

# 立法會

## *Legislative Council*

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### **Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

### **Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 29 November 2011**

### **Stage 3 Public Engagement exercise for the West Kowloon Cultural District project**

#### **Purpose**

This paper provides background information on Stage 3 Public Engagement ("PE") exercise for the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") project, and highlights the concerns of members of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project ("the Joint Subcommittee").

#### **Background**

2. Since its establishment in October 2008 under the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") Ordinance (Cap. 601), the WKCDA Board has been preparing a Development Plan ("DP") for WKCD. To obtain support from the community in its preparation of DP, the Board had conducted a three-stage PE exercise.

3. Stage 1 PE exercise lasted from 8 October 2009 to 7 January 2010. It gauged the community's aspiration for and expectations on the planning of WKCD as a whole and the stakeholders' views on the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD. In this connection, WKCDA appointed in July 2009 three consultants, viz. Foster+Partners ("F+P"), Rocco Design Architects Limited ("RDA") and Office for Metropolitan Architecture ("OMA"), to prepare Conceptual Plan Options ("CPOs") for WKCD.

4. Stage 2 PE exercise was conducted from 20 August to 20 November 2010 with the objective to seek the views of the public and stakeholders on the

three CPOs, viz. City Park ("CP") designed by F+P, Cultural Connect: Key to Sustained Vitality ("CC") designed by RDA, and Project for a New Dimension ("PND") designed by OMA. WKCDA commissioned the Public Policy Research Institute ("PPRI") of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to conduct a questionnaire survey to collect views on, among others, the three CPOs and the phasing arrangement for the core arts and cultural facilities in WKCD. On 4 March 2011, the WKCDA Board announced its selection of CP as the preferred CPO for WKCD and the foundation for preparing the detailed DP.

5. WKCDA unveiled the proposed DP for Stage 3 PE exercise conducted from 30 September to 30 October 2011. An exhibition on the proposed DP and a series of PE activities in **Appendix I** were organized to enhance public understanding of the proposed DP. The exhibition recorded around 18,000 visitors and WKCDA received a total of around 1 000 comments and views from the public and stakeholders. According to WKCDA, the views collected are being collated and analysed by PPRI and the report on Stage 3 PE exercise will be available to the public by end December 2011.

6. Taking into account the views collected during Stage 3 PE exercise, WKCDA has targeted finalizing the detailed DP for submission to the Town Planning Board ("TPB") for consideration around the end of 2011. WKCDA is preparing in parallel the design competitions for several signature facilities with a view to commencing the construction works as soon as possible upon the completion of the statutory planning process. Once TPB agrees to gazette the DP for public inspection under the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) ("TPO"), WKCDA will proceed with the design stage of the facilities in WKCD. Once the Chief Executive in Council approved DP under the provisions of TPO, WKCDA will proceed with the construction stage of WKCD.

### **Members' concerns**

7. The Joint Subcommittee has closely monitored the various stages of PE exercises for the WKCD project. Matters relating to Stage 2 and Stage 3 PE exercises were discussed at the Joint Subcommittee's meetings on 29 March and 11 July 2011. Members' concerns are highlighted in the ensuing paragraphs.

#### Expectation on Stage 3 PE exercise

8. Some members expressed hope that the draft DP would cover the financial arrangements for WKCD and its phased developments, how the

phased developments would cater for the needs of the arts and cultural sector, the priority and location of the core arts and cultural facilities, and the arrangements for residential and commercial developments. As Stage 3 PE exercise was the final stage of public consultation on the WKCD development, the draft DP should contain as much information as possible. According to the Administration, the draft DP for Stage 3 PE exercise would cover the phasing of WKCD and the priority of its arts and cultural facilities.

#### Inadequacy of Stage 2 PE exercise

9. Concern was raised about the absence of some important questions in PPRI's questionnaire survey for Stage 2 PE exercise, such as the plot ratio and building height of CPOs, which CPO would be most beneficial to Hong Kong's cultural development, and how WKCD could achieve its cultural vision through its hardware. There was a view that the absence of such questions would allow greater flexibility for WKCDA to develop WKCD. According to PPRI, the questionnaire survey contained three main parts – part one covered the extent to which CPOs had addressed the mainstream comments on the planning aspects of WKCD received in Stage 1 PE exercise; part two covered the individual features of each CPO; and part three covered the phasing of the core arts and cultural facilities and the types of other arts and cultural facilities in WKCD.

10. Some members noted that CP was the preferred CPO in terms of providing public open space; PND was the preferred CPO in terms of showcasing Hong Kong's unique local and traditional characteristics; and CC had relatively high level of support in terms of its design for core arts and cultural facilities. They queried which aspect had been accorded the highest priority in the WKCDA Board's selection of the preferred CPO. There was a view that Stage 2 PE exercise was a waste of public money, as members of the public had not been asked which CPO they preferred most. Doubts were also raised about the usefulness of PPRI's findings for identifying which CPO was most preferred by the public. In PPRI's view, its research framework had been scientifically designed in response to the concerns expressed by the public during Stage 1 PE exercise. It was found that members of the public had different preferences over different aspects of concerns addressed by different CPOs.

#### Role of PPRI

11. Some members raised concern over the role of PPRI in the survey design for Stage 2 PE exercise, particularly whether it had proposed any questions covering the concerns of the local arts and cultural sector.

According to PPRI, the whole Stage 2 PE exercise had been steered by WKCDA and its Consultation Panel and the Administration. PPRI had been providing technical support and professional advice to them. It had been involved in the questionnaire design but had not proposed questions relating to the concerns of the local arts and cultural sector.

12. Concern was expressed about whether PPRI would continue to be responsible for collecting and analyzing the public views during Stage 3 PE exercise, and if yes, whether Stage 3 PE exercise would be conducted in a more innovative manner, given that the public might have been fed up with consultation after consultation. According to PPRI, it had been commissioned by WKCDA as the PE Analysis and Reporting Consultant for all three stages of the PE exercise. PPRI could further discuss with WKCDA the mode of Stage 3 PE exercise.

### **Relevant papers**

13. A list of the relevant papers with their hyperlinks at LegCo's website is in **Appendix II**.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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**Stage 3 Public Engagement exercise  
for the West Kowloon Cultural District project**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
30 September 2011 – 30 October 2011	Exhibition on the proposed Development Plan and guided tours for the public
3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 October 2011	Art and culture seminars
5 October 2011	Development Plan presentation (2 sessions)
8 October 2011	Town hall meeting with Yau Tsim Mong community leaders and residents
11 and 12 October 2011	M+ stakeholders roundtable discussion
22 October 2011	Conference for Urban Development, Information & Communications Technology and Green Groups
30 October 2011	Get-together with youth

*Source: Website of West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ([www.wkcda.hk/pe3](http://www.wkcda.hk/pe3))*

**Relevant documents on  
Stage 3 Public Engagement exercise  
for the West Kowloon Cultural District project**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Paper</b>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	13.1.2009 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	27.2.2009 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	14.4.2009 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a> <a href="#">CB(2)1869/08-09(01)</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	4.12.2009 (Item III)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	16.4.2010 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	20.9.2010 (Item I)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	14.1.2011 (Item III)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	29.3.2011 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Paper</b>
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	11.7.2011 (Item I)	<a href="#">Agenda</a> <a href="#">Minutes</a>

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