Stage 1 Public Engagement for Lung Tsun Stone Bridge

Community Envisioning Workshops Summary of Comments and Views collected

Conservation approach

The majority of participants supported the idea of "In-situ" preservation approach for Lung Tsun Stone Bridge (the Bridge) so as to highlight the Bridge's geographical location and its historical significance in socio-economic developments.

Extent of preservation and display

The majority of participants considered that all parts of the discovered remnants, irrespective of their significance being classified, are all in possession of historical values. Under the prerequisite of not affecting the Bridge's structure and historical values, all parts of the Bridge should be preserved as a whole, so as to reveal its historical integrity. Some participants considered that if all parts of the Bridge are to be displayed, it may involve a number of technical considerations, such as the suitability of the remains for display. In this regard, they suggested that the final decision to be made by professionals.

Restoration or reconstruction of the missing parts

There was no consensus on whether the damaged or missing parts of the Bridge should be restored. Some of the participants did not agree the suggestion of restoration or reconstruction as the information might not be sufficient to maintain the Bridge's authenticity. On the other hand, others supported the restoration or reconstruction suggestion so that visitors might have an opportunity to appreciate the original setting of the Bridge, and a place for cultural activities.

Ways of viewing

The majority of participants supported viewing the Bridge remains from the top as well as from both sides at some specific locations to facilitate the appreciation of the Bridge structure. Most of them opposed the installation of an armoured glass cover with poor transparency due to condensation may affect viewing.

Installation of aqua-scape

Under the prerequisite of not affecting the remains' conditions, most of the participants suggested creating real or simulated water features (such as using colours, stones or lighting effects) in restoring the Bridge's past setting and enhancing the attractiveness of the site.

Display facilities

Most of the participants expected the setting up of display facilities, such as the provision of a display centre or a tourist information centre with the provision of model, video and computer animation show to visitors for an introduction on the Bridge's history.

Connectivity with surrounding heritage resources

The majority of participants agreed that there is a need of linking the adjacent sites of historical and cultural heritage resources, in particular to the Kowloon Walled City Park via Prince Edward Road East by pedestrian passageways to improve connectivity and tourists' accessibility to enhance public awareness on heritage conservation and to promote tourism. Participants suggested different methods of connection, including heritage trail, travellator/ escalators and tour coaches, thereby enhancing district attractiveness.

Simulation of the scene of a major transport node and a bustling centre of economic activities

The majority of participants agreed to a conservation plan with an objective to simulate the historical scene of the Bridge. The suggestions include:

- (a) Provision of retail shops on both sides to echo the original setting of the Bridge as a bustling centre of economic activities. However, there is no need to imitate the past ambience deliberately, or to incorporate abundance of modern elements
- (b) Generation of an appropriate atmosphere through 3D computer animation
- (c) Height of the adjacent building blocks should complement the atmosphere of the preservation plan
- (d) This conservation plan shall be implemented by the government

<u>Integration with adjacent developments and underground shopping street</u>

The majority suggested displaying the Bridge remains in the form of a long corridor. Some participants recommended the setting up of a buffer zone around the remains. The design of adjacent buildings should be compatible with the conservation plan. Most of the participants suggested that there should be a connection from the Bridge corridor to the underground shopping street.

Other essential supporting facilities

In line with the design theme of the conservation plan of the Bridge remains, the participants suggested the following facilities as appropriate:

- Performance venues
- Facilities such as activity area, library and tourist information centre
- Shops including souvenir shops, refreshment kiosks, restaurants and markets
- Cycling trails
- Disabled facilities
- Car parks