



香港建築師學會
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

To fellow news editors

Pragmatic Budget Applauded

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) welcomes the Financial Secretary's latest Budget Speech delivered last month. In particular, HKIA praises the Government's commitment to simplify statutory procedures, investment in construction technologies and manpower training, enhancing the access to GBA and recognizing arts and culture as an industry.

"The Budget proposal is pragmatic and targeted, focusing on boosting our anti-pandemic efforts, providing much needed assistance to both citizens and businesses in trouble as well as promoting the continued growth and prosperity of Hong Kong," said HKIA President Donald Choi.

To enhance the Budget initiatives, HKIA members have contributed some ideas for the Government to consider.

Priorities should be placed on net-zero, liveability and sustainability for major future developments, such as the Northern Metropolis and Lantau Tomorrow, to catch up with the Country's 2030 Sustainable Development Goal and carbon reduction targets and to provide a quality living environment for everyone in the community. In fact, the Government could consider specifying 5-10% of the cost in a major development to be spent on environmental and sustainable construction.

Facing serious manpower shortage problems in the construction industry, the Government should put more money than the budgeted \$30 million into applied R&D and related technology adoption, especially when \$1.2 billion will be put into the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund. Besides, part of the \$1 billion funding to support training in the Construction Industry Council can be used to convert the one-off "Support for Engineering, Architectural, Surveying, Town Planning and Landscape Sectors 2.0" subsidy scheme into one similar to the Engineering Graduate Training Scheme, in order to encourage young professionals to join the industry.

On harbourfront enhancement, a more permanent and holistic approach to account for rising sea levels and also connect the hinterland to the waterfront should be developed, instead of the current piecemeal approach. As to the housing supply target, the Government should account for the fact that the new live-work mode and our aging population will demand larger flats and different building typology.



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We also welcome the GFA concession increase from 6% to 10% to promote the adoption of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC). As precast and other environmentally-friendly components on major building elements can expedite construction and reduce carbon footprint, a similar concession scheme based on a percentage of such components in the overall project should be introduced.

In relation to heritage and conservation, we propose the additional \$1 billion Budget funding be deployed to set up a scheme similar to the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme on Built Heritage but with a higher ceiling (say \$4 million), to cover larger-scale maintenance works, and adaptive reuse and revitalisation of heritage buildings which involve more than one discipline. The \$82 million combined funding for the arts & culture industry is simply not enough, especially when its scope should be broadened to include other fields such as architecture which impacts our culture through design exhibitions and competitions, forums and public engagement.

“In the wake of the fifth wave of the pandemic, we need more effective policies and measures to help us get through these difficult times. Our suggestions intend to help policymakers to move in this direction. And we hope to work with the Government to strive for a quick recovery and better future for Hong Kong,” said Choi.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact Ms. Cecilia YEUNG of HKIA Secretariat at 3155 0408 or ceciliayeung@hkia.org.hk.



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給眾新聞編輯

為務實財政預算案鼓掌

香港建築師學會歡迎財政司司長上月提交的財政預算案。學會尤其讚賞政府就精簡法定程序方面的承諾，建造業科技和人才培訓的注資，積極拓展融入大灣區發展，以及確認文化藝術為產業發展。

學會會長蔡宏興表示：「預算案建議務實和具針對性，重點是提高防疫抗疫力度，為正處於水深火熱的市民及企業提供極之需要的援助，並推動本港持續成長與繁榮。」

為優化預算案措施，學會會員出謀獻策，有以下建議供政府參考。

未來主要發展項目如北部都會區及明日大嶼，應優先考慮碳中和、宜居性和可持續性，以追上國家訂定的 2030 年可持續發展目標與減碳目標，並為社區每一個人提供優質的生活環境。事實上，政府可考慮在主要發展項目成本中，規定 5 -10%須用於環保與可持續建造。

建造業正面對嚴重人手短缺問題，政府理應就預算案中預留的 3 千萬元加大銀碼，以支持應用研發及採用相關科技。此外，向建造業議會撥款支持人力培訓工作的 10 億元當中，部分可用於把「支援工程、建築、測量、都市規劃及園境界 2.0」的一次性資助計劃，擴展為與「見習工程師訓練計劃」類似的計劃，以鼓勵年青專業人士入行。

在優化海濱方面，當局應考慮採用一個恆常和全面的方案，並顧及海平面上升以及腹地與海濱連接的問題，而非現行「斬件式」的處理方法。至於房屋供應目標，政府應考慮到新的生活－工作模式加上人口老化，需要較大的住宅單位，以及不同的建築類型。



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我們亦歡迎把可獲得的樓面面積豁免，由現時的 6% 提升至 10%，以鼓勵採用「組裝合成」建築法。鑑於主要建築構件中的預製及其他環保組件，也能夠加快建造過程及減少碳足跡，當局應考慮推出依據此等組件在整體項目所佔的百分比來訂定類似的豁免計劃。

在古蹟保育方面，我們建議把預算案額外撥出的 10 億元，成立類似「歷史建築維修資助計劃」的計劃，但資助額上限提高至 4 百萬元，以涵蓋較大型的維修工程，以及牽涉多個專業的舊建加新和活化再用項目。至於合共撥款 8 千 2 百萬元支持文化藝術業發展明顯是不足夠，特別是當其範疇應該擴闊至涵蓋其他專業，例如建築師。建築師專業對文化的影響，是透過設計展覽與比賽、研討會和公眾參與。

蔡宏興表示：「在第五波疫情下，我們需要更有效的政策和措施，幫助我們走出困境。本會的建議預期會協助政策制定者朝著這個方向邁進。我們期望與政府合作，為香港早日復甦與更美好未來努力。」

如有任何查詢，請聯絡香港建築師學會秘書處楊婉珊小姐（電話：3155 0408 / 電郵：ceciliayeung@hkia.org.hk）。