立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No.CB(2)1604/13-14 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/PS/3/12

Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development

Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project

Minutes of meeting held on Friday, 25 April 2014, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present

Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP (Chairman)

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP Hon Steven HO Chun-yin Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming

Hon YIU Si-wing

Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

Members absent

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Hon Claudia MO Hon CHAN Han-pan

Public Officers: attending

Item I

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr WAN Man-leung Project Manager

Transport Department

Mr LEUNG Tat-fai

Chief Engineer/Priority Railway

Mr YIP Koon-keung

Senior Engineer/Priority Railway 1

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Dr CHAN Man-wai

Executive Director, Project Delivery

Ms Bonny WONG

Director, Chief Executive Officer's Office

Mr Y C NG

Head, Technical Services

MVA Hong Kong Ltd

Ms Lily CHAN

Divisional Director

Mr Steven HO

Divisional Director

Clerk in : Ms Amy YU

attendance Chief Council Secretary (2)6

Staff in : Miss Josephine SO

attendance Senior Council Secretary (2)6

Miss Meisy KWOK

Legislative Assistant (2)6

Action

I. Further discussion on the traffic impact assessment of the planning application for minor relaxation of development intensity of the West Kowloon Cultural District Site

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1347/13-14(01)-(02), CB(2)716/13-14(01), CB(2)1153/13-14(01), CB(2)1188/13-14(01), CB(2)1198/13-14(01) and CB(2)1329/13-14(01))

<u>The Joint Subcommittee</u> deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") and its consultant briefed members on the traffic impact assessment results of the planning application for minor relaxation of development intensity of the West Kowloon Cultural District site, details of which were set out in WKCDA's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1347/13-14(01)).

(*Post-meeting note*: The powerpoint presentation material provided by WKCDA was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1386/13-14(01) on 28 April 2014.)

- 3. Mr MA Fung-kwok declared that he was a member of the Board of WKCDA.
- 4. At the request of members, the Administration agreed to provide for the Subcommittee's reference the relevant paper(s) on the road improvement works for the West Kowloon Reclamation Development (Project 855TH) for which funding approval was planned to be sought from the Legislative Council within this legislative session.

II. Any other business

- 5. <u>Members</u> agreed to receive views from deputations when the subject of integration and connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring districts was discussed in July 2014.
- 6. <u>Members</u> noted that at the request of the Administration, the meeting originally scheduled for 8 May 2014 had been rescheduled to be held on 28 May 2014 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am.
- 7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:12 pm.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 26 May 2014

Admin

Proceedings of meeting of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project held on Friday, 25 April 2014, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required		
Agenda Ite	Agenda Item I - Further discussion on the traffic impact assessment of the planning application for minor relaxation of development intensity of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") site				
000200 - 000345	Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan	Chairman's opening remarks Dr CHIANG Lai-wan said that minutes of meetings should be made available for members' reference as early as possible to facilitate relevant discussions at subsequent meetings.			
000346 - 000620	Dr Helena WONG Chairman	Dr Helena WONG's letter to the Chairman dated 16 April 2014 regarding the impact of the delay in the construction works of the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link on the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") Project [LC Paper No. CB(2) 1355/13-14(01)]. Members noted that the Administration and the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") had been requested to provide a written response to the issues raised in Dr WONG's letter.			
000621- 002759	Admin WKCDA MVA Hong Kong Ltd	Powerpoint presentation by WKCDA and its traffic consultant ("the consultant") on the traffic impact assessment of the planning application for minor relaxation of development intensity of the WKCD site [LC Paper Nos. CB(2) 1347/13-14(01) and CB(2) 1386/13-14(01)].			
002800 - 003104	Chairman MVA Hong Kong Ltd	The Chairman enquired about the following - (a) for audience leaving Xiqu Centre after performances, how far did they have to walk to get to the Kowloon MTR Station or the Western Harbour Crossing ("WHC") Bus Lay-bys; and (b) whether the traffic impact assessment conducted by the consultant had taken into account the dispersal of pedestrians by various transport modes, such as taxi, bus, public light bus, MTR and ferry.			
		The consultant responded that – (a) the walking distance between Xiqu Centre and the Kowloon Station/WHC Bus Laybys was about 1 km. Pedestrians could also use the			

