

August 22, 2003

Our Ref.: UW/Letter/147

Your Ref: CB1/BC/12/02

Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Sirs,

**Bill Committee on Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2003
Invitation for submissions**

The following is our concise comments to Town Planning (Amendments) Bill 2003:

- (1) Need independent secretary for Town Planning Board (TPB) to ensure fairness and transparency.
- (2) Independent consultant can be employed by Town Planning Board to investigate on planning issues instead of relying on other government bodies.
- (3) Allow ample time for public consultation before formal legislation of issues concerning benefits of the community.
- (4) TPB member has to get full picture of each planning issue.
- (5) 'Veto' method for TPB member not acceptable as matters can be skipped or ignored. This is to ensure TPB work as a group process.
- (6) Small matters like A & A works can be dealt with by another committee rather than TPB.
- (7) If objection process is reduced to 6 months, administration and circulation time in government should be greatly reduced to allow the public to have ample time for comment/hearing.

Yours faithfully,

URBAN WATCH

WONG WAH SANG
Chairman

c.c. Urban Watch Members

WSW/cc