



香港建築師學會

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

Our Ref. : BLA/DEVB/harbourfront/FL/dw/202008

8 August 2020

By Email and By Post
sdev@devb.gov.hk

Mr. WONG Wai Lun, Michael, JP
Secretary for Development
Development Bureau
18/F West Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

Dear Michael,

Harbourfront Enhancement Projects

We refer to the funding specially earmarked for Harbourfront Enhancement Projects as addressed in the Government Budget. We understand that one of the first projects, namely the Open Space at Eastern Street North, is now on the drawing board and the implementation of other upcoming projects are becoming imminent.

The Institute provides our support and appreciation on the Government's adoption of a forward-looking approach in pursuing Harbourfront Enhancement and opening up continuous and accessible Harbourfront. To achieve remarkable success in upcoming projects, the Institute is pleased to give our following views for your consideration:

1. Having a bold vision statement for Harbourfront Enhancement is always fundamental. We believe that the Harbourfront Commission should be empowered to partner with the Government to take forward achieving our strong visions for the Harbourfront.
2. Our Harbourfront should be full of activities in a wide range of variety for days and nights throughout the year. It should be a vibrant public space where people can enjoy life, whether activities are recreational, art and cultural related or other functional uses. There are many successful overseas projects that we may learn from, such as the Darling Harbour in Sydney and Maritime Museum in Barcelona. They are all able to create exceptional harbourfront experience. Innovative ideas of harbour hinterland connection should be also considered. For instance, licensing and permits to the use of the existing buildings at Harbourfront can also help enhance vibrancy.
3. Efficient and easy access from the hinterland and transportation will be essential for the success of the Harbourfront.

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4. New landmark architecture should be introduced at various appropriate sections of the Harbourfront. This can help to create attraction and vibrancy with cultural and commercial elements which will further encourage indoor and outdoor uses at Harbourfront.
5. Alternative maintenance and management model should be studied and considered apart from the conventional arrangement. Non-profit-making organisations and social enterprises should be invited for operating various sections of Harbourfront. Project implementation method such as Build-Operate-Transfer should also be considered.
6. Since the Harbourfront is one of the most valuable assets of Hong Kong, the Institute believes upholding the visions, as well as planning, design, maintenance and running of the Harbourfront shall be specially arranged. In this light, we will be grateful if the Development Bureau can arrange a briefing session to our Council Members and various related Boards and Committees for elaborating on your visions, as well as the overall master planning, the implementation and management models, and the implementation programme for the upcoming Harbourfront Enhancement Projects.

We look forward to receiving your favourable reply and our future collaboration with your team. HKIA has always been Government's keen partner for Harbourfront enhancement and we are willing to offer any assistance as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

LI Kwok Hing Felix FHKIA RA
President

- c.c. Mr. Vincent Ng, Chairman, Harbourfront Commission
Ms. Rosalind Cheung, Head, Harbour Office
Mr. Raymond Lee, Director of Planning