



Planning & Development Division Sr Edmond Yew PDD Council Chairman

Kung Hei Fat Choy! Wishing you and your family a Happy Lunar New Year with abundant joy, good health and greater heights of success and prosperity!

Liaison Office of Central People's Government 2019 Spring Cocktail

I joined the Spring Cocktail hosted by the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (中聯辦) on 29 January. It was an enjoyable evening, we all had happy chats and good mingle with business associates and friends.



HKU BSc(Surveying) Dissertation Interim Presentation

On 15 February, I attended the final year dissertation interim presentation of the HKU BSc(Surveying) as one of the panel assessors. It was my pleasure to share with these future surveyors my comments on their interesting and insightful research projects.



THEi Surveying Studio - Career Sharing Seminars

I was invited to THEi on 20 February to introduce the career prospects of planning and development surveyors to the surveying students during their studio session. In light of the growing demand for developing land for housing, urban renewal and new town development, the roles of the planning and development surveyors are getting more and more important to plan and identify the potential uses of lands, optimise the land use planning and overall manage the development process.



The Symposium on Outline Development Plan for Greater Bay Area

On 21 February, I attended the Symposium on Outline Development Plan for Greater Bay Area where the Deputy Director of the National Development and Reform Commission, Mr Lin Nianxiu, Governor of Guangdong Province, Mr Ma Xingrui, Chief Executive of HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam and Chief Executive of Macao SAR, Mr Chui Sai On, pledged to capitalise on their advantages to contribute to the Greater Bay Area. The outline plan sets out the development direction and the roles of the two special administrative regions and nine cities in the Pearl River Delta. As one of the key cities, Hong Kong would continue to strengthen its status as international centers of finance, transportation, trade and legal and dispute resolution for the Asia-Pacific. It is indeed encouraging to know how the outline plan could inject new impetus into society and the economy to create more opportunities for Hong Kong people.

Meeting with President of SIP

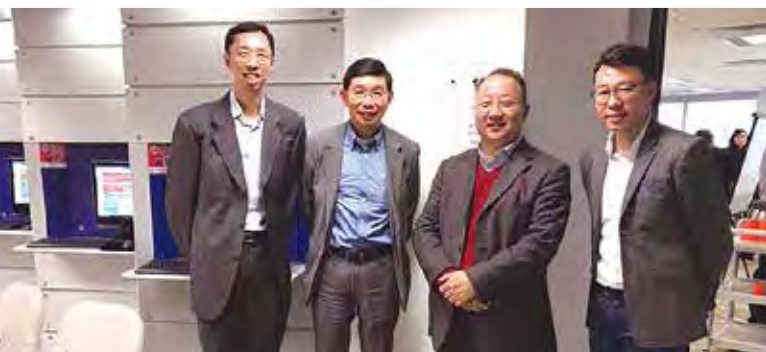
I paid a visit to the President of the Singapore Institute of Planners (SIP) on 22 February to plan for the year ahead, providing platforms and opportunities for our members to exchange professional knowledge regularly. Therefore, we invited them to be our judges for the upcoming Mater Planning Award in November, where developers or consultants are welcomed to submit their proposals on how the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong Projects could be sustainably planned and developed. In return, SIP invited our members to participate in the 6th SIP Planning Awards 2019 (International Category), which aims to honor urban planners and the team for their various excellent planning projects or plans undertaken in Singapore and overseas.



https://www.planning.org.sg/cms/ev/2019-20190211134325/SIPAward2019_flyer.pdf

Improving Environmental Performance of HK Construction Industry

On 24 February, I attended the forum-“Improving Environmental Performance of HK Construction Industry” organised by the Hong Kong Construction Association. According to the interim consultancy report for the Low Carbon Construction Roadmap, it is impressive how the construction industry has improved different environmental aspects through reviewing governance structure, implementing a knowledge sharing platform, supporting the construction waste sorting and management, using cleaner energy and low carbon equipment on-site, providing incentive for low carbon construction materials and phase out carbon intensive materials.



Meeting with Smart City Consortium

I met the Project Director of the Smart City Consortium, Mr Eddie Cheung, on 25 February with the Land Surveying division. To develop Hong Kong as the world leading Smart City so as to improve the quality of life of people, different professionals have to work together to advise the government on formulating

policies and standards related to Smart City development. Planning and development surveying in particular, has strong expertise to recommend Smart City visions and strategic planning policies. Hence, to contribute to the development of Smart Hong Kong, we would like to join the Consortium and sign an MOU with them for closer cooperation.



Innovative & Green Building Conference

I attended the Innovative and Green Building Conference organised by the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) on 27 February. Attracting more than 400 participants, the conference brought together green building practitioners with experts in the Internet of Things (IoT), big data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to share knowledge and experiences to drive innovation towards a smart green built environment.



Forum on Lantau Tomorrow — Dialogue with Secretary for Development

On 1 March, I shared my opinion on the Lantau Tomorrow vision at the forum in Legco Building.

I agreed that the development could alleviate housing shortage and serve as a key land supply for HK, yet the multi-Islands scheme may incur additional construction costs, leading to inefficient land use and causing adverse impact on the environment.

It is important for the government to prepare a long-term plan, setting out development directions beyond 2030+, a 50 years vision, while adopting sustainable and smart planning approaches.

Since there has been some concerns about the risks of excessive public expenditure, the government could explore the possibilities of PPP or BOT or some strategic partnerships with the private sectors which may lower the project risks and increase the operation efficiency by leveraging on market intelligence.

In addition, the government may also consider issuing long-term infrastructure bonds or setting up a fund or a public-listed corporation to raise project finance and to attract more international investors to participate in the Project.



Upcoming CPDs

9 March 2019, 9:30am – 1pm

Careers Expo for HKU BAUS & MUPD Students & PDD Probationers

Representatives from CEDD, PlanD, HK major developers and consultants will introduce to graduates the job opportunities and the career prospects of their organisations. Other career opportunities from MTRC, Link REITs, etc will also be presented. Furthermore, there will be a briefing on the PDD APC and PSQL for our probationers and student members to have a clearer picture on how to pursue a professional career as a planning and development surveyor.

21 March 2019, 7 - 8:30pm

Topic: Urban Design and Planning in the Greater Bay Area

Speaker: SOM Asia Limited

30 March 2019, 9am - 1pm

Greater Bay Area Seminar- “深入展研大灣區規劃 - 從規劃及發展 出發”

Speakers:

Prof K K Ling

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