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		environmentally-friendly public transport system connecting the east to the west of WKCD to get to the Kowloon Station/WHC Bus Lay-bys from Xiqu Centre; and	
		(b) information on the projected split between the choice of various transport modes during dispersal situation was set out under Table C-1 in Annex C to the Administration's paper.	
003105 - 003640	Mr YIU Si-wing WKCDA MVA Hong Kong Ltd The Chairman	Mr YIU Si-wing urged the Administration and WKCDA to ensure adequate provision of parking spaces and lay-bys for coaches in WKCD. The consultant responded that —	
		(a) under the current planning for WKCD, the coach drop-off area could accommodate about 25 coaches at the same time, while some 40 parking spaces would be provided in the temporary waiting area for coaches. As the projected demand for coach parking spaces for the whole WKCD was about 30, there would be a spare capacity of about 15 coach parking spaces under the planned provision; and	
		(b) where necessary, the site for the construction of the Mega Performance Venue ("MPV") could be used as a temporary parking area for coaches before the commencement of the construction works of MPV.	
		Mr YIU Si-wing and the Chairman pointed out that WKCD would be a major tourist destination for both foreign and local visitors. They expressed concern whether the planned capacity of the drop-off area and the parking area for coaches would be sufficient to meet the demand.	
003641 - 005001	Miss CHAN Yuen-han Chairman Admin WKCDA Dr Helena WONG	Miss CHAN Yuen-han said that at the meeting between Legislative Council ("LegCo") Members and Yau Tsim Mong District Council ("YTMDC") members held earlier this year, YTMDC members had expressed concern about the pedestrian facilities connecting WKCD with the adjoining developments and major public transport nodes as well as the heavy traffic conditions in West Kowloon. She was concerned that the proposed minor relaxation of the development intensity of the WKCD site would further add to the heavy traffic pressure in the area, and suggested that the YTMDC be invited to a meeting of the Joint Subcommittee to discuss the matter.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Dr Helena WONG pointed out that representatives of residents of the topside developments of Kowloon Station had expressed objection to the proposed minor relaxation as they were worried that it would further worsen the current traffic congestion problems along Jordan Road, Austin Road and Canton Road. She enquired whether any improvement projects would be carried out to ensure that these roads could cope with the additional traffic to be generated from the proposal.	
		The Administration responded that –	
		(a) to cater for the traffic needs generated by the progressive completion of the developments in the West Kowloon Reclamation Area ("WKRA"), a traffic study was completed by the Transport Department ("TD") in 2009;	
		(b) to strengthen the road network of the area, the study recommended a series of road improvement schemes which were designed primarily to provide more direct connections from WKCD and the West Kowloon Terminus ("WKT") to nearby major roads, such as the West Kowloon Highway, WHC and the future Central Kowloon Route ("CKR"), so as to minimize the need for traffic to pass through the busy junctions along Jordan Road, Austin Road and Canton Road. These improvement projects included construction of a new link road connecting Hoi Po Road to West Kowloon Highway and construction of a new link road connecting the elevated Nga Cheung Road to WHC;	
		(c) in addition, junction improvement schemes would be carried out to widen the junction of Canton Road with Austin Road and Austin Road West, the junction of Canton Road with Wui Cheung Road, and the junction of Canton Road with Jordan Road and Ferry Street, so as to improve the capacity of these key road junctions;	
		(d) LegCo's Panel on Transport was consulted at its meeting on 11 April 2014 on the road improvement schemes for West Kowloon Reclamation Development ("WKRD") (Project 855TH), which included those schemes mentioned in (b) and (c) above. The Administration planned to seek the endorsement of the Public Works Subcommittee and the funding approval of the Finance Committee for these road	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		improvement schemes within this legislative session; and (e) TD agreed with the consultant's assessment that the planned road networks in West Kowloon could accommodate the additional traffic demand to be generated from the proposed minor relaxation of the development intensity of WKCD. At the request of Dr Helena WONG, the Administration undertook to provide relevant papers on Project 855TH for the reference of members of the Subcommittee.	Admin
