

# **Consultation Panel of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority**

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For Information  
on 27 May 2009

Supplementary Note to  
WKCD CP/03/2009

## **Situation Update on the the West Kowloon Cultural District Project – Planning Design Principles**

### **PURPOSE**

This supplementary note to paper WKCD CP/03/2009 aims to inform members of the discussion of the Board of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (the Authority) on the planning design principles at its meeting held on 25 May 2009.

### **NEED FOR PLANNING DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

2. In the light of the need to develop the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) in phases over a period of time and the fact that the large area of the district should also be able to cater for future changes in arts and culture as well as in socio-economic needs, the development of the WKCD must be flexible enough to allow for its organic growth over time. On this, the Board of the Authority at its meeting held on 25 May 2009 agreed that a set of planning design principles would be conducive to the planning of the WKCD, in that :

- (a) By setting out a planning design framework, phased development and organic growth would be allowed without affecting the integrity of the WKCD development; and
- (b) The planning design principles could also be used to guide the preparation of the Conceptual Plan Options and to assess whether the Options so prepared fulfill the objectives of the WKCD.

### **PLANNING DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

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Supplementary Note to  
WKCD CP/03/2009

3. The set of planning design principles which the Board of the Authority has agreed to adopt are set out in paragraph 4 below. In outlining the planning design principles, the Authority has made reference to previous discussions on the WKCD project which reflect major concerns of the community as regards the development of the district.

4. The planning of the WKCD should always bear the dimension of people in mind; that is, the development of the WKCD must be **people-focused**. Under this over-arching notion, the following seven planning design principles have been mapped out by the Authority:

- (a) Creativity  
Should embrace a creative and innovative spirit in the layout and design of the district, which can be adaptive to future changes in arts and culture and in socio-economic needs; and make creative use of the harbor-front and adjoining water bodies for enjoyment of the public.
- (b) Accessibility  
Should provide for easy and convenient access for all walks of life, from different parts of Hong Kong to and within the WKCD.
- (c) Connectivity  
Should connect to the lives of the people; optimize access to the Harbor; connect to other parts of Hong Kong and beyond, and complement to the neighboring old areas.
- (d) Integration  
Should be an integrated arts and cultural district with intrinsic arts and cultural components in public space, in the inside and outside of individual arts and cultural facilities, in infrastructure as well as in greenery.
- (e) Vibrancy  
Should provide for a diversity of functions which enable people from all walks of life to participate in activities, to interact, to converse, to create, to work, to educate, to relax etc.
- (f) Uniqueness  
Should project a unique identity for the WKCD as a place that embraces the cultural richness of both East and West, and as a

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WKCD CP/03/2009

haven for the city's traditions, memories, inspirations and aspirations.

(g) Sustainability

Should adopt sustainable planning and design with a commitment to low carbon emission, low energy consumption and low cost maintenance.

5. These planning design principles will provide a framework for use by the Conceptual Plan and Project Consultants to prepare the Conceptual Plan Options as well as the detailed Development Plan (DP). The Authority welcomes any views from the public on these planning design principles with a view to refining them. That said, these planning design principles will also be incorporated as part of the materials for the Stage 1 Public Engagement.

### **STUDENT DESIGNS FOR COMPONENTS OF THE WKCD AND SPACE FOR EDUCATIONAL USE IN THE WKCD**

6. The Authority is of the view that apart from participating in the public engagement programme, the young generation should also have opportunities to contribute to the WKCD planning process. On this, the Board of the Authority decided to invite architectural and arts students of tertiary education institutions to take part in the design of certain elements of the WKCD, such as street furniture and kiosks, etc. The Board of the Authority also considered that the future WKCD should provide room for people to learn and educate in arts and culture. The Authority is open to ideas on this in the public engagement exercise.

**West Kowloon Cultural District Authority**