

By hand

CB1/HS/2/04
2509 4189
2869 6794
email address: cshiu@legco.gov.hk

14 February 2006

The Honourable Henry TANG Ying-yen, GBS, JP
Financial Secretary
1/F, Main Wing,
Central Government Offices, West Wing
Lower Albert Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Mr TANG,

Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development

As you are aware, our Subcommittee was set up under the House Committee in February 2005 to study and follow up issues relating to the development of West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD). Its membership consists of Members from all the parties and groups in the Legislative Council (LegCo). In the past year, we published two reports, the Phase I Report in July 2005 and Phase II Report in January 2006. Our two reports provide a full account of our analysis of the approach adopted by the Government in developing WKCD, including the risks that the Government will run into if it continues to pursue the project according to its current plan, and put forward a number of recommendations to mitigate these risks. The reports represent many months of detailed studies and contain the collective views and considered opinions not only of Subcommittee members but also of numerous groups and individuals from among stakeholders, experts and end-users. The two reports were endorsed unanimously at the LegCo meeting on 8 February 2006.

We understand from the Chief Secretary for Administration that the Administration is currently considering the responses of the three screened-in proponents to the additional development parameters and conditions for WKCD proposed by the Administration in October 2005. It is only after the Administration has completed the process of consideration of the proponents'

responses, including consultations with the Executive Council (ExCo), that the Administration will be in a readier position to keeping LegCo informed of further developments. Members are concerned that by the time ExCo has endorsed a position, there will be very little room for further discussions or changes. This will also render any further public consultation that follows meaningless.

In order that ExCo Members can have first-hand knowledge of the findings and recommendations of the Subcommittee, I forward herewith a copy each of the Phase I and Phase II Reports, together with the Compendium of Public Views submitted to the Subcommittee, for your ease of reference. Members of the Subcommittee including myself welcome any opportunity to meet with you and other Executive Council Members to discuss any points contained in the Subcommittee's reports or any comments you may have on our findings and recommendations at a venue and time that suits you before ExCo takes a position on the way forward for WKCD.

Yours sincerely,

(Alan LEONG Kah-kit)
Chairman of the Subcommittee

Encl.

cc Clerk to the Executive Council

The Honourable Henry TANG Ying-yen, GBS, JP Financial Secretary
The Honourable WONG Yan Lung, SC, JP Secretary for Justice
The Honourable Michael SUEN Ming-yeung, GBS, JP Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands
Professor the Honourable Arthur LI Kwok-cheung, GBS, JP Secretary for Education and Manpower
The Honourable Joseph WONG Wing-ping, GBS, JP Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology
Dr the Honourable Patrick HO Chi-ping, JP Secretary for Home Affairs
The Honourable Stephen IP Shu-kwan, GBS, JP Secretary for Economic Development and Labour
Dr the Honourable Sarah LIAO Sau-tung, JP Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
The Honourable Frederick MA Si-hang, JP Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
The Honourable Stephen LAM Sui-lung, JP Secretary for Constitutional Affairs
The Honourable Ambrose LEE Siu-kwong, IDSM, JP Secretary for Security
Dr the Honourable York CHOW Yat-ngok, SBS, JP Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food
The Honourable Denise YUE Chung-ye, GBS, JP Secretary for the Civil Service
The Honourable LEUNG Chun-ying, GBS, JP
The Honourable Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
The Honourable CHENG Yiu-tong, SBS, JP
The Honourable Andrew LIAO Cheung-sing, SBS, SC, JP
The Honourable Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
The Honourable Laura M CHA, SBS
The Honourable Bernard C CHAN, JP
The Honourable Charles LEE Yeh-kwong, GBS, JP
The Honourable Ronald ARCULLI, GBS, JP
Dr the Honourable David LI Kwok-po, GBS, Hon. LL.D. (Cantab), JP
Dr the Honourable LEONG Che-hung, GBS, JP
Dr the Honourable Marvin CHEUNG Kin-tung, SBS, JP
The Honourable Henry FAN Hung-ling, SBS, JP
The Honourable Victor LO Chung-wing, GBS, JP
Professor the Honourable Anthony CHEUNG Bing-leung, BBS, JP