



22nd November, 2018

Dear Honorable Legislative Members:

I'm writing to SUPPORT the passing of the Municipal Solid Waste Scheme. Born and raised in Hong Kong but having travelled all over the world especially to Northern European countries, I have witnessed what a REAL circular economy or what a properly implemented waste disposal system can be.

It is heartbreaking that my city of Hong Kong, has been losing its flair as the years have gone by, taken over as a financial hub or tourist attraction by other major Chinese cities or other Asian countries. Hong Kong can benefit SO MUCH if it can solve this waste / plastic / environmental pollution problem. It needs to focus on BEING THE LEADER for other Asian countries to follow suit and show that we can be Asia's leading GREEN CITY. When I walk the streets or hike the beautiful mountains of Hong Kong, I notice more and more discarded lunch boxes, attracting rats, plastic bottles and plastic bags on the ground. The current system needs more monitoring and stricter fines to deter people from littering as the garbage eventually makes its way into the ocean.

In September, we have all seen Typhoon Mangkut throwing back hundreds of thousands of plastic bottles and styrofoam onto the shores and even streets and inside buildings of Hong Kong. This garbage isn't just unhealthy but is EXTREMELY difficult to clean up as I went out to experience it first hand. When the plastic remains in the sea and sinks to the bottom of the ocean or breaks up into small pieces, they end up in our food chain as we can see that today, 60% of the local fish have plastic in their stomachs. Imagine what 5-10 years will look like.

With land so scarce in Hong Kong, how can we afford to use them for WASTE when we talk about the lack of housing everyday? We need an effective policy that will drive behavioural change and encourage reduction of waste and separation of food and recyclables. Why are we waiting to leave this crisis for our next generation to deal with?

Please consider the future of our children. They shouldn't have to clean up after our selfish indulgences and our obsession with this convenience culture. Like any other bills, there will be hiccups on the way, but we will at least be stepping in the right direction. I am so thrilled that the government is considering this seriously as there are many countless advantages of moving forward with the bill.

Let Hong Kong shine again and lead the way to be part of the SOLUTION and stop contributing to the problem by standing by idly.

I implore your support to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherry Fung Wong', written in a cursive style.

Sherry Fung Wong