



Planning & Development Division
Sr Francis Lam PDD Council Chairman

Happy Chinese New Year!
PDD wishes you all good health and good luck in the Year of the Rat.



Hong Kong 2020 International Urban Forestry Conference

On 16 January, I attended the Hong Kong 2020 International Urban Forestry Conference organised by the Development Bureau at Tai Kwun. It was the first international conference held on urban forestry in Hong Kong. Although it is the Government's long-term goal to promote resilient urban forestry in the city, there are huge challenges that Hong Kong must overcome before it could pursue 'green city' development. International scholars, professionals, and government officials were invited to share their experiences in and perspectives on green cities, resilient landscapes, and tree care.



Briefing Session on the New Measures for the Construction Industry in China

To follow up on last November's signing of the Agreement Concerning an Amendment to the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic

Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) on the Trade in Services (Amendment Agreement) between China and Hong Kong, there will be new measures to promote development on the Mainland, especially in the Greater Bay Area. The Development Bureau organised a briefing session on 20 January to explain these new measures for the construction sector. Sr Dr Stephen Lai and I, representing the HKIS, attended this meeting, during which the Government explained the new measures under the CEPA (2019 revised version) including a mutual recognition of qualifications and areas of practice.

Also, the new recognition guidelines and practice notes for the Zhuhai Hengqin New Area will be published soon.

A Talk on the Land-Sharing Pilot Scheme

The Development Bureau outlined the details of the Land-Sharing Pilot Scheme (LSPS) for alleviating Hong Kong's current residential land shortage through a public-private partnership. The LSPS was developed in November 2019 and is scheduled to launch in 2020. On 23 January, the PDD invited Ms Bernadette Linn, JP, the Government's Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands), to share with its members details of the LSPS.

During the Q&A session, members raised questions on and concerns over the scheme. The PDD will continue to invite Government officials to update its members on the latest changes to the Government's policies.

