

**For discussion
on 22 March 2011**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/6/2011-12**

**MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**KAI TAK DEVELOPMENT
STAGE 2 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON
PRESERVATION OF LUNG TSUN STONE BRIDGE REMNANTS**

PURPOSE

This paper aims to provide Members with information about the latest progress regarding the Stage 2 Public Engagement on the preservation of Lung Tsun Stone Bridge (the Bridge) remnants.

BACKGROUND

2. The Bridge remnants were unearthed between 2008 and 2009 during the archaeological investigations for the Kai Tak Development arranged by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD). Given the community's interest and concerns on the preservation of the Bridge, CEDD held a two-stage public engagement exercise to collect public views on how best the Bridge remnants can be preserved and presented, under the advice of the Commissioner for Heritage and in collaboration with Antiquities and Monuments Office and Planning Department.

3. The Stage 1 Public Engagement was carried out in mid 2010, aiming to enhance public understanding of the issue and to seek public views on the overall principles and approaches for the preservation of the Bridge. In this regard, we consulted the Wong Tai Sin and Kowloon City District Councils in May 2010, Antiquities Advisory Board on 17 May 2010 (For easy reference of Members, the Board Paper AAB/42/2009-10 for discussion at the meeting on 17 May 2010 is attached at **Appendix**), Town Planning Board on 4 June 2010 and Planning Sub-committee of the Land and Development Advisory Committee on 19 July 2010, and conducted two community envisioning workshops cum site visits on

19 and 26 June 2010.

4. The mainstream views collected in the Stage 1 Public Engagement were as follows:

- (a) the Bridge remnants should be preserved “in-situ”;
- (b) all parts of the Bridge remnants should be preserved and displayed;
- (c) damaged or missing parts of the Bridge should not be restored if there is insufficient information so as to avoid any “mock antiquity”;
- (d) the preservation approach should target to restore the historical ambience of the Bridge, but not to imitate the past setting deliberately. Architectural design of the adjacent buildings should complement the Bridge’s preservation plan;
- (e) connection of the Bridge remnants site with neighbouring heritage resources, in particular with Kowloon Walled City Park, should be provided;
- (f) the adjacent developments and the underground shopping street should be integrated with the Bridge remnants site;
- (g) installation of armoured glass cover is not preferred as misting would affect viewing;
- (h) installation of real or simulated waterscape in restoring the Bridge’s past setting should be considered; and
- (i) exhibition and other interpretation facilities should be considered.

STAGE 2 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

5. Based on the mainstream views mentioned in paragraph 4 above, the Stage 2 Public Engagement aims at building a consensus with the public on the land requirement for preserving the Bridge remnants as well as on the connectivity with neighbouring heritage resources. Views on the approaches of exhibiting the Bridge remnants are also to be collected to provide a basis for future design.

6. Noting public aspiration for facilities for the interpretation of the Bridge remnants, we propose to construct a 25m-wide preservation corridor to provide more space than the 10m-wide pedestrian street allowed under the approved Outline Zoning Plan. This will provide a more suitable surrounding for public enjoyment and accommodating necessary display facilities.

7. The views collected in the Stage 1 Public Engagement are also adopted in meeting the public aspiration for a more direct connection between the proposed Bridge preservation corridor and Kowloon Walled City Park (KWCP). We are now considering the feasibility of two options both involving a pedestrian crossing across Prince Edward Road East (PERE) for further connection to the KWCP via Shek Ku Lung Road Playground and Carpenter Road Park.

Option (1)

- to cross PERE via the curvilinear landscaped elevated walkway (Elevated Walkway Option) as delineated in the approved Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan;

Option (2)

- to provide a pedestrian subway across PERE (Subway Option).

As both of these options have their own merits, we need to achieve a consensus on adopting either the Elevated Walkway Option or the Subway Option as well as rationalizing the pedestrian crossing facilities along PERE.

8. A consensus building workshop was held on 22 January 2011, which was attended by about 100 participants. We invited Dr Joseph Ting to speak on the historical and social aspects of the Bridge, and Mr Christopher Law, a practising architect, to speak on examples of heritage conservation approaches worldwide and the means of heritage interpretation with a view to raising public awareness on the subject.

9. At the workshop, initial public views were received. The proposed width of the preservation corridor (not less than 25m) and connection to the KWCP via a pedestrian subway across PERE were supported by the majority of the workshop participants. There were also discussions on the rationalisation of the pedestrian crossing facilities along PERE and the corresponding curtailment of the proposed curvilinear landscaped elevated walkway. Only a few

participants still preferred retaining the section of the proposed curvilinear landscaped elevated walkway across PERE. Views on the ambience of the preservation corridor, mode of appreciation, preservation and display approaches, and exhibition facilities were also collected at the workshop. These views would provide a basis for future design.

10. Public views are collected via letter, telephone and email, and the summary will be uploaded to www.ktd.gov.hk. The Stage 2 Public Engagement also involves consultations with Wong Tai Sin and Kowloon City District Councils, the Town Planning Board, the Planning Sub-committee of the Land and Development Advisory Committee, and relevant professional institutes with a view to striking a proper balance between conservation and development in Kai Tak.

VIEWS SEEKING

11. Members' views on the preservation of Lung Tsun Stone Bridge are welcome.

Kowloon Development Office
Civil Engineering and Development Department
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