

Highlights of the Year

April 2009

The Government announces the resumption of a private lot at Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, for the revitalisation of the Blue House Cluster, which has been included in the Government's Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme.

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam and the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung officiate at the opening of the Urban Renewal Idea Shop, which is set up to facilitate public engagement in the Urban Renewal Strategy Review.

The Government gazettes road works at Lee Tung Street, McGregor Street and Amoy Street in Wan Chai, which are authorised by the Chief Executive in Council.

May 2009

The URA invites a total of 15 property developers/consortia to tender for the joint development of the Lee Tung Street/McGregor Street project in Wan Chai.

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam, the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung and Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) Chairman Mr Yeung Ka-sing sign the Memoranda of Understanding on Operation Building Bright (OBB) to mark the launch of this large-scale campaign, which URA and HKHS are helping the Government to implement.

The URA Board endorses a comprehensive policy on environmental sustainability to be applicable to its future urban renewal initiatives.

The URA organises a seminar entitled "Green Homes: Building an Environmentally Sustainable Future for Hong Kong" to facilitate experience sharing between overseas and local experts.

The URA commences the statutory planning procedures for a new redevelopment project at San Shan Road/Pau Chung Street in Ma Tau Kok and conducts a freezing survey.



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June 2009

The URA arranges briefing sessions for the San Shan Road/Pau Chung Street project to explain the planning approval procedure and the prevailing acquisition and compensation policies.

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam, the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung and the HKHS Chairman Mr Yeung Ka-sing officiate at the balloting ceremony for Category 1 buildings to be rehabilitated under OBB to set the priority for processing the applications and granting of funds for eligible buildings.

Following a public tender exercise, a joint development contract for the Lee Tung Street / McGregor Street project is awarded to a consortium named Grand Site Development Limited, which consists of two consortium members, Sino Land Company Limited and Hopewell Holdings Limited.

The URA commences the statutory planning procedures for a new project at Shun Ning Road in Sham Shui Po and conducts a freezing survey.

July 2009

The URA invites property developers to provide expressions of interest for the joint development of the Yuet Wah Street Site in the Kwun Tong Town Centre project.

The Government announces the approval of the draft Anchor Street / Fuk Tsun Street Development Scheme Plan by Chief Executive in Council.

The URA announces its debut bond issue of HK\$1.5 billion, which is very well received by the market.

The URA invites the community leaders and affected residents to participate in a ballot for selecting the valuation consultants to perform the assessment of a notional seven-year-old flat for the Anchor Street / Fuk Tsun Street project.



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August 2009

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam and the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung officiate at the opening of the Urban Renewal Exploration Centre, which is set up by the URA to support and enhance public understanding of urban renewal issues in Hong Kong.

The URA launches the distribution of education kits on urban renewal for use by all primary and secondary school teachers. A series of seminars are held for the teachers to introduce these education kits.

The Government announces the re-appointment of Ms Iris Tam as an Executive Director of the URA for another term of three years, with effect from 1 September 2009.

The URA announces a proposal to implement a major revitalisation plan at a cost of about \$100 million to uphold and enhance the local characters of five themed streets in Mong Kok.

The URA invites a total of 14 property developers/consortia to tender for the joint development of the Yuet Wah Street Site in Kwun Tong.

September 2009

The URA issues purchase offers to eligible owners affected by its Anchor Street / Fuk Tsun Street project.

The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approves a further \$1 billion in Government funding of OBB to increase the number of buildings rehabilitated under this large scale campaign.

October 2009

The URA announces that a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sino Land Company Limited, Central Wisdom Limited, has won the joint development contract for the Yuet Wah Street Site in Kwun Tong in a public tender exercise.

The URA announces its \$500 million preliminary plan to revitalise and transform the ex-Central Market building into the "Central Oasis", providing greenery and a public rest and leisure area.



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November 2009

The URA announces the enhancement of Relocation Assistance which has been in place since 2006, in order to help more domestic tenants who are in financial difficulties and who have been registered in the freezing survey but have to move out the premises before the project is approved and URA starts its acquisition work.

The URA invites interested parties to submit expressions of interest for the joint development of the Lai Chi Kok Road / Kweilin Street and Yee Kuk Street project in Sham Shui Po.

December 2009

The 16-member Central Oasis Community Advisory Committee, set up to advise the URA on revitalising the ex-Central Market building as an urban oasis for Hong Kong people, starts work.

The URA invites a total of 15 property developers to tender for the joint development of the Lai Chi Kok Road / Kweilin Street and Yee Kuk Street Project in Sham Shui Po.

January 2010

The URA announces that a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited, Grandwood Investments Limited, has won the contract for the joint development project at Lai Chi Kok Road / Kweilin Street and Yee Kuk Street in Sham Shui Po in a public tender exercise.

February 2010

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam and the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung officiate at the launching ceremony of a three-week e-Poll and street poll to solicit public views for the URA's Central Oasis revitalisation project.

The Secretary for Development authorises the URA to proceed with the San Shan Road / Pau Chung Street project in Ma Tau Kok and the Shun Ning Road project in Sham Shui Po.

The URA announces the commencement of Ma Tau Wai Road / Chun Tin Street project in To Kwa Wan involving two rows of 50-year-old-plus tenement buildings, including a site where a block tragically collapsed on 29 January 2010, as well as adoption of special measures for this special project in view of its unique circumstances.

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam and the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung officiate at the prize presentation ceremony of the URA Greeting Card Design Competition for Primary Schools.



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March 2010

The URA proposes an alternative implementation concept for conserving Wing Lee Street for Town Planning Board's reference, in addition to the conservation-led approach for the Staunton Street/Wing Lee Street project announced by the URA in November 2008.

The URA issues purchase offers to eligible owners affected by its two preservation-cum-revitalisation projects at Shanghai Street / Argyle Street and Prince Edward Road West / Yuen Ngai Street.

The URA Managing Director Mr Quinn Law and Chairman of Central & Western District Council Mr Chan Tak-chor officiate at the prize presentation ceremony of the Central Historical Buildings Photo Competition.

April 2010

The URA issues purchase offers to eligible owners affected by two redevelopment projects at Shun Ning Road in Sham Shui Po and San Shan Road / Pau Chung Street in Ma Tau Kok.

The Government announces that the Chief Executive has re-appointed Mr Barry Cheung as the Chairman of the URA Board and has also appointed/re-appointed 11 non-executive directors to the Board, including four official non-executive directors, for a term of three years with effect from May 1, 2010.

The URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung and Chairman of Central & Western District Council Mr Chan Tak-chor officiate at the ground breaking ceremony of the Pak Tze Lane project in Central, which celebrates Hong Kong's link to the 1911 Chinese Revolution.

The URA Board Member Mr Philip Kan and Vice Chairman of Central & Western District Council Mr Chan Chit-kwai officiate at the award presentation ceremony of the Comic Drawing Competition, organised by the URA to promote the importance of building rehabilitation for home safety.

May 2010

The Steering Committee on Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy (URS) publishes the Paper for the Consensus Building Stage "Public Views and Future Direction" for public response, following completion of the Envisioning Stage and the Public Engagement Stage.

The URA Board resolves to implement a package of additional measures to control sales of flats in its redevelopment projects with the objective of further enhancing transparency, taking into consideration the needs of genuine home buyers.

The Central Oasis Community Advisory Committee endorses the results of the opinion poll for the way forward of the ex-Central Market building. Over 80% of some 6,000 people, who were consulted via the poll, have given their support to the Central Oasis revitalisation project.



Highlights of the Year



June 2010

Stage 3 of the Urban Renewal Strategy Review, “Consensus Building” commences with reaching out to the public through activities including a workshop, professional forums and a concluding meeting.

The Secretary for Development Mrs Carrie Lam, the URA Chairman Mr Barry Cheung and Managing Director Mr Quinn Law attend a meeting of the Legislative Council’s Panel on Development to report on URA’s work during 2009/10. The financial results of eight fully completed development projects are disclosed, along with the land premium foregone by the Government in granting sites to the URA for 14 development projects.

July 2010

The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approves a further \$500 million in Government funding of OBB to increase the number of buildings rehabilitated under this campaign.

The URA invites interested parties to submit expressions of interest in becoming the Main Operator of the Mallory Street/Burrows Street Revitalisation Project “Art Community”.

The URA invites interested parties to submit expressions of interest in the joint development of the Third Street / Yu Lok Lane / Centre Street project in Sai Ying Pun.