

(Translation)

Kowloon City District Urban Renewal Forum

For discussion on
25 March 2013

Paper No.: DURF KC/03/2013

Draft Stage 2 Public Engagement Strategy for Urban Renewal Plan for Kowloon City

Purpose

This paper aims to report to Members the work progress of Stage 2 Public Engagement (“PE”), and invites Members to discuss on the proposed PE Strategy.

Work Progress

2. The Planning Study Consultant has completed the Draft Urban Renewal Plan for Kowloon City (“DURP”). To consult the public, especially those affected by the DURP, the PE Consultant is preparing the Stage 2 PE activities and the related draft PE Strategy, which was discussed at the Study Steering Group (“SG”) meeting held on 5 March, has been formulated. Members raised the following views on the draft PE Strategy at the meeting:

- a) the kick-off ceremony should be held after the production of relevant PE publicity materials and information (including PE digest and exhibition panels) are completed;
- b) the kick-off ceremony and roving exhibitions should be held in areas with high patronage. Exhibition panels should be displayed during the kick-off ceremony to provide information on the DURP to participants;
- c) the PE activities and PE digest should include the preliminary mitigation measures proposed by the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Consultant so as to gauge views of the local residents and stakeholders;

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- d) due to short promotion period of the Stage 1 PE activities, some members of the local community were not able to participate in some of the PE activities. In this regard, the publicity materials should be distributed and posted as early as possible; and
 - e) consideration should be given to the use of electronic media to broadcast the vision, background, purpose and content of the DURP.
3. After deliberation, the SG decided to endorse the PE Strategy in principle and agreed to submit the PE Strategy for consideration of the District Urban Renewal Forum (DURF) after incorporating their comments.

Proposed Stage 2 PE Strategy

4. The main purposes of the Stage 2 PE are to build consensus on the DURP; to collect in-depth views for the Planning Study Consultant to further enhance their recommendations and prepare the final Urban Renewal Plan; and to allow the public to understand the function of DURF. The Stage 2 PE Strategy (**Appendix 1**) will continue to adopt the “People First, District-Based and Public Participatory” approach in undertaking urban renewal, and implement four important PE principles, namely “in-depth discussion”, “transparent process”, “timely response” and “looking ahead”. The PE Consultant will continue to collaborate with the Planning Study and the SIA Consultants to exchange ideas on the issues which should be explored in the Stage 2 PE, and reach the stakeholders through the network of the SIA Consultant to enable the views collected more focused and easier to understand, thereby facilitating the formulation of the final Urban Renewal Plan.

5. The stakeholders of PE activities can be categorized into three groups, including the general public, residents in Kowloon City and local residents affected by the DURP. The PE Consultant will focus on the local residents affected by the DURP to obtain more and in-depth views. The PE Consultant will formulate different PE activities and channels, including community workshops, topical discussions, public

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forums and roving/mobile exhibitions, for the three types of stakeholders. At the same time, online platforms including study website and Public Affairs Forum of the Home Affairs Bureau will be used in line with the Stage 1 PE.

6. The PE Consultant recommends disseminating information of the Urban Renewal Plan for Kowloon City and promoting PE activities through various channels, including the production of PE digests, leaflets, posters and street banners, conducting roving/mobile exhibitions and using online platforms such as the study website and social media (Facebook) webpage, etc. The Consultants will also colloberate closely with DURF members, District Council members, community leaders, local non-government organisations and the SIA Consultant etc. Through their network, it can allow the stakeholders in the community (especially the elderly, ethnic minorities and new arrivals) to better know the nature and details of the PE activities, and encourage and invite them to participate in the PE activities to express their views.

7. The role of DURF in these PE activities is particularly important. Besides steering the early planning work, DURF members will be invited by the PE Consultant to attend various PE activities and conduct media interviews so as to enhance public awareness and recognition of the Urban Renewal Plan for Kowloon City. Through attending various PE activities and serving as facilitators in topical discussions, Members can also listen to the views of residents, business operators and the public, thereby making the future urban renewal proposals better reflect the public views.

Follow-up Work

8. The PE Consultant and DURF Secretariat will continue to follow up the preparation work of the PE activities, including production of different publicity materials and information. The draft PE digest will be circulated to members for approval. It is expected that the kick-off ceremony for the Stage 2 PE will be conducted in end April, and the relevant PE activities will commence in early May.

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Advice Sought

9. Members are invited to note the work progress of the Stage 2 PE, and accept the Stage 2 PE Strategy submitted by the Consultant.

Public Engagement and Social Impact Assessment Steering Group
Urban Renewal Plan for Kowloon City
March 2013