### Lantau Development Advisory Committee Sustainable Development Subcommittee

## Task Force on Lantau Conservation <u>First Meeting</u>

Date: 5 December 2016 (Monday)

Time: 2:30pm - 5:15pm

Venue: Room C3, 3/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point,

Hong Kong

### **Notes of Meeting**

### **Members In Attendance**

Mr. Andrew LAM Siu-lo Convener

Dr. Michael LAU Wai-neng Deputy Convener

Dr. CHENG Luk-ki Representative of Green Power

Dr. Merrin Pearse Ms. HO Pui Han

Mr Julian KWONG Tse-hin Representative of The Association

for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

Mr. Paul Zimmerman

Mr. Randy YU Hon-kwan

Mr. Eric KWOK Ping

Mr. Benson LUK Hon-man

Mr. WONG Man-hon

Mr. Godfrey HO Kwok-fai SE13(SDD), CEDD Secretary

### **Facilitators**

Ms. Ginger KIANG Kam-yin DPM(SD), CEDD

Ms. Amy CHEUNG Yi-mei AD/T, PlanD

Mr. Simon HO Man-kai SEPO(RA)5, EPD
Mr. Patrick LAI Chuen-chi AD (C&MP), AFCD

### **In Attendance**

Mr. Robin LEE Kui-biu PM (HKI&I), CEDD Mr. Kevin CHAN Sze-wai STP/SP6, PlanD

Mr. Joe CHOW Chit ADO(Islands)2, HAD

### **Introduction**

1. The Convener welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Task Force on Lantau Conservation (the "Task Force") under the Sustainable Development Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") of the Lantau Development Advisory Committee (LanDAC). Mr. Robin LEE supplemented that the representatives of various Government departments were not members of the Task Force, but facilitators to assist the Task Force.

### **Agenda Item 1: Terms of Reference and Membership**

2. In discussing the Terms of Reference (ToR), Members agreed that conservation should cover history and cultural heritage, apart from nature conservation. The ToR of the Task Force was therefore slightly amended as follows:

"To report to the Sustainable Development Subcommittee of the Lantau Development Advisory Committee nature, historical and cultural heritage conservation initiatives/proposals, suggested by members of the Task Force on Lantau Conservation, which are conducive to the sustainable development of Lantau."

3. On the membership, the Convener requested the Secretariat to confirm with Members after the meeting if they would participate in the Task Force in individual capacity or as a representative of their respective organizations.

[Post meeting note: On 9 December 2016, the Secretariat sent an e-mail to Members requesting for their confirmation with regard to para. 3 above. Replies from Members are in **Annex**.]

- 4. On the notes of meeting, Members agreed to:
  - record supporting/objecting views of individual Members by name; and
  - upload the notes of the Task Force meeting onto the website of the Committee at <a href="www.landac.hk">www.landac.hk</a> for public information.
- 5. Members were invited to give opinions on conservation initiatives. They opined that the items discussed, whether or not supported by the Task Force, should be submitted to the Subcommittee of LanDAC for consideration. Mr. Paul Zimmerman requested that any submission to LanDAC or the Subcommittee regarding the Task Force must be seen by Members in advance. He also requested for advance circulation of the draft meeting agenda for Members' reference.

6. Members requested that experts/relevant stakeholders should be invited to the Task Force on a need basis.

### **Agenda Items 2 and 3: Conservation Issues and Recommended Measures**

- 7. Upon invitation of the Convener, Members shared their views on the conservation of Lantau as below:
  - Dr. Cheng Luk-ki suggested that development should only be carried out when there was no significant adverse impact on conservation. Specific guiding principles should be established. For example, Lantau could be categorized into three types of areas/zones i.e. no go areas, less sensitive areas and development areas.
  - Ms. Ho Pui-han advised the Government not to make any proposal at the planted mangrove at Tai O, which was re-provisioned as a compensation measure for development of the Chek Lap Kok Airport. Illegal activities, such as felling to get resins of incense trees, should be controlled. She opined that sustainable development should embrace the interests of all stakeholders. Conservation was one of the crucial elements only. Local views must be listened. She said Mui Wo was chosen by many of its residents because of the slow living pace, which should not be changed.
  - Mr. Randy Yu Hon-kwan concurred with Dr. Cheng's suggestion of categorization of Lantau development into three types of areas/zones. He added that many private lands had been designated with conservation zonings and were subject to strict planning and development control. Interests of the land owners were adversely affected. Mr Yu suggested identifying the common interests of different stakeholders and prioritizing the measures for implementation accordingly. Considering that all lands in Pui O wetland were privately-owned and of conservation value, he suggested the Government purchasing them all for conservation purpose.
  - Mr. Paul Zimmerman said that site specific solutions, like Development Permission Areas (DPAs) in Pui O and land resumption associated with Tung Chung River work could be further discussed in the future. He asked the Government to list out in groups all the possible conservation initiatives for Lantau for Members' consideration before the next meeting. Alternative transport mode should be considered in Lantau. He also asked for the next step after designating the conservation zonings and whether

these areas could be resumed for public purpose.

- Mr. Eric Kwok Ping opined that Pui O wetland was of high conservation value. In order to conserve it while addressing the nuisances created by the buffaloes to local residents, he shared that land should be resumed at fair price for accommodating the buffaloes. Land enforcement actions against unauthorized developments should be stepped up.
- Mr. Julian Kwong Tse-hin said that Lantau had a lot of geological and geomorphological interests valuable for education and scientific research e.g. the rock cliffs of Tai O. They should be protected with adequate buffer zones. He opined that the best practices should be adopted in the planning and development /design on Lantau to match the natural environment such as promoting eco-shoreline, and to reduce development footprint, such as replacing toll booths with electronic charging.
- Mr. Wong Man-hon stated that local residents supported Lantau development. Transport infrastructure was essential to support Tai O development. In pursuing conservation, the Government should purchase private land to avoid conflict with local residents. He cited the strong protest by residents of "Three Villages" against the designation of conservation zones for their land. To resolve the recent conflicts arising from the buffaloes, he had suggested relocating them to Soko Islands, but that was not supported by AFCD.
- Mr. Benson Luk Hon-man expressed that conservation was an important element to be considered in all Lantau projects. The Government should continue to listen to the views of green groups on Lantau development and conservation, and bring up important issues to LanDAC for consideration.
- Dr. Merrin Pearse considered the Task Force a good platform for all parties to share views on Lantau conservation issues. The Government was encouraged to introduce more eco-options and energy saving measures in pursuing different project proposals.

### **Closing Remark**

8. The Convener summarized the discussion and encouraged submission of conservation initiatives to the Secretariat, whether they were in the form of policies, management guidelines, conservation issues/proposals, for consolidation to facilitate further discussion by Members in the next meeting.

[Post meeting note: The Secretariat sent Members via e-mail dated 9 December 2016 enclosing the proposals received during the public engagement on the proposed Lantau development in January-April 2016 for Members' reference while requesting for their submission.]

#### Agenda Item 4: A.O.B.

- 9. Upon enquiry of Dr. Cheng Luk-ki, it was clarified that arrangement was being made to discuss the Green Transport Strategy (GTS) submitted jointly by the green groups to the Development Bureau (DEVB) in the Traffic, Transport and District Improvement Items Subcommittee (TTDII SC). As requested, a meeting with DEVB was being arranged before the next meeting of TTDII SC. Members were also welcomed to raise the environmental issues in relation to the GTS for discussion in the coming Task Force meeting.
- 10. The Convener thanked Members for attending the first meeting of the Task Force. The meeting was closed at 5:15 pm.

大嶼山發展諮詢委員會可持續發展小組 -大嶼山保育工作小組 LanDAC Sustainable Development Subcommittee -Task Force on Lantau Conservation

# 工作小組成員 Membership

刀使 I Convener	Mr Androw LAM Civ. lo. ID	<b>从</b> 您角	個人 Individual
召集人 Convener	Mr Andrew LAM Siu-lo, JP	<b>你似晉兀生</b>	间入 Individual
副召集人 Deputy Convener	Dr Michael LAU Wai-neng	劉惠寧博士	個人 Individual
成員 Members	Mr Randy YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP	余漢坤先生	個人 Individual
	Mr Eric KWOK Ping	郭平先生	個人 Individual
	Mr Benson LUK Hon-man	陸瀚民先生	個人 Individual
	Mr WONG Man-hon	黄文漢先生	個人 Individual
	Mr CHEUNG Fu	張富先生	大嶼山南區鄉事委員會代表 Representative of South Lantao Rural Committee
	Dr Cheng Luk-ki	鄭睦奇博士	綠色力量代表 Representative of Green Power
	Dr Merrin Pearse		個人 Individual
	Mr Paul Zimmerman	司馬文先生	個人 Individual
	Mr Julian TH Kwong	鄺子憲先生	香港地貌岩石保育協會代表 Representative of The Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong
	Ms Ho Pui Han	何佩嫻女士	個人 Individual
	Mr So Kwok Yin, Ken	蘇國賢先生	長春社代表 Representative of The Conservancy Association