

立法會
Legislative Council

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seen by the Administration)

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Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development

**Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of
the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

**Minutes of meeting
held on Wednesday, 10 July 2013, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Deputy Chairman)
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon YIU Si-wing
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Han-pan
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen
- Members absent** : Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

**Public Officers : Item II
attending**

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr WAN Man-leung
Project Manager (Home Affairs Bureau)

Transport Department

Mr Michael LEUNG
Chief Engineer/Priority Railway

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Dr CHAN Man-wai
Executive Director, Project Delivery

Mr NG Ying-chuen
Head, Technical Services

Clerk in attendance : Ms Alice LEUNG
Chief Council Secretary (2) 2

Staff in attendance : Miss Jasmine TAM
Council Secretary (2) 2

Miss Emma CHEUNG
Legislative Assistant (2) 2

Action

I. Matters arising
(LC Paper No. CB(2)1539/12-13(01))

The Joint Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. Members noted the list of follow-up actions required of the Administration and the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCD") arising from the discussions of the Joint Subcommittee at previous meetings.

3. Members further noted that the Administration had advised that the issues raised and information requested by members at the Joint Subcommittee's meeting on 8 April 2013 in relation to the financial situation

Action

of and arrangements for the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") project (i.e. items 2(a)-(d) of the list of follow-up actions) were addressed in its paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1492/12-13(02)) submitted for and the discussion at the Joint Subcommittee's meeting on 3 July 2013.

II. Integration and connectivity of the West Kowloon Cultural District with its neighbouring districts
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1539/12-13(02) and (03))

Admin/
WKCDA

4. The Joint Subcommittee requested the Administration/WKCDA to -
- (a) advise on its consultation plan (in particular the timetable)/mechanism with the Yau Tsim Mong District Council as well as community leaders and/or residents of Yau Tsim Mong District on matters relating to the connectivity of WKCD with its nearby areas;
 - (b) provide information on the pedestrian traffic forecasts of different planning horizons of WKCD (including when activities/performances were held at the arts and cultural facilities, e.g. the Xiqu Centre and the Mega Performance Venue), and a map showing the flows of visitors (with indication of directions of their flows) accessing/leaving various venues/facilities in WKCD; and
 - (c) advise whether consideration had been/would be given to providing full noise enclosure for the section of Nga Cheung Road adjacent to residential buildings (e.g. Sorrento) to mitigate the noise nuisance caused to nearby residents.

Clerk

5. At the suggestion of Dr Helena WONG, members agreed that the Joint Subcommittee should arrange a site visit to WKCD to enable members to have a better understanding of the pedestrian connections between WKCD and its surrounding areas.

III. Any other business

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:16 am.

**Proceedings of meeting of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor
the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project
held on Wednesday, 10 July 2013, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
<i>Agenda Item I - Matters arising</i>			
000641 - 000805	Chairman	List of follow-up actions required of the Administration and the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCD") [LC Paper No. CB(2)1539/12-13(01)].	
<i>Agenda Item II - Integration and connectivity of the West Kowloon Cultural District with its neighbouring districts</i>			
000806 - 001535	Chairman Admin WKCD	Briefing by the Administration and WKCD on the integration and connectivity plan of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") based on the approved Development Plan and WKCD's consultation with the Yau Tsim Mong District Council ("YTMD") on the subject matter [LC Paper No. CB(2)1539/12-13(02)].	
001536 - 001920	Chairman Dr Priscilla LEUNG Admin WKCD	In response to Dr Priscilla LEUNG's concern about the pedestrian accessibility to WKCD from Sham Shui Po ("SSP") and Cheung Sha Wan ("CSW") and her suggestion that a continuous waterfront promenade and tree-shaded alleys/paths should be built to link WKCD with the two districts, the Administration advised that WKCD would discuss with the Transport Department ("TD") measures to enhance the connectivity and integration of WKCD with the inner parts of West Kowloon, including SSP and CSW. In reply to Dr LEUNG's enquiry, WKCD advised that cycle paths would be provided in WKCD and an automated bicycle rental system would soon be launched within the site as a pilot scheme.	
001921 - 002413	Chairman Mr IP Kwok-him Admin WKCD	Upon Mr IP Kwok-him's enquiries, the Administration/WKCD advised that - (a) pedestrian connections to the areas outside WKCD were primarily through the provision of at-grade walkways, footbridges and subways. Apart from the existing footbridge/subway connections, new/enhanced connections were proposed and would be completed progressively to connect WKCD with the adjoining developments and major public transport nodes, including Kowloon Station, Austin Station and West	

