

立法會
Legislative Council

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(These minutes have been
cleared by the Convenor)

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**Minutes of LegCo Members' Meeting
with Kowloon City Provisional District Board Members
on Thursday, 17 December 1998 at 10:45 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members Present : Hon HO Sai-chu, JP (Convenor)
Hon Michael HO Mun-ka
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon TSANG Yok-sing, JP
Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP

By Invitation : **Kowloon City Provisional District Board**

Mr TANG Po-hong (Chairman)
Ms SIU Yuen-sheung
Mr WONG Chi-keung
Mr LAU Wai-wing
Mr WONG Siu-yee
Mr CHAN King-wong
Mr LAM Ming
Mr CHAN Noi-yue
Mr CHIANG Sai-cheong
Mr CHAN Sing-kong
Mr IP Che-kin
Mr LEE Cheuk-fan
Mr POON Kwok-lim
Mr NG Ching-man
Ms LI Lin
Ms FUNG King-man
Mr CHU Chor-sing
Mr WU Wing-kai
Ms TSUI Hung-ying

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Mr LIANG Tin
Mr LO Kwok-hung
Mr LEUNG Ying-piu
Mr JIM Fun-hin

Staff in Attendance : Mrs Justina LAM
Assistant Secretary General 2

Ms YUE Tin-po
Senior Assistant Secretary (C) 3

Mr Stanley MA
Senior Assistant Secretary (2) 6

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II. Resumption of Private Streets

2. KCPDB members requested Members to assist in urging the Administration to review its policy on resumption of private streets. Ms SIU Yuen-sheung said that the matter was raised for discussion again upon the request of residents and because the present condition of the eight Wan streets was badly in need of immediate and thorough improvement. She expressed appreciation for the assistance provided by the Government departments concerned but pointed out that dilapidated condition of the streets posed major fire, hygiene and other hazards to residents. Referring to her paper sent earlier to Members, Ms SIU expressed dissatisfaction that the eight WAN streets and Sung Chi Street had been deleted from the private street resumption programme (PSRP) without prior consultation. Given that there had been precedents of private streets being resumed, she considered the deletion of these streets from the PSRP on the ground of anticipated claims for compensation both unreasonable and unacceptable.

3. Ms SIU informed the meeting that in the survey carried out by her office to find out whether owners and tenants of the eight Wan streets were willing to voluntarily surrender their title to the Government, only 5% of the respondents indicated reluctance to do so. However, in a similar survey conducted by the Kowloon City District Office (KCDO), the findings were that 15% of the returns from property owners had not agreed to allow their title to any of the eight Wan streets to be unconditionally taken back by the Government. She

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said that the difference in findings was mainly because in the KCDO survey, owners were asked whether they would surrender their title unconditionally and also remove any unauthorized structures at their own costs. She pointed out that owners could not be expected to voluntarily demolish unauthorized building structures. What the Government should do was to issue appropriate orders to owners concerned for removal of the unauthorized structures and not consider voluntary removal as one of the prerequisites for resumption of these private streets.

4. The Convenor responded that the Administration had taken some actions on the matter since the last meeting. The Administration had also provided explanation on why the eight Wan streets had been deleted from the PSRP. While agreeing that the Government should more effectively resolve the problem of poorly-managed private streets, he cautioned against giving the Government too much powers to resume private properties. The Convenor added that it was important to find the right balance.

5. Ms SIU reiterated that conditions in these streets were extremely poor. She also cited a case of the Water Supplies Department sending a bill of \$30,000 to the chairman of a residents' mutual assistance committee (MAC) for repair service rendered. The MAC chairman was held responsible as he approached the department for the repair works to be carried out. She said that she was not asking the Government to resume all private streets, only those which were poorly managed.

6. Mr LAU Chin-shek said that Members would not take the Administration's reply as final. Mr James TO said that the Government did not have a policy to resume all private streets. Subject to the agreement of the landlords and tenants concerned, requests for resumption on grounds of major hygiene and environmental problems would be dealt with on a case by case basis. The Government officers whom he had talked to had indicated that if no or little public funds needed to be used for compensation, they would be willing to consider.

7. The Convenor responded that the matter should be followed up at the policy level. He suggested that the matter be referred to the LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works.

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