

**westKowloon****西九文化區**

6 August 2020

Hon Jeffrey Lam  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear *Jeffrey,*

**Update on ACE Project**

The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) had previously reported to the Legislative Council's (LegCo) Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District (the District) Project (JSC) on the Arts, Commence and Exhibitions (ACE) Project within the District. I am writing to notify you that the WKCDA Board decided to withdraw the tender of the ACE Project following a very disappointing response to the tender exercise.

Announced in June 2019, the ACE Project received strong interest during the preliminary Expression of Interest exercise. It was on that basis that WKCDA agreed to commence the tender process in April 2020.

I am sure you understand that Hong Kong, indeed the whole world, has had to face up to the unprecedented challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, and WKCDA is no exception. Unfortunately, due in large part to the uncertain economic situation, the response to the tender of the Project was not as positive as expected.

The decision to withdraw the tender was a difficult but prudent and responsible one, which has taken into account a combination of factors. The decision was reached after a thorough assessment of the current market situation. The WKCDA Board believes this decision is in the best interest of WKCDA and the community that the project is meant to serve. The WKCDA Board will review and assess various options for the best way forward.

WKCDA remains committed to the development of the ongoing arts and cultural facilities and the planned commercial projects within the District. The ACE Project is a long-term project and it still remains a vital component of the District. WKCDA will continue to monitor the market situation closely and bring forward other commercial projects at an appropriate time.

WKCDA will announce this update in the post-Board Meeting press release on 6 August 2020.

Yours sincerely,



Duncan Pescod  
Chief Executive Officer  
West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

c.c. Home Affairs Bureau  
LegCo Secretariat