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15 January 2004

Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Mr S C Tsang)

Dear Mr Tsang,

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

Thank you for your letter of 8 January 2004 to Professor Yeung Yue-man, Chairman of the Land and Building Advisory Committee (LBAC) on the above. I have been authorized to reply on his behalf.

The proposed amendments to the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2003 attached to your letter have been circulated to LBAC Members. A non-official member has expressed the following views on the proposed amendments:

- He welcomes the Administration's proposal to replace the previously proposed single hearing mode by a two-stage process.
- He considers that public participation in the plan-making process prior to the publication of new plans or amendment plans is most useful in facilitating the Administration to prepare appropriate plans to meet the public demands. This issue should also be addressed by the Administration.

- He supports the Administration's proposal of not changing the existing provisions relating to the Chief Executive in Council (CE in C)'s consideration and approval of town plans. However, the Administration should consider if it is appropriate to propose a time limit for the CE in C in approving, refusing or referring plans submitted by the Town Planning Board.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Wong Yuet-wah)

Secretary

Land and Building Advisory Committee

c.c. Professor Yeung Yue-man [fax: 2603 5215]