

Enclosure

**Legislative Council
Panel on Development
(Special Meeting on 10 March 2017)**

**Views from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers on
“Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030”**

The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) holds the position that Hong Kong should continue to excel ourselves in sustaining our competitive edge globally as well as enhancing the condition for living and employment. As the “Hong Kong 2030 Study: Planning Vision and Strategy” (“HK2030”) launched by the Administration in the last decade has presented a good guidance on where and how Hong Kong should go forward as a competitive and sustainable city, the HKIE is of the opinion that now is the opportune moment for formulating a longer range vision through launching the “Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030” (“HK2030+”). This is especially significant in view of the recently rapid development and change in the international scene as well as the evolving internal demand for better livelihood. In general, the HKIE supports the strategies and proposals of the “HK2030+”.

2. While targeting for the future beyond 2030, the HKIE considers it beneficial to also conduct a review of the status and progress of Hong Kong since the promulgation of the “HK2030” study to assess the overall achievements, outstanding initiatives, restrictions and difficulties, which would facilitate the public to deliberate on the “HK2030+”.

3. For the updated study of the “HK2030+”, the HKIE opines that it is necessary to set out a master programme highlighting the priorities of actions, the resources needed, and the action plan with the time frame, taking account of the current development status of Hong Kong and the surrounding regions as well as possible contingency tactics.

4. As it is essential for Hong Kong to secure partnership with our international counterparts and explore our niches for future development, especially that Hong Kong is to target to position as the “super-connector” under the Belt & Road Initiative, the HKIE is of the view that the Administration should provide a clearer perspective and further elaborations on how the future vision in Hong Kong economic, social, and technological development can be reflected and translated into the initiatives of the “HK2030+”. In particular, more detailed information should be provided to determine how the two proposed strategic growth areas in East Lantau Metropolis (ELM) and New Territories North (NTN) as put forward would align with the overall economic and social development strategies in Hong Kong.

5. The “HK2030+” involves every citizen, and the stakeholders’ concerns and perspectives are multifaceted. To facilitate better understanding of the basis and foundation for the formulation of various initiatives and proposals under the “HK2030+”, the HKIE suggests that the Administration should provide a clear outline

of the decision processes that have been undertaken and reveal how the proposals would have been the best appropriate option with the most effective appropriation of the limited resources under the challenges and constraints envisaged. For such a long-ranging planning of the “HK2030+”, more information about the decision alternatives that have been identified/ considered, cost-benefit analyses done, research data collected, and consultations/ stakeholders surveys results obtained would certainly facilitate the community for an informed deliberation of the subject matters.

6. Given the various deliberations already taken place in the community for the development plans in Lok Ma Chau Loop, Wang Chau, reclamation works of Tung Chung, urban renewal/ rejuvenation etc., the HKIE considers that the “HK2030+” should also consolidate and address the concerns and outcomes of these discussions.

7. The HKIE agrees that with the projected population growth, higher expectations on living quality from the public, and future economic development, steady and sustainable supply of land and housing in the long term will be essential and will have to be addressed in the “HK2030+”. In particular to the ELM, a detailed cost-benefit analysis and forecasts should be conducted to provide substantive justifications of adopting the ELM as a strategic growth area to facilitate obtaining public support and consensus.

8. The HKIE welcomes the three proposed building blocks as the driving directions of the territorial development strategy through improving the livability, embracing new challenges and creating sustainable capacity. We expect that further elaboration of the basis and corresponding planning strategies are to be provided to show that all these building blocks are complementary among themselves. In particular, a number of areas as elaborated below are suggested to be further addressed.

9. Regarding the building block for “Embracing New Economic Challenges and Opportunities”, the HKIE suggests that the Administration is to elaborate further on the future focus on the economic development strategy, including the growth of future pillar economic sectors, tactics of re-industrialisation, focus on the particular areas of technological development that Hong Kong will pursue etc., so as to facilitate the public to understand better the rationale for the land supply strategies and the conceptual spatial framework as embedded in the “HK2030+” and to have a more holistic vision of how Hong Kong will develop beyond 2030.

10. With regard to the concern on inadequate carrying capacity of the existing railway system and road networks in urban and new town areas, the HKIE is of the view that more elaborations should be provided to reveal how the “Railway Development Strategy 2014” can sufficiently address the initiatives for the future development beyond 2030 under the “HK2030+”.

11. For the proposal on a more balanced home-job spatial distribution to help relieve the directional traffic demand, the HKIE suggests that more clarifications are to be made to address the matching between the skill-sets of the residents in various development areas as against the competence requirement of the manpower for the new employment opportunities there.

12. In relation to the proposed leveraging the creation of the knowledge and technology corridor which links up to the east of the New Territories, the HKIE supports the suggestion on developing the science park/ industrial estate near Liantang/ Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point. We would, however, expect more projection figures to demonstrate how synergies can be achieved and further values created through connecting these areas.

13. Regarding the building block for “Planning for a Livable High-density City”, as the “HK2030+” now focuses on addressing 8 components, the HKIE suggests that more explanations should be put forward to demonstrate how these components would map onto the 39 attributes under 10 categories for the Quality of Living Survey to progressively upgrade the overall livability of Hong Kong in the medium to long term.

14. The HKIE is pleased to see that the Administration has engaged the professional community and the public to provide inputs and comments on the “HK2030+”, and considers that if more platforms and channels of consultation and promotion of the “HK2030+” can be launched, it would not just enhance the public awareness on this important planning subject of Hong Kong but also facilitate wider participation from the stakeholders.

15. As the blueprint in the “HK2030+” will inevitably touch on various essential policies in Hong Kong, and the implementation of the proposed initiatives will require the corresponding strategies with regard to overall economic development, financial provisions, manpower planning (i.e. labour supply, skills sets of future workforces), environmental protection (i.e. strategy on combating climate change, conservations), and city development (i.e. smart city, urban renewal) etc., the HKIE would like to invite the Administration to convey more details on the overall policy framework and particulars of other relevant strategies to enable the public to have more comprehensive understanding and deliberations on the “HK2030+”.