



CB(1)1038/04-05(01)

25th February, 2005

Chairman and Members of the Joint Meeting of the
Panel on Economic Services and Panel on Planning, Lands and Works
c/o Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Re: Motion on the development of heliport facilities in Hong Kong
LC Paper No CB (1) 968/04-05 (01)

Honorable members,

We note the following with respect to the captioned paper:

1. There is no heliport at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre;
2. The Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC) has asked for and the Administration has promised a comprehensive plan for the development of heliport facilities around the harbour;
3. The HEC will review the impact on reclamation AND on the harbour-fronts – in coordination with the harbour-front enhancement plans.
4. Harbour-front Enhancement Reviews for Wanchai, Southeast Kowloon, and other areas will include the relevant heliport proposals.
5. The public will be encouraged to participate in the site selection process as an integral part of these Harbour-front Enhancement Reviews.



With respect, we request the members of the Legislative Council to deliberate its motion with the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee, or to consider urging the Government as follows:

“This Panel urges the Government to expedite the provision of shared commercial and government helicopter facilities close to the business districts.

To guide the development of helicopter facilities around the harbour we urge the Government to take the following site selection principles into account:

- 1. Minimize the number of permanent facilities and integrate and share the usage as much as possible;**
- 2. Minimize impairment of the harbour and harbour-front areas by following the harbour planning principles promoted by the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee;**
- 3. Minimize the urban area affected by noise through effective noise screening;**
- 4. Select locations with existing transport services to minimize the need for new and additional supporting infrastructure.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert Lai'.

Albert Lai
Convenor
Citizen Envisioning @ Harbour

Encl. Harbour Planning Principles

cc: Chair and Members of the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee
c/o Ms. Christine Chow, The HEC Secretariat,
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
9/F, Murray Building, Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong

VICTORIA HARBOUR AND ITS WATERFRONT AREAS
VISION, MISSION & PLANNING PRINCIPLES

Harbour Planning Vision

Victoria Harbour: A harbour for the people, a harbour of life.

Harbour Planning Mission

To transform Victoria Harbour and its harbour-front areas into: an attractive, vibrant, accessible and sustainable world-class asset.

Harbour Planning Principles

The Harbour Planning Principles are a set of guidelines for all individuals and organisations in the sustainable planning, development and management of Victoria Harbour, and the harbour-front areas.

The principles are developed and monitored by the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee. The principles are dynamic and may be changed to meet future aspirations of the people of Hong Kong.

Preserving Victoria Harbour as a Natural, Public and Economic Asset

Principle 1: Victoria Harbour must be preserved for Hong Kong people and visitors as a special public asset, a natural and cultural heritage, and a driver for the economy.

Victoria Harbour as Hong Kong's Identity

Principle 2: Planning, developing and managing Victoria Harbour must enhance the harbour and harbour-front areas as Hong Kong's symbol of urban design excellence and Hong Kong's "brand identity" to the international community.

A Vibrant Harbour

Principle 3: Balancing the harbour as a maritime and logistics hub for the safe and efficient passage of people and goods, with the harbour as a culture and leisure facility catering to the aspirations of all sectors of the community, requires diverse, attractive and vibrant harbour-front areas and a multitude of commercial, public, tourist, leisure, sports, culture, infrastructure and marine facilities.

An Accessible Harbour

Principle 4: Victoria Harbour must integrate with the hinterland in a comprehensive manner, including ample unrestricted and convenient visual and physical access to and along it as well as around the harbour-front areas.

Early and Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement

Principle 5: All sectors of the community must be engaged in the planning, development and management of Victoria Harbour and the harbour-front areas, through comprehensive consensus building processes involving relevant institutions.

Integrated Planning for a World-class Harbour

Principle 6: Integrated and long-term planning, development and management of infrastructure, land and marine uses, and water quality is required to ensure that Victoria Harbour and its harbour-front areas support Hong Kong's economic pillars and the aspirations of Hong Kong's people.

Sustainable Development for the Harbour

Principle 7: The planning, development and management of Victoria Harbour and its harbour-front areas should embrace the principles of sustainable development, i.e. balancing and catering to the economic, social and environmental needs of all sectors of the present generation, without compromising the needs of future generations.

Maximizing Opportunities for Public Enjoyment

Principle 8: With limited land available around Victoria Harbour, land required for transport infrastructure, utilities and uses incompatible with these planning principles should be minimized.