

Press Release

**Old Wan Chai Revitalisation Initiatives Special Committee organises
Workshops for the Revitalisation of Open-air Bazaars**

The Old Wan Chai Revitalisation Initiatives Special Committee (the Committee) invites members of the public to attend the workshops to be held on 5th and 10th of July 2008 to collect views on the revitalization of the two open-air bazaars located in Tai Yuen Street/Cross Street and Gresson Street, Wan Chai.

A spokesman for the Committee said, “The Chief Executive announced in his 2007-08 Policy Address that the Government would press ahead with the work on heritage conservation in the next five years. One of the initiatives is to task the Development Bureau and the URA to jointly adopt a district-based approach in considering development and revitalization of old Wan Chai.”

The spokesman added, “This signifies that heritage conservation is no longer limited to preservation of individual historical buildings. A district-based approach is adopted so as to preserve local characters.”

The Committee is responsible for studying various revitalisation initiatives for old Wan Chai. Options being examined include the establishment of a heritage trail and the revitalisation of the two open-air bazaars at Tai Yuen Street/Cross Street and the Gresson Street. The Committee has appointed a consultant to engage the public on the revitalization of the open-air bazaars. The workshops to be held in July marks an important event of the public engagement process.

The Committee has established a website to facilitate the public to find out the latest news and progress of the Wan Chai revitalization works and to offer comments. The public are most welcome to visit www.wrisc.org.hk. Those interested in attending the workshops may register via the web site, or by e-mail (enquiry@wrisc.org.hk), or by fax (2603 5267) or by telephone (2609 6512) direct.

The Development Bureau established the Committee on 15 February 2008. The Committee is chaired by the Vice-Chairman of Wan Chai District Council. Other members include Wan Chai District Council members, experts on heritage conservation and revitalization, and representatives from the Development Bureau and the Urban Renewal Authority.

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Details of the two workshops are as follows:

First Workshop:

Date: 5 July 2008 (Saturday)

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Room 202, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, Wan Chai

Second Workshop:

Date: 10 July 2008 (Thursday)

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Venue: Auditorium, 1/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, Wan Chai

Old Wan Chai Revitalisation Initiatives Special Committee

20 June 2008