

香港旅遊業聯會的信頭

**Letterhead of THE JOINT COUNCIL OF THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY OF HONG
KONG**

To: Mr Andy Lau
Clerk to Panel
LegCo Panel on Economic Services
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Dear Sirs

Thank you for giving us the chance to submit our views about the agreement between the Hong Kong Government and the Walt Disney Company to build a Disney theme park and resort in Hong Kong.

We strongly believe the move will prove a great boost to Hong Kong in three major areas: greater number of visitors, higher employment and the development of Hong Kong as a regional transportation hub.

Rise in Visitors

The construction of the new Disney theme park and resort will prove a tremendous boost for Hong Kong in terms of visitors in the years ahead. Hong Kong already has a large number of major tourist attractions, and the addition of truly world-class attraction will give visitors a further reason to visit Hong Kong and a reason to stay in Hong Kong a few days longer. It will help strengthen Hong Kong's position as Asia's leading tourist destination.

As visitors stay longer in Hong Kong, they will also spend more on hotels, restaurants and retail outlets, thereby bringing benefits to all of these industries.

Employment

The new theme park and resort will also help to bring extra employment to Hong Kong. The project will employ a great many people in its construction and further jobs will be created after its opening. It will also create related employment in tourism related industries such as hotels, restaurants, and retailers.

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Transport Centre

Another benefit of the new Disney theme park and resort is that it will help the development of Hong Kong as Asia's premier aviation centre.

Hong Kong already plays an important role as an aviation hub where travellers stopover on the way to their eventual destination. The new theme park and resort will give passengers an extra reason to transit in Hong Kong. Mainland travellers may also be attracted to use Hong Kong as a hub to enable them to visit the Disney theme park and resort. This will lead to more flights to visit Hong Kong, building up the strength of the Hong Kong hub. We already have one of the most efficient airports in the world with the new Hong Kong International Airport, and having more tourist attractions will benefit us even further.

The construction in this project means Hong Kong has taken a large step ahead of other cities in the region rather than falling behind. We look forward to working closely with the Government, the Hong Kong Tourist Association, and other tourism bodies to ensure its is a great success.

Yours sincerely

PHILIP N L CHEN
Chairman