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		<p>Kowloon Terminus ("WKT"). TD would also look into the feasibility of developing new pedestrian links to connect the West Kowloon Development Area ("WKDA") including WKCD with the Jordan Station and the Kowloon Park, so as to enhance the accessibility to WKDA from the surrounding districts;</p> <p>(b) WKCD was studying the feasibility of the provision of an environmentally friendly transport system ("EFTS"), which could be in various transport modes such as environmentally friendly bus ("e-bus"), traveller, etc., to connect the eastern and western ends of WKCD. WKCD's aim was to finalize the relevant plan within the next two years to dovetail with the scheduled completion of the first batch of facilities between 2015 and 2018; and</p> <p>(c) the number of parking spaces planned to be provided in WKCD had remained unchanged at around 2 100.</p>	
002414 - 003100	Chairman Mr Tony TSE Admin WKCD	<p>Mr Tony TSE's views that -</p> <p>(a) the design of the footbridges connecting WKCD and its neighbouring areas should manifest the distinctive characteristics of WKCD as an arts and cultural district;</p> <p>(b) consideration should be given to providing appropriate spaces at the pedestrian subways connecting WKCD and its surrounding areas for young local artists to display their artworks; and</p> <p>(c) given the vehicle-free design concept of WKCD whereby all vehicular traffic, parking and loading/unloading activities would be confined in an integrated basement, the basement should be carefully designed and managed with due regard to the underground air quality and temperature.</p> <p>The Administration/WKCD's responses that -</p> <p>(a) the government departments concerned would seek to ensure that the design of the footbridges linking WKCD with its neighbouring areas would blend in well with the overall ambience of WKCD;</p> <p>(b) with a view to facilitating better coordination and ensuring consistency in the management of the pedestrian facilities for WKCD, the</p>	

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		<p>Administration's initial plan was to entrust the management of the pedestrian footbridges and subways linking WKCD and its neighbouring areas to WKCDA. This arrangement should allow greater flexibility for WKCDA to consider and decide how the spaces at these pedestrian facilities should be utilized and managed; and</p> <p>(c) WKCDA attached great importance to the underground air quality of WKCD and an environmental impact assessment had been conducted for the proposal of providing vehicular access and servicing facilities in the basement of WKCD. The ventilation system at the basement would be carefully designed and positioned to deal with vehicle emissions inside with due consideration for air quality and comfort level. The use of eco-friendly vehicles would also be encouraged.</p>	
003101 - 003651	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Admin WKCDA	<p>Ms Emily LAU's views that -</p> <p>(a) apart from providing e-buses, travellers and cycle paths to enhance the accessibility within WKCD, WKCDA should also put in place sufficient and appropriate barrier-free facilities to make WKCD easy to move around for all mobility groups; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration and WKCDA should effectively engage the relevant District Council throughout the implementation of the WKCD project, so as to ensure that the views and concerns of the local community would be duly considered and addressed as the project developed.</p> <p>In reply to Ms LAU's enquiry about whether local views had been incorporated in the proposed connectivity plan of WKCD, WKCDA advised that it had constantly consulted and solicited comments from YTMDC on matters relating to the accessibility and connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring areas. Representatives of TD had also attended meetings of YTMDC to respond to questions raised on the subject. The proposed connectivity plan of WKCD had been formulated having regard to the views and suggestions of YTMDC.</p> <p>The Administration/WKCDA was requested to advise in writing its plan (in particular the timetable)/mechanism in place for consultation with YTMDC as well as community leaders and/or residents of Yau Tsim Mong District.</p>	<p>Admin/WKCDA to provide information (paragraph 4(a))</p>

