



YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP NEWSLETTER

Hong Kong Institute of Planners

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The Hong Kong Institute of Planners

Young Planners Group (YPG) is a group of energetic and ambitious young planners who care and want to plan for the future.

Here we are glad to present you our third newsletter. In the past few months, we attended different community workshops, organized outreach program and sports activities. Besides, we organized our 11th anniversary party and involved in different charity works! Please enjoy our newsletter!

RECENT ACTIVITIES

BLOSSOMING 10
11th ANNIVERSARY PARTY
2001 - 2012

young planners group logo
The Hong Kong Institute of Planners logo

BLOSSOMING 10 – YPG's 11th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

YPG Committee Members

Research Subgroup

Clement Miu
Mathew Fung (Co-chairman)
Rosa Tse
Y.T. Li



The Hong Kong Institute of Planners

NGO Subgroup

Apo Wai
Brian Chau (Co-chairman)
Kate Kwok
Lake So

Mentorship Subgroup

Daniel Tang
Edwin Tang (Co-chairman)
Louis Cheung
Silvia Chan

Outreach Subgroup

Benson Poon
Billy Au-Yeung
Maggie Wu
Sandy Chan

Recreation Subgroup

Abraham Leung
Fiona Cheung
Natalie Chan
Vicki Au



Public Engagement – Our Future Railway – Study for The Review and Update of “Railway Development Strategy 2000”

起 Energizing 動 Kowloon East 九龍東

CBD²

Design 設計
Connectivity 連繫
Diversity 多元化
Branding 品牌

Public Engagement – Energizing Kowloon East Public Workshop



Editor's Views – Why do people prefer living in the urban area?



Charity Event – HKIP YPG Donor Scholarship 2012



Bring Together via Sports – The Soccer Game



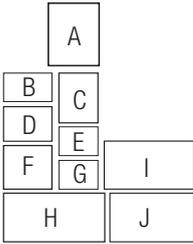
Guest Day Lunch at Legislative Council Dining Hall with Hon. Professor Lau

& NEXT >>

YIM ITIN TSAI VILLAGE TOUR

THE BLOSSOMING 10 !

YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP'S 11th ANNIVERSARY COCKTAIL PARTY



- A: Event poster
- B: Plenty of drinks... and FOOD!
- C: The YPG light!
- D: Thanks our president Dr. Peter Cookson Smith for his continued support to YPG!
- E/F: All YPG friends signed on our welcoming board!
- G: CHEERS!!!!
- H: FULL HOUSE!
- I: OCs of this event



Summer of 2012 is the 11th anniversary of the YPG. A cocktail party was held at K11 – Steak World Meat on 30.4.2012 to celebrate the beginning of our second decade in serving young planners of Hong Kong.

The theme of the party, “Blossoming 10”, signified our first decade of service in nurturing local planning talents. Over the years, YPG has blossomed from a committee of five people to an established group of over twenty passionate young planners, who are aspired to provide professional enrichment opportunities for our young members’ benefits. Building on the great foundation laid by our forerunners, we look forward to reaching beyond the local planning circle and extending our reach to the global community at large.

With the support of many young and experienced planners, as well as friends who came from different backgrounds just to share the joy of YPG, the party was a great success. We celebrated with more than 80 guests joining the event. The venue, Steak World Meats, was recommended in the Michelin Guide Hong Kong Macau 2012 for its top-notch yet affordable gourmet. Fine wine with 9 signature canapés served on the cozy terrace lounge had undoubtedly intensified the joy of celebration and reunion in that early summer evening event. It was a fabulous night of sharing, laughter and fun, many of our guests stayed till the last minute of the party. Instead of an end, the party signified a new chapter of YPG to launch another wonderful decade by acting as a platform for young planners to excel.



OUR FUTURE RAILWAY

STUDY FOR THE REVIEW AND UPDATE OF "RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2000"

Railway is the backbone of Hong Kong's public transport network. The railway system in Hong Kong provides fast, reliable and convenient services, and many of us commute by railway every day. In December 1994, the Government established the first Railway Development Strategy to provide a framework for planning the future expansion of Hong Kong's railway network. Subsequently, the second Railway Development Study ("RDS-2") was commissioned by the Government in 1998. Based on the findings of RDS-2, the Government has formulated the Railway Development Strategy 2000, which mapped out a plan for the expansion of Hong Kong's railway network up to year 2016.

In March 2011, a consultancy study for the Review and Update of the Railway Development Strategy 2000 (the Study) was commenced. Stage 1 of the Study is currently underway, which focuses on the review of the demand for major regional railway corridor in key development areas and proposes railway alignment schemes to enhance railway coverage for associated areas. To obtain public views on the study findings and recommendations under Stage 1 of the Study, a two-month period of public engagement activities, including roving exhibitions and public forums have been conducted between April 2012 and June 2012.

