



June 12, 2017

Legislative Council, Establishment Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Complex 1  
Legislative Council Road Central  
Hong Kong

Attn.: Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Establishment Subcommittee, Chair

By post & email ([f\\_esc@legco.gov.hk](mailto:f_esc@legco.gov.hk))

Dear Mrs Ip,

**Creation of a new permanent Chief Landscape Architect post in the  
Architectural Services Department  
Letter of support**

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I write to express the strong support of the Division of Landscape Architecture, at The University of Hong Kong, for the establishment of a new permanent Chief Landscape Architect post in the Architectural Services Department.

Hong Kong, China and the Asian region face increasingly severe environmental and societal challenges resulting from rapid urbanization and development, climate change, aging society and technological advances. Our high density urban lifestyle places huge stresses on public health, community wellbeing and surrounding natural environments.

The Landscape architectural profession, with its integrated, multidisciplinary approach is uniquely placed to coordinate and direct the community's efforts to address these issues and to meet rising public expectations for a truly sustainable and balanced living environment. I see from the work of my students a very keen desire in the youth of today to be involved with these issues. Their ideas on radical improvements to public space, revitalizing waterfronts, encouraging community participation in public space, city-wide rooftop greening, comprehensive re-thinking of our water systems, remediating landfill and quarry sites, designing landscapes to promote public health, etc. are examples of the very many ways landscape architects can make a substantive contribution to Hong Kong.

...../As the leading

As the leading landscape education institute in Hong Kong, we are keenly aware of the need for stronger representation of the profession at the highest levels of Government, to ensure that the valuable knowledge and skills of landscape architects are fully utilised. We believe that the creation of the new Chief Landscape Architecture post will strengthen the landscape architectural capacity within Government and will support Architectural Services Department in achieving an ever higher quality of public works in our city. While the addition of extra resources at the working level remain important, it is vital that landscape advice is available when projects are conceived and planned. I feel that a new CLA would be a very prudent investment of resources to ensure that we protect and enhance our natural and cultural heritage effectively, and in our new works we are able to derive maximum benefit for our communities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mathew Pryor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mathew Pryor  
Head  
Division of Landscape Architecture

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