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
			of the minutes)
003652 - 004146	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing Admin WKCDA	<p>Mr YIU Si-wing's concern about whether a bus terminus would be set up at/near WKCD and if not, whether the Administration would review the need to enhance the capacity of the China Ferry Terminal ("CFT") Public Transport Interchange ("PTI") to cope with the increasing transport demand and passenger flow brought about by the WKCD development.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that TD had been concerned about enhancing the connectivity of WKCD with its surrounding areas and other parts of Hong Kong through making available efficient pedestrian and railway connections, road-based traffic and public transport schemes. WKCD was currently well served by the Airport Express/Tung Chung Line and the West Rail Line through Kowloon Station and Austin Station respectively. There were also two PTIs near WKCD including the Kowloon Station PTI and CFT PTI. WKCDA was preparing a Public Transport Plan for WKCD and TD would work closely with WKCDA on relevant issues, including studying the possible bus routes.</p> <p>WKCDA's response that it would consider Mr YIU's suggestion for providing shuttle service in WKCD by the use of electric carts.</p>	
004147 - 004654	Chairman Mr LEUNG Che-cheung Admin WKCDA	<p>Mr LEUNG Che-cheung's expression of support for the provision of EFTS in WKCD and emphasis on the importance of enhancing the connectivity between the eastern and western ends of WKCD. His view that to maintain a green environment in WKCD, visitors driving to WKCD should be encouraged to park their cars in the nearby parking facilities (e.g. car parks at Kowloon Station and WKT) and access the various venues in WKCD by using the shuttle service to be provided on the site.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that WKCDA would endeavour to enhance the connectivity among different parts of the WKCD site through the provision of e-bus service, among others. The car parks at the three railway stations adjacent to WKCD, viz. Kowloon Station, Austin Station and WKT, could help address the demand for parking facilities arising from the commissioning of the arts and cultural facilities as well as the hotel, office and residential developments in WKCD.</p> <p>In reply to the Chairman's enquiry about the audience dispersal arrangements for</p>	

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		<p>events/performances held at the arts and cultural venues in WKCD, WKCDA advised that its transport planning consultant had attached importance to formulating appropriate arrangements to enable audience to leave WKCD as soon as possible after the conclusion of performances. The initial assessment was that audience/participants of a particular event/performance held in WKCD would be able to be dispersed in 30 minutes.</p>	
<p>004655 - 005458</p>	<p>Chairman Deputy Chairman Admin WKCDA</p>	<p>The Deputy Chairman's view that the success of WKCD hinged largely on its integration and connectivity with the neighbouring old districts. His enquiries about -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) WKCDA's response to the Administration's proposal of entrusting the management of the pedestrian facilities for WKCD to WKCDA; (b) whether WKCDA would pursue its initial plan to make available marine facilities and transport in WKCD; and (c) whether the transport planning of WKCD had taken into account the off-district arts and cultural activities that might be conducted in the neighbouring areas such as Yau Ma Tei and SSP. <p>The Administration's responses that -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efforts would be made to strengthen the pedestrian links between WKCD and its surrounding old districts and facilitate the integration of WKCD with its neighbouring communities; (b) given the scale of the WKCD project, the Administration would make reference to relevant arrangements adopted in railway property development projects in considering the management of the pedestrian facilities for WKCD. Relevant government departments would look into the feasibility and operational details of entrusting the management of the said facilities to WKCDA; and (c) the provision of marine transport to connect WKCD with other parts of Hong Kong was worth considering and WKCDA had been in discussion with the Harbourfront Commission on relevant issues. <p>WKCDA's advice that while it was keen to make</p>	

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		<p>available marine facilities/transport in WKCD, the provision of public pier(s) in WKCD would be subject to demand, technical feasibility and compliance with the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance (Cap. 531), and therefore would require further discussion with TD. WKCDA hoped to launch as soon as possible a pilot scheme on the provision of landing steps at the north-western end of WKCD.</p> <p>The Chairman's view that WKCDA should seek to provide ferry service not only as a means of transport to connect different parts of WKCD and between WKCD and other parts of Hong Kong, but also as an add-on service to enhance the tourism appeal of WKCD.</p>	
005459 - 005945	Chairman Ms Starry LEE Admin WKCDA	<p>Ms Starry LEE's concerns and enquiries as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) whether WKCDA would provide direct pedestrian links to WKCD from Austin Station, WKT and Jordan Station respectively and if so, the implementation timetable; (b) whether multiple pedestrian access points to WKCD would be provided to facilitate easy and convenient access from the surrounding areas/developments; and (c) whether all of the parking spaces planned to be provided in WKCD would be open for use by members of the public and whether any assessment had been conducted on the future demand for parking facilities at WKCD. <p>WKCDA/the Administration's advice that -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) pedestrians were primarily connected to the areas outside WKCD through a comprehensive network of at-grade walkways, footbridges and subways. The existing Austin Road pedestrian subway would be extended and improved to connect Austin Station and the basement of the Xiqu Centre. As regards the pedestrian connection between WKCD and Jordan Station, TD had presented to the Traffic and Transport Committee of YTMDC in November 2012 the proposed pedestrian links between WKCD and Jordan/Tsim Sha Tsui districts, including a pedestrian subway along Jordan Road via Shanghai Street and Bowring Street to link WKCD and Jordan 	

