

**Progress Report from  
Task Group on Urban Design Study  
for the New Central Harbourfront (TGUDS)  
of Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC)**

**Reporting Period**

This progress report covers the period from March to May 2009.

**Meetings held and the Major Points Raised**

2. A Consolidation Forum (the Forum) organized by the TGUDS was held on 28.2.2009. The Forum was attended by about 140 members of the general public, including some members of HEC, Town Planning Board and District Councils, concern groups and organizations, professional and academic institutes, etc. The report on the Forum prepared by the consultant (i.e. CityU Professional Services Ltd.) was submitted to the Chairman of TGUDS on 28.4.2009.

3. The 5<sup>th</sup> Task Group meeting was held on 4.5.2009. The Task Group was briefed on the review undertaken by the Study Team on the four outstanding issues raised at the Forum:

(a) Lagoon Proposal

Two options were presented. Some members requested the Study Team to explore the possibility of realigning Road P2 further northwards to cater for a larger lagoon and raising part of Road P2 to allow an extension of the water area to beyond Road P2. The feasibility of the “inner harbour” proposal made by Hong Kong Urban Design Alliance (HKUDA) was raised for discussion again. The Study Team agreed to provide further information on the feasibility of the “inner harbour” proposal and the implications of extending the “lagoon”.

(b) Old Star Ferry Clock Tower at Original Location

Two design concepts were presented. Most Members indicated preference for reconstruction of SFCT at its original location but they hope the environment around the SFCT and its visibility from Site 3 should be well planned.

(c) Comprehensive Review on Public Transport Facilities

Members generally welcomed the revised proposal on the public transport facilities which is to remove the PTI in Site 2 and replace it with bus bays and taxi stands nearer to the ferry piers.

(d) Additional Decks over Roads

Some members reiterated the request for an extensive landscaped deck linking Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts (HKAPA) to Site 6 and covering the planned open space and roads to allow developments above. The Study Team explained that an extensive deck along the harbour edge and covering the planned open space was not supported from planning and urban design points of view because of the adverse impacts on the planned open space, the visual permeability/access to the harbourfront and air ventilation aspects. Members generally considered that an integrated solution should be explored through the provision of a vibrant elevated walkway system to link up Gloucester Road new developments and connect residents to the harbourfront through the HKAPA and Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre extensions. The Study Team agreed to consider the integrated solution proposal and to refine the design.

Members also noted the absence of discussion in the Paper on Sites 1 and 2 building bulk.

4. The meeting agreed to prepare a report summarizing the work the Task Group had done in the past two and a half years, including the issues discussed and the views expressed for HEC's consideration. The report is to be finalized and given to Government before end of term of the members in August 2009.