

**Community Involvement Committee on Greening  
(Notes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting)**

**Date and Time:** 21 December 2022 (Wednesday) at 9:30 pm

**Venue:** Conference Room 4, G/F., Central Government Offices, Tamar

**Present**

Chairperson

Mr LAU Chun Kit, Ricky, JP

**Posts**

Permanent Secretary for Development (Works),  
Development Bureau

Non-official Members

Dr Johnnie CHAN Chi-kau, SBS, JP

Ms CHAN Man-kuen, MH

Ms Amy CHAN May-ho

Mr CHENG Ka-ho, MH, JP

Dr Samuel CHENG Kin-tak

Miss Linda CHOY Siu-min

Dr Jeffrey HUNG Oi-shing

Ms Una LAU Yuk-min

Dr Caroline LAW Man-yee

Mr LO Cheuk-man

Dr Angie NG Ying-sim

Miss POON Wing-yi

Mr Matthew SIN Kar-wah

Ms Idy WONG Lai-yin

Official Members

Ms Angela LEE, JP

Deputy Secretary (Works) 1, Development  
Bureau

Dr Jackie YIP

Assistant Director (Country & Marine Parks), as  
representative of Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Ms Lilian YU

Chief Landscape Architect/Headquarters, as  
representative of Civil Engineering and  
Development Department

Ms Mandy LEUNG	Senior Curriculum Development Officer (Moral, Civic and National Education) 1, as representative of Education Bureau
Mr Rocky CHOW	Assistant Secretary (Community Relations) 1, as representative of Environmental Protection Department
Ms Frances CHENG	Senior Executive Officer (Enquiry & Estate Services), as representative of Home Affairs Department
Ms Christine AU	Senior Landscape Architect/Tree Management and Horticulture, as representative of Housing Department
Ms Tina TAI	Chief Leisure Manager (Green Campaign), as representative of Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Miss Kathy NG	Head of Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section), Development Bureau
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**Absent with Apologies**

Mr Christopher LAW Kin-chung, JP

Mr CHEUNG Yung-pong, MH

**In Attendance**

Development Bureau

Ms Vina WONG	Head of Greening and Landscape Office
Mr Ryan LIN	Head of Tree Management Office
Mr David YUEN	Assistant Secretary (Greening and Landscape) 2 (for Paper No. 1/2022)
Mr Jason WONG	Assistant Secretary (Greening and Landscape) 3 (Note-Taker) (for Papers No. 1/2022, 3/2022 & 4/2022)

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Dr Samuel LAM	Senior Country Parks Officer (Technical Services)
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**Opening remarks**

1. The Chairperson welcomed Members to the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Involvement Committee on Greening (CICG).

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting**

2. The meeting confirmed the draft minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27 May 2022 without amendment.

**Item 2 : Matters Arising from the last meeting  
(CICG Paper No. 5/2022)**

3. Members were briefed with the aid of PowerPoint on the matters arising from the last meeting:
  - (i) Community Gardens – The Government continued to support the operation of community gardens through different channels, including (a) to support non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to run community gardens on vacant government sites via the Short Term Tenancy (STT) arrangement of the Lands Department; (b) to provide financial support to NGOs to use the vacant government sites via a funding scheme set up by the Planning and Lands Branch (PLB) of the Development Bureau (DEVB); and (c) the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) planned to operate four new public community gardens at Kai Tak Station Square, Hoi Fan Road Park, Tsuen Wan Riviera Park and East Coast Park Precinct from 2023 to 2025. Taking on board Members’ advice given at the last meeting, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section (GLTMS) of DEVB approached and encouraged NGOs with experience in operating community gardens to run more of them.
  - (ii) LCSD’s Conservation Courses – Invitations were sent to 15 more uniform groups to organise the conservation courses, with positive responses so far from the Auxiliary Medical Service Cadet Corps, Hong Kong Army Cadets Association and the Scout Association of Hong Kong.
  - (iii) Common Platform for Promotion of Government Greening Efforts – Taking on board Members’ advice at the last meeting, GLTMS launched in early December 2022 an e-platform showcasing departments’ exemplary work and initiatives on greening. Complementary media promotion, including

engagement of Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs) was also planned.

**Item 3 : Update of 「人樹共融」 Promotion Campaign  
(CICG Paper No. 6/2022)**

4. Members were briefed with the aid of PowerPoint on the latest development of three initiatives under the 「人樹共融」 Promotion Campaign:

- (i) ‘Urban Forestry Publications’ – The second pamphlet (both hardcopy and e-version) was issued in September 2022. Complementary promotion, including advertising on buses, online advertisements and advertorial on social media had been launched since September 2022 and would last until the first quarter of 2023.
- (ii) ‘Urban Forestry Roving Exhibition’ – Eight roving exhibitions were held between January and August 2022.
- (iii) ‘Guided Tour on Local Green Assets’ – guided tours with themes on “Right Plant, Right Place, People-Centred” principle and “Tree Care” were planned for 2023.
- (iv) ‘Landscape Corner (園境閣)’ – The second and last batches of Landscape Corner (each with 20 green spaces) were released in September and December 2022 respectively. Complementary promotion had been launched, including publishing a back cover advertorial on U-Magazine in early September 2022, and engaging KOLs from October to December 2022 to encourage the communities to visit local green spaces.
- (v) ‘Collaboration with Hongkong Post on Special Stamps’ – To issue a thematic stamp design of “Seasonal Trees in Hong Kong (香港四季樹木)” on 14 February 2023.
- (vi) ‘Education & Careers Expo’ – The Education & Careers Expo (Expo) 2022 was held from 21 to 24 July 2022 at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre with about 4 000 visitors recorded at the GLTMS booth. GLTMS would participate in the Expo 2023 from 2 to 5 February 2023 and collaborate with the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong to provide a virtual reality game to enhance the attractiveness of the booth.
- (vii) ‘Hong Kong Flower Show 2023’ – GLTMS would set

up a booth in Hong Kong Flower Show 2023 with the key message of “People · Trees · Harmony”. Hotspots for photo-taking, information panels, 3-D tree models (demonstration of tree defects) and games would be available in the booth.

5. Regarding the complementary promotions of (i) ‘Urban Forestry Publications’ and (iv) ‘Landscape Corner’, a Member complimented the bus-stop smart application technology used in Urban Forestry Publications and suggested GLTMS may consider similar approach in other promotions. Another Member suggested to liaise with media for more free articles on locations of flowering spots.
6. Regarding (ii) ‘Urban Forestry Roving Exhibition’, a Member suggested to extend the exhibition to schools as well. Another Member supplemented that collaborating with schools and exhibiting the panels at schools’ open day events could also promote urban forestry. Another Member cited the example that real buses (with decorations) were displayed during the schools’ roving which enhanced the students interest in the topic. Another Member concurred with the idea of introducing knowledge on urban forestry to schools as early as possible so as to attract talents to the industry.
7. Head of Greening and Landscape Office (H/GLO) responded that GLTMS had sent the digital version of the panels to the Education Bureau (EDB) for dissemination to schools since last CICG meeting. Senior Curriculum Development Officer (Moral, Civic and National Education) 1 (SCDO) supplemented that EDB planned to disseminate the digital panel to schools via its online platforms after the school holidays. H/GLO further supplemented that GLTMS would update the content of the digital panel from time to time and send to EDB for onward dissemination.
8. Regarding (v) ‘Collaboration with Hongkong Post on Special Stamps’, Members generally complimented the stamp design. A Member suggested promoting the stamps by more channels, such as liaising with the media, issuing fringe products and engaging KOLs. Another Member suggested further turning the design into Whatsapp stickers of flowering theme.
9. Regarding the participation in (vi) Expo 2022 and 2023, a Member agreed that the Expo would be a good opportunity to attract young talents to the industry, and more regular courses on landscape architecture, arboriculture and tree management should

EDB and  
GLTMS

be launched in tertiary institutions. He also suggested, and another Member agreed, to network with the sponsoring bodies of schools to relay our messages to the youngsters.

10. A Member opined that it was difficult to recruit young talents to work in the environmental education/ecological conservation fields due to the lack of exposure in the regular curriculum in secondary education. He advocated that EDB could, in the short run, consider to prepare a list of green organisations that would collaborate or offer support to schools on urban forestry education to strengthen students' knowledge on planting and natural environment; and in the long run, explore including subjects on ecology conservation and environmental education in the regular curriculum of secondary schools. Another Member expressed that public education on greening and biodiversity was insufficient and should be strengthened also.
11. SCDO responded that EDB was working in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and green groups to organise various activities for students, such as visiting the Mai Po Nature Reserve and Hoi Ha Wan, which enabled students to learn in the environment. It was expected that with the ease of the pandemic restrictions, outdoor visits and activities would resume normal. Furthermore, learning elements relating to environmental education had already covered in different subjects of current primary and secondary education, such as General Studies in the primary curriculum, Geography and Biology in the secondary curriculum, and Citizenship and Social Development in the senior secondary curriculum. Topics included environmental protection and sustainable development, biodiversity, energy saving and green buildings, low-carbon living and green consumption, etc.
12. A Member suggested that GLTMS could highlight in its promotion the special job attributes of landscape architects and arborists to better catch the youngsters' attention.
13. On enhancing the commitment of the youngsters and community on urban forestry management, a Member suggested organising school competitions on urban forestry topics, such as "landscape beautification work". Another Member suggested organising photo competition to engage and educate the public on the soft-knowledge of urban forestry, such as "how to appreciate a flowering plant" by crowd-sourcing and public voting of ideas.
14. SCDO responded that EDB had updated the 'Life Planning

Information' website, including careers information on arborists, and encouraged the youngsters to explore their career aspirations starting from junior secondary school stage. (Post-meeting note: For details and enquiries on life planning education, please contact Life Planning Education Section of EDB.) As regards the promotion of student activities/competitions, she supplemented that EDB would help disseminate the information to schools, where appropriate, by issuing EDB Circular Memorandum or professional development programmes.

15. A Member suggested linking up more public relations ideas/activities organised by different departments for a larger scale publicity campaign.
16. The Chairperson thanked Members on all the suggestions given. He suggested forming a new working group to discuss detailed action plan on education matters and the ways to strengthen community involvement.

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**Item 4: Community Involvement on Greening by Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (CICG Paper No. 7/2022)**

17. Members were briefed with the aid of PowerPoint on Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)'s achievements on organising community involvement activities in recent years.
18. Regarding AFCD's tree planting days, several Members complimented that the 'Hong Kong Tree Planting Day' and 'Hiking and Planting Day' were very popular local community activities, and encouraged AFCD to organise more large-scale tree planting events in country parks for the community as NGOs usually did not have sufficient resources to arrange their own planting events. Senior Country Parks Officer (Technical Services) (SCPO(TS)) responded that three sessions of Hiking and Planting Day had been organised in different locations in 2018 with around 6 000 total participants. Assistant Director (Country & Marine Parks) (AD(C&MP)) supplemented that AFCD was preparing for the Hong Kong Tree Planting Day in 2023 and would inform Members for details in due course.
19. A Member enquired if Green Fun Committee was still in operation, SCPO(TS) replied that the Green Fun Committee was one of the organising committee members of AFCD's Hong Kong Tree Planting Day.

AFCD

20. Some Members suggested AFCD to engage volunteers to serve as fixed point interpreters (定點導賞) and recruit amateur hiker/KOLs as part-time guided tour coaches. AD(C&MP) replied that AFCD had been running the Country Parks Volunteer Scheme in which the qualified Country Parks Volunteers would have the chance to participate in various kind of services such as tree planting and patrolling in the country parks. The Volunteer Scheme was suspended temporarily due to the pandemic situation but would resume in 2023.
21. A Member suggested that the Government could consider to collaborate with the professional bodies, property management offices, residents' associations and developers to organise larger scale community involvement events, such as competition and guided tour, to achieve better promotion effect, and suggested discussing the details in a new working group. Another Member also advocated to educate and engage local residents in district planting events. Another Member pointed out that it would be worthwhile to explore the synergy between rural and urban greening, such as AFCD and GLTMS could join hands in promoting green assets through social media. The Chairperson agreed to build more synergy on public relations works and work out the details by the working group. GLTMS / Working Group
22. A Member expressed that the catering industry is keen to recycle food waste and Government's support on food waste recycling was important, and suggested that AFCD could collect and convert food waste into fertilisers for use in country parks. Assistant Secretary (Community Relations) 1 from EPD responded that the Environment and Conservation Fund provided funding support for food waste recycling under community waste reduction projects (社區減少廢物項目). He would relay the message to the NGOs currently undertaking those food waste recycling projects. Another Member supplemented that EPD's project 'O · PARK1' was an organic resources recovery centre to convert food waste into biogas for electricity generation whilst the residues by-product could be used as fertilisers for landscaping and agriculture use, and suggested AFCD considering using them. The Chairperson suggested EPD following up with AFCD on the potential collaboration on food waste recycling. EPD  
EPD and AFCD
23. A Member enquired for the way forward upon the completion of Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. AD(C&MP) supplemented that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework had recently been adopted on 19 December 2022.



The Government would follow its direction to draw up next stage action plan.

24. In conclusion, the Chairperson thanked Members for the suggestions and directed that a new working group would be formed to discuss in detail on how to strengthen the collaboration among departments, professional institutes, private sectors, NGOs etc., so as to create a greater impact on the community involvement works.

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#### **Item 5 : Any Other Business**

25. Members were briefed with the aid of a video highlight on the completed technical sessions of Hong Kong 2022 International Urban Forestry Conference. The Chairperson appealed Members' support for the next conference in 2024.
26. Regarding the tree collapse incident at Perth Street, Ho Man Tin, The Chairperson reported that a Task Force on Roadside Tree Planting and Maintenance (the Task Force) had been formed in September 2022 and endeavoured to complete the review and make recommendations by end of 2022.
27. Head of Tree Management Office further elaborated the following remedial actions taken:
- (i) the Task Force set up in September 2022 would review the current tree management guidelines, consider the suitability of the current environment for the relatively large roadside trees, and explore a possible approach for their treatment;
  - (ii) relevant departments had conducted urgent inspection for about 4 000 *Delonix regia* (鳳凰木), in which 190 required follow-up actions and 60 required removal; and
  - (iii) relevant departments conducted inspection for about 40 000 large-sized street trees (i.e. trees with diameter at breast height over 500mm or with height over 9m, and growing in confined areas). The required follow-up actions would be completed by end of 2022.
28. A Member supported GLTMS to deploy more advanced technology, such as the use of Smart Sensor Monitoring System, to enhance the detection accuracy of potential tree failure.

29. The Chairperson reassured that the Government would proactively devise suitable measures to manage street trees with potential risk in the long run but without immediate hazard, and supplemented that recommendations from various green groups and other parties were received and submitted to the Task Force for consideration.
30. At the end of the meeting, the Chairperson thanked Members for the contribution and valuable advice given in the past two years with current term of appointment of the CICG expiring at the end of February 2023.
31. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

**Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section  
Development Bureau  
July 2023**