



2005/11/09 PM 04:16

To cshiu@legco.gov.hk, enquiry@harbourfront.org.hk

cc

bcc

Subject Tamar

History:

☞ This message has been forwarded.

Sirs,

Please find below the letter I sent to the SCMP the other week. It was printed but edited. I hope this gives my views adequately. Should you have anything you wish to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Kind regards

Colin Dawson

There has been much discussion about the redevelopment of the Tamar site and despite this it seems that the government is fully intent on using this area for its new offices. As Asia's World City Hong Kong has the opportunity of creating an immediate iconic venue for the region by turning the Tamar site into an arts facility where open air concerts, plays and gatherings can be held. Restaurants and cafes can be created around the site which will attract residents and tourists alike who will be able to enjoy an outdoor dining and cultural experience in the heart of the city and also on the harbour front. The site could be excavated to create an amphitheatre, the construction of which will also create employment opportunities. The operation of the site, restaurants and cafes will provide permanent employment rather than the short term employment construction provides. With the venue being in the heart of Hong Kong without the noise restrictions the stadium suffers and the poor sound quality of the Convention and Exhibition Centre we will be more likely to attract the world's top performers thus giving benefit to the community as a whole. In his letter Sidney Chan fairly points out that the creation of new government offices will provide employment for a large number of construction workers, surely this opportunity will exist wherever the offices are built. However, is it really necessary to build new offices? Has the idea of using existing empty space outside of Central, at the Cyberport for example, been considered? By moving a vast majority of government employees out of the centre of Hong Kong traffic congestion and pollution will be reduced as many government cars will not have the need to be in Central. Indeed, with the extension of the MTR to Pokfulham there might not be the need for many government cars at all with civil servants utilising Hong Kong's fantastic public transport system, thus showing leadership by example to the community as a whole. Mr Tsang, please do not lose this fantastic opportunity to create something special and long lasting for Hong Kong

Heath Lambert (Hong Kong) Ltd

1901 Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road

Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: 28 777 777 Direct: 2585 8220

Fax: 28 777 666

Please visit our web site at <http://www.heathlambert.com.hk>