



香港建築師學會

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

3 January 2008

Our Ref. : BLA/LCSWKCD/RL/cw/0801
Your Ref.: CB1/HS/2/04

Hon Alan LEONG
Chairman
Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development
The Legislative Council
c/o Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

By Fax and By Post
Fax No. : 2185 7845

Dear Mr Leong

Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development
Meeting on 4 January 2008

Thank you for your letter dated 4 December 2007 inviting the Institute to give views on the Government's proposal in relation to the establishment of a statutory body to take forward the development of West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project.

The Institute is pleased to deliver the following views in response to the Government proposal on the establishment of WKCD Authority (WKCA) :

1. Planning Office

The proposed establishment of a Planning Office within HAB before the establishment of WKCA is supported. This Planning Office will be helpful to coordinate and facilitate planning and design of WKCD and its facilities, and to coordinate all related matters outside the WKCD boundary. In order to function effectively, it is important for this office to be staffed with all the necessary expertise, such as those mentioned in the following paragraphs, to move WKCD project forward along the right track.

2. Founding Authority Members

The founding WKCA is expected to deal with complicated planning, architecture, engineering, traffic, environmental, survey, landscape issues of a large scale and complex development, which is to be staged through many years, involving complicated financing. Therefore it is considered appropriate to have not less than 50% of the Authority Board members, excluding Authority executives and Government representatives, to have expertise in these related fields. Subsequently, the composition of members should change, corresponding to changes in the nature of issues to be faced by the Authority Board as the arts/cultural and associated facilities are completed to serve the community.

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3. Expertise in Operation and Management

Delivering a WKCD to meet the public's aspiration must include the efficient function, smooth operation and skillful management of its facilities. The founding WKCDA is expected to ensure that the arts and cultural facilities would be designed and built to fulfill these expectations. Therefore, experiences in arts and cultural facility management and operation among Authority Board members and/or Technical Sub-committees set up to assist the Authority Board are considered crucial to the success of this project.

4. 'Greater WKCD'

WKCD is an inseparable part of our city. To integrate with the surrounding urban fabric, it is essential that a 'Greater WKCD' could function seamlessly. The Government has to partner with WKCDA to ensure the connectivity channels for pedestrians, traffic, views, sea breezes, etc., and the design, planning, development and function of adjacent land parcels and water front on both sides of WKCD boundary are compatible, well integrated and mutually supporting each other. These requirements should all be reflected in a visionary 3-dimensional urban design master plan for a socially and environmentally sustainable 'Greater WKCD', to be drawn up jointly by WKCDA and the Government.

Yours sincerely

Dr Ronald Lu, *FHKIA*
President

c.c. Mr Bernard Hui, Honorary Secretary
Mr K S Wong, Chairman, Board of Local Affairs
Mr Alex Lui, Convenor, WKCD Taskforce