## 立法會 Legislative Council

(Issued by email only)

LC Paper No. FC191/19-20

Ref : CB1/F/1/1(22)B

Tel : 3919 3129 Date : 21 May 2020

From: Clerk to the Finance Committee
To: Members of the Finance Committee

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#### **Finance Committee**

### Meeting on 22 May 2020 Withdrawal of item FCR(2020-21)9 and notice of item FCR(2020-21)15

Further to LC Paper No. FC187/19-20 issued on 20 May 2020, I attach herewith a letter from the Administration (English version only) indicating its intention to withdraw agenda item FCR(2020-21)9 and submit a new agenda item and a revised discussion paper (i.e. FCR(2020-21)15) on the way forward of Ocean Park (attached) as the first agenda item of the meeting on 22 May 2020.

- 2. Members are invited to note that, as advised by the Chairman, subject to the Administration's withdrawal of FCR(2020-21)9 at the meeting on 22 May 2020 in accordance with paragraph 26 of the Finance Committee Procedure, the Chairman is prepared to exercise his discretion under paragraphs 21 and 22 of Finance Committee Procedure to allow a shorter notice of the new agenda item and permit late despatch of the revised discussion paper so that the Committee will deliberate the new item as the first agenda item of the said meeting.
- 3. Members who have any questions on the circular are requested to contact Ms Angel SHEK, Chief Council Secretary (1)1 (telephone no. 3919 3105) or Miss Bowie LAM, Council Secretary (1)1 (telephone no. 3919 3115).

(Anita SIT)
Clerk to the Finance Committee

Encl.





## FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY BUREAU

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21 May 2020

The Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP Chairman of the Finance Committee Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

# Withdrawal of agenda item FCR(2020-21)9 and request to waive the notice period for issuing the notice of agenda item and paper

I write to withdraw item FCR(2020-21)9 from the agenda of the Finance Committee (FC) meeting, and seek your agreement to waive the notice period for issuing the notice of agenda item and allow the late submission of the revised paper on the proposed way forward of Ocean Park for the FC meeting scheduled for 22 May 2020.

With respect to agenda item FCR(2020-21)9 of the FC, the Government has, after taking into account the views of Legislative Council Members, decided to drop the proposal of requesting additional manpower and resources for the Government to conduct the rethink exercise. We shall absorb relevant workload by existing resources. The change necessitates the withdrawal of the agenda item FCR(2020-21)9 and submission of a new agenda item on the way forward of Ocean Park.

As I have explained in my letter of 8 May 2020, the Ocean Park Corporation (OPC) is now in a dire financial position. It is of utmost importance for the aforesaid item to be approved by the FC by June 2020. Otherwise, this key tourism infrastructure of Hong Kong might head towards insolvency and possible liquidation, risking this home-grown theme park cherished by the Hong Kong people and the jobs of its 2 000 full time employees.

Taking into account OPC's pressing financial needs, we propose putting this item as the first agenda item of the FC meeting on 22 May 2020 so as to allow time for the FC to discuss it with a view to approving the funding application as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

(Raistlin Lau)

for Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury