting – 29 November 2010

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

(a) Inviting Presentations from other Parties

- Arising from the discussion on the Lei Yue Mun Waterfront Enhancement Project by the Task Force on 4 October 2010, the meeting discussed a general issue as to whether the Task Force should consider views from both the proponents and opponents. Noting there were previous occasions that ad hoc arrangements had been made for opponents to present their views to the former Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC), the meeting agreed to work out a more formalised arrangement, with some objective criteria for inviting presentations from parties other than the project proponents.
- Bearing in mind the cross implications on the business and operation of the Harbourfront Commission (HC) and the other two Task Forces, the meeting agreed to submit the following recommendation for HC's consideration:

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- upon circulation of meeting agenda, if one-third of Members consider it useful to hear different views, the Secretariat would invite both the project proponent and other relevant parties (if they could be identified and contacted) to make presentations to the Task Force; and
- (ii) the purpose of such invitation is not to re-open any statutory processes that the projects have duly undergone. It should be made clear to the presenters that they should focus on giving views on the subject proposal of the agenda item.

(b) Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market

- Prior to a joint site visit with members of the Sham Shui Po District Council (SSPDC) to the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market (CSWWFM) (see paragraph 3 below), representatives of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) briefed Members on the operation of the CSWWFM. Three members of the SSPDC also joined the discussion.
- ∻ The meeting noted the operation of the CSWWFM, general usage of the piers and buildings within the site, difficulties in relocating, setting back from the harbourfront, or opening up the CSWWFM, and some enhancement ideas put forth by SSPDC. Some Members considered it unrealistic to assume that a continuous waterfront promenade would be provided throughout the entire harbourfront, particularly for the Sham Shui Po and adjoining waterfront areas which were suitable for consolidating water dependent uses such as logistics and other water-related uses/industries that were important to Hong Kong's economy. While acknowledging the important function of CSWWFM, Members were of the view

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that AFCD should look into the feasibility of integrating uses for public enjoyment with the wholesale market function. Also, whether harbourfront enhancement measures could be incorporated into the future Phase 2 development of the CSWWFM should be explored and more information should be provided for the Task Force's reference in this regard.

(c) Progress of Action Areas Proposals

- At its meeting on 17 August 2009, the then HEC endorsed and submitted to the Government a list of enhancement proposals by Action Areas.
- ✤ To build upon the work of HEC, the Task Force suggested that a regular item be included in the agenda to keep track on the progress of the Action Areas proposals. The initial view was that an overview introduction of the Action Areas proposals would be given to the Task Force at the next meeting. Members could then identify certain priority proposals for further updates. New quick-wins proposals could also be added to the list for subsequent follow-up by the Task Force.
- ♦ The Task Force agreed to submit the above recommendation for HC's consideration.

SITE VISIT TO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET

3. At the invitation of SSPDC, Members of the Task Force joined a site visit to the CSWWFM with SSPDC members after the Task Force meeting on 29 November 2010. Suggestions raised during the site visit included the opening up of part of the car park area above the wholesale fish market for public viewing of the harbour and adding retail and other active uses to the CSWWFM to enhance vibrancy. AFCD agreed to consider the suggestions and would revert to the Task Force.

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Secretariat Task Force on Harbourfront Developments in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing December 2010