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		<p>Station. The feasibility of the proposals would require further study and there was no firm programme at the current stage; and</p> <p>(b) the overall provision of 2 100 parking spaces should be sufficient to meet the demand for parking facilities arising from the various developments in WKCD, and WKCD would decide on the allocation of parking spaces at a suitable juncture.</p>	
005946 - 010508	Chairman Dr Helena WONG Admin	<p>Dr Helena WONG's declaration that she was a resident of the West Kowloon district. Her view and concern that -</p> <p>(a) the residents of the West Kowloon district had not been consulted by WKCD and YTMDC on the connectivity plan of WKCD, nor had they been provided with any information on the subject; and</p> <p>(b) pedestrian subways should be provided to link up WKCD with the concourses of Kowloon Station and WKT, so as to ensure convenient access to WKCD for visitors arriving via the Airport Express and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link.</p> <p>The Administration's response that three footbridges and one pedestrian subway connecting WKT and the Elements shopping mall had been planned to enhance the accessibility to WKT from its adjacent areas.</p>	
010509 - 010956	Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Admin WKCD	<p>In reply to Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's enquiries, WKCD advised that the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade was about 2 kilometres long. The western portion of the Promenade had been open to the public, whereas the remaining portions were currently closed for construction works.</p> <p>On Dr CHIANG's suggestion of constructing a continuous waterfront promenade to link up the north-western tip of WKCD and the waterfront areas of the New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter and SSP, the Administration responded that it would look at the suggestion in conjunction with the Harbourfront Commission in the context of considering issues relating to harbourfront planning and enhancement in Hong Kong.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
010957 - 011315	Chairman Miss Alice MAK Admin	<p>Miss Alice MAK's concern about the design of the barrier-free facilities to be provided at the pedestrian connections for WKCD and her view that the footbridges for WKCD should be built/retrofitted with cover and large lifts to cater for the needs of the disabled.</p> <p>The Administration's response that barrier-free access/facilities were a standard provision for government premises and facilities. Relevant government departments would look at the design of the barrier-free facilities to be provided at the pedestrian connections for WKCD and ensure that the relevant requirements were met.</p>	
011316 - 011734	Chairman Mr Frankie YICK Admin WKCDA	<p>Mr Frankie YICK's enquiry and suggestions as follows -</p> <p>(a) whether WKCDA had assessed the impact of putting the vehicular traffic and servicing facilities underground on the temperature of the basement levels of WKCD, and a yardstick should be set for determining the optimal temperature to be maintained at the WKCD basement; and</p> <p>(b) given the long walking distance from the China Hong Kong City to the Park in WKCD and to capitalize on the harbourfront location of WKCD, consideration should be given to using trams to provide shuttle service along the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade to connect the eastern and western ends of WKCD.</p> <p>WKCDA's advice that -</p> <p>(a) assessments had been conducted on the air ventilation as well as temperature of the basement levels of WKCD where pick-up and drop-off points were located; and</p> <p>(b) space had been reserved at the northern edge of WKCD along Austin Road West for possible provision of EFTS such as tram. WKCDA would study the feasibility of enabling the operation of tram service along the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade, taking into account its width and landscape treatment, among others.</p>	
011735 - 012216	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han	Miss CHAN Yuen-han echoed Miss Alice MAK's concern about the provision of barrier-free facilities in WKCD. Her views that -	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		<p>(a) TD should play a more proactive role in formulating and implementing the connectivity plan of WKCD, rather than giving a free hand to WKCDA to deal with all relevant matters; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration and WKCDA should implement the WKCD project in close consultation with YTMDC and the residents of Yau Tsim Mong District.</p>	
012217 - 012728	Chairman Ms Cyd HO Admin WKCDA	<p>In response to Ms Cyd HO's concern about how stage sets and equipment could be transported to various arts and cultural venues in WKCD and the availability of suitable loading and unloading facilities at these venues, the Administration advised that Foster + Partners' conceptual plan had provided for direct connections among major performing arts venues and the corresponding loading and unloading facilities at stage level. As for the Mega Performance Venue located at the western end of WKCD which was separated from the integrated basement by the Western Harbour Crossing, appropriate ancillary facilities would be provided to facilitate the efficient operation of the venue.</p> <p>At the request of Ms HO, WKCDA undertook to provide information on the pedestrian traffic forecasts of different planning horizons of WKCD and a map showing the flows of visitors accessing/leaving various venues/facilities in WKCD.</p>	<p>WKCDA to provide information (paragraph 4(b) of the minutes)</p>
012729 - 013020	Chairman Dr Helena WONG Admin	<p>Members' agreement to Dr Helena WONG's suggestion that the Joint Subcommittee should arrange a site visit to WKCD to enable members to have a better understanding of the pedestrian connections between WKCD and its surrounding areas. Dr WONG's view that representatives of the relevant government departments and parties (e.g. TD and MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL")) should also join the visit where appropriate.</p> <p>In response to Dr WONG's concern about the noise nuisance brought about by the traffic at Nga Cheung Road (viz. one of the main vehicular access points for WKCD) to nearby residents, the Administration advised that the Highways Department was carrying out a series of road improvement projects at West Kowloon including Nga Cheung Road, and would implement noise mitigation measures as appropriate in accordance with the requirements set out in the relevant environmental impact assessments conducted for the projects.</p>	<p>Clerk to follow up (paragraph 5 of the minutes)</p>

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		<p>The Administration was requested to advise whether consideration had been/would be given to providing full noise enclosure for the section of Nga Cheung Road adjacent to residential buildings (e.g. Sorrento) to mitigate the noise nuisance caused to nearby residents.</p>	<p>Admin to provide information (paragraph 4(c) of the minutes)</p>
013021 - 013233	<p>Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan WKCDA</p>	<p>In reply to Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's enquiries, WKCDA advised that -</p> <p>(a) it would look at the design of the planned footbridges for WKCD, including whether they should be built with cover and/or provided with air-conditioning; and</p> <p>(b) the exhaust-air outlets in WKCD would be carefully positioned to avoid causing nuisance to nearby residential dwellings.</p>	
013234 - 013623	<p>Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han Ms Emily LAU</p>	<p>Miss CHAN Yuen-han urged the Administration and WKCDA to take heed of members' views and concerns and report to the Joint Subcommittee as early as practicable measures taken to enhance the pedestrian accessibility to and within WKCD and the connectivity of WKCD with its surrounding areas.</p> <p>Ms Emily LAU's view that representatives of MTRCL should be invited to attend the Joint Subcommittee's meeting when issues relating to the connectivity of WKCD with its surrounding areas, in particular the adjacent railway stations, were discussed.</p>	
013624 - 013932	<p>Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Admin WKCDA</p>	<p>On Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's concern about the availability of direct pedestrian connection between WKCD and Kowloon Park, the Administration advised that upon the relocation of the existing Tsim Sha Tsui Fire Station Complex and subject to future demand and investigation on feasibility, a footbridge could be provided over Canton Road to link WKCD and the Kowloon Park to facilitate pedestrian access to the Tsim Sha Tsui district. The footbridge would be completed in phases with an initial connection to CFT and the public transport interchange within the terminal.</p>	
013933 - 014728	<p>Chairman Ms Emily LAU Miss CHAN Yuen-han</p>	<p>The Chairman's recapitulation of members' concerns about the connectivity of WKCD with its surrounding areas and other parts of Hong Kong. His view that TD and WKCDA should formulate and report to the Joint Subcommittee in due course a more detailed and comprehensive connectivity plan and public transport scheme for</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		<p>WKCD, in particular how visitors could access WKCD from its neighbouring areas by public transport and on foot.</p> <p>Miss CHAN Yuen-han's suggestion that representatives of the relevant government departments (e.g. Planning Department) be invited to attend the Joint Subcommittee's meeting when the relevant subject was discussed.</p> <p>Ms Emily LAU's suggestion that WKCDA should consult groups of persons with disabilities on the provision of barrier-free access/facilities in WKCD.</p>	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 November 2013