

## **Legislative Council Panel on Transport**

### **Outlying Island Ferry Services**

As reported at previous Panel meetings, we are considering the feasibility of taking opportunity of the proposed facelift of the existing Central Piers No. 4, 5 and 6 with the addition of one retail/commercial floor in the Urban Design Study for the New Central Harbourfront (“the Study”) to enhance the financial viability of the outlying island ferry services by allowing the ferry operators to sublet the proposed additional floor at Central Piers No. 4, 5 and 6 for commercial or retail activities while requiring them to continue to use non-fare box revenue to cross-subsidize the ferry operation. The amount of revenue that could be generated from the additional floor would depend very much on the detailed design and exact use of the area. The use of this floor for retail or commercial activities has to be subject to the approval of the Town Planning Board.

2. As regards the sales proceeds of adjoining site, this would depend on various factors, including the market situation at the time the site is disposed of. The Government does not provide an estimate of sales proceeds of any particular site before it is sold.

3. The Planning Department is currently conducting the Stage 2 Public Engagement of the Study and inviting the public to provide views and comments on designing the future Central harbourfront. This stage of Public Engagement will last for about three months till late July 2008. The Planning Department will take account of public views received in preparing the planning/design briefs to guide the detailed planning and design of the key sites.

Transport and Housing Bureau  
Transport Department  
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