

Kai Tak Development
“Building our Kai Tak River” Public Engagement

Purpose

This paper aims to introduce the public engagement programme for “Building our Kai Tak River” and seek Members’ advice.

Background

2. The existing Kai Tak Nullah is about 2.4 km in length. It flows from Po Kong Village Road along Choi Hung Road, pass Tung Tau Estate and San Po Kong, into Kai Tak Development area before discharging into the Victoria Harbour. The nullah is one of the major flood relief waterways in East Kowloon area. As the water quality in the nullah gradually improves, recently many members of the public referred to the waterway as “Kai Tak River” rather than Kai Tak Nullah. There is a general desire to revitalize the nullah into a special green river and townscape feature.

3. We are carrying out the design of the Kai Tak Nullah improvement and plan to start construction of flood protection and nullah decking works in 2011, so as to increase the discharge capacity of the nullah at the earliest time. In line with public views, the additional space over the nullah deck will be used for greening and traffic improvement. The upstream, midstream and downstream sections¹ of the Kai Tak Nullah are as shown at Annex 1.

4. Taking the opportunity of improving the nullah, we plan to work with the public on the planning and design of the Kai Tak River. Our vision is to build Kai Tak River as a green and attractive river corridor through urban areas, which will provide space for leisure and public activities serving the community while meeting the needs for flood protection and traffic improvement.

Public Engagement

5. In view of the attention of the public in the Kai Tak River, we are launching a public engagement programme to gather public views on the design of the feature.

6. Kai Tak River is fundamentally a drainage channel and its capacity has to be adequate to discharge stormwater runoff², and treated effluent from the Tolo Harbour

¹ Upstream section from Po Kong Village Road to Tai Shing Street; Middle stream section from Tai Shing Street to Prince Edward Road East; Downstream section is located within Kai Tak Development Area.

² Kai Tak River Catchment Area includes Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Diamond Hill, Wang Tau Hom, Tsz Wan Shan and part of Western Kowloon.

Effluent Export Scheme (THEES). On aforementioned basis, we propose the following design principles as guidelines:

- a) Kai Tak River, with enhanced visual quality and image, will serve as a unique urban and landscape axis linking and integrating the old urban districts and the new development areas in Kai Tak Development; and
- b) Kai Tai River will become a place of interest for public activities such as leisure, recreation, education and community art and match with the adjoining land uses and developments.

7. We propose a two-staged public engagement programme:

- a) Stage 1: Understanding Concerns and Envisioning

The objective of Stage 1 is to raise public awareness on the project and consulting the public and setting the approach regarding the design principles and theme. In addition to briefing and consulting the District Councils and other consultative bodies, two Community Envisioning Workshops will be organized at the end of 2010. Views provided via letters, phone calls and the Internet are also welcome. The consolidated views will be available to the public on the Internet.

- b) Stage 2: Building Consensus

The objective of Stage 2 is to build consensus on the design approaches. The views collected from Stage 1 will be consolidated, reviewed and analyzed for deciding on the appropriate design approaches. We plan to arrange consultative meetings or workshops at mid-2011 for presenting the collected and consolidated views, and building consensus on the proposed design approaches for greening and townscape.

Consultation

8. Members are invited to comment on the arrangements for the public engagement activities.

Civil Engineering and Development Department
Drainage Services Department
Planning Department
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啓德明渠位置圖
Location of Kai Tak Nullah