

10. Dialogue session

Comments	Responses
How do all the cities deal with the challenge of integrating land use and infrastructure, which is the biggest challenge we are facing in Hong Kong?	<p><u>Mr. Fred Kent</u></p> <p>If we define our destinations and figure out the land uses around those destinations and then figure out the transportation functions to support that, then it is the start from the right place for the sake of the public and the community. There are many different kinds of public spaces with multiple uses. Then the infrastructure to support that is put in. Transportation should not be the thing that defines our city.</p>
Hong Kong is a very crowded city. People may only want space instead of places with lots of activities. What is your observation on that?	<p><u>Mr. Fred Kent</u></p> <p>Take a look at the Hong Kong Park. There are lots of things to do. It can be very quiet or very active. We don't get the spectrum. In reality, we want a lot of things to do. Only with interaction and activities but not empty space, we will enjoy the places and like the places.</p>
It is very important for our waterfront to have our own identity. But throughout the public engagement, many people mentioned that our waterfront should copy other waterfronts. What should we do to maintain our local identity and authentic culture?	<p><u>Mr. Fred Kent</u></p> <p>We have to develop a system for finding ways to bring people back. There is a group called Access Based Community Development doing this wonderful job. The whole idea is to find the low-income group and support them to integrate. The identity can be formed by neighbourhood in the community.</p>
We meet a lot of real politics in the process. We have an executive-led government. No matter how best we have tried, very often at the end what we would	<p><u>Dr. Andrew Thomson</u></p> <p>We can see the sense of passion. There are always upsides and downsides. The right people are engaged with passion. There are</p>

hit is an ordinance which is not in line with what we are advocating. We always have legitimacy problems because our processes are not entwined with the law. The place-making is a very democratic practice which needs a context to support it. Where do we go from here to the future even though we know all the theories?

plenty of things which always seem to be an issue. We really have to get beyond those barriers in order to move forward. Although we are not sure in what form to move forward, it is an incremental improvement that we will only get better.

Mr. Fred Kent

If planning becomes doing for short-term improvement, at the same time building an agenda around the place, community gets engaged and it becomes unique, you can't do better than that. But right now there is not a good process for doing that. Maybe that is the next step. Maybe first you can do it by implementing the existing destinations and that would give you all the clues and connections for the larger-scale planning.

There is a couple of ways to do this.

We have one program called The "bureaucracy-free zone" . First, create a 6-month bureaucracy-free zone and experiment it. Write the rules to support the experiment. This should release the people from thinking that they cannot do anything. Once they are released from the idea, they can become spontaneous within their community and they will pay less attention to the rules at last.

We are trying to create a place and there is no government set-up to create places. It is against the rule to create places in most communities. We go through that and challenge it. Hong Kong can do the same thing.