005002 - 005712	Ms Emily LAU Admin WKCDA Chairman	Ms Emily LAU considered it important for the Administration/WKCDA to conduct more consultation with the parties concerned in the planning and implementation of the road improvement works to tackle the potential future traffic problems in West Kowloon. She enquired about details of such consultation conducted, including the organizations/parties consulted and their views. The Administration advised that the Highways Department had consulted the Traffic and Transport Committee of YTMDC on the road improvement schemes under Project 855TH. LegCo's Panel on Transport was consulted on the Project at its meeting on 11 April 2014. WKCDA advised that in preparing the planning application for minor relaxation of the development intensity of the WKCD site, consultation meetings had been held with a number of key stakeholders on the proposed major planning parameters and impacts of the proposal on the surrounding areas. These included meetings with the YTMDC on 27 February 2014 and local resident representatives on 14 March 2014. The major concern expressed at these meetings was the implication of the building height increase to existing residential buildings.	
005713 - 010218	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan MVA Hong Kong Ltd	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan stressed that the Administration/WKCDA should take into account the concerns of local residents over the proposed minor relaxation of the development intensity of the WKCD site. Dr CHIANG expressed concern whether under the peak crowd dispersal scenario (e.g. after performances at various major arts and cultural	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		venues and during mega events such as fireworks display), the huge crowd of people gathered in WKCD could be efficiently dispersed within 30 minutes.	
		The consultant responded that -	
		(a) even assuming that performances at all the venues ended at the same time and together with the pedestrian volumes generated by the retail, dining and entertainment ("RDE") facilities, the pedestrian forecasts and crowd dispersal analysis for year 2031 (upon full development scenario) indicated that planned pedestrian and vehicular facilities could accommodate surged demand during major events in WKCD and visitors could be dispersed within 30 minutes; and	
		(b) end times of shows in various WKCD venues could be staggered to control the pedestrian volumes.	
010219 - 010729	Mr Tony TSE MVA Hong Kong Ltd Admin	Mr Tony TSE expressed concern that the existing roads in West Kowloon including Austin Road and Jordan Road were already heavily congested and further pressure would be added after the proposed minor relaxation of development intensity of the WKCD site. He enquired whether any improvement works would be undertaken to increase the traffic flow on these roads.	
		The consultant and the Administration responded that –	
		(a) road improvement works to widen the junctions of Austin Road and Canton Road would be implemented under Project 855TH; and	
		(b) when the three-lane CKR connecting West Kowloon and East Kowloon was commissioned in around 2021, it was expected that the existing heavy traffic along Jordan Road and Austin Road would be relieved.	
010730 - 011145	Miss Alice MAK MVA Hong Kong Ltd	Miss Alice MAK echoed the concern that the proposed minor relaxation would further add to the heavy traffic pressure on Canton Road, Austin Road and Jordan Road. She queried whether the widening of the junctions of these roads and the construction of CKR could help relieve the congested traffic conditions on these roads.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Miss MAK enquired whether the consultant's assessment on crowd dispersal had taken into account relevant data from WKCDA on dispersal from the venues after events and the traffic conditions in West Kowloon during dispersal. The consultant responded that -	
		(a) in assessing the crowd dispersal situation, account had been taken of the seating capacities of the various arts and cultural venues in WKCD, the pedestrian volumes generated by the RDE facilities, the dispersal of pedestrians by various transport modes, as well as the traffic conditions in West Kowloon during dispersal, among others; and	
		(b) the normal peak crowd dispersal time was after performances at various WKCD venues at around 10 pm to 11 pm, which was not peak traffic time in the West Kowloon area.	
011146 - 011459	Chairman MVA Hong Kong Ltd WKCDA	The Chairman noted that the proposed road improvement works included a new link road from the elevated Nga Cheung Road to the toll plaza of WHC. He enquired, in the event that traffic on this new link road was held up, say, by traffic accidents, whether there was another route for vehicles heading to Hong Kong Island West to access WHC.	
		The consultant and the Administration responded that apart from the planned new link road connecting the elevated Nga Cheung Road direct to WHC, vehicles from WKCD heading to Hong Kong Island West could also access WHC through Lin Cheung Road.	
		The Chairman considered it important for the Administration/WKCDA to devise contingency plans for crowd dispersal to cope with situations such as suspension of MTR service or temporary closure of the Kowloon Station.	
011500 - 012121	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han WKCDA	Miss CHAN Yuen-han was concerned whether the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD would be scaled down so as to control the pedestrian volumes in WKCD.	
		WKCDA responded that – (a) there was no plan to reduce the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD; and	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		(b) according to the assessment conducted by the consultant, the planned road network for West Kowloon could cope with the potential traffic to be generated by the proposed minor relaxation of development intensity of the WKCD site.	
012122 - 013214	Mr MA Fung-kwok Admin Chairman Dr Helena WONG	Mr MA Fung-kwok shared Mr YIU Si-wing's view that the planned provision of some 40 parking spaces for coaches in WKCD was inadequate to meet the demand of local and foreign visitors.	
		Mr MA expressed concern whether the planned road network, with CKR being the only new major road to be built, could cope with the heavy traffic demand in West Kowloon, particularly during the time between 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm when many people would be in a hurry to get to WKCD at the same time to attend shows in various performance venues or patronize the dining facilities in WKCD.	
		The Administration responded that -	
		(a) while there was not much room for widening existing roads in the district such as Jordan Road and Austin Road due to site constraints, improvement projects to widen the junctions of these roads and other traffic management schemes (such as signaling control of traffic light) would be implemented to increase the junction capacities for smoother traffic;	
		(b) new link roads would be built to connect the local road networks directly to nearby major highways, such as the West Kowloon Highway and WHC to provide for more direct accessibility to and through the WKRD; and	
		(c) the planned CKR would serve to divert vehicles commuting between West Kowloon and East Kowloon away from the busy local road networks.	
		In response to Dr Helena WONG's enquiry on whether there was any plan to build an underpass along Austin Road, the Administration advised that in the traffic study conducted by TD in 2009, it was proposed that a Canton Road-Austin Road Underpass be constructed. The proposed Underpass, however, could only be constructed after the relocation of the existing Tsim Sha Tsui Fire Station Complex.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Referring to pages 5 and 6 of the powerpoint presentation materials [LC Paper No. CB(2) 1386/13-14(01)] showing the estimated split of WKCD traffic generation to/from various districts (47% to/from Northwest New Territories, 10% to/from Hong Kong Island via WHC, 9% from to/from Tsim Sha Tsui, etc.), Mr MA Fung-kwok enquired how such estimations were arrived at.	
		The Administration advised that the estimations were generated from territory-wide transport forecasting model which had been used for a fairly long time.	
		The Chairman suggested that it would be worth exploring the idea with relevant department(s) to conduct a survey on the distribution of audiences from different districts attending shows at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Such information would provide useful reference on the geographical distribution of potential visitors to the various arts and cultural venues in WKCD, thereby facilitating the making of more accurate forecasts on traffic demand on various major roads connecting WKCD.	
		Extension of meeting for 15 minutes	
013215 - 013747	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan WKCDA Chairman	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan was worried that there would be heavy congestion problems in the West Kowloon area after the commissioning of all the facilities in WKCD. She suggested that visitors to WKCD be encouraged to use public transport instead of private cars to get to WKCD. WKCDA responded that —	
		(a) consideration would be given to Dr CHIANG's suggestion; and	
		(b) WKCDA was exploring provision of possible marine transport services to connect WKCD with other parts of Hong Kong. WKCDA had been in discussion with the Harbourfront Commission on relevant issues.	
013748 - 013940	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing	Mr YIU Si-wing suggested that the consultant should discuss with the tourism sector on the provision of lay-bys and parking spaces for coaches in WKCD, including the number of such spaces to be provided and relevant arrangements during the phased delivery of facilities in WKCD and upon full development of WKCD.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
013941 - 014302	Chairman	Members agreed to receive views from deputations when the subject of integration and connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring districts was discussed in July 2014. Rescheduling of the meeting of the Joint Subcommittee from 8 May 2014 to 28 May 2014 at 8:30 am.	

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 26 May 2014