



THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF
SURVEYORS

香港測量師學會

3 January 2014



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Secretariat, Development Bureau
17/F, West Wing
Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar
Hong Kong

REVISED

Dear Sirs,

Proposed Establishment of a Harbourfront Authority Phase 1 Public Engagement Consultation

On behalf of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS), I have much pleasure in submitting our views on Proposed Establishment of Harbourfront Authority.

Harbourfront Commission proposes setting up a dedicated statutory Harbourfront Authority to press ahead with harbourfront development in a holistic manner with an innovative mindset and a more flexible management approach. The Development Bureau ("DEVB") also proposed to recommend the establishment of a Harbourfront Authority, in which the CE has in his Policy Address in January 2013, announced his welcome to the proposal.

HKIS supports establishment of dedicated agency for the Victoria Harbour

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) is generally in support of the establishment of a dedicated agency with dedicated resources and sole priority, to pursue integrated planning, design, construction, operation and management of harbourfront projects in a holistic manner. Without doubt, the Victoria Harbour is an important public asset and indeed a world-class asset, for the people and our future generations. It is the icon of the Hong Kong city and the most precious public asset of Hong Kong people that we agree to the vision to enhance the Victoria Harbour and its harbourfront areas to become a world-class facility.

We believe that the centralized dedicated agency, be it a statutory, independent body or part of a Government department, would increase the effectiveness and

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efficiency in coordinating and implementing the strategic harbourfront development, as well as the taking forward of overall harbourfront enhancement projects, and also be the key to achieving the shared vision of an attractive, vibrant, accessible and sustainable harbourfront.

While the detailed arrangement on the approaches and functions of the proposed dedicated Harbourfront Authority is to be worked out, and which the HKIS would offer further views in due course, we are of the view that the proposed body shall be an independent and dedicated body with a broad-based representation in participating in the planning, design, development, operation and management of the harbourfront sites holistically. With a wider public participation we consider that the proposed Harbourfront Authority should also be able to accommodate innovative ideas and designs; adopt a place-making approach and manage the sites with flexibility; reduce bureaucratic red-tape; combine advocacy and execution; facilitate inter-departmental and cross-sectoral coordination; promote community involvement; strike a good balance between social objectives and commercial principles; subject to public scrutiny and essential to engage the community in a proactive way.

The above gives a broad outline of those issues. We have pleasure to submit further views on the proposals when the detail approach has been formed during the Phase 2 public engagement. Please contact the HKIS Secretariat on 2526 3679 if you require more information or would like to set up discussions on the above views.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

Sr Simon Kwok
President
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

cc The Hon Sr Tony Tse, Legislative Councillor