Members of the YPGC attended the public forum held on 5.5.2012. The key findings of stage 1 of the Study were presented. In view of the significant changes in planning parameters as well as the cross-boundary transport development trends, three conceptual regional railway corridors, namely the Hong Kong Shenzhen Western Express Airport Rail Link (WEL), the Northern Link (NOL) and the Coastal Railway between Tuen Mun to Tsuen Wan (Tuen Mun to Tsuen Wan Link) were proposed for further study and discussion with the public. Participants of the public forum have actively expressed their views on the Stage 1 Study findings, especially on the necessity for the implementation as well as the alignment of the proposed railway corridors.

Stage 2 of the Study is tentatively scheduled to be commenced by end of 2012, which will further review and modify the railway corridors proposed under Stage 1 based on the public views obtained. The potential bottleneck locations in the future railway network will also be assessed and local enhancement schemes, in particular those for railway services in the urban area will be proposed under Stage 2 of the Study. Stay tuned!

A	
B	D
C	E
F	

- A: The Study is organized by the Transport and Housing Bureau and contracted to AECOM and MVA
- B: Public comments were well received in different public engagement events
- C: Representatives from the Transport and Housing Bureau and the Host
- D: Major new traffic demand area in the future
- E: Railway network in Hong Kong at 2020
- F: Major Regional Railway Corridors proposed under Stage 1 of the Study



All figures and information are collected from <http://www.ourfuture railway.hk>

ENERGIZING KOWLOON EAST

The Public Workshop



The participants had a wonderful time



Members of YPG were invited by the Development Bureau to participate in the Energizing Kowloon East Public Workshop held on 5 May 2012. The objective of the workshop was to solicit public views on selected proposals of the Conceptual Master Plan of the development of Kowloon East as well as to discover and develop other public initiatives. Members of YPG acted as facilitators to assist in the group discussion session of the workshop.



What is coming up for our CBD 2?

All figures and photos are collected from http://www.devb.gov.hk/gallery/photo_KE_2012/index1.html

As young planners, we are delighted to have the opportunity to participate in one of the public engagement events for the development of Kowloon East.



GUEST DAY INVITATION TO LEGCO.

Lunch with Hon. Professor Patrick Lau Sau-shing

On 1.6.2012, YPG members were invited to visit the Central Government Complex. Members were also invited to attend a lunch gathering with Hon. Prof. Patrick Lau.

The Central Government Complex is the new location for the offices of the Hong Kong Government. The new government building employs a mixture of postmodern architecture and low-frills international design. Located at the Tamar site, the complex houses the Office of the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, the Legislative Council and the Central Government Offices.

Hon. Prof. Patrick Lau gave a brief guided tour at the LegCo block, which comprises a low block and a high block. The Low block, also known as the 'Council Block', mainly houses conference facilities including the Chamber, major conference room, and communal facilities such as Library, Cafeteria and education facilities. The high block, also known as the 'Office Block', mainly houses offices of members and staff of the Legislative Council Secretariat.



WHY DO PEOPLE PREFER LIVING IN THE URBAN AREA?

The Editor's Views

It sounds silly, if not too dumb to ask. Any old ladies/young lads, even without a town planning degree, can give a list of reasons:

- well-established transport network/convenient to go anywhere/shorter commuting time;
- good for shopping/more choices/more sole proprietors, less standard items as in the shopping malls;
- more variety of goods for everyday life;
- diversity of food in the wet market/cheaper food;
- vibrancy/street life/daily life can be satisfied within walking distance;
- can grab late night snack anytime/fish ball, cow organs, siu mai, hot pot rice...etc....all you can name;
- closer to services/activities centres;
- mixed use within buildings/buildings that can accommodate a variety of activities; and
- cage housing, partitioned flats (劏房) available (could we call this the availability of housing choices?!)

It seems that the above reasons have fairly defined the characteristics of urban area and if the above-mentioned reasons are recognized as preferred characters, then why can't we adopt the formulas and apply them to the development of new towns, so that people are happier to live away from the urban area and the overcrowding problem could be relieved? Indeed, there has been much criticism of new towns, in particular the third generation new towns such as Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung and Tseung Kwan O, for their lack of characters (ironically they are renowned for their monotonous urban-scape) and vibrancy, as well as lack of choices to meet the needs of everyday lives.

When planners invested their time and effort with the aim to plan for a livable community for the public, yet the good intention could not be translated into satisfying results. Many can't help asking: what has gone wrong? Can't vibrancy and the availability of choices be achieved by land use allocation, guiding principles or design guidelines? What are missing? Of course there is no single/simple answer to the question. But if we do not look into the question seriously, future new towns (now we call them New Development Areas (NDAs)) will fail to address the needs of the people.

So how do you see the problem? If you have opinions, don't be shy and we are looking forward to collecting views from you! Please forward your view to FACEBOOK PAGE and your view will be published in the next issue of newsletter in November.



Traditional and typical streetscape of Hong Kong



One of the major components of Hong Kong streetscape, on-street restaurant



Old shops which give character to the street, are threatened by urban renewal



The new character of Hong Kong?

EXHIBITION + DONATION

Summing up 11/12 Hong Kong Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale



We donate all display electronic goods and furniture to the Salvation Army



We received more than 1,500 comments from the visitors!

The 2011/12 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism and Architecture has come to an end with a record-breaking 150,000 person-times of visitors for the 5 pavilions and 2 satellite venues.

YPG is proud to participate in this year's Biennale. Our exhibition 'A BED OF LIFE' was well received by planning professionals and the general public. More than 1,500 local and overseas visitors posted their views on our "Comment Wall". Our exhibition also received wide press coverage in newspapers, magazines and TV media. We sincerely thank all of you for your continuous support and guidance throughout the exhibition period!

In order to show our commitment to serve the under-privileged community, we not only presented the caged housing situation to the public, YPG also decided to donate all display electrical appliance and furniture to the Salvation Army. We target to serve the public in all means!

HKIP-YPG DONOR SCHOLARSHIP

Our first scholarship ever

In order to share joy and festivities to underprivileged children, YPG organized a Christmas Party in December 2011 for Primary 5 & 6 students of Sun Wui Commercial Society School. The event was well supported by our fellow HKIP members and their families, donations received were more than enough for the party itself. Based on the understanding that our donors intend their money to be used wisely on students in need, YPGC came up with the idea of setting up "2012 HKIP-Young Planners Group Donor Scholarship" (香港規劃師學會青年規劃組獎學金) program for the same group of students. The scholarship provide 4 primary 5 or 6 students of Sun Wui Commercial Society School, with HKD \$ 800 each in the academic year 2011-2012.

The scholarship aims to provide financial support and encouragement to students based on the following criteria:

- (i) excellent academic records;
- (ii) genuine financial need;
- (iii) most improving results; and
- (iv) good conduct



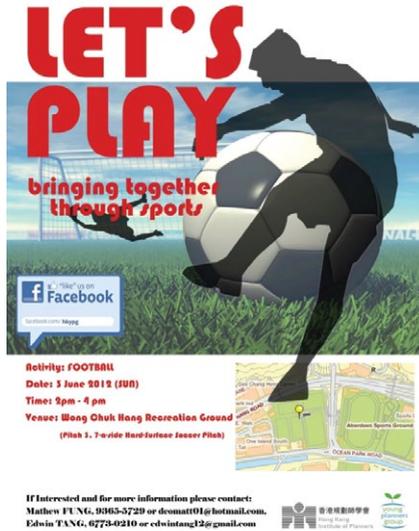
The winners of the 2012 HKIP-Young Planners Group Donor Scholarship

On 11.7.2012, the Scholarship was successfully presented to the winners during the 2011-2012 Graduation Ceremony of Sun Wui Commercial Society School. While LI Bo Shing(李寶鉞) and LI Kam Shing(李錦成)from Primary 6 and LI Yit Pui(李亦佩)and WONG Kam Wing(黃錦榮) from Primary 5 were the winners of our scholarship, we are pleased to have Mr. P. Y. TAM, the immediate past president of HKIP, to present the awards and certificates on behalf of YPG to the four outstanding students. We hope this will be the starting point of our Scholarship and wish it can inspire, encourage and assist more students in the future.

BRING TOGETHER VIA SPORTS

The Soccer Game

Work of a planner is always meaningful but harsh. Liaison with clients, reading tons of reports and bringing up creative ideas require a lot of energy and brain power. In order to survive in the daily life working pressure, planners must maintain good physique. In view of this, YPG plans to organize a series of sport activities "Let's Play - Bring together through sports". On 3.6.2012, we brought planners together through soccer game in Wong Chuk Hang Sports Ground. Having enjoyed the joy and fun during the football game, YPG will organize different kinds of sports games in the future.



& NEXT >>

YIM TIN TSAI VILLAGE TOUR

YPG is organizing a half day guided tour to Yim Tin Tsai Village on 25.8.2012. A tour to this 300 years old Hakka village will be conducted by the local villagers. Visiting to one of the 2005 UNESCO Asia - Pacific Heritage Award winning monuments, the St. Joseph's Chapel, as well as the salt pan and mangrove will be the highlight of this unique cultural and ecological tour. More photos and sharing will be posted on the next issue of our Newsletter.



FOR MORE... FIND US ON FACEBOOK

We have a NEW Facebook Page to help you network with fellow young planners in Hong Kong. Please feel free to visit us!

Search 'HKIP Young Planners Group' or simply click '<http://www.facebook.com/hkypg>'

