



**Planning & Development Division**  
Sr Edmond Yew PDD Council Chairman

## SIP-HKIS PDD-URA Forum in Singapore: What's Next? New Plans in Singapore & Hong Kong

The planning forum the PDD jointly organized with the Singapore Institute of Planners (SIP) and Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) was successfully held in Singapore on World Planning Day, 8 November. Before the forum started, the HKIS delegates, including corporate members from Hong Kong, Singapore and Beijing Chapters as well as other members from HKIP and GCPA visited Singapore's Housing and Development Board (HDB) to better understand the latest planning and development strategies of Public Housing in Singapore.

Since the establishment of Singapore, HDB has been playing a key role in supporting Singapore's commitment to sustainable development. Instead of addressing housing issues, HDB takes a comprehensive approach in planning and developing well-designed towns guided by various principles such as planning for self-sufficiency, the Neighborhood concept, the Checkerboard concept, hierarchy of facilities and planning for connectivity. Working with industry partners and other government bodies, HDB is also actively exploring technologies and urban solutions that could make towns even more livable, efficient and safe.

One of the successful cases adopting the above-mentioned smart city concepts was the Jurong Innovation District, an advanced manufacturing campus planned and developed by JTC Corporation. When completed, the district will create an environment to house different activities which bring together researchers, students, innovators and businesses to develop products and services of the future.

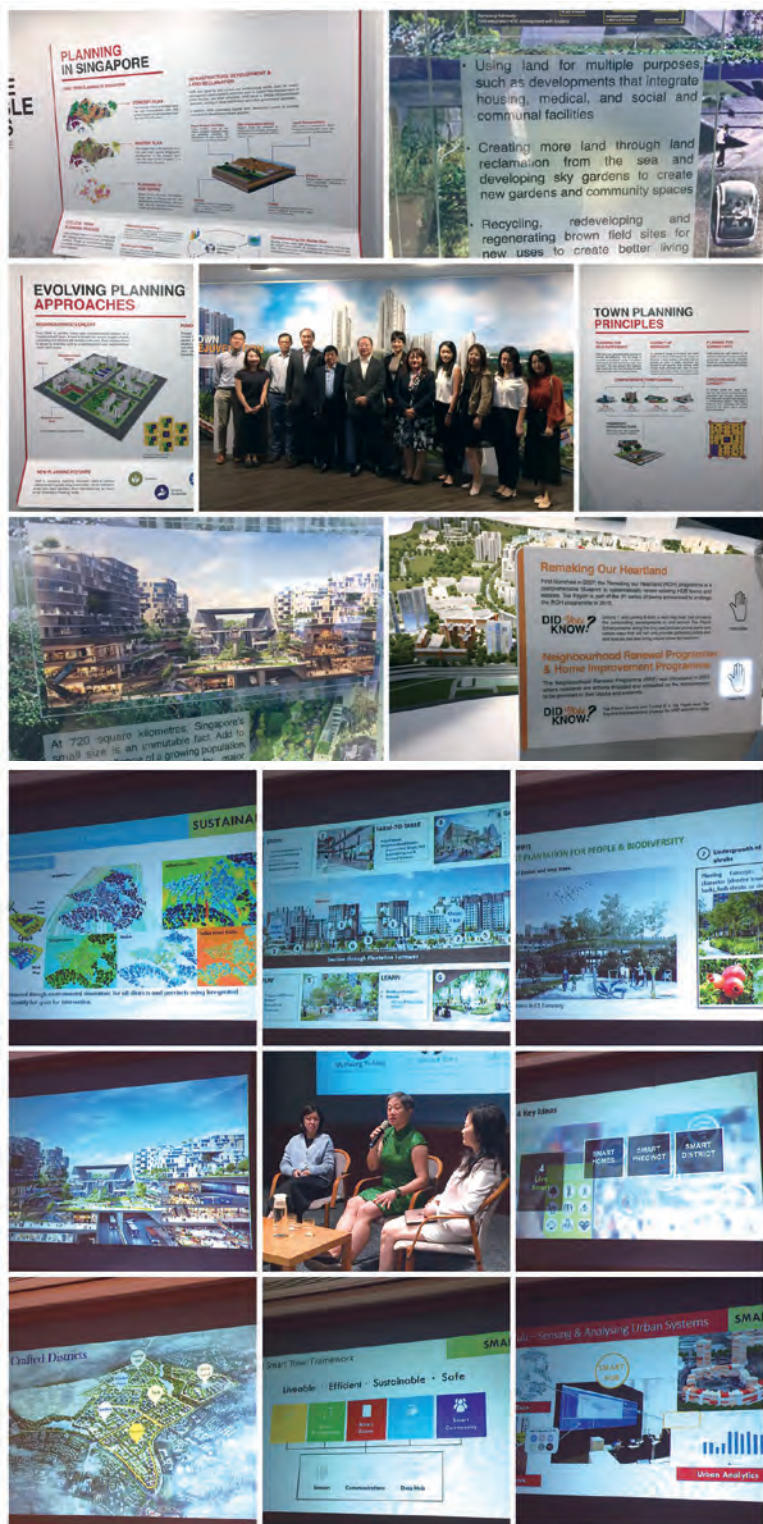
I would also like to thank Mr Wilfred Loo, President of SIP, Ms Hwang Yu-Ning, Chief Planner and Deputy CEO of URA for being the hosts and sponsors. Other than appreciating the speakers from JTC and HDB, special

thanks go to the Hon Tony Tse Wai-Chuen, BBS, Member of the Legislative Council - Architectural, Surveying, Planning and Landscape Functional Constituency; Senior Vice-President Sr Winnie Shiu; Mr Tan Yuwen, Deputy Technical Director of the Guangdong Urban & Rural Planning & Design Institute; and Professor Tang Bo Sin who flew all the way to Singapore to present their speeches and moderate this event.



# DIVISIONAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

## 組別簡訊



## HKIS Annual Dinner

On 12 November, I, together with Council Members, had an enjoyable night celebrating the HKIS's 35th anniversary with friends and honourable guests.



## PDD Annual General Meeting

Other than to report and review the achievements of the previous year, the Annual General Meeting saw the election of the new PDD Council. Congratulations to the newly-elected Chairman, Sr Francis Lam, and all OBs and Council Members!

As my two-year term as Chairman of the PDD concludes, I take this opportunity to extend my sincerest gratitude to all Corporate Members, Council Members, OBs, and Vice Chairmen

for their generous contributions to the division during this period. Without their support, the PDD would not be able to promote planning and development at both the local and regional levels, provide adequate professional training to its student members and probationers, and nurture planning and development surveyors in Hong Kong. In the coming term, I am sure that under the new Chairman, the PDD will continue to thrive and achieve more accomplishments and milestones.

to Lantau Tomorrow Vision; the new NDA's planning, transport, and infrastructure limitations in the New Territories; the proposed new CBDs; the debates over land supply for housing development; and the Letter M. It helped shed light on how future developments in the New Territories can be fully optimised to meet Hong Kong's most pressing social needs.

Mr Ivan Chung, Deputy Director of the Planning Department, presented facts about the significant economic contributions of the NDAs and New Town Extensions, acknowledging the strategic importance of forming smart, green and resilient (SGR) communities in the NT for Hong Kong's sustainable development. In light of the current commuting issue faced by NT residents, Professor Ling Kar-kan recommended the establishment of the CBD 3.0: East Lantau Metropolis, northern economic belt and new NDAs in order to achieve a more sustainable spatial job-house balance by enhancing the economic position of the NT.

Sr Prof Chau Kwong Wing stated that since 2012, car registration has exceeded the population growth. According to the figures, car ownership rate of NT households is higher than that of the urban areas in Hong Kong and the price of private car parks is increasing dramatically in recent years. As such, there is a need to address the growing demand for car parking spaces in the NDAs of the NT.



PDD Annual General Meeting

## PDD Annual Conference

On 16 November, the PDD successfully held a half-day annual conference on the topic, "Planning and Development in the New Territories". Attendees appreciated the valuable insights of the guest speakers, seasoned professionals from the private and public sectors, and academic and community leaders (Mr Ivan Chung, Sr Prof Chau Kwong Wing, Professor Ling Kar-kan, Mr Ryan Ip, Sr Hon Tony Tse, and Sr Prof Albert So Chun-hin).

The conference also covered topics related





## Dialogue with Secretary for Development - Forum on Land Sharing Scheme

On 18 November, I was invited to meet with the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong Wai-lun, and his team to discuss the Legislative Council's Land Sharing Pilot Scheme. Under the current proposal, only land that is covered by NDAs, New Town Extension projects, and other areas under study (public housing, country parks, and special areas), as well as those zoned under the six environmentally sensitive uses and 12 priority sites for enhanced conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy, is ineligible for the pilot scheme. In other words, areas zoned as green belts and V-zones may also be eligible for the application. Even so, the attractiveness of the scheme to developers is questionable, as it requires at least 70% of the additional GFA to be carved out and surrendered to the Government to provide public housing or starter homes, while the full premium for the part that comprises private housing and commercial facilities must be paid.

To boost the application rate, the PDD recommends that flexibility should be allowed for the additional GFA division ratio between the developer and Government, while a discount should be considered for the land premium. Without incentives for private landowners, the scheme may not achieve its intended goals.

Through more constructive dialogue, I hope the Government will formulate comprehensive

plans to introduce it to all stakeholders to avoid public misinterpretations, which may hinder the execution of the new scheme at a later stage.



## Drinks Gathering with the Buildings Department Director

It was truly a pleasure talking to the Director and Deputy Director of the Buildings Department, Dr Cheung Tin-cheung and Mrs Hui Ming Fong about the Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Macau during a drinks gathering on 25 November. Although the significant benefits from adopting MiC have been proven by numerous successful overseas cases, there still exist multifaceted challenges. Hopefully, the Government could provide more administrative support to Hong Kong's construction industry so that this innovative construction method could overcome some of its identified challenges and be widely adopted to modernise the industry.

