

(Translation)

22 December 2020

Mr LO Kin-hei  
Chairman, Southern District Council  
1/F, Ocean Court  
3 Aberdeen Praya Road,  
Southern District, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

**Southern District Council (SDC)**  
**To Leverage the Development of “Invigorating Island South” Initiative**  
**for a Reform of the Waterfront in Bays Area**

On 25 November 2020, the Chief Executive announced in her Policy Address the introduction of the “Invigorating Island South” (IIS) initiative with an aim of developing the Southern District into a place for people to work, live, explore new ideas and have fun. The key projects include formulating a proposal for the rebirth of Ocean Park and enhancing the facilities in the district.

To tie in with the IIS initiative, I request that the management of the tourist attractions and facilities in the local district should be rearranged in conjunction with a reform of the waterfront in the Bays Area as detailed below:

1. There is a pedestrian walkway by the seaside stretching from the barbecue site of Deep Water Bay Beach to the Repulse Bay Beach, which is called Seaview Promenade. The walkway was built along the sea with a beautiful scenery. It has attracted a lot of residents, children and tourists for enjoyment everyday. However, owing to the diverging management between various Government Departments, the role they play in the administration of the walkway without a unified approach has led to many different problems, such as trimming of trees, planting issues, delineation of responsibilities and management problem. As the Government is now planning a revamp for the Southern District coupling with an enhancement of the facilities in the district, it is time for the Departments to switch their mode of management for the Seaview Promenade with a view to tackling the above long-standing issues.

Is it feasible for the Government Departments to adopt the existing management mode of the promenades at the sides of Aberdeen and Ap Lei Chau to manage the Seaview Promenade? If not, what are the reasons?

2. Noting that a lot of residents in the Southern District keep pets, especially dogs, but all beaches under the purview of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) do not allow dogs, both the dogs and their owners are not given a chance to enjoy the venue. Since the IIS initiative is intended to aim at forging the Southern District as a place for people to live and have fun, LCSD can try to open up the beaches (e.g. Middle Bay Beach) as a pet-inclusive venue for the public, enabling the pets and pet owners to have fun together.

Will LCSD make an attempt to turn beaches into a pet-inclusive venue? If not, what are the reasons?

3. Under the IIS initiative, it was also mentioned that new marine tourism routes would be explored by taking advantage of the district's seaside location with Ocean Park as the core to link up with other districts and islands. In the past, the Southern District was always swamped with many visitors and coaches, and thus causing traffic congestion. As such, there is a need for the Southern District to develop marine tour routes which will not just help relieve the pressure of traffic on land, but also serve to provide more job opportunities and promote the characteristics in the Southern District.

Will the Government Departments concerned consider adding water taxi as part of the transport facilities for the IIS initiative in order to ameliorate the pressure on land transport? If not, what are the reasons?

It is worthy of formulating an improvement proposal for the promenades and beaches in the Bays Area by leveraging the proposed IIS initiative. I should be most grateful if you could accept the aforesaid agenda item for discussion in the coming 8<sup>th</sup> SDC meeting on 14 January 2021 and invite the relevant departmental representatives to join our discussion at the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

Jonathan LEUNG Chun

Southern District Councillor (Bays Area)