MPC Paper No. A/K14/766 For Consideration by the Metro Planning Committee on 31.5.2019

## <u>APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION</u> <u>UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE</u>

## APPLICATION NO. A/K14/766

<u>Applicant</u>	:	Uni Trinity Development Limited represented by Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited	
<u>Site</u>	:	41 King Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon	
<u>Site Area</u>	:	2,042.011m <sup>2</sup>	
<u>Lease</u>	:	<ul> <li>Kwun Tong Inland Lot (KTIL) No. 204 (the Lot)</li> <li>(a) Restricted to industrial purposes</li> <li>(b) No building shall be erected other than a factory, ancillary offices and quarters for persons essential to the safety and security of the building</li> <li>(c) No building or any part of such building shall be erected of which exceeds a height of 170 feet above Colony Principal Datum</li> </ul>	
<u>Plan</u>	:	Approved Kwun Tong (South) Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/K14S/22	
<u>Zoning</u>	:	<ul> <li>"Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" ("OU(B)")</li> <li>(a) Maximum plot ratio (PR) of 12.0 and maximum building height (BH) of 100 meters above Principal Datum (mPD), or the PR and height of the existing building, whichever is the greater</li> <li>(b) Based on the individual merits of a development or redevelopment proposal, minor relaxation of the PR/BH restrictions stated in the Notes of the OZP may be considered by the Town Planning Board (the Board) on application under s.16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (the Ordinance)</li> </ul>	
<u>Application</u>	:	Proposed Minor Relaxation of PR and BH Restrictions for Permitted Office, Shop and Services & Eating Place Uses	

## 1. <u>The Proposal</u>

- 1.1 The applicant seeks planning permission for minor relaxation of PR restriction from 12 to 14.4 (i.e. +2.4 or +20%) as well as an increase in BH restriction (BHR) from 100mPD to 126mPD (i.e. +26m or +26%) for a proposed commercial development (the Proposed Scheme) at 41 King Yip Street (the Site).
- 1.2 The Site is zoned "OU(B)" on the approved Kwun Tong (South) OZP No. S/K14S/22 (**Plan A-1**). The Proposed Scheme is for development of a 32-storey

(including 3 basement levels) commercial building comprising 'Office', 'Shop and Services' and 'Eating Place' uses that are uses always permitted under Schedule I for non-IBs of the Notes for "OU(B)" zone, on a vacant site which was previously occupied by an industrial building (IB) constructed before 1987 (pre-1987 IB) immediately before it was left vacant<sup>[1]</sup>.

- 1.3 According to the applicant, the proposed minor relaxation of PR restriction by 20% is in echo of the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address (PA 2018) to incentivise redevelopment of pre-1987 IBs by allowing the relaxation of the maximum permissible non-domestic PR by up to 20% for sites located outside "Residential" ("R") zones (see paragraph 3.1 below for details). The applicant also seeks minor relaxation of BH by 26%.
- 1.4 With reference to the adopted Kwun Tong (Western Part) Outline Development Plan (ODP)<sup>[2]</sup> No. D/K14A/2 (**Plan A-2**), in order to widen the pedestrian pavement, the Proposed Scheme has incorporated 1.2m and 1.5m full-height building setbacks from the lot boundary abutting King Yip Street and the back alley to the northeast respectively, plus a 1.5m aboveground non-building area (NBA) at the back alley (**Drawings A-1** to **A-13**). These provisions are generally in accordance with the setback requirements under the said ODP. The Proposed Scheme will make use of the full-height setback areas and aboveground NBA along the back alley (3m wide in total) altogether for vehicular ingress to the Site, while the existing public lane (3m wide) would be used for vehicular egress (**Drawing A-4**).

<b>Major Development Parameters</b>	Proposed Scheme
Site Area	About 2,042.011m <sup>2</sup>
Proposed Use	Office, Shop and Services, Eating Place &
	refuge floor cum communal sky garden
	(communal sky garden)
PR <sup>(*)</sup>	14.4
Gross Floor Area (GFA) <sup>(*)(@)</sup>	29,404.958m <sup>2</sup>
• Office	28,278.635m <sup>2</sup>
Shop and Services/Eating Place	$1,126.323m^2$
BH (at main roof level)	126mPD
No. of Storeys	32
Aboveground	29
• Basement	3

1.5 Floor plans, diagrammatic section, photomontages and architectural renderings submitted by the applicant are shown at **Drawings A-1** to **A-13** and **A-15** to **A-23**. Major development parameters of the Proposed Scheme are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> The Occupation Permit (OP) for the subject building was issued on 18.1.1965. The IB on the Site was demolished in 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[2]</sup> ODPs are departmental plans used administratively within Government to guide development. Although these plans carry no statutory effect, they are binding on all government departments and are used as a basis for works including formulation/modification of lease conditions.

Maximum Site Coverage (SC)	
Podium level (<15m)	About 85.908%
Typical floors	
- Low zone (3-10/F)	About 58.569%
- Communal sky garden	About 58.569%
- Mid zone (12-21/F)	About 55.178%
- Mechanical floor	About 55.178%
- High zone (23-32/F)	About 58.569%
No. of Block	1
Greenery Provision	About 419.706m <sup>2</sup> (>20%)
Parking Spaces	163
• Private Car (PC)	148 (Incl. 3 accessible parking spaces)
• Motorcycle (MC)	15
Loading/Unloading (L/UL) Bays	13
Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV)	2
Light Goods Vehicle (LGV)	11
Setbacks <sup>(#)</sup>	
King Yip Street	1.2m full-height
• Back Alley to the northeast	1.5m full-height setback + 1.5m aboveground NBA
Anticipated Completion	2022

Note:

Any bonus PR that may be approved by the BA under Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) 22(1) or (2) for the setback areas to be surrendered to the government have not been reflected in the above. According to the applicant, a bonus PR of 0.574 (equivalent to a GFA of  $1,171.185m^2$ ) will be claimed for the setback areas to be surrendered to the Government under B(P)R 22(2) subject to approval by the Building Authority (BA) during detailed design stage.

- <sup>(@)</sup> Any GFA for the communal sky garden that may be exempted upon BA's approval under the Buildings Ordinance (BO) have not been reflected in the above.
- <sup>(#)</sup> Requirements under the ODP.
- 1.6 The main uses by floor of the proposed development and the floor-to-floor height under the Proposed Scheme (**Appendix Ia** and **Drawing A-13**) are summarized as follows:

Floor	Main Uses	Floor Height
B3-B1/F	Carpark	3.5m
G/F	L/UL, Entrance Lobby, Shop and Services/Eating Place 6m	
1/F	Shop and Services/Eating Place	4.5m
2/F	Planters on flat roof, Office	4.5m
3-10/F	Office (omitted 4/F)	4.025m
11/F	Communal sky garden	5.9m
12-21/F	Office (omitted 13/F & 14/F)	4.025m
22/F	Mechanical floor	4.025m
23-32/F	Office (omitted 24/F)	4.025m

1.7 In support of the application, the applicant has submitted the following documents:

(a)	Application form with replacement pages of the Supporting	(Appendix I)
	Planning Statement received on 8.2.2019	

- (b) Supporting Planning Statement received on 8.2.2019 (Appendix Ia)
- (c) First further information (FI) vide letter received on (Appendix Ib) 13.3.2019 responding to departmental comments and enclosing Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) and Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) reports
- (d) Second FI vide letter received on 18.4.2019 responding to (Appendix Ic) departmental comments, providing minor clarifications on the Proposed Scheme and enclosing revised TIA, sectional drawing and photomontages showing the proposed development and new architectural renderings
- (e) Third FI vide letter received on 21.5.2019 responding to (Appendix Id) departmental comments and providing minor clarifications on the Proposed Scheme
- (f) Fourth FI vide letters received on 28.5.2019 responding to (**Appendix Ie**) departmental comments
- (g) Fifth FI vide letter received on 29.5.2019 responding to (Appendix If) departmental comments

[The first two FIs were not exempted from publication and recounting requirements]

## 2. Justifications from the Applicant

The justifications put forth by the applicant in support of the application are set out in Section 5 of the Supporting Planning Statement at **Appendix Ia** and the TIA and VIA reports at **Appendices Ib** and **Ic**, and summarized as follows:

Response to the PA 2018 on Revitalisation Scheme for IBs

(a) The proposed minor relaxation of PR restriction of the Site by 20% is an immediate response to the PA 2018 which encourages owners to redevelop pre-1987 IBs for providing more floor area to meet the social and economic needs, and making better use of valuable land resources.

## Minimized Increase in BH and Compatible with Stepped BH Profile in the Area

- (b) Efforts have been made in minimizing the proposed increase in BH as far as possible. The Proposed Scheme has adopted a floor-to-floor height of 4.025m 4.5m (**Drawing A-13**) for the office and shop and services/eating place floors so as to minimize the overall BH while satisfying the operational needs of a Grade A office development. Being located at the fringe of the Kwun Tong Business Area (KTBA), the proposed increase of BH to 126mPD is still compatible with and would preserve the planned stepped BH profile in the area (Appendix Ic and Drawing A-14).
- (c) The proposed communal sky garden on 11/F combines the green features with the

refuge floor with floor height of 5.9m. It is at the minimal level for which 4.5m clear height fulfils the minimum requirement as set out in Joint Practice Note (JPN) No. 2 while the additional 1.4m floor height is for the provision of mechanical and electrical services and structural members (**Drawing A-8**). The communal sky garden at 11/F would meet fire services (FS) requirement and could increase the visibility of green features from street level of King Yip Street and from riverside public space of Tsui Ping River (**Drawing A-13**).

(d) Locating the mechanical floor at higher part of the building (22/F) allows better E&M service arrangement and lift zoning, and reduces visual and noise impact to pedestrian. Its floor-to-floor height of 4.025m is the minimum required to accommodate the FS and sprinkler water tanks of 2.5m high (with top access) (**Drawing A-10**) in order to fulfill the water capacity requirement under FS Codes.

## Fulfilling Criteria for Minor Relaxation of BHR

(e) The Proposed Scheme fulfils three out of the six criteria for consideration of minor relaxation in the Explanatory Statement (ES) of the OZP, including providing better streetscape/good quality street level public urban space; providing separation between buildings to enhance air ventilation and visual permeability; and innovative building design and planning merits that would bring about improvements to townscape and amenity of the locality.

## Visual Permeability and Social Benefits

- (f) The communal sky garden would enhance the visual quality, natural ventilation of the proposed development and provide tenants and their visitors with an alternative place for relaxation and social gathering. VIA/photomontages (Appendix Ib and Drawings A-15 to A-21) and architectural renderings (Drawings A-22 and A-23) demonstrate that there would be general enhancement of the visual quality with carefully designed building façade and building massing, improving building permeability, offering visual interest to the cityscape and furnishing a less bulky presentation.
- (g) The provision of greenery in the Proposed Scheme fulfills the requirement of minimum 20% site coverage of greenery as per the Sustainable Building Design Guidelines. Landscape features such as vertical greenery at street level and planters at building edges are incorporated to provide pleasant landscaping for pedestrians and public. The extent of vertical greenery would be considered during detailed design stage.

## No Adverse Traffic Impact

(h) The TIA reveals that the additional increase in traffic arising from the minor relaxation of PR<sup>[3]</sup> would be minimal with two-way traffic increases from 102 (72) pcu/hour to 128 (89) pcu/hour for the morning (evening) peak and concludes that the Proposed Scheme would not have adverse impact on the surrounding road network, and the key junctions assessed would operate within capacities or more or less the same as the reference scenario (i.e. proposed development with permissible PR of 12 on the OZP) (Appendix Ib).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[3]</sup> The TIA has assessed the impacts assuming a development with bonus PR that may be approved under B(P)R as worst case scenario.

- (i) The Proposed Scheme would have 3 basement carpark levels. With the limited site area, the need to provide full-height setbacks and technical difficulties for deeper excavation for more basement carpark, the provision of parking and L/UL facilities are proposed in between the low-end and high-end requirements under the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG)<sup>[4]</sup>.
- (j) With the proposed 1.5m full height setback and 1.5m aboveground NBA arrangement, the existing one-lane/two-way traffic at the 3m-wide public back alley to the northeast would be improved. As demonstrated in the TIA at Appendix Ib, sufficient manoeuvring space would be provided for vehicles accessing to/from the Site without affecting the L/UL activities within the lot boundaries of adjoining IBs along the back alley. There would be no anticipated traffic safety and capacity issues.

## Realizing Setback Requirements

(k) The setback requirements as stipulated on the ODP would be incorporated upon redevelopment of the Site that would help to enhance the walking environment along King Yip Street and the area adjoining the revitalized Tsui Ping River.

## In Line with Planning Intention and Facilitate Transformation of KTBA

- (l) The Proposed Scheme is in line with the planning intention for "OU(B)" zone. With a new commercial building of more desirable architectural design, the proposed development would enhance the urban quality of the surrounding area.
- (m) The Proposed Scheme is intended to establish a prominent retail and office venue at the Site that provides opportunity to diversify local job opportunities and assist local economic transformation. It would create a desirable precedent and spearhead redevelopment along King Yip Street, facilitating the phasing out of polluting industrial uses, eventually enlivening the largely industrial part at the heart of KTBA, and enable this area to create better synergy effects with the remaining parts of the KTBA and even Kowloon East.

## 3. <u>Background</u>

## Policy Initiatives of Revitalisation of IBs

3.1 As set out in PA 2018, to provide more floor area to meeting Hong Kong's changing social and economic needs, and make better use of the valuable land resources, a new scheme to incentivise redevelopment of IBs is announced. To encourage owners to redevelop IBs constructed before 1987<sup>[5]</sup>, there is a policy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[4]</sup> According to the low-end and high-end parking provisions under HKPSG, the requirements for PC and MC parking for the Proposed Development are 128-179 and 7-18 respectively; whereas the respective HGV and LGV parking and L/UL bays required are 4-6 and 7-11. In the Proposed Scheme, 148 and 15 PC and MC parking spaces and 13 L/UL bays would be provided which are within the range required under HKPSG. Among the 13 L/UL bays, 11 nos. are for LGV to meet the high-end requirement, whereas 2 nos. are for HGV that is below the low-end requirement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[5]</sup> Pre-1987 IBs refer to those eligible IBs which were wholly or partly constructed on or before 1.3.1987, or those constructed with their building plans (BPs) first submitted to the BA for approval on or before the same date.

direction to allow relaxation of the maximum permissible non-domestic PR as specified in an OZP by up to 20% for redevelopment of pre-1987 IBs located outside "R" zones in Main Urban Areas and New Towns into industrial/commercial uses. The relaxation of PR is subject to approval by TPB on a case-by-case basis and the maximum non-domestic PR permissible under the B(P)R<sup>[6],[7]</sup>. TPB may approve such application subject to technical assessments confirming the feasibility of allowing such in terms of infrastructure capacity, technical constraints, as well as relevant planning principles and considerations.

3.2 The time limit for owners to submit applications is three years, with effect from 10.10.2018. Should the application be approved, the modified lease should be executed (with full land premium charged) within three years after the planning permission is granted.

## Imposition of BHRs for KTBA

3.3 The BHRs for KTBA were incorporated on the draft Kwun Tong (South) OZP No. S/K14S/11 on 25.2.2005 to preserve the views to the Kowloon Ridgelines from the vantage points recommended in the Urban Design Guidelines Study, taking into account the local area context and the need to maintain visually compatible building masses in the wider setting. Four height bands of 100mPD, 130mPD, 160mPD and 200mPD are imposed for the "Commercial (1)" ("C(1)") and "OU(B)"/"OU(B)1" zones covering the commercial, business and industrial developments in KTBA that help achieve a stepped height profile for visual permeability, reduce the solidness of KTBA and maintain a more intertwined relationship with the Victoria Harbour edge. For the sites closer to the harbourfront, i.e. those to the south of Hung To Road and to the west of Lai Yip Street (including the Site), a BHR of 100mPD is adopted. The sites at the south-eastern periphery of KTBA (i.e. to the east of Hoi Yuen Road and to the north of Hung To Road) are subject to a BHR of 130mPD, while higher BHRs from 160mPD to 200mPD are allowed for sites on the inland part of KTBA. The various BHR bands and heights of existing buildings in the "C(1)" and "OU(B)" sites are at **Plan A-4**.

## 4. <u>Compliance with the "Owner's Consent/Notification" Requirements</u>

The applicant is the sole "current land owner" of the Site. Detailed information would be deposited at the meeting for Members' inspection.

## 5. <u>Previous Application</u>

No application for minor relaxation of PR or BH restrictions at the Site was received previously.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[6]</sup> The Site abutting King Yip Street is a Class A site where the permissible PR under B(P)R is up to 15 and with a maximum SC of 60% for building height of 61m and over.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[7]</sup> Under the new policy, any bonus floor area claimed under section 22(1) or (2) of the B(P)R is not to be counted towards the proposed increase of non-domestic PR by 20% for redevelopment projects.

## 6. <u>Similar Applications</u> (Plan A-1)

Minor Relaxation of BHR only

- 6.1 There were two similar applications for minor relaxation of BHR in KTBA (Plan A-1). Application No. A/K14/470 is for minor relaxation of BHR (from 160mPD to 187mPD, +27m) for a proposed office development, comprising twin towers of 40 and 43 storeys, both with a refuge floor, above a common 2-storey basement. It was approved with conditions by the Committee on 13.5.2005 taking into account the fact that previous planning permission (No. A/K14/435) for a proposed office/hotel development up to a BH of 187mPD was granted by the Committee on 14.5.2004, prior to the imposition of a BHR of 160mPD for that site on the OZP on 25.2.2005.
- 6.2 Another similar application No. A/K14/757 for minor relaxation of BHR (from 100mPD to 105.9mPD, +5.9m) for a proposed commercial development to accommodate a 5.9m high communal sky garden on a 24-storey tower above a 2-storey basement was approved with conditions by the Committee on 20.4.2018 on the grounds that the proposed communal sky garden would improve the visual quality, ventilation, building permeability and greening of the urban environment, and the proposed increase in BH by 5.9m was considered acceptable.

Minor Relaxation of Both PR and BH Restrictions

- 6.3 There were two similar applications for minor relaxation of PR and BHR in KTBA. The two applications were for minor relaxation of PR restriction by 20% (from 12 to 14.4), as well as BHR from 100mPD to 125.9mPD (No. A/K14/763) and from 100mPD to 130.2mPD (No. A/K14/764) for two proposed commercial developments with communal sky gardens of 5.9m and 5.95m in height respectively. The former (No. A/K14/763) was approved with conditions by the Committee on 22.3.2019 on the grounds that the proposed minor relaxation of PR was in line with the current policy to incentivise redevelopment of pre-1987 IBs with technical feasibility ascertained, and that the proposed increase in BH was not The latter (No. A/K14/764) was rejected by the Committee on unreasonable. 22.3.2019 on the grounds that the applicant failed to demonstrate that there were sufficient planning and design merits to justify the proposed minor relaxation of BHR, and the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications for minor relaxation of BHR in the area, the cumulative effects of approving similar applications would have adverse visual impact on the area.
- 6.4 Another application (No. A/K14/771) for minor relaxation of PR by 20% (from 12 to 14.4) and BHR by 19.7% (from 100mPD to 119.7mPD), covering the same site as that of the similar application No. A/K14/764, is scheduled for consideration by the Committee at the same meeting.

## 7. <u>The Site and Its Surrounding Areas</u> (Plans A-1 to A-4 and photos on Plan A-5)

- 7.1 The Site:
  - (a) was previously occupied by an IB built in 1965, which was demolished in 2009, and is now vacant (**Plan A-5**);

- (b) is bounded by King Yip Street to its southeast and three back alleys on the other site boundaries, and adjoining a commercial/office (C/O) building to its southwest, namely Manulife Financial Centre Tower B (with BH of 100mPD), a hotel to its northwest, namely Dorsett Kwun Tong (with BH of 100mPD), and an IB and two C/O buildings to its northeast, namely Dah Way Industrial Building (under wholesale conversion to commercial use), Ray Centre (wholesale-converted) and 90 Hung To Road (with BHs of 41mPD, 53mPD and 36mPD) respectively (Plans A-3 to A-5); and
- (c) at about 500m southwest of the MTR Kwun Tong Station (**Plan A-1**).
- 7.2 The surrounding areas have the following characteristics (**Plans A-3** and **A-4**):
  - (a) the neighbouring buildings along King Yip Street, Hung To Road and Wai Yip Street are mixed with C/O and industrial or I-O buildings;
  - (b) apart from the adjoining C/O buildings and hotel mentioned in paragraph 7.1 (b) above, other existing C/O buildings are found, namely EGL Tower, Contempo Place, KOHO and The Rays (the latter three buildings being wholesale-converted) to the north at Hung To Road (with BHs of 125mPD, 50mPD, 51mPD and 51mPD), and Kin Sang Commercial Centre and King Palace Plaza to the northeast at King Yip Street (with BHs of 128mPD and 130mPD); and
  - (c) Tsui Ping River, which is undergoing revitalisation, is on the other side of King Yip Street, and Laguna City is located to the further southeast of the Site.

#### 8. <u>Planning Intention</u>

- 8.1 The planning intention of the "OU(B)" zone is primarily for general business uses. A mix of information technology and telecommunications industries, non-polluting industrial, office and other commercial uses are always permitted in new "business" buildings.
- 8.2 As stated in the ES of the OZP, to provide incentive for developments/ redevelopments with design merits/planning gains, each application for minor relaxation of BHR under section 16 of the Ordinance will be considered on its own merits and the relevant criteria for consideration of such relaxation are as follows:
  - (a) amalgamating smaller sites for achieving better urban design and local area improvements;
  - (b) accommodating the bonus PR granted under the BO in relation to surrender/dedication of land/area for use as public passage/street widening;
  - (c) providing better streetscape/good quality street level public urban space;
  - (d) providing separation between buildings to enhance air ventilation and visual permeability;
  - (e) accommodating building design to address specific site constraints in achieving the permissible PR under the OZP; and

(f) other factors such as the need for tree preservation, innovative building design and planning merits that would bring about improvements to townscape and amenity of the locality, provided that no adverse landscape and visual impacts would be resulted from the innovative building design.

## 9. <u>Comments from Relevant Government Departments</u>

9.1 The following Government bureaux/departments have been consulted and their views on the application are summarized as follows:

## **Policy Perspective**

- 9.1.1 Comments of the Secretary for Development, Development Bureau (DEVB):
  - (a) It is Government's policy to incentivise owners to redevelop old IBs to optimise utilisation of the existing industrial stock and make better use of valuable land resources, while addressing more effectively the issues of fire safety and non-compliant uses. While the Site had been occupied by a pre-1987 IB immediately before it was left vacant, for the purposes of the current time-limited policy for IB revitalisation, the applicant should be eligible for applying for the proposed relaxation of PR to pursue redevelopment under this policy initiative. To this end, he gives policy support to this application for relaxation of PR if it satisfies all relevant conditions or criteria (see details in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above).
  - (b) As for the application for relaxation of BH, he does not have any comments from the policy angle, and considers that the departments concerned should be consulted as appropriate.

## Land Administration

- 9.1.2 Comments of the District Lands Officer/Kowloon East and the Chief Estate Surveyor/Special Duties, LandsD:
  - (a) No objection to the application.
  - (b) The Site falls within KTIL 204 which is held under a Government Lease dated 19.8.1966 for a term of 21 years commencing from 1.7.1960 renewable for 16 years less 3 days and was further extended to 30.6.2047. The lease conditions of the Lot contain, inter alia, the following restrictions:
    - (i) the user is restricted to industrial purposes;
    - (ii) no building shall be erected other than a factory, ancillary offices and quarters for persons essential to the safety and security of the building;
    - (iii) no building or any part of such building shall be erected of which exceeds a height of 170 feet above Colony Principal Datum; and

- (iv) will not erect or use or allow to be used the pink hatched black area at ground floor level for any purpose other than the parking, L/UL of motor vehicles and a clear headroom of 15 feet from ground level is required.
- (c) The proposed development for office, shop and services and eating place uses and minor relaxation of BHR up to 126mPD are in breach of the lease conditions. If the planning application is approved, the applicant is required to apply to LandsD for a lease modification to give effect to the proposal. However, there is no guarantee at this stage that the lease modification would be approved. If the application for lease modification is approved by LandsD in the capacity as landlord at his sole discretion, it will be subject to such terms and conditions including the payment of full premium and administrative fee as considered appropriate by LandsD.
- (d) The site area quoted in the submission is slightly larger than the site area of the Lot (21,980 s.f.), he reserves comments on this point at the later lease modification stage.
- (e) Among the conditions under the 2018 IB revitalisation measure for redevelopment, the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange shall be executed no later than three years from the date of the TPB's approval letter and the proposed redevelopment shall be completed within 5 years from the date of execution of the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange.

## **Building Matters**

- 9.1.3 Comments of the Chief Building Surveyor/Kowloon, BD (CBS/K, BD):
  - (a) No objection in principle to the application.
  - (b) The proposal is acceptable in principle under BO. The proposal should in all aspects comply with BO.
  - (c) Under Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers (PNAP) APP-2, 100% GFA concession may be granted for underground private carpark while only 50% GFA concession may be granted for above ground private carpark.
  - (d) No part of the building, up to a level of 15m above the street level, shall be within 7.5m from the centreline of the street. PNAP APP-151 and APP-152 refer.
  - (e) Under JPN 2, 100% GFA concession may be granted to sky garden, but is subject to compliance with the pre-requisites stipulated in PNAP APP-151 on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment".
  - (f) The bonus GFA can only be considered upon formal submission of BPs.

(g) Detailed comments under BO will be given at the BP submission stage.

## **Traffic and Highways**

9.1.4 Comments of the Commissioner for Transport (C for T):

Having reviewed the TIAs at Appendices Ib to If, he has no in-principle objection to the application from traffic engineering point of view. To ensure the provision and proper implementation of the traffic management plan for the vehicular passage and avoid the vehicles entering/leaving the subject development from queueing onto King Yip Street, he suggests that should the application be approved by the Board, approval conditions should be imposed for submission of revised TIA (including a traffic the vehicular access management plan for arrangement) and implementation of the management proposal and mitigation measures (if any) identified in the revised TIA, as well as provision of parking facilities, L/UL spaces and vehicular access.

9.1.5 Comments of the Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon (CHE/K), HyD:

According to ODP No. D/K14A/2, 1.2m setback along King Yip Street and 1.5m setback plus 1.5m NBA along the back alley to the northeast are required. The surrender of the setback areas is supported. The applicant is advised that the setback areas to be surrendered to the Government shall in general be free of structures.

#### **Environmental Aspect**

- 9.1.6 Comments of the Director of Environment Protection (DEP):
  - (a) He has no objection to the application from environmental perspective on the following considerations:
  - (b) The applicant has confirmed that central air-conditioning system will be provided for the proposed development and will not rely on openable window for ventilation. The fresh air intake point of the air-conditioning system will be properly located during detailed design stage to meet the buffer distance requirement for air emissions as stipulated in the HKPSG. The proposed development should be able to avoid exposing occupants under unacceptable environmental nuisances/impact.
  - (c) It is also noted that the applicant will address the potential land contamination and associated waste management issues during detailed design stage. Land contamination assessment and remediation (if needed) should be completed prior to development of the Site.
  - (d) In general, he considers that insurmountable sewerage impacts are not anticipated for the proposed minor relaxation of PR and BH restrictions of the development. Notwithstanding this, should the application be approved by the Board, an approval condition on submission of sewerage impact assessment (SIA) is suggested so as

assess the potential sewerage impact and to demonstrate the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

#### **Drainage and Sewerage**

- 9.1.7 Comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland South, Drainage Services Department (CE/MS, DSD):
  - (a) He has no objection to the application.
  - (b) Should the application be approved, relevant approval conditions should be imposed requiring the submission of a SIA to the satisfaction of the DEP or of the Board, and implementation of the local sewerage connection works identified in the SIA to the satisfaction of DSD or of the Board. The applicant should also be reminded to prepare and submit the SIA as early as possible in view of the time required for the implementation of any required sewerage works.

#### Urban Design, Visual and Landscape Aspects

9.1.8 Comments of the Chief Architect/Central Management Division 2, Architectural Services Department (CA/CMD2, ArchSD):

He has no comment from visual impact point of view since it is noted that the proposed development with a BH of 126mPD may not be incompatible with adjacent developments with BHRs ranging from 100mPD to 130mPD.

- 9.1.9 Comments of the Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape (CTP/UD&L), PlanD:
  - (a) The Site zoned "OU(B)" is located at the south-eastern edge of KTBA with an intended BHR profile in the range between 100mPD and 160mPD for commercial/industrial developments. The area to the Site's northeast across Hung To Road, also under "OU(B)" zoning, is subject to a BHR of 130mPD. Given the above, and as illustrated in the VIA, the accommodation of the proposed development with a BH of 126mPD may not induce significant adverse visual impact.
  - (b) On urban design aspect, as illustrated in the sectional drawing (Drawing A-13), the proposed setback along King Yip Street facing Tsui Ping River will improve the pedestrian environment and create a pedestrian scale at street level. Also, some landscape features have been provided at the low zone, such as vertical greening at G/F of the southwestern façade, and some greenery at 2/F of the southeastern façade.
  - (c) In view of the above, he has no objection to the application from the urban design and visual perspectives, but advises the applicant to consider extending the vertical greening to the front façade to enhance the building's visual appeal for the pedestrian and further reinforce the visual distinction between the tower and the podium.
  - (d) The Site is located in an area of urban landscape character dominated

by medium to high-rise industrial and commercial buildings. No existing tree is observed within the Site. Adverse landscape impact is not anticipated. As such, he has no objection to the application from landscape planning perspective.

## **Pedestrian Accessibility and Walkability**

9.1.10 Comments of the Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office (Head of EKEO), DEVB:

In the application, the proposed 1.2m full-height setback along King Yip Street and 1.5m full-height setback plus 1.5m NBA along the back alley are generally in line with the ODP's requirements. The setbacks would improve pedestrian environment and promote walkability as advocated by his Office.

- 9.2 The following Government departments have no objection to/no comment on the application:
  - (a) Chief Engineer/Construction, Water Supplies Department;
  - (b) Commissioner of Police;
  - (c) Director of Fire Services; and
  - (d) District Officer (Kwun Tong), Home Affairs Department.

#### 10. Public Comments Received During Statutory Publication Period

- 10.1 The application and the first two FIs (Appendices Ib and Ic) were published for public inspection on 15.2.2019, 19.3.2019 and 30.4.2019. Within the three statutory public inspection periods, a total of 14 public comments were received. 10 objecting comments were received from members of the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) (Appendices II(1) to II(4)), the owner company of an adjoining IB at 86 Hung To Road (Appendices II(5) to II(7)) and individuals (Appendices II(8) to II(10)). Another four public supportive comments were received from individuals (Appendices II(1) to II(14)).
- 10.2 The objecting comments are mainly on the following reasons:
  - (a) The proposed relaxation of PR and BH restrictions would cause adverse visual, air ventilation, noise, natural-light penetration and traffic impacts to the area, encouraging similar applications that will result in cumulative environmental impact. The proposed increases in PR and BH without strong justifications would jeopardize the BH profile of KTBA.
  - (b) The vehicular ingress of the proposed development would be provided along the setback/NBA, whereas the egress would make use of the existing one-lane/two-way back alley to the northeast of the Site, which the adjoining three IBs have been using for vehicular access and L/UL activities. The proposed access arrangement would result in vehicular conflict, for instance, traffic running at opposite directions along the back alley. The traffic generated from the proposed development would overload the back alley.
  - (c) There is a deficit in open space provision for meeting demands of residential

population in Kwun Tong (South) OZP area as well as workers in KTBA. The impact of the additional influx of workers to the area resulting from the proposed minor relaxation of PR would further worsen the demand for open space.

- (d) The Site without any existing building should not be eligible for the policy on revitalisation of pre-1987 IBs as defined in LandsD Practice Note No. 2/2019<sup>[8]</sup>. As such, the Board should not grant the 20% PR relaxation on the grounds of the policy but on individual merits alone. However, there is no planning merit in the Proposed Scheme that could justify a 20% PR relaxation, which is not minor in nature.
- 10.3 The other individuals support the application mainly on the grounds that the development of Grade A office and retail uses at King Yip Street would improve the pedestrian environment and coincide with the planned Tsui Ping River project. The proposed development would also expedite the phasing out of industrial activities and the transformation of KTBA, which is in line with the Chief Executive's policy initiatives of revitalisation of IBs.

## 11. Planning Considerations and Assessments

- 11.1 The application is for minor relaxation of PR restriction from 12 to 14.4 (by 20%) and proposed increase in BH from 100mPD to 126mPD (by 26%) for a proposed development at the Site into a 32-storey (including 3 basement carpark levels) commercial development. The proposed development comprises 'Office', 'Shop and Services' and 'Eating Place' uses that are uses always permitted under Schedule I of the Notes for non-IBs in the "OU(B)" zone. The proposed uses are in line with the planning intention of the "OU(B)" zone and the transformation taking place in KTBA from industrial to business/commercial uses.
- 11.2 The Proposed Scheme has incorporated full-height building setbacks of 1.2m and 1.5m along King Yip Street and the back alley respectively, plus a 1.5m aboveground NBA along the back alley in accordance with the ODP's requirements, so as to facilitate widening of pedestrian pavements/service lane, which in general would enhance the walking environment.

Policy Aspect

11.3 An OP for the IB previously on the Site, demolished in 2009, was issued in 1965 and DEVB advises that the Site can be regarded as eligible under Government's new policy on revitalising IBs. DEVB gives policy support to the current application for the minor relaxation of PR by 20%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[8]</sup> LandsD's Practice Note No. 2/2019 on "Lease Modification (or a Land Exchange) for Redevelopment of an Industrial Lot (Special time-limited arrangement for relaxation of development intensity)" states that a lot owner of a pre-1987 IB who wishes to apply for a lease modification or an in-situ land exchange for the redevelopment of an industrial lot (refers to a lot which, under the terms of its land grant, shall not be used for any purpose other than for industrial or godown purposes or both) at a non-domestic PR not exceeding 20% more than the maximum development intensity permitted under the relevant statutory town plans may wish to refer to the said Practice Note before submitting an application to LandsD.

#### Technical Aspects

Minor Relaxation of PR

- 11.4 The proposed minor relaxation of PR by 20% generally follows the policy on revitalisation of pre-1987 IBs, and consideration of such application is subject to technical assessments confirming the feasibility of the proposed scheme. To support the application, TIA submitted (Appendices Ib to If) reveals that the additional increase in traffic arising from the minor relaxation of PR from 12 to 14.4 would be minimal and that the road network and junctions in the vicinity of the Site would operate within the capacity or more or less the same as that under the reference scenario. C for T has no in-principle objection to the application, but suggests two approval conditions for submission of a revised TIA including a traffic management plan for the vehicular access arrangement, and implementation of the traffic management proposal and the mitigation measures, if any, identified in the revised TIA, as well as provision of parking facilities, L/UL spaces and vehicular access, be imposed as set out in paragraphs 12.2(c) and (d) below. The other relevant Government departments including Fire Services Department, Environmental Protection Department and DSD have no adverse comments on the application, subject to incorporation of appropriate approval conditions on sewerage aspect in paragraphs 12.2 (a) and (b) below.
- 11.5 Current application is for minor relaxation of PR from 12 to 14.4. The applicant provided information on proposed claim of bonus PR at BP submission stage. Although the bonus PR permitted under B(P)R 22(2) is permitted as of right under the Notes of the "OU(B)" zone, CBS/K, BD advised that the claim of bonus PR can only be considered upon formal submission of BPs<sup>[9]</sup>. In this regard, the bonus PR as included in the FIs represents the worst case scenario for the purpose of technical assessments and should not be taken as approved under the subject application.

Minor Relaxation of BH

- 11.6 According to the applicant, a minimal increase in BH (+26%) is proposed for accommodating the proposed 20% increase in PR, the bonus PR of 0.574 (to be claimed under B(P)R and subject to approval by BA) as well as the communal sky garden (5.9m in height) which is intended for enhancing the quality of the built environment by providing more greenery area and social gathering places for the tenants and their visitors. The applicant also claimed that the proposed setbacks and communal sky garden would help provide enhanced streetscape, wider public footpath and better visual permeability, which would in turn improve the townscape and amenity of the locality and generally meet the criteria for considering application for minor relaxation of BHR as mentioned in paragraphs 8.2(c), (d) and (f) above.
- 11.7 Taking into account the applicant's justifications on visual impact and compatibility above and the VIA/photomontages and architectural renderings

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[9]</sup> Granting of bonus PR/GFA for the setback areas to be surrendered to the Government is in general subject to compliance with the conditions set out under PNAP APP-20 and/or PNAP APP-108 and to the agreement/ consents from the concerned departments including but not limited to TD, HyD and LandsD.

submitted (**Drawings A-15** to **A-23**), CA/CMD2, ArchSD and CTP/UD&L, PlanD commented that in considering that the south-eastern edge of KTBA is subject to BHRs of 100mPD to 160mPD and that the sites to the further northeast are subject to BHRs of 130mPD, the proposed development may not be incompatible with the planned stepped height profile for KTBA, and may not induce significant adverse effects on the visual character of the townscape.

11.8 Under current application, a minor relaxation of BHR from 100mPD to 126mPD is to accommodate the applied increase in PR and the communal sky garden (5.9m in height). The proposed increase in BH by 26% may be considered generally proportionate to the applied increase in PR and to accommodate the communal sky garden, and may not be unreasonable. As the Site is near the edge of the "OU(B)" cluster subject to BH of 100mPD and the BHR for the sites across Hung To Road is 130mPD, the proposed BH for the proposed development at 126mPD may still allow a stepped BH profile. In view of the above, the proposed minor relaxation of BHR to 126mPD at the Site is considered not unacceptable.

**Others** 

11.9 Regarding the public comments on the potential adverse visual, noise, natural light penetration, traffic and environmental impacts as well as eligibility for the policy on revitalisation of pre-1987 IBs, the assessments above are relevant. As for the concerns on the potential adverse air ventilation, CTP/UD&L, PlanD has no adverse comment on the application from air ventilation perspective. As for the concern on the open space provision, there is an overall surplus in planned local open space in the planning area, which should be sufficient to cater for the demand of workers in KTBA as well. For current application, the proposed communal sky garden would serve the future workers therein for enjoyment and social benefit.

## 12. Planning Department's Views

- 12.1 Based on the assessments made in paragraph 11 above and having taken into account the public comments mentioned in paragraph 10, the Planning Department has no objection to the application.
- 12.2 Should the Committee decide to approve the application on the terms of the application as submitted to the Board, it is suggested that the permission shall be valid until <u>31.5.2023</u>, and after the said date, the permission shall cease to have effect unless before the said date, the development permitted is commenced or the permission is renewed. The following conditions of approval and advisory clauses are suggested for Members' reference:

## Approval conditions

- (a) submission of sewerage impact assessment for the proposed development to the satisfaction of the Director of Environmental Protection or of the Town Planning Board;
- (b) implementation of the local sewerage upgrading/sewerage connection works identified in the sewerage impact assessment for the proposed development in condition (a) above to the satisfaction of the Director of Drainage Services or of the Town Planning Board;

- (c) submission of a revised traffic impact assessment including a traffic management plan for the vehicular access arrangement, and implementation of the traffic management proposal and the mitigation measures, if any, identified in the revised traffic impact assessment, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner for Transport or of the Town Planning Board; and
- (d) provision of parking facilities, loading/unloading spaces and vehicular access for the proposed development to the satisfaction of the Commissioner for Transport or of the Town Planning Board.

#### Advisory clauses

The recommended advisory clauses are attached at Appendix III.

- 12.3 Alternatively, should the Committee decide to reject the application, the following reason for rejection is suggested for Members' reference:
  - (a) the applicant fails to demonstrate that there are sufficient planning and design merits to justify the proposed minor relaxation of building height restriction; and
  - (b) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications for minor relaxation of building height restriction in the area, the cumulative effects of approving similar applications would have adverse visual impact on the area.

#### 13. Decision Sought

- 13.1 The Committee is invited to consider the application and decide whether to grant or to refuse to grant permission.
- 13.2 Should the Committee decide to approve the application, Members are invited to consider the approval condition(s) and advisory clause(s), if any, to be attached to the permission, and the date when the validity of the permission should expire.
- 13.3 Alternatively, should the Committee decide to reject the application, Members are invited to advise what reason(s) for rejection should be given to the applicant.

## 14. Attachments

Appendix I	Application form with replacement pages of supporting planning statement assessment received on 8.2.2019
Appendix Ia	Supporting planning statement received on 8.2.2019
Appendix Ib	First further information vide letter received on 15.3.2019
Appendix Ic	Second further information vide letter received on 18.4.2019
Appendix Id	Third further information vide letter received on 21.5.2019
Appendix Ie	Fourth further information vide letters received on 28.5.2019
Appendix If	Fifth further information vide letter received on 29.5.2019

Appendices II(1) to II(14)	Public comments received during the statutory publication periods	
Appendix III	Recommended advisory clauses	
Drawings A-1 to A-13 Proposed floor plans and diagrammatic section subm by the applicant		
Drawing A-14 Illustration drawing of stepped building heig submitted by the applicant		
Drawings A-15 to A-21	Photomontages submitted by the applicant	
Drawings A-22 and A-23	Architectural renderings submitted by the applicant	
Plans A-1 and A-2	Location plans on Outline Zoning Plan and Outline Development Plan	
Plan A-3	Site plan	
Plan A-4	Height of existing buildings in Kwun Tong Business Area	
Plan A-5	Site photos	

PLANNING DEPARTMENT MAY 2019

## Advisory clauses

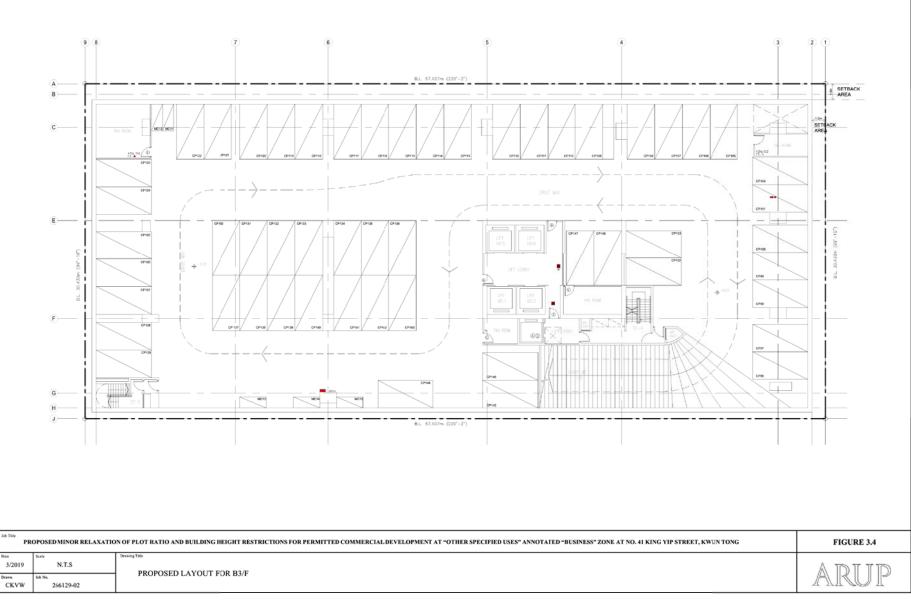
- (a) the planning permission is for minor relaxation of the plot ratio (PR) of the proposed development from 12 to 14.4. The claim for bonus PR should be dealt with under building plan submission stage and should not be taken as approved under the subject planning application;
- (b) the approval of the application does not imply that any proposal on building design elements to fulfill the requirements under the Sustainable Building Design Guidelines and any gross floor area (GFA) concession of the proposed commercial development will be granted by the Building Authority (BA). The applicant should approach the Buildings Department (BD) direct to obtain the necessary approval. If the proposed building design elements and GFA concession are not approved/granted by the BA and major changes to the current scheme are required, a fresh planning application to the Town Planning Board may be required;
- to note the comments of the District Lands Officer/Kowloon East, Lands (c) Department (LandsD) on the need to apply to the District Lands Office, Kowloon East for a lease modification to give effect to the proposal. However, there is no guarantee at this stage that the lease modification would If the application for lease modification is approved by be approved. LandsD in the capacity as landlord at his sole discretion, it will be subject to such terms and conditions including the payment of premium and administration fee as considered appropriate by LandsD. Among the conditions under the 2018 IB revitalisation measure for redevelopment, the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange shall be executed no later than three years from the date of the TPB's approval letter and the proposed redevelopment shall be completed within 5 years from the date of execution of the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange;
- (d) to note the comments of the Chief Building Surveyor/Kowloon, BD that the proposal should in all aspects comply with the Buildings Ordinance (BO). Under Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers (PNAP) APP-2, 100% gross floor area (GFA) concession may be granted for underground private carpark while only 50% GFA concession may be granted for aboveground private carpark. No part of the building, up to a level of 15m above the street level, shall be within 7.5m from the centreline of the street; PNAP APP-151 and APP-152 refer. Under Joint Practice Note No. 2, 100% GFA concession may be granted to sky garden, but is subject to the compliance with the pre-requisites stipulated in PNAP APP-151 on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment". The bonus GFA can only be considered upon formal submission of building plans (BPs). Detailed comments under BO will be given at the BP submission stage;
- (e) to note the comments of the Commissioner for Transport that a revised traffic impact assessment, including a traffic management plan for the vehicular access along the back alley, should be submitted which incorporates the details in all the submitted further information to demonstrate the provision of parking facilities, loading/unloading (L/UL) spaces, vehicular access,

internal driveway, efficiency of the car lift system (if applicable) and the impact on the public road. Implementation of the traffic management proposal and the mitigation measures, if any, identified in the revised traffic impact assessment and provision of parking facilities, L/UL spaces and vehicular access for the proposed development are also required;

- (f) to note the comments of the Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon, Highways Department that the setback areas to be surrendered to the Government shall in general be free of structures;
- (g) to note the comments of the Director of Environment Protection that the applicant should address the potential land contamination and associated waste management issues during detailed design stage. Land contamination assessment and remediation (if needed) should be completed prior to development of the Site;
- (h) to note the comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland South, Drainage Services Department that the sewerage impact assessment should be prepared and submitted as early as possible in view of the time required for the implementation of any required sewerage works; and
- (i) to note the comments of the Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department that to consider extending the vertical greening to the front façade to enhance the building's visual appeal for the pedestrian and further reinforce the visual distinction between the tower and the podium.

(SOURCE : SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICANT)





參考編號 REFERENCE No. (資料來源:由申請人提交)

繪圖 DRAWING A - 1

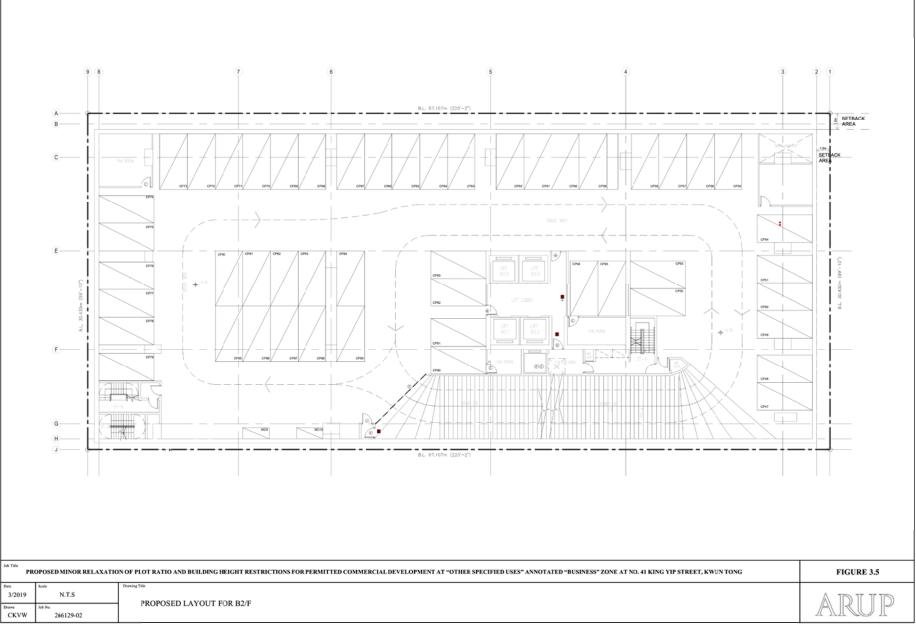
A/K14/766

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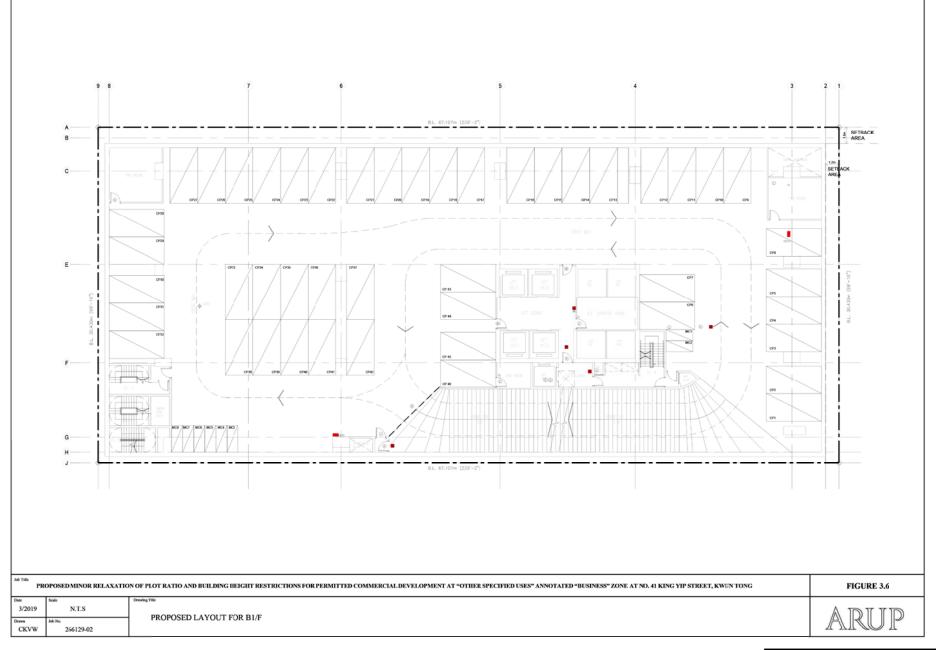
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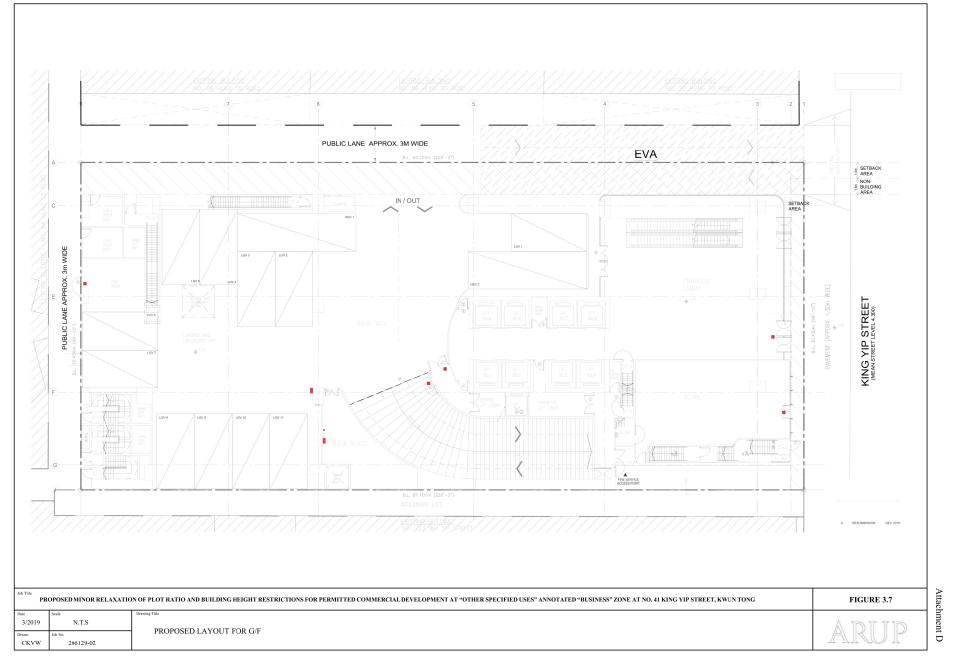
A/K14/766



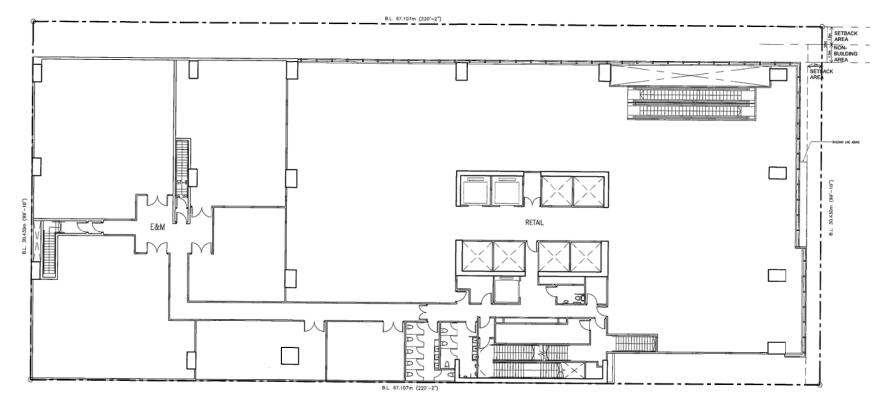








<sup>參考編號</sup> REFERENCE №. NT) A/K14/766 A - 4



First Floor Plan

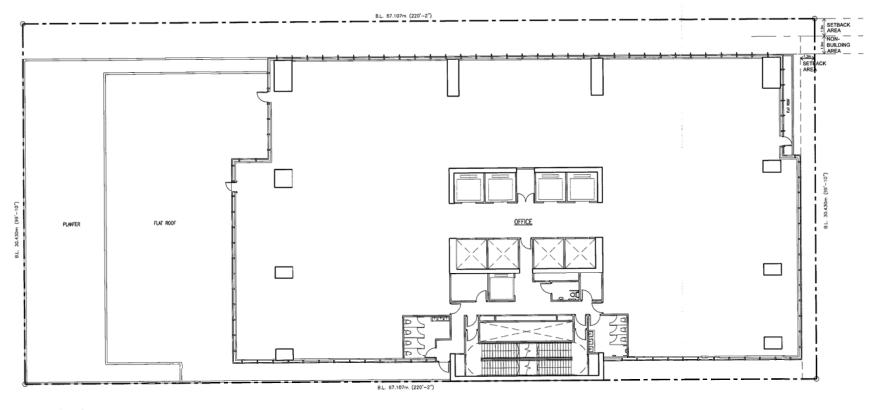
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A - 5

A/K14/766

## SECOND FLOOR OFFICE



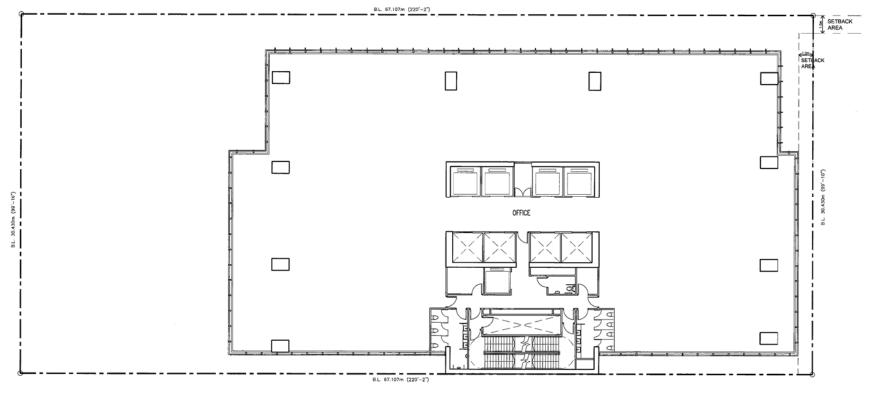
Second Floor Plan

Scale 1:200

LU TANG LAI ARCHITECTS LTD. 呂 鄭 黎 建 藥 師 有 閱 公 司



## TYPICAL OFFICE FLOOR LOW ZONE (2/F- 10/F)

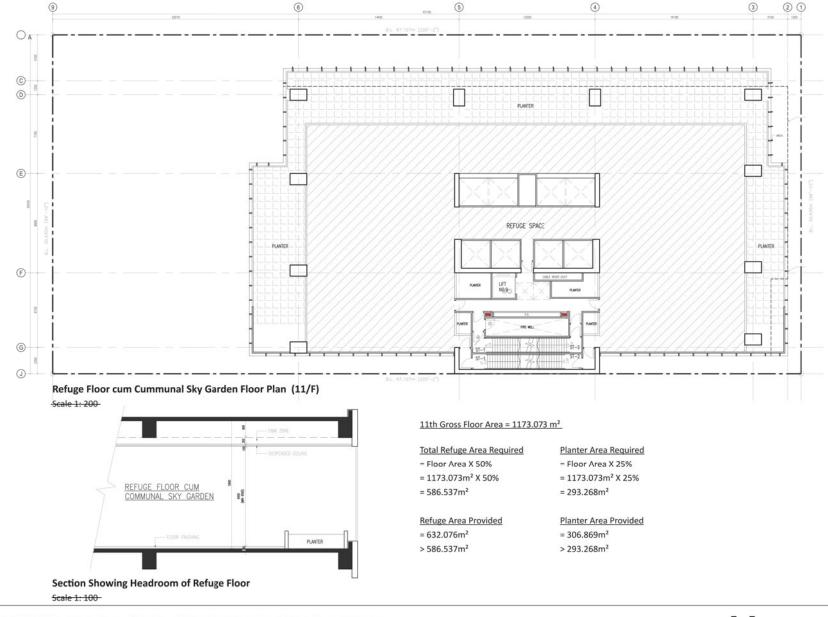


Typical Low Zone Floor Plan

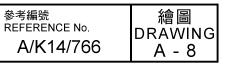
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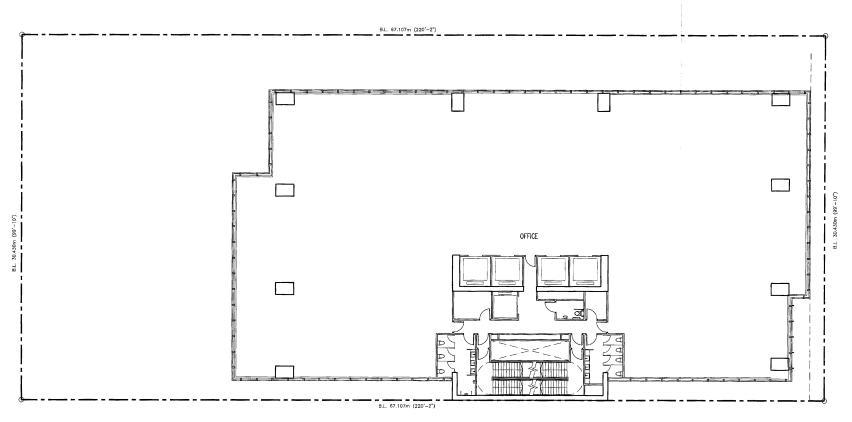




## **REFUGE FLOOR CUM CUMMUNAL SKY GARDEN**



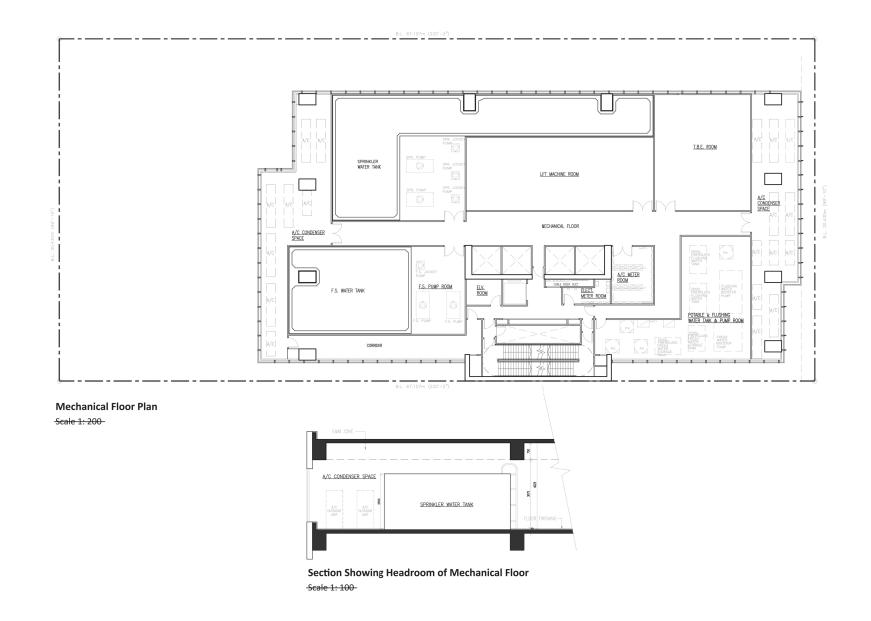
## TYPICAL OFFICE FLOOR MID ZONE (12/F- 21/F)



Typical Mid Zone Floor Plan



<sup>參考編號</sup> REFERENCE №. A/K14/766 A - 9

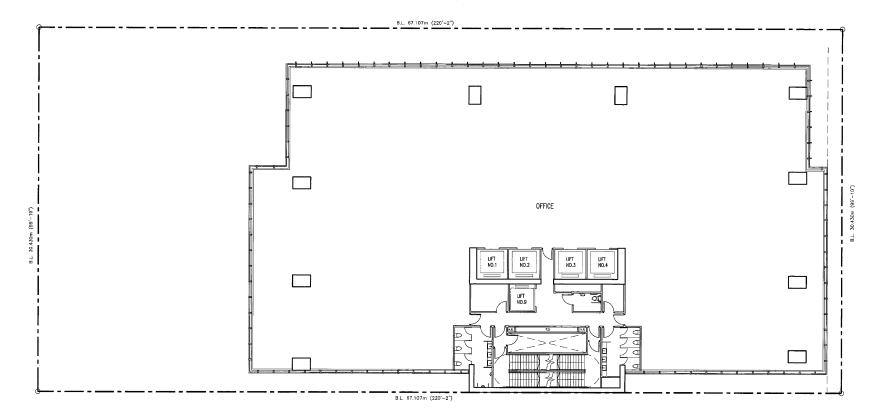




参考編號 REFERENCE №. ICANT) A/K14/766 A - 10

## **MECHANICAL FLOOR**

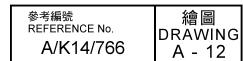
## TYPICAL OFFICE FLOOR HIGH ZONE (23/F- 32/F)



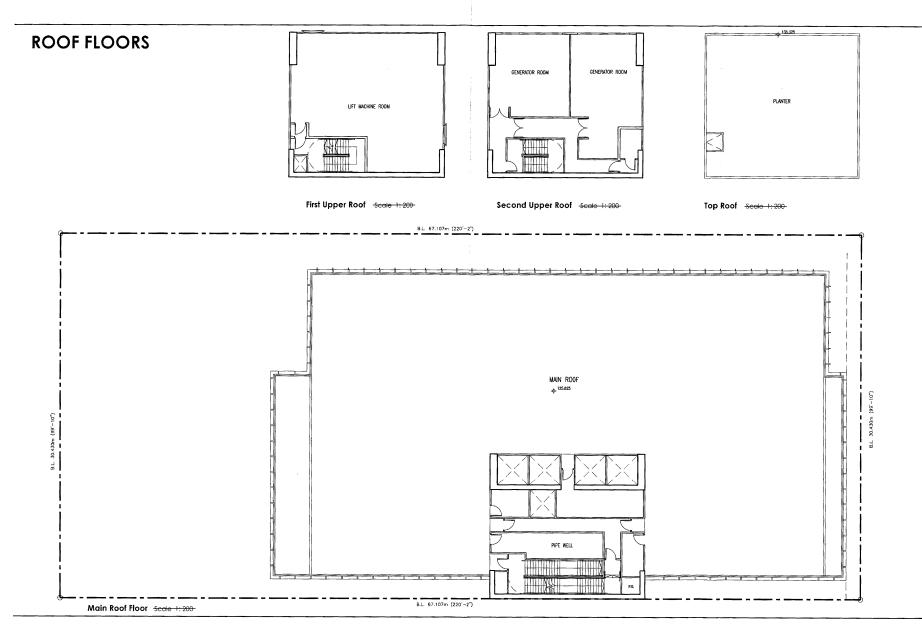
Typical High Zone Floor Plan



<sup>參考編號</sup> REFERENCE №. A/K14/766 A - 11



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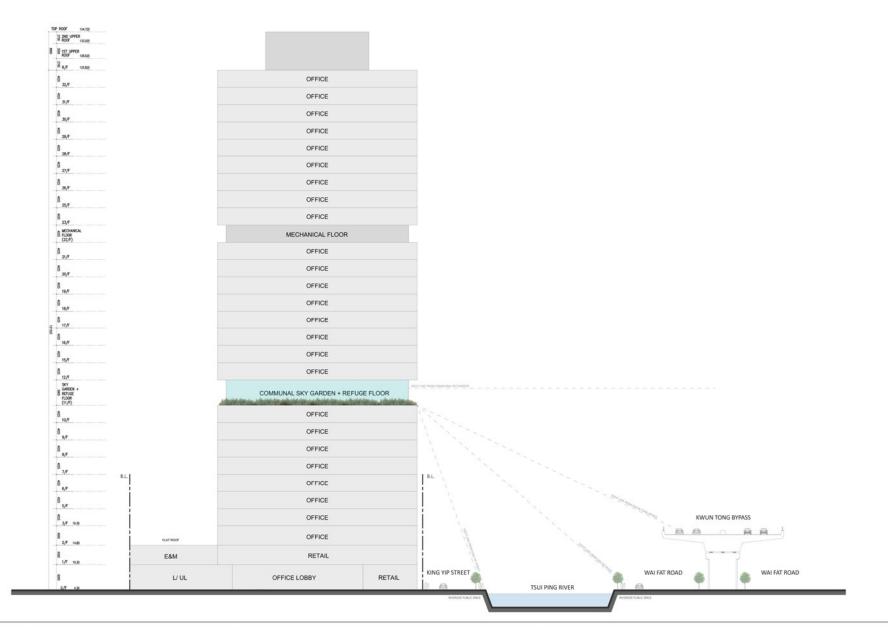


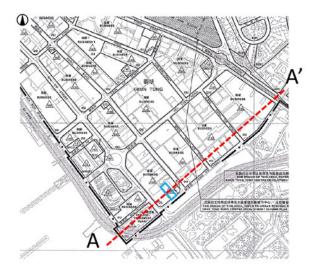
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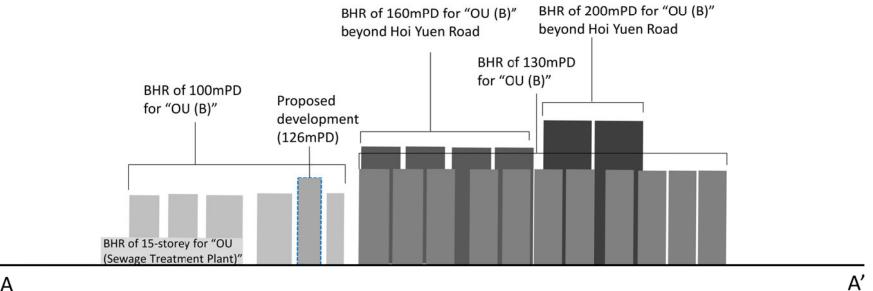


## SECTION OF KING YIP STREET



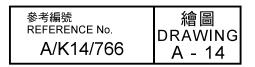






# А

# Illustration Drawing of Stepped Building Height Profile







## **Existing Condition**

Planned Condition at Application Site (100mPD) hidden behind the Manulife Financial Centre



**Planned Condition** 

Proposed Scheme at Application Site (126mPD) hidden behind the Manulife Financial Centre

With Proposed Scheme

Figure No.	Scale	Figure Title	Viewing Point 1:
3	-		Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Square
ARUP	Date March 2019	Source	

參考編號 REFERENCE No. A/K14/766







# **Existing Condition**

Planned Condition at Application Site (100mPD) hidden behind existing developments



Proposed Scheme at Application Site (126mPD) hidden behind existing developments

**Planned Condition** 



With Proposed Scheme

Figure No.	Scale	Figure Title	Viewing Point 2:
4	-		Junction of Hoi Yuen Road and Hing Yip Street
ADUD	Date	Source	
ARUP	March 2019		









**Existing Condition** 

Planned Condition at Application Site (100mPD)



Proposed Scheme at Application Site (126mPD)



With Proposed Scheme

Figure No.	Scale	Figure Title Viewing Point 3:			
5	-	Tsui Ping River Promenade			
ARIIP	Date	Source			
ARUP	March 2019				

參考編號 REFERENCE №. A/K14/766





With Proposed Scheme

Figure No.	Scale	Figure Titl	e Viewing Point 4:	
6	-	Laguna Park		
ARIIP	Date	Source		
AILUI	March 2019			

參考編號 REFERENCE No. A/K14/766





## **Existing Condition**

**Planned Condition** 

Planned Condition at Application Site (100mPD)



Proposed Scheme at Application Site (126mPD)



With Proposed Scheme						
Figure No. Scale Figure Title Viewing Point 5:						
7	-	Kwun Tong Bypass				
ARUP	Date March 2019	Source				









# **Existing Condition**

**Planned Condition** 

Planned Condition at Application Site (100mPD) hidden behind existing developments



Proposed Scheme at Application Site (126mPD) hidden behind existing developments



# With Proposed Scheme

Figure No.	Scale	Figure TitleViewing Point 6:			
8	-	<b>Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus</b>			
ADUD	Date	Source			
AKUP	March 2019				

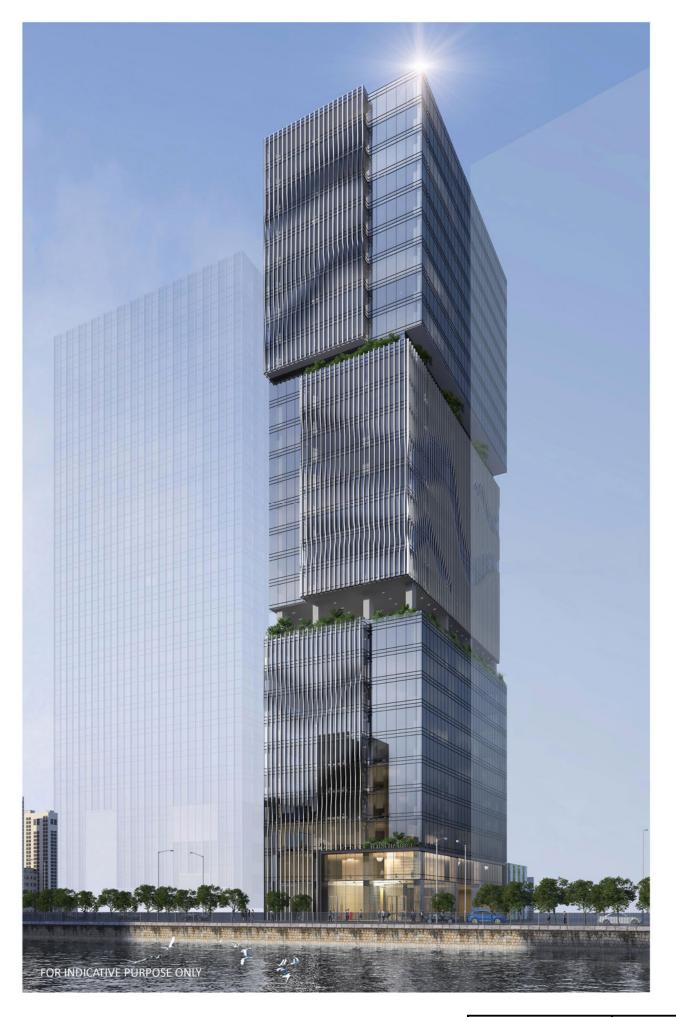
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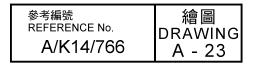




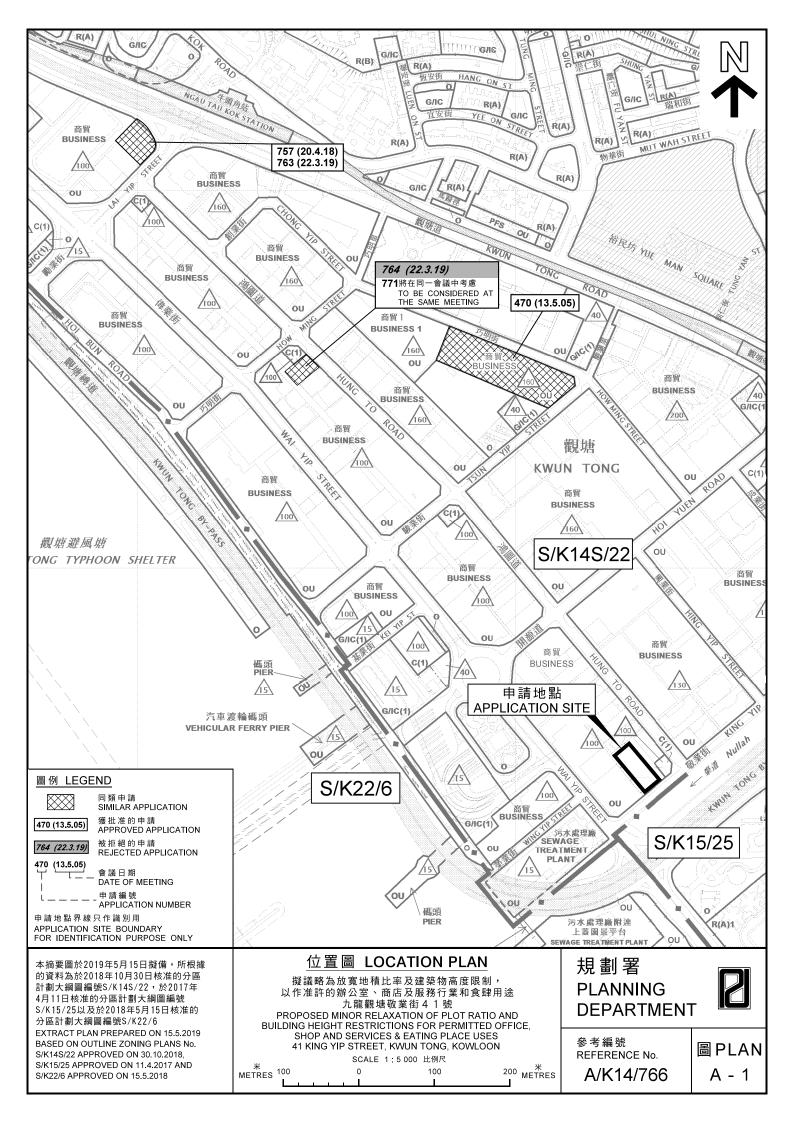
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