

放展逐先生 Mr Barry CHEUNG Chun-yuen

# New Chairman's Message

我很高興獲委任市區重建局 (市建局) 的新任主席,有機會在本年報撰文。

首先,我要衷心感謝上任主席鄭維新先生,在過去三年帶領董事會,建樹良多。此外,我亦要感謝退任的陳麗雲教授、林貝聿嘉女士、梁家傑議員及譚惠珠女士。他們在任內為市建局提供許多寶貴意見,表現卓越。

我熱切期待與董事會其他同事,特別是新加入的成員,以及管理層和所有員工同心協力,為香港的市 區更新工作創出佳績。

#### 以關懷進行重建

市建局的首要理想,是為居住在惡劣環境,缺乏基本生活設施的居民改善居住質素。本局一直恪守「以人為本」的原則,最重要的工作是令上述居民脫離極度艱苦的生活環境。

惟有得到社會人士的體諒和支持,市建局才可以繼續達成目標,將殘破舊樓轉變為理想居所。由於重建對居民生活的影響最巨大亦最深遠,當市區更新工作以重建發展的方式進行時,得到體諒和支持更為重要。然而,重建工作很自然地亦最受爭議。無論我們如何小心翼翼地規劃我們的項目,在重建過程中,區內居民及商鋪受到某程度影響,實在是無可避免。市建局必須細心聆聽所有受影響人士的意見,以公平和高透明度的方式去回應,謹慎處理市民的關注和爭議。過去數年,本局已就社區參與工作投放大量資源。

在最近的選舉活動中,行政長官曾蔭權先生的競選政綱亦有訂定提升市民居住環境質素的行動計劃。計劃的其中一部分是活化舊區,而政綱亦列明「重建規劃要主動聽取居民意見,並將具體方案作公眾諮詢」。為配合政府在這方面的承諾,本局將會竭力擴展社區參與的工作。

觀塘市中心重建項目,便是本局致力以關懷進行重建的最佳例證。經過廣泛的諮詢,項目設計成功涵蓋社區人士的主要期望。因此,我們的計劃受到公眾人士的熱烈歡迎。展望未來,本局將繼續努力推行社區參與工作,務求所有項目均可以得到市民的支持。

# 新主席的話 New Chairman's Message

As the new Chairman of URA, it is my great pleasure to contribute to this Annual report.

I must first express my deep appreciation to the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Edward Cheng, for his outstanding leadership of the Board in the past three years. I must also thank retiring Members, Professor Cecilia Chan, Mrs. Peggy Lam, the Honourable Alan Leong, and Miss Maria Tam for their dedication and wise counsel during their terms.

I also look forward to working with my colleagues on the Board, particularly new members who have joined us, together with the Management team and all our staff.

# Caring Redevelopment

The URA's primary mission is to improve the living environment of people residing in areas where their accommodation is squalid and their homes lack the most basic amenities. The alleviation of the serious hardships of these residents is the first priority of our people-centred strategy.

The URA can only continue to achieve its goal of replacing slums and squalour with decent homes if we have the understanding and support of the community. This is particularly true when urban renewal takes the form of redevelopment, which has the most significant, and far-reaching impact on the livelihood of affected residents. It is only natural that this is also the most prone to controversies. In the course of redevelopment, some degree of disruption to local residents and businesses is unavoidable, no matter how carefully we plan our projects. The URA has to deal with issues of concern and controversy through paying meticulous attention to the views of all those who are affected and responding to them with fairness and transparency. In previous years, considerable resources have been dedicated to this community engagement. We are determined to expand our efforts in this field in response to the Government's specific pledges set out in the election programme of the Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang Yam-kuen, and its action plan to improve the quality of life in Hong Kong. Revitalisation of old districts is part of this plan, together with a commitment to "proactive measures to collect residents' views when planning redevelopment projects and consult the public on the proposed details".

The URA's determination to implement this strategy of caring redevelopment is well-illustrated by the Kwun Tong Town Centre project. After extensive consultation, a scheme has been drawn up which successfully incorporates many features of major concern to the community. As a result, our plans have received overwhelming endorsement from the public. We will continue our community engagement efforts to ensure ongoing support for this important project, and we will use this people-based approach to win the public's backing for our other projects.

## Concern for the Environment

Hong Kong is one of the most advanced and vibrant cities in the world. It is also one of the most congested. Our sophisticated citizens expect the highest standards of performance from the Government and the public sector, particularly in protecting the environment and making use of our scarce natural resources. The URA is the primary urban renewal agency in Hong Kong, and we have to reflect the growing public concern for the environment and its sustainability in our work. All our projects must incorporate energy-saving and the other environmentally-friendly features that are of such special importance in our crowded city.

### Our Precious Heritage

The community is also deeply concerned about the difficulties of preserving our heritage when space is so precious in