



General Practice Division
Sr Andrew Chan GPD Council Chairman

As we usher in a joyous celebration of the lunar new year, we should embrace a time of revitalisation, introspection, and solidarity. This serves as a remarkable opportunity for members to reflect on their accomplishments, embrace fresh beginnings, and foster stronger connections within the GPD.

I express my deepest gratitude to every member for his/her unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and unwavering commitment to the division's work. Together, members have reached remarkable milestones and made significant contributions to the growth and advancement of the industry. As the new year proceeds, I am fully confident that the GPD will continue to reach new heights and establish unprecedented standards of excellence



May the Year of the Dragon bestow upon all an abundance of good fortune, prosperity, and success in all facets of their personal and professional lives. Let us embrace the opportunities that lie ahead with unwavering determination and resilience!

The Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) (Amendment) Bill 2023

Development Bureau published the Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) (Amendment) Bill 2023 on 19 December. It aims to enhance the efficiency of the compulsory sale framework governed by Cap 545. The Bill was subsequently presented for its first reading to LegCo on 10 January, while its second reading will be adjourned.

There is a broad public consensus to expedite the revitalisation and redevelopment of Hong Kong's ageing urban districts. The Government cannot shoulder all of this task, so it is crucial to effectively leverage the potential of the capital market. The GPD firmly believes that through the Bill and its proposed administrative measures, which take into account input from LegCo and other stakeholders, a fair balance can be struck between diverse policy considerations, the interests of society, and small property owners.

Apart from extending invitations to DevB's Ms Jenny Choi, Deputy Secretary for Development (Planning & Lands), and Ms Fiona Chau, Principal Assistant Secretary for Development (Planning & Lands), to conduct a CPD on the Bill, which is already fully booked, in February 2024, the GPD and Working Group on the Review of the Compulsory Sale Threshold are determined to closely collaborate with DevB and other relevant Government departments to ensure the Bill's smooth implementation.

Furthermore, it is of utmost importance that the Working Group commits to providing timely updates on the Overview of the Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) Ordinance booklet, which aims to offer property

owners a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the fundamental aspects of the Ordinance and its direct implications. By addressing common inquiries related to the Ordinance, the booklet serves as a valuable resource for property owners to navigate the complexities of the Ordinance. Once again, I express my heartfelt appreciation to the Working Group for helping to expedite Hong Kong's redevelopment process while safeguarding the interests of minority property owners.

2024 Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Industry Forum

The highly anticipated 2024 Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Industry Forum is scheduled to occur in Guangzhou from 26-27 March 2024. Its third sub-forum is co-organised by the HKIS, China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents, and Guangdong Engineering Cost Association. It will feature plenty of discussions including an experience-sharing session on the real estate valuation practice's development in Mainland China and Hong Kong, as well as a summary of real estate consultancy innovations.

As the Mainland real estate market continues to mature, it has developed an impressive collection of real estate-related financial products, such as C-REITs, and increased demand for high-quality and diverse services from surveyors. I am honoured to represent the GPD at the forum and will deliver a presentation on the topic of diverse, value-added services in real estate valuation, which covers the opportunities beyond traditional real estate valuation and intends to foster further collaboration among professionals in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

The GPD looks forward to exchanging ideas and valuable insights at the forum as participants collectively strive to advance the real estate industry.

Welcoming Drinks Gathering in April

In 2023, 36 candidates happily passed their interviews during the APC Part II Assessment. To celebrate their achievements and warmly welcome them to the HKIS, the GPD will host a delightful welcome drinks event in April 2024. More details on this celebration will come soon as the division eagerly anticipates raising a glass to toast the success of these talented individuals.



CPD Highlights

In addition to the abovementioned Briefing on the Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) (Amendment) Bill 2023 on 1 February 2024, the GPD has another exciting CPD scheduled just two days later – a visit to Sino Group's One North project site. DevB's launch of the Northern Metropolis Action Agenda in 2023 demonstrated the Government's determination to expedite the construction of the Northern Metropolis. This CPD will offer a first-hand account of One North, which is a pioneering Grade A office development within the Northern Metropolis, as well as a glimpse into the project's future.

Following the tremendous success of the previous CPD, "Kowloon Tong Garden Estate – What History has taught us?," in August 2021, the GPD is delighted to announce this next instalment of the informative series: "Kowloon Tong Garden City – The History and The Latest Court Judgement," scheduled for 20 February 2024. This CPD will provide an in-depth look at the historical background of the esteemed Kowloon Tong Garden Estate and focus on a recent court decision, *Eastrade Holdings, Ltd v Secretary for Justice* for and on behalf of the Director of Lands, in relation to the development.

Don't miss a chance to connect with industry experts, acquire valuable insights, and broaden your knowledge. The GPD looks forward to your active participation in all future CPDs.



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