



Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance

香港綠色策略聯盟

Unit G, 7/F, Century Centre, No. 33-35 Au Pui Wan Street, Fotan, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong.

18 October 2018

The Hon Mrs Carrie LAM CHENG Yuet-ngor, GBM, GBS

The Chief Executive

Hong Kong SAR Government

Dear Carrie,

Response to 2018-19 Policy Address

The Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance (HKGSA) generally agrees to the new initiatives and solutions stipulated in the 2018 Policy Address of the Chief Executive, which are appropriately covered in the environmental issues related to Climate Change and Energy, Air Quality, Waste Reduction and Recycling, Marine Conservation, Nature Conservation and Drinking Water. We are pleased to note that many of our views and suggestions made to the Government have been well considered and incorporated in the Policy Address.

HKGSA supports the Government's initiative to increase the land supplies through the "Lantau Tomorrow Vision" and welcomes the Government to immediately kick off the relevant study on the construction of artificial islands so as to look for possible means to increase land reserve for our next generation. HKGSA holds the view that the near shore reclamation outside Victoria Harbour is one of land supply options as long as the Government will optimize construction options, and propose mitigation and compensation measures to lessen the impacts arising from reclamation on fishery industries nearby during the engineering design and environmental impact assessment stages. To adapt to the possible sea level rise due to climate change, the coastal flood prevention should be properly considered in the design against the attack of super typhoons. On top of smart lamp posts and district cooling system for both commercial and residential sectors, other sustainable precast infrastructures incorporated with the trenches for sewage and solid waste drainage systems, water supply system, power supply and telecommunication systems should be built in the land, similar to what have been implemented in Hengqin of Zhuhai. All of these should be put in trial in the development of Tung Chung New Town Extension to review their effectiveness.



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HKGSA also welcomes the new initiative to rationalize the tolls among the three harbor crossing tunnels as a means to reduce traffic congestion so as to improve roadside air quality. Based on the initial response from the public on the proper toll charges of respective tunnels, HKGSA requests the Government to critically review the proposed charges in order to maximize the intended effect, while balancing our citizens' expectation.

HKGSA supports provision of recurrent resources of around \$300-400 million per year to strengthen the support on waste reduction and recycling to complement the implementation of forthcoming MSW charging. This approach well demonstrates that the levies collected from environmental protection related charging schemes should be used to support the relevant green initiatives. The details of the expense should be made known to the public as soon as possible. If it is in the form of funding, the criteria should be set in a flexible way. Furthermore, in tackling the challenges posed by waste plastics, HKGSA welcomes the study of the feasibility, scope and mechanism of controlling or banning disposable plastic tableware. HKGSA is of the view that through the behaviour change and the work flow of restaurant operators, the consumption of single use plastic could be reduced. Regarding recycling of waste, the Government is suggested to expand the scope of the Recycling Fund to allow a higher funding cap per enterprise so as to attract high end recycling operation and to subsidize the operation cost and to increase the current matching of 50% from the fund as long as the business is sustainable and can help recycle wastes which otherwise would be dumped into our invaluable landfill sites.

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HKGSA supports the Government to invite the Council for Sustainable Development to conduct a public engagement exercise for drawing up the long-term decarbonisation strategy up to 2050. HKGSA, as one of stakeholders, would endeavor to offer professional views for the study. HKGSA welcomes the introduction of Feed-in Tariff (FiT) as an incentive for the public to invest in renewable energy. To make it happen, we are pleased to note that the restrictions on installation of solar photovoltaic systems on the rooftops of the buildings would be relaxed. The Government should keep track of its progress and adjust the FiT rate as appropriate to enhance its attractiveness. Hong Kong, as a developed city, should strive for an optimal fuel mix to achieve a balance among safety and reliability, environmental performance and cost.

The HKGSA will continue to offer our professional views and solutions to tackle green issues in Hong Kong and neighboring region. We look forward to the close collaboration of the Government with the stakeholders to transform Hong Kong into a low carbon and livable city. The HKGSA consists of a group of professional and visionary stakeholders who are well prepared to make contribution to the Belt and Road Initiative and the Greater Bay Area development.

Should you need any further information, please feel free to contact me at 9032 3816 (drwklo@gmail.com) or our Honorary Secretary Ir Kenny Wong at 9482 3227 (irkennywong@gmail.com).

Yours sincerely,

Ir Dr. Hon LO Wai Kwok, SBS, JP
Chairman, Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance

c.c. Mr WONG Kam-sing, Secretary for the Environment