政府總部
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TOURISM COMMISSION
旅遊事務署

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20 June 2008

Clerk to LegCo Panel on Economic Development
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Connie SZETO)

By Fax: 2869 6794

Dear Ms Szeto,

Development of a Piazza in Tsim Sha Tsui

Thank you for letting us have sight of the submission dated 19 June 2008 from Ms Mary Mulvihill. Our response to the concerns raised by Ms Mulvihill is set out in the following paragraphs.

The proposed piazza aims to provide a public open space for leisure use by both the local residents and visitors. It has never been our intention to construct a shopping mall at the site for the purpose of generating revenue. According to the existing land use zoning restrictions, commercial use is not permitted at this district open space.

Based on the results of our public engagement over the past year, views collected generally favour the private sector to operate and to finance the operation of the proposed piazza. However, having regard to the possible impact of the piazza's final design on its future facilities and commercial viability, we recommend to consider the management mode of the piazza and put up a more concrete proposal after the design for the Project is confirmed. In this connection, we are considering an open design competition for the piazza.

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As for Ms Mulvihill's concern over possible inconvenience to passengers using Star Ferry's service arising from the relocation of the bus terminus to the new PTI in TST East, the Transport Department has already worked out a series of complementary arrangements to alleviate possible impact on passengers. We will also ensure that the inconvenience caused to residents and business operators in the vicinity would be minimized.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs Winifred CHUNG)
for Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development