

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Facilitating urban development”
moved by Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 28 June 2006**

Wording of the Motion

“That, while countries and places around the world all consider urban development as the essential element to enhancing competitiveness and are vigorously expediting their pace of urban development, many barriers that hinder urban development still exist in Hong Kong, the competitive edge of which is gradually diminishing; as such, this Council urges the Government to expeditiously review its policies affecting urban development and implement improvement measures, including:

- (a) on the premise of sustainable development, commissioning a comprehensive consultancy study on such issues as planning enhancement, optimum land use, adjustment of development intensity, promotion of urban design, environment-friendly construction, infrastructures, community facilities, redevelopment of old areas, urban revitalization, preservation of cultural heritage, urban greening and air quality improvement, etc, as well as expeditiously implementing various works projects to resolve the unemployment problem in the construction industry;
- (b) setting up a high-level ad hoc committee to co-ordinate the various efforts in facilitating urban development, including extensively and efficiently soliciting public views, complementing the Eleventh Five-year Plan as well as the Shenzhen 2030 Development Strategy in the Mainland, and expeditiously publishing reports on the different stages of Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy; and
- (c) streamlining the approval procedures of the Town Planning Board, Lands Department and Buildings Department to shorten the construction time of works projects and improve the business environment,

with a view to expediting urban development, improving the public’s quality of life, beautifying the environment, promoting tourism, creating job opportunities, attracting investment and boosting economic development, so as to develop Hong Kong into a beautiful and vibrant world city in Asia, thereby enhancing its competitiveness.”