

President's Corner 會長的話

Transport-related Urban Design Issues

Quality of everyday life in the modern city is shaped by its transport system, while the quality of its connective structure is the backbone of liveability. Government's latest transport policies and development strategies must be seen as essential components for the 'Liveable City'. This relates to the HKIUD's theme for 2015, and there are a number of factors that are open to consideration.

At a recent Seminar on Connectivity and Sustainable Urban Transportation, Prof John Chai, Chairman of the Business Environment Council Limited, stated that urban transport systems in large cities face major challenges due to the continuous growth of population and private vehicle ownership, causing congestion and air pollution. How to improve accessibility while reducing environmental and social impacts is crucial to the creation of vibrant, liveable, sustainable cities.

At the same Seminar, Joseph Lai, Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing emphasised Government's commitment to developing efficient transport systems with a sound and cost-effective railway system as the backbone. In September 2014, the Transport and Housing Bureau announced the Railway Development Strategy 2014 which is intended to provide a framework for planning the further expansion of Hong Kong's railway network up to the year 2031. Completion of the railway projects will also provide an opportunity for the Government to optimise the overall public transport system and further pursue bus route rationalisation. On the environment front, we hope to see a reduction in roadside air pollutants and greenhouse gases, contributing to Hong Kong's drive towards a low carbon economy.

It has been reported that in its first year of operation the government's Air Quality Health Index recorded 177 days of air that posed a "high risk or above" to health. The Transport Advisory Committee has recently suggested a series of measures to ease congestion and clean the air. These include electronic road pricing and higher registration fees for new cars.

All this requires a convergence of solutions for bringing together environmental, social and urban design factors. The area where sustainability and connectivity coalesce is the public realm, and this

implies a considered relationship between the Well Designed City, the Sustainable City and the Smart City through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), linked to improved services and urban performance. At the same time we need to effect a transfer from transportation based on fossil-based energy, to fuels based on renewable resources.

To bring about good urban design we need integrative thinking about transport and connectivity, not merely in terms of speed, efficiency and function, but by keeping in mind other pre-requisites of good urbanism that should be of fundamental value to a high density city.

Peter Cookson Smith

President

Recent Events and Meetings / 近期活動及會議

HKIP 35th Anniversary Dinner on 1 Dec 2014



Mr. Charles Li, Vice President (External Affairs) was invited to attend the Hong Kong Institute of Planners 35th Anniversary Dinner on 1 December 2014.

With Mr. Raymond Lee, President of HKIP

HKILA 26th Annual Dinner on 4 Dec 2014



Dr. Peter Cookson Smith, President and Mr. Joel Chan, Council Member were invited to attend the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects 26th Annual Dinner on 4 December 2014.

Business of Design Week - Detour 2014: Sweden Architect Round Table Special Programme on 4 December 2014



Mr. Charles Li, Vice President (External Affairs) was invited to be a guest of the Business of Design Week - Detour 2014: Sweden Architect Round Table Special Programme on 4 December 2014. A group of Swedish and Hong Kong architects were gathered in PMQ taste library for a food workshop. The purpose was to share experiences and expertise, establish relationships and build future collaborations in joint issues. The topic that had been discussed was design for sustainability and how to achieve a more people-friendly and inviting environment, where you put the person in center.

Pedestrian Environment Improvement Scheme for Transformation of Kwun Tong Business Area (KTBA) Feasibility Study” (the Study) - Stage 1 Public Engagement (PE1) Community Workshop on 6 Dec 2014



A Community Workshop has been held by the EKEO on “Pedestrian Environment Improvement Scheme for Transformation of Kwun Tong Business Area (KTBA) Feasibility Study” - Stage 1 Public Engagement (PE1) on 6 December 2014. Mr. P.Y.TAM and Dr. Sujata Govada have attended the Community Workshop. Envisioning and ideas exchanged included ways of making better use of the present “backlanes” and improving accesses to the waterfront..

[More](#)

Joint Seminar 'Creating a Green CBD in Kowloon East' by EKEO x HKGBC on 11 Dec 2014



The HKGBC and EKEO jointly organized a seminar on 11 December 2014 to share the Government's initiatives on creating a Green CBD in Kowloon East as well as the benefits of Green Buildings. The Seminar was kicked off by Ir. Wai Chi-sing PAS(Works) DEVB, illustrated by a PPT. Case examples of conversion of industrial buildings into green office buildings were shown by the representatives of a planned project and a completed project. in Kwun Tong area. The presentations can be found at the EKEO's web-site at http://www.ekeo.gov.hk/en/activities/joint_sem_CBD_in_EKEO.html. Mr.P.Y.TAM and Mr. Widemar Spruit attended and spoke at the Seminar and suggested, among other issues, to seize the opportunities of the transformation, to also improve the pedestrian linkages and environment at street level.

Public Forum on proposed establishment of a Harbourfront Authority on 13 Dec 2014



The Harbourfront Commission and the Development Bureau have jointly launched Phase II Public Engagement Exercise on 25 September 2014. HKIUD members were invited to the last public forum on 13 December 2014.

HKIUD Comments on Proposed Establishment of a Harbourfront Authority Phase II Public Engagement had been submitted to the Harbourfront Commission on 24 December 2014.

Meeting with the Secretary for Development, Mr Paul Chan on 16 Dec 2014

Hon. Tony Tse, Legislative Councilor organised two meetings with Secretary for Development, Mr Paul Chan and Director of Architectural Services Mr. K K Leung on 16 December 2014 and 4 November 2014 respectively. HKIUD members were being invited to attend.

HKIUD Meetings Calendar (Dec)

十二月會議

Date	Time	Meetings	Venue
17/12 (Wed)	6:30 pm	MEC Meeting	Immediate Past President's Office

Upcoming Events and Meetings / 活動及會議預告

3rd "Experiencing Public Space" Education Scheme



Hong Kong Public Space Initiative will organize **The Third “Experiencing Public Space” Education Scheme (EPSES)** from January to March 2015, with the theme “The Good Old Days in Public Space” associating with local characters and community development. Through a series of seminars, community tour and workshops, participating students in Form 4-6 should form a group of 4-6. They are required to design a community project and implement it in any public space in Hong Kong with the aim to facilitate social interactions in the community. Participants should record the project progress, write a project report and give presentation on the project outcome.

The most outstanding three teams will be awarded the “Prize for Realizing Public Space” and book voucher. OLE certificate will also be provided to participants as participation proof.

“Experiencing Public Space” Education Scheme this year has started receiving applications from school. Application deadline is 15 January 2015 (Thursday). Interested students please visit <http://education.hkpsi.org/eps/2015/registration> for scheme details and enrollment form.

Presentation and Exhibition Tour on PolyU Green Deck Project on 5 Feb 2015

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS!
 HONG HONG & Social Community Survey
 The purpose of this survey is to gather the views and opinions of the general public on the proposed Green Deck project. We are looking for your feedback on the following issues:

GREEN DECK AS AN INNOVATIVE SOCIAL PROJECT
 HUNG HOM AND GREEN DECK
 The Green Deck project is a multi-phased project that aims to transform the existing open spaces in Hung Hom into a vibrant, green, and social community hub. The project will include the following components:

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
 1. Carbon Footprint
 2. Recycled Steel Construction
 3. Advanced Natural Ventilation
 4. Cleaner Air Quality
 5. Water Reduction
 6. Greenery Management

CURRENT HUNG HOM
 The current Hung Hom area is characterized by its dense residential development and limited green spaces. The Green Deck project aims to address these issues by providing a high-quality, green, and social community hub for the residents of Hung Hom.

IMPROVEMENTS + BENEFITS
 The Green Deck project will bring a range of improvements and benefits to the Hung Hom community, including:

- Enhanced Air Quality
- Water Reduction
- Greenery Management
- Improved Community Quality

Neighbouring the heavily-loaded Cross Harbour Tunnel, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) has long witnessed problems in the vicinity – poor quality, overloaded footbridge, poor connectivity with the district and lack of open space. The University has thus proposed the construction of a Green Deck over the Cross Harbour Tunnel plaza to tackle these problems.

With an aim to solicit views from various stakeholders to work out a plan that will benefit the community as well as enhance the environment, the University is currently staging an exhibition “Green Deck as an Innovative Social Project” at Gallery D, The Jockey Club Innovation Tower of PolyU. The exhibition (opens from 1000 to 2000, Monday to Saturday, except Public Holidays) is not only meant to showcase the benefits of the project and research findings by faculty members, but also to serve as an important tool to engage major stakeholders.

HKIUD members are cordially invited to attend a presentation and exhibition tour on **5 February 2015 (Thursday), from 3:30pm to 5:30pm (registration starts at 3:15pm) at Podium Level, Innovation Tower, PolyU.** The concept and progress of the project as well as the research findings would be shared.

Should you be interested, please contact our Administrative Officer, Ms. Cherry Lau at 2530 8135 or mail to cherry.lau@hkiud.org on or before 5 January 2015 (Monday). Thank you.

HKIUD Meetings Calendar (Jan)

一月會議

Date	Time	Meetings	Venue
6/1 (Tue)	6:30 pm	Council Meeting	Immediate Past President's Office

Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design Limited

香港金鐘金鐘道89號力寶中心第二座22樓2207-9室 Suite 2207-9, 22/F, Tower Two Lippo Centre, 89 Queensway, Admiralty, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2530 8135 Fax: (852) 2530 8100 Web: www.hkiud.org Email: inq@hkiud.org