

Harbour-front Enhancement Committee
Sub-committee on Harbour Plan Review

Work Plan of the Sub-committee on Harbour Plan Review

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Paper is to seek Members' views on the proposed Work Plan of the Sub-committee covering the current term until June 2009.

Work Plan

2. The Sub-committee on Harbour Plan Review is tasked to assist the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC) to formulate an integrated harbour plan, give advice on and monitor development proposals along the existing and new harbour-fronts, identify harbour-front enhancement projects, and promote public engagement in the planning and design of the harbour-front areas.

3. To facilitate the Sub-committee to carry out the above tasks, a Work Plan for the current term is suggested as follows:

(a) Harbour Plan Review

4. A two-tier approach, i.e. to formulate a revised integrated harbour planning framework at the strategic level and to undertake review studies for areas around the harbour at the district level, is adopted in the Harbour Plan Review as agreed by HEC in May 2005. For the former, a set of Harbour Planning Principles (HPPs) and Harbour Planning Guidelines (HPGs) have been formulated, which provide a broad framework for harbour planning. For the latter, seven harbour districts have been delineated (**Plan 1**). They are, namely, Kowloon East, Kowloon Central, West Kowloon, Western Harbour, Island West, Central/Wan Chai/Causeway Bay, and Island East. While planning studies/reviews for some of the districts have been completed (i.e. Kai Tak and Wan Chai/Causeway Bay) or are near completion (i.e. Hung Hom), some are still in progress (i.e. Central and West Kowloon Cultural District) or have yet to commence. In the current term, the Sub-committee will continue to monitor the progress of and provide inputs to these on-going studies as well as new studies to be commenced.

Hong Kong Island East Harbour-front Study

5. Upon completion of the Hung Hom District Study, Island East is proposed to be the next district for review. Most of the harbour-front areas in Island East have been developed. However, there are sites pending development/redevelopment, such as the ex-North Point Estate and the areas to the north and south of Hoi Yu Street near the Eastern Harbour Crossing.

6. Planning work for the ex-North Point Estate site is being carried out separately and is already at an advanced stage. On 4 January 2008, the Town Planning Board agreed to adopt a set of basic development parameters and design requirements for the site as the basis for carrying out an air ventilation assessment study. Taking account of the AVA study, the development parameters and design requirements would be refined before consulting the HEC and the Eastern District Council in mid 2008.

7. The Hong Kong Island East Harbour-front Study will incorporate the findings of the planning work for the ex-North Point Estate site and identify opportunities for further enhancement of the Island East harbour-front areas. Other key issues worthy of examination include connecting with the proposed waterfront open space in Causeway Bay, improving pedestrian accessibility from the hinterland to the harbour-front and measures to enhance streetscape.

8. Preparatory work for the Hong Kong Island East Harbour-front Study has already been commenced. The study can be commissioned later this year. The Sub-committee will be briefed on the proposed scope, framework and detailed programme of the study and the associated public engagement programme in due course.

Revised Integrated Harbour Planning Framework

9. At the strategic level, it is considered appropriate to start working out a revised integrated harbour planning framework incorporating the HPPs, HPGs and findings/recommendations of the completed planning studies/reviews of harbour-front districts. Key harbour plan elements such as broad planned land and marine uses, development themes/functions for different harbour-front areas, major tourism nodes, extent of waterfront promenade, connectivity and major transport links, etc. can be identified for incorporation into the integrated harbour planning framework. The Sub-committee will be briefed on the proposed framework in due course.

10. In the meantime, the Sub-committee will continue to monitor the applicability of the HPPs and HPGs, and the secretariat will take stock of any comments raised on these documents. If major revisions are deemed necessary, the Task Group on HPPs can be re-convened at any juncture.

(b) Inputs to Development Proposals along Harbour-fronts

11. The Sub-committee will continue to advise on and monitor harbour-front land uses and infrastructure projects through the inventory list of known (planned and proposed) projects and provide inputs/comments on specific projects from both public and private sectors. If considered necessary, project proponents will be invited to present their development proposals/enhancement schemes within the harbour-front areas to the Sub-committee for comment/advice. Comments from the Sub-committee will be provided to relevant approving authorities for reference, where appropriate.

12. Besides, the Sub-committee will continue monitoring and advising on short-term uses along the harbour-fronts with reference to HPPs and HPGs with a view to minimizing their adverse visual, traffic and environmental impacts on the neighbourhood and enhancing vibrancy of the harbour-fronts.

(c) Identification of Harbour-front Enhancement Opportunities

13. In its previous term, the Sub-committee's role in this respect largely focused on providing comments on harbour-front enhancement projects such as the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade and offering suggestions on enhancement measures in association with development proposals. In the current term, the Sub-committee may consider working in collaboration with relevant Government departments/parties to identify opportunities for enhancement of the harbour-front areas.

14. At present, a number of Government departments/parties are involved in developments along the harbour-front. For example, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is implementing greening proposals formulated under the Greening Master Plans, some of which cover the harbour-front areas. The Highways Department implements landscaping proposals as part of road projects and undertakes streetscape enhancement measures in selected localities. Besides, some local minor enhancement works may be identified and implemented by District Offices/District Councils. Should the Sub-committee identify appropriate enhancement opportunities or quick-win enhancement proposals, the concerned Government departments can be invited to consider the feasibility and the ways on how to take forward the proposals.

(d) Promotion of Public Engagement Activities

15. In the past, the Sub-committee has actively engaged the public in various harbour-front enhancement activities to promote public awareness of harbour enhancement, such as the "Central Harbourfront and Me" public

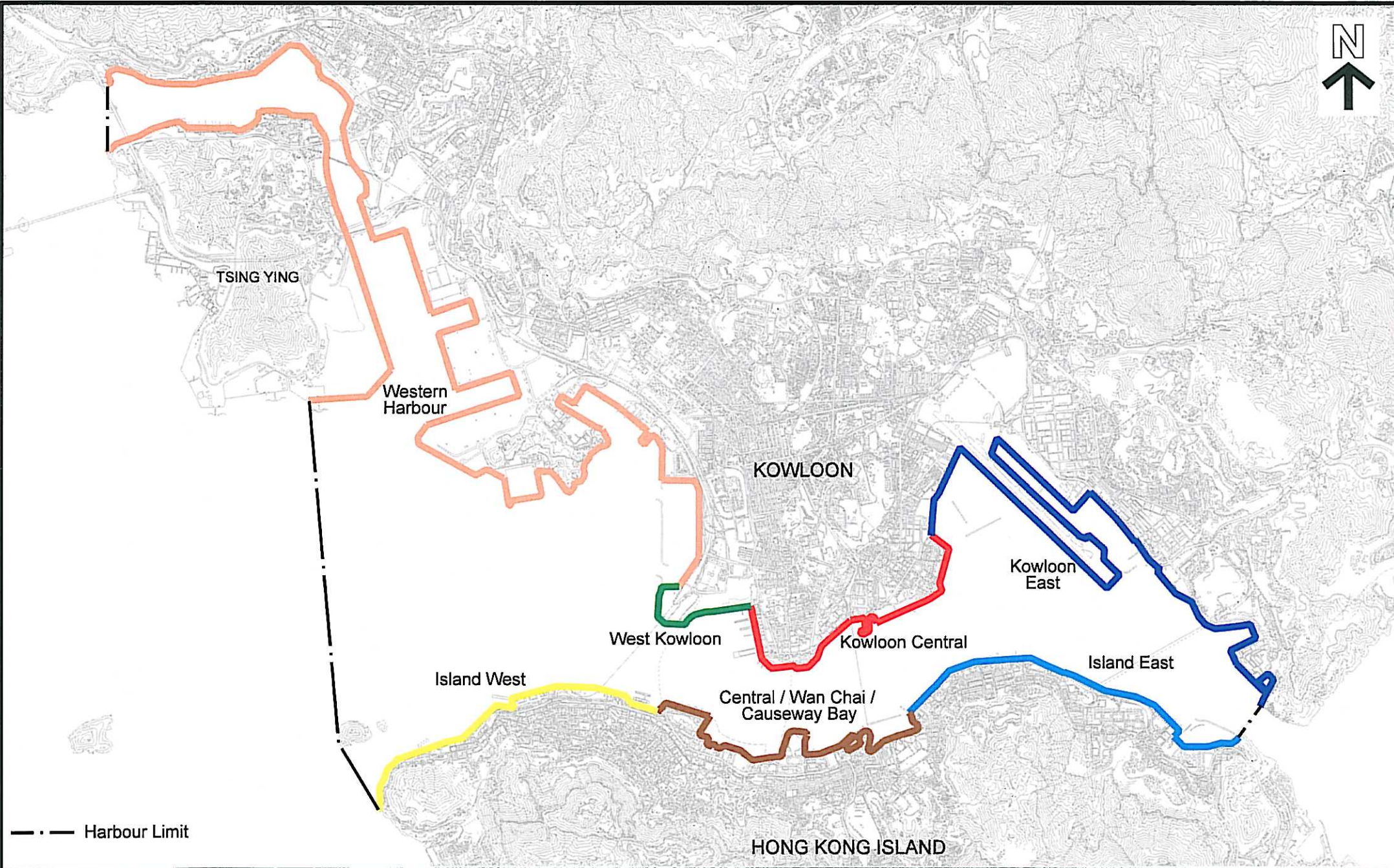
participatory programme, the “My Dreamed Harbour” drawing competition and the public engagement activities in association with the Hung Hom District Study. In the current term, similar public engagement activities will be organized for the Hong Kong Island East Harbour-front Study. If the Sub-committee has other suggestions to promote public engagement, the Secretariat can assist to explore the possibility and funding availability.

16. Further, the Secretariat will continue to update regularly the “Harbour e-info” (維港 e 訊), which contains information relating to the Harbour, for public information and reference.

Advice Sought

17. The Sub-committee is invited to consider the proposed Work Plan set out above.


**Secretariat
Sub-Committee on Harbour Plan Review
January 2008**



--- Harbour Limit

Areas for District Studies



PLANNING DEPARTMENT 	
M/SR/04/30_2a	PLAN 1
DATE : 09/01/2008	