

Honourable Tony Tse Wai-chuen, BBS, JP
Chairman
Panel on Development
Legislative Council, Hong Kong

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Re: PWP Item No. 3475RO - Open space at Eastern Street North, Sai Ying Pun

Dear Members,

We urge you to redirect the proposed waterfront design at Eastern Street North.

This section of the waterfront is ideal for youngsters. 10–18-year-olds. They are keenly interested in cycling, skateboarding, rollerblading and other physical activities, especially now that BMX and skateboarding are included in the Olympics Games.

Their activities may make noise until late evening. This location is ideal as it is hidden behind the tunnel portal and far away from residential neighbourhoods.

Generally, our public space facilities fail to recognize youngsters who want to hang out and be active. Pleasure grounds are primarily designed for grannies and babies. Our trails in country parks are designed for hikers and we don't want to add more concrete! Pavements along public roads are busy and there is hardly sufficient space for pedestrians as road space is prioritized for traffic and transport.

I note that the Sun Yat Sen Park and the promenade in front of the Western wholesale market already address the needs of local families, elderly and young children. Secondly, I note that many complaints have been received over noisy behaviour of youngsters at the Belcher's waterfront. Let's give the youngsters an alternative space nearby, let's give them the waterfront at Eastern Street North.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Zimmerman
CEO, Designing Hong Kong Limited



c.c. Members of Harbourfront Commission (enquiry@hfc.org.hk)

香港特別行政區立法會

發展事務委員會主席

謝偉銓議員, BBS, JP

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回應：立法會發展事務委員會 3475RO – 西營盤東邊街北休憩用地

我們促請發展事務委員會重新探討西營盤東邊街北休憩用地的海濱設計。

我們認為西營盤這一部份的海濱應增設更多適合年青人的設施。近年 BMX 單車、滑板、滾軸溜冰等新興運動在香港日漸發展成熟。特別是 BMX 單車和滑板成為了去年的東京奧運以及兩年後的巴黎奧運的正式項目，更令更多年青人接觸這些運動。由於缺乏正規的場地，他們只能在晚間較少人使用公眾空間的時間練習，更不時因練習到深夜而製造噪音。西營盤東邊街北休憩用地隱藏在隧道入口後，而且遠離住宅區，因此我們認為此用地是理想的地方去增設年青人的設施。

在公共空間的設計過程中，年青人的需求經常被遺忘。現時絕大部份的遊樂場設施都為兒童和長者設計。郊野公園為遠足人士及保育大自然而設，因此大家亦不樂見在公園範圍內使用更多混凝土。大多數的行人路已被路人擠滿，而道路亦優先用於交通及運輸。

我們注意到現時中山紀念公園和鄰近副食品批發市場的海濱長廊皆提供了康健設施，滿足到家庭、長者和兒童的需求。與此同時，卑路乍灣海濱皆經常有就滑板噪音的投訴。因此我們建議就這次機會，更好地規劃中西區的海濱，建立一個充滿活力且能平衡不同持分者的公共空間。

司馬文

創建香港行政總裁



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