

2 March 2006

Hon. Alan Leong Kah-kit
Chairman
Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development
c/o Legislative Council
8 Jackson Rd
Central
HONG KONG

(Email: cshiu@legco.gov.hk / Fax: 2869 6794)

Re: **Looking beyond West Kowloon**

Honorable Members

Following the Government's decision to set up consultative committees to answer the question of 'What arts and cultural facilities do we need?', we should not forget the question: 'What should go where around the harbour?'

The constraints and opportunities of the final remaining pieces of land around the harbour, including Kai Tak, Central Extension, Hung Hom, North Point Estate, West Kowloon and Western differ greatly, specifically the available transport infrastructure and services, existing land uses, and available land.

Is a better distribution of all the planned facilities possible? Desirable? More sustainable?

Are off-peak time traffic drivers such as cultural facilities better suited for Hong Kong Island where we have an acute transport constraint during peak time? Should land uses which need access to the airport and Tsimshatsui (such as the cruise terminal) be located in West Kowloon with its highways and rail infrastructure? And so forth.

The rethink of West Kowloon gives Hong Kong now the opportunity of getting the plans light for the harbour as a whole.

Resolving the question 'What should go where?' upfront and with urgency will allow the construction and development of Hong Kong's final harbour-front to move forward expediently.

The Experience Group, Limited

25th Floor, Caroline Centre
28 Yun Ping Road,
Causeway Bay

Tel: (852)2878 7272
Fax: (852)2180 9200

It may well be appropriate for the Legislative Council to ask The Harbour-front Enhancement Committee to advise on the best plan for the harbour as a whole.

Herewith I so submit for your consideration,

Yours sincerely,

Paul Zimmerman
Convenor, Designing Hong Kong Harbour District
Principal, The Experience Group, Limited

cc. Chairman and Members of the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee
Chair and Members of the Town Planning Board

The Experience Group, Limited

25th Floor, Caroline Centre
28 Yun Ping Road,
Causeway Bay

Tel: (852)2878 7272
Fax: (852)2180 9200