

Hong Kong, October 2, 2006

Panel on Planning, Lands and Works
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Fax: 2869-6794 / email: cshiu@legco.gov.hk)



CB(1)2313/05-06(01)

Re: Central Reclamation Urban Design Study (CB(1)2219/05-06(01))

Honorable Chair and Members,

Don't limit the rethink of the Central Harbour-front

Alternative visions from many sectors in the community acknowledge the broad land uses of the current outline zoning plans for the Central Harbour-front and accept the extent of the reclamation in progress. However the impact of alternative visions may go beyond urban design issues.

We urge the Members of the Legislative Council to call for broadening the mandate for the Central Reclamation Urban Design Study (The Study):

1. To enable a world city harbour-front incorporating changing public aspirations, we urge the Legislative Council to call for a review of the Central Harbour-front which is not limited a priori to urban design refinement, and **to expand the Objectives, Area and Tasks of The Study:**
 - a. Public input may extend beyond changing the planning briefs for the key development sites and may require changes of the outline zoning plans;
 - b. Much of the current plans for the Central Harbour-front are defined by transport policies (e.g. public transport interchanges, implementation schedule of the northern island line, use of trams, capacity of P2, engineering and design guidelines for infrastructure, roads, tunnels, foot bridges and decks, and so forth) which may need to be reviewed if found necessary;
 - c. Much of the land water interfaces, design of the water edge and promenade are defined by various 'Guidelines' (e.g. the interpretation of the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance, safety, engineering, open space design, and so forth) which may need to be reviewed if found necessary;
 - d. The Study Area for the Central Harbour-front is not limited to the Central Reclamation but may include adjoining areas from Rumsey Street to just West of the Hong Kong Exhibition Centre, and the Connaught-Harbour-Gloucester Road Corridor, the existing segregator between the harbour-front and the 'old' Central.
2. We further urge the Legislative Council to request the Administration **to specifically list and take into account in The Study**, all the various proposals, submissions and representations made by members of the community to the Government, Town Planning Board, Harbour-front Enhancement Committee and the Legislative Council regarding the development of the Central Harbour-front and Tamar since approval of the current relevant Outline Zoning plans.

Herewith we so submit for your consideration. We welcome an opportunity to illustrate the urgency of the above.

Yours sincerely,

Designing Hong Kong

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