

**Planning and Design Competition on
Pet-friendly Harbourfront in Hong Kong**

Competition Brief

Co-organisers: The Hong Kong Institute
of Planners
– Community Planning
Committee

The Hong Kong Institute
of Landscape Architects
– Young Landscape
Architects' Group

Background

From tiny tortoises to proud huskies, pet ownership is booming in Hong Kong. There were an estimated 405,200 numbers of pet dogs/cats in 2018, which means one every ten households own pet dogs/cats in Hong Kong (Census and Statistics Department, 2019)¹.

With more and more public's demands to open existing parks for them to visit with pets, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) launched a trial scheme of "Inclusive Park for Pets" in 2019, aimed to introduce an inclusive environment for park users with or without pets to enjoy park facilities together. Following the successful implementation of the trial scheme, the LCSD announced in April 2022 that more than 60 "Inclusive Park for Pets" would be opened in various districts, bringing the total number of "Inclusive Park for Pets" to over 100. In all, over 20 venues are located at promenades or parks nearby to bring diversity to the harbourfront areas².

Apart from urban parks, harbourfront areas also contribute as a major source of open space in Hong Kong for public enjoyment. With the support of the Harbourfront Commission, the Government has been actively taking forward various harbourfront enhancement projects including promenade from Central and Western district, the Pierside Precinct in Wan Chai North, the East Coast Park Precinct in Fortress Hill and etc³. Some of the projects are pet-friendly which allow pet-owners enjoy the view of Victoria Harbour and promenades with their pets.

We believe that pet-friendly harbourfront has its specific requirements in terms of planning and design, let alone with the needs of its users. From site selection, site planning, conceptual and detailed design to implementation, ways to provide an enjoyable and integrated harbourfront for local communities and pets have been driving more and more discussions.

In view of the popularity and tendency towards a pet-friendly harbourfront in Hong Kong, we call for innovative planning and design ideas which could inspire public and private sectors to plan for integral and quality pet-friendly harbourfront.

¹ Census and Statistics Department (2019). Thematic Household Survey Report No. 66. Retrieved November 22, 2021, from <https://www.statistics.gov.hk/pub/B11302662019XXXXB0100.pdf>

² HKSAR Government Press Releases (2022). "LCSD to provide 60 more Inclusive Parks for Pets". Retrieved April 18, 2022, from <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/18/P2022041500326.htm?fontSize=1>

³ HKSAR Government Press Releases (2022). "LCQ8: Taking forward harbourfront development". Retrieved May 4, 2022, from https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/publications_and_press_releases/press/index_id_11200.html

Vision

Create a well-connected and enjoyable harbourfront with smart solutions that focuses on promoting integrated pet-friendly designs.

Goals

1. **Planning a Pet-friendly Harbourfront** - identify the needs of pets and pet users and locate a site with creative and innovative design for the enjoyment of the users; and
2. **Fostering Integrated Harbourfront** - propose community and/or social programmes/initiatives/measures to facilitate an inclusive open space in the community.

Site and User Analysis

For better illustration of participants' planning ideas, there is ***no designated sites*** for the competition. Participants are invited to make their own choice on the site based on their knowledge and understanding, in particular on the opportunities and constraints as well as their target users such as considering the proximity of the selected sites with pet-friendly transportation and parking spaces if the site is not solely serving the local communities on its own.

In view of the specific needs for all potential park users, participants are required to conduct user analysis in examining the elements for creating an exemplary inclusive park for both pets and human. For instance, dogs with different sizes and breeds have different needs for play spaces. Participants can also reference successful exemplars of pet-friendly open spaces to illustrate their ideas if needed. It is important to keep in mind the designed park should embrace a concept for enabling the shared use of park facilities among different users, not only pet owners and pets themselves. Based on the scale of design and the target users, the participants should derive a vision that echoes with the pet-friendly theme that is being tailor made of its own.

Design Requirements and Consideration

Participants are invited to make submissions of innovative ideas and design proposals with reference to the above vision and goals. Design scheme including layout design with illustration of the site context should be provided. The relevant planning, design and social considerations shall be demonstrated.

Specific requirements and considerations:

- Provide analysis on the most important and essential factors in looking for a site for pet-friendly harbourfront. A framework (i.e. set of considerations and thought processes/analyses) should be designed to illustrate what constitutes a suitable and feasible harbourfront site for pet-friendly area. The framework should be demonstrated with justifications on the selected site as a prototype for the pet-friendly harbourfont;
- Illustrate the specific planning considerations regarding the land use of pet-friendly harbourfont and the needs of its future users/visitors, in order to justify the selected site based on the identified considerations and the planning and design merits to its surrounding area;
- Make reference to existing statutory plan(s) and any specific development restrictions imposed on the area when conducting siting and planning exercise, including but not limited to land, environmental, conservation and landscape aspects, as well as other planned development projects, relevant completed/on-going studies and local improvement works;
- Demonstrate pet-friendly design concepts how the space is envisioned to be used, enjoyed and interacted by the public users and integrate with the harbourfront;
- Plan and design open spaces and illustrate design details of pet-friendly recreational facilities with distinctive local characters within the project area with elements on placemaking to promote diversity and inclusiveness;
- Formulate a preliminary community engagement plan with various stakeholders including but not limited to pet owners and local communities in order to foster social empowerment and creativity. It should cover appropriate community engagement activities/social activities/well-being services throughout the site selection, planning and design and implementation stage. The preliminary community engagement plan should give considerations to the needs/concerns of the local communities and pet owners in the planning and design process. The possible conflicts between pet owners and local communities shall be addressed with considerations on social activities/well-being service that could be implemented by the future operator of the project.

Throughout the entire proposal, participants are reminded to pay attention to the enjoyment among pets, pet owners and local communities to ensure that their idea is well-focused on this type of open space.

The Submission

- (a) Each Entry shall comprise 6 x A2 (420mm x 594mm and maximum 13mm thick) panels. All panels must be completely flat. The planning and design ideas and concepts shall be presented only on the front side. The presentation on the panels shall include:-
 - i. A title for the Entry on the lower left corner of the front of each panel.
 - ii. Illustrations demonstrating the design ideas and concepts, not limited to photograph(s), diagram(s), collage(s), infographics or any other means of 2D presentation.
 - iii. At least one layout plan of scale between 1:100-1:200, or as appropriate.
 - iv. Section(s), elevation(s), perspective view(s), axonometric drawing(s), artist's impression(s), computer image(s) and/or other drawing(s), with brief text annotations to assist in the explanation of the design proposal in connection with the spatial arrangement and site context.
- (b) Apart from the panels, each Entry should also include a one-page textual statement in A4 size to summarize the major ideas and key features of the Entry. The top of the Statement should include the Entry Title.
- (c) Softcopy of the Entry and textual statement in full-scale and high resolution (at least 300dpi) in .jpeg or .pdf format should also be submitted together with the submission. Soft copies of all submission materials, including the submission form, should be saved on a USB flash drive and submitted with the hard copies.
- (d) The text in the Entry and textual statement shall be in English only.
- (e) **No names shall appear on the panels/one-page statement.** Participants will receive a reference number in the confirmation email upon registration for the competition, which should be quoted at the back of the panels/ one-page statement and labelled on the USB flash drive.

- (f) All submitted deliverables will not be returned.

Eligibility

The competition is only eligible for:

- Tertiary education students in the relevant fields including town planning, landscape architecture, urban design, urban studies, architecture, surveying, and engineering disciplines; **and/or**
- Students and graduate members of the Hong Kong Institute of Planners (HKIP), The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects (HKILA), The Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD), The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) and The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE); **and/or**
- Members of Young Planners Group of HKIP, Young Landscape Architects' Group of HKILA, Young Urban Design Professionals of HKIUD, Young Members Committee of HKIA, Young Surveyors Group of HKIS and Young Members Committee of HKIE.

Individual Entry or Team Entry is permitted. Each individual or Team shall only submit **one** Entry, and each Entry must be accompanied with its own fully completed Entry Form.

For Team Entry, each team must maintain a *maximum of four* members. An interdisciplinary team should have **at least two members** who are majoring/specializing in town planning/urban studies² or landscape architecture/landscape design³.

Entries will not be accepted if:

- The participant does not meet the submission and/or team formation requirements.
- The Entry is not received by the deadline.

² HKIP reserves the right of interpretation and final decision

³ HKILA reserves the right of interpretation and final decision

Assessment Principles

All Entries will be judged in accordance with the assessment principles as interpreted by the Panel of Judges (the Panel). The decisions of the Panel shall be final and binding on all parties concerned and the decisions cannot be appealed against. The assessment principles are as following:

Principle	Percentage
Creativity and innovation	20%
Design, aesthetics, and adoption of local characters	20%
Compatibility with existing and planned developments in the neighbourhood	20%
Community empowerment elements	15%
Functionality and practicality	15%
Quality of presentation	10%

Schedule

1 June 2022	Briefing Session
30 June 2022	Deadline of Entry Registration
8 August 2022	Deadline of Entry Submission
September 2022	Announcement of Winners

An online briefing session for the competition is scheduled for 1 June 2022. Any person interested to submit an Entry may join. Prior registration should be made via <https://rb.gy/6vbsjf> by **30 May 2022**. Details of the briefing session are as follows:

Date: 1 June 2022 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 - 8:30pm

Venue: Webinar via Zoom (link will be provided upon confirmation)

Registration

Any person interested in submitting an Entry **must make prior registration** to HKIP/HKILA. The participants should complete the application form attached and submit to the email addresses below from **2 June 2022** to **30 June 2022**:

	HKIP	HKILA
Email	info@hkip.org.hk	ylag@hkila.com

Entry without prior registration will not be accepted.

Submission

The Entry must be **delivered by hand** to the address below from **2 July 2022** to **8 August 2022**:

Unit No. 201, 2/F, Prosperity Millennia Plaza,
663 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Entry receiving hours are 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Monday to Friday) and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Saturday), with the exception of public holidays, when the Black Rainstorm Warning is issued, or when Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted.

Panel of Judges

The submitted Entries shall be assessed by the Panel consisting of various key professions. A list of the Panel is as follows (in no specific order):

Planning Profession

Ms. Margaret CHAN
(Vice President, HKIP)
Ms. Theresa YEUNG
(Vice President, HKIP)
Mr. Louis CHEUNG
*(Ex-Co-convenor, Community
Planning Committee, HKIP)*

Landscape Architecture/ Urban Design Profession

Mr. Donald CHOI
(President, HKIA and HKIUD)
Ms. Iris HOI
(Ex-president, HKILA)
Mr. Tony MUI
*(Chief Landscape Architect,
Architectural Services Department)*

Animal Rights and Welfare Profession

Ms. Gigi FU

(President, SPCA)
Registered veterinary surgeon
(SPCA)

Results and Prizes

Three Winning Entries will be selected by the Panel. Participants of the Winning Entries will be notified by email. The prizes shall be:

First Prize:	HK\$2,000
Second Prize:	HK\$1,500
Third Prize:	HK\$1,000

The payment will be made to the leading member in the case of a Team Entry and payment made to the leading member shall be deemed as due payment to the participants (including all team members) of the Winning Entry.

The Organising Committee reserves the right not to award all of any of the prizes if the Panel considers the quality and standard of the Entries are not satisfactory.

Enquiry

Participants may make enquiries through the contact details below:-

	HKIP	HKILA
Email	info@hkip.org.hk	ylag@hkila.com
Phone	HKIP Secretariat (+852) 2915 6212	HKILA Secretariat (+852) 2896 2833

The Organising Committee will upload resources and information to the social media pages/websites:

<https://www.facebook.com/hkip>

<https://www.hkila.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HKYLAG/>

Regulations

i. Duplicate of Entries

The Organising Committee will not be liable for any damage or loss of the Entry. Participants shall retain a duplicate copy of their submitted Entry in case of any unforeseen event which may lead to loss or damage of the Entry. Under such circumstance, participants will be requested to forward the duplicate copy of their Entry to the HKIP/HKILA.

ii. Anonymity of Entries

The submitted Entry panels shall bear no trace that could serve as a direct means of identifying the participants. Before the announcement of the results of the competition, no person shall, without the prior authorization of the Organising Committee, disclose any submitted Entry in any form.

iii. Intellectual Property Rights

After the announcement of the results of the competition, participants of Winning Entries may seek written consent of the Organising Committee to reproduce a part or the whole of their own Entry for publication, and/or exhibition purpose, and such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

iv. Remuneration

Apart from the prizes awarded to the participants of the Winning Entries, participants shall not be entitled to any remuneration, payment or compensation for participating in the competition.

v. Language and Time

All information submitted by the participants shall be in English. Throughout the course of the competition, time mentioned in the competition document shall be in Hong Kong time.

vi. Disclaimers

The Organising Committee may at its discretion cancel, modify or suspend the competition. Participants shall not be entitled to any compensation as a consequence to such cancellation, modification or suspension of the competition.

Participants who do not abide by the requirements, rules or conditions as set out in this Competition Brief may result in disqualification of the Entry concerned.

The Organising Committee's decisions regarding all aspects of the competition are final and binding on all parties concerned.

References

Census and Statistics Department. (2019). *Thematic Household Survey Report No. 66*. Retrieved November 22, 2021, from <https://www.statistics.gov.hk/pub/B11302662019XXXXB0100.pdf>

HKSAR Government Press Releases (2022). *LCSD to provide 60 more Inclusive Parks for Pets*. Retrieved April 18, 2022, from <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202204/18/P2022041500326.htm?fontSize=1>

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