

Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development

For discussion
on 23 May 2018

TFKT/08/2018

Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River

PURPOSE

This paper aims to brief Members on the project “Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River” (the Project) to be implemented by the Drainage Services Department, and to seek Members’ views on the project.

BACKGROUND

2. In recent years, the Government has been dedicated to turning Kowloon East into a Green Core Business District. The Development Bureau proposed the Energizing Kowloon East Conceptual Master Plan and put forward the concept of transforming the King Yip Street nullah in Kwun Tong into Tsui Ping River.

3. The King Yip Street nullah, of a length of about one kilometre, was constructed more than 50 years ago, and constitutes the downstream section of the stormwater drainage network in central Kwun Tong (see location plan at **Annex A**). The existing nullah is concrete-lined. The Drainage Services Department (DSD) aims to convert the existing nullah into a unique river with environmental, ecological and landscaping upgrading works. The Project will also enhance the connectivity and walkability with the adjacent pedestrian network.

4. The Project includes two stages of Public Engagement (PE). Stage 1 PE was completed in March 2017. A series of PE activities including community workshop, focus group meeting and roving

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exhibitions were held. Public views were collected through various channels during the PE period. We also briefed the Task Force on Kai Tak Harbourfront Development at its meeting held on 13 January 2017 on the preliminary design scheme of the Project.

MAJOR COMMENTS FROM STAGE 1 PE

5. During the Stage 1 PE, the public extensively supported the Project. The major comments received include:

(a) River Revitalisation

The public supported the revitalisation proposals. The public considered that the Project should ensure adequate hydraulic capacity for the revitalised Tsui Ping River and suggested setting up flood warning and surveillance system to safeguard visitors on the proposed floating pontoon. The public also raised the concern about water quality.

(b) Connectivity and Walkability

The public considered that the access ramp of the Lei Yue Mun Road Footbridge should be re-provided under the Project. The public also suggested that additional pedestrian accesses across Wai Fat Road and at the estuary of Tsui Ping River should be provided to enhance connectivity with the surrounding areas.

(c) Vibrant Public Space

The public supported the provision of water-friendly facilities to promote water-friendliness. The public

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suggested the Project should introduce artistic elements to foster a vibrant public space. The public also considered guided tours, information gallery and educational activities should be provided for the revitalised Tsui Ping River.

THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

6. Taking into account of public's opinions, we have refined our project proposal. Implementation of the Project will serve a number of key objectives–

(a) Revitalising the river

Tsui Ping River is located in the centre of Kwun Tong District. By virtue of its excellent geographical location, Tsui Ping River is a precious riverside public space in the urban areas. The Project will turn Tsui Ping River into a new landmark where the public can enjoy the river view and carry out leisure activities.

Tsui Ping River is located in the intertidal area. The water level changes with the tides and the river bed will be exposed during low tide. We plan to install at the downstream a water gate to create a water storage area. By regulating the level of the water gate, water in the storage area can plunge to the downstream creating a waterfall effect. Besides, we will also set up water-friendly features like floating pontoon at the water storage area to enrich the scenery and ambience of the river.

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The Project will enhance the flood prevention capacity of the river. We will conduct detailed drainage impact assessment to ensure compliance with the required flood protection standards and set up weather monitoring system for alerting the public. In addition, DSD has been working collaboratively with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to identify expedient connections at the upstream with a view to improving the water quality of the river.

(b) Improving walkability and connectivity

Echoing with the concept of a “Walkable Kowloon East”, we will construct pedestrian walkways on both sides of the river, with elevated walkways and landscaped decks spanning over the river to enhance connectivity with the surrounding areas. Additional pedestrian accesses across Wai Fat Road and at the estuary of Tsui Ping River will be included in the Project to address public concerns received in Stage 1 PE.

(c) Fostering a vibrant riverine public space

Tsui Ping River, coupled with the adjacent Tsui Ping River Garden, the Kwun Tong Promenade and the arts and cultural spaces beneath the Kwun Tong Bypass, will provide leisure public space with great diversity in nature to the Kwun Tong District. The Project will inject vibrancy and turn Tsui Ping River into a new landmark where the public can enjoy the river scenery and carry out leisure activities. We will continue to explore the design and use of public space with various stakeholders.

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7. Through water features, landscaping, ecological and environmental enhancement, the Project aims at creating a green river channel with water scenery and amenity for the community. The works under Project comprises the following:-

- (a) revitalisation of the existing nullah through the provision of waterscape design and water features, such as water gate, floating pontoon and in-stream plantation;
- (b) provision of walkways along / across the river to enhance connectivity and walkability;
- (c) provision of landscaped decks and amenity public space;
- (d) modification and face-lifting of the existing footbridge across Lei Yue Mun Road; and
- (e) streetscape enhancement of existing streets adjacent to Tsui Ping River.

8. The proposed layout plan and photomontages are shown in **Annexes B** and **C** respectively.

COMPLIANCE WITH HARBOUR PLANNING PRINCIPLES

9. We consider that the proposal aligns with the Harbour Planning Principles in the following aspects –

(a) *Principle 1 – Preserving Victoria Harbour*

The works will not involve any reclamation works and the objective to preserve the harbour is fulfilled.

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(b) Principle 2 – Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement with stakeholders is conducted through a two-stage PE exercise. The Stage 1 PE was conducted between January and March 2017, while the Stage 2 PE is currently underway and will last until mid-July 2018. The public gave positive feedback and expressed extensive support to the Project in the Stage 1 PE.

(c) Principle 3 – Sustainable Development

The Project will revitalise King Yip Street to enhance the sustainability of the existing drainage facility in urban area. The Project will also enhance the community environment and provide public space to cater for the social and leisure needs of the general public.

(d) Principle 4 – Integrated Planning

We have been liaising with the relevant departments / offices taking forward the relevant projects, such as the Tsui Ping River Garden, Upgrading of Kwun Tong Preliminary Treatment Works and Enhancement Works for Kwun Tong Sewage Pumping Station, to better coordinate design and interfacing issues.

We have also been collaborating continuously with EPD to identify expedient connections at the upstream of the Tsui Ping River, with a view to improving water quality in the revitalised river.

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(e) Principles 5, 6 and 8 – Proactive Harbour Enhancement, Vibrant Harbour and Public Enjoyment

The Project aims at creating a green river channel with water scenery and amenity for the community. The Project will inject vibrancy and turn Tsui Ping River into a new landmark where the public can enjoy the river scenes and carry out leisure activities. Additional amenity spaces will be formed under the Project for public enjoyment.

(f) Principle 7 – Accessible Harbour

The Project will provide new walkways to enhance the connectivity and walkability between the harbourfront and the hinterland. In particular, an elevated walkway across the Tsui Ping River at its estuary will be constructed under the Project to enhance the connectivity along the harbourfront.

WAY FORWARD

10. The project is currently under the detailed design stage. We are conducting the Stage 2 PE to introduce our latest design scheme and solicit further views from the public.

11. After the Stage 2 PE, we will refine the project design and arrange for statutory gazettal in the 3rd quarter of 2018.

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VIEWS SOUGHT

12. Members' views on the project are welcome.

Drainage Services Department May 2018

Annex A Location Plan of King Yip Street Nullah

Annex B Project Layout Plan of Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River

Annex C Photomontages of Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River

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Annex A

Location Plan of King Yip Street Nullah



Legend :  Extent of King Yip Street Nullah

Project Layout Plan of Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River



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Annex C

Photomontage for Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River (Section between Shing Yip Street and Wai Yip Street)



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Annex C

Photomontage for Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River (Estuary of Tsui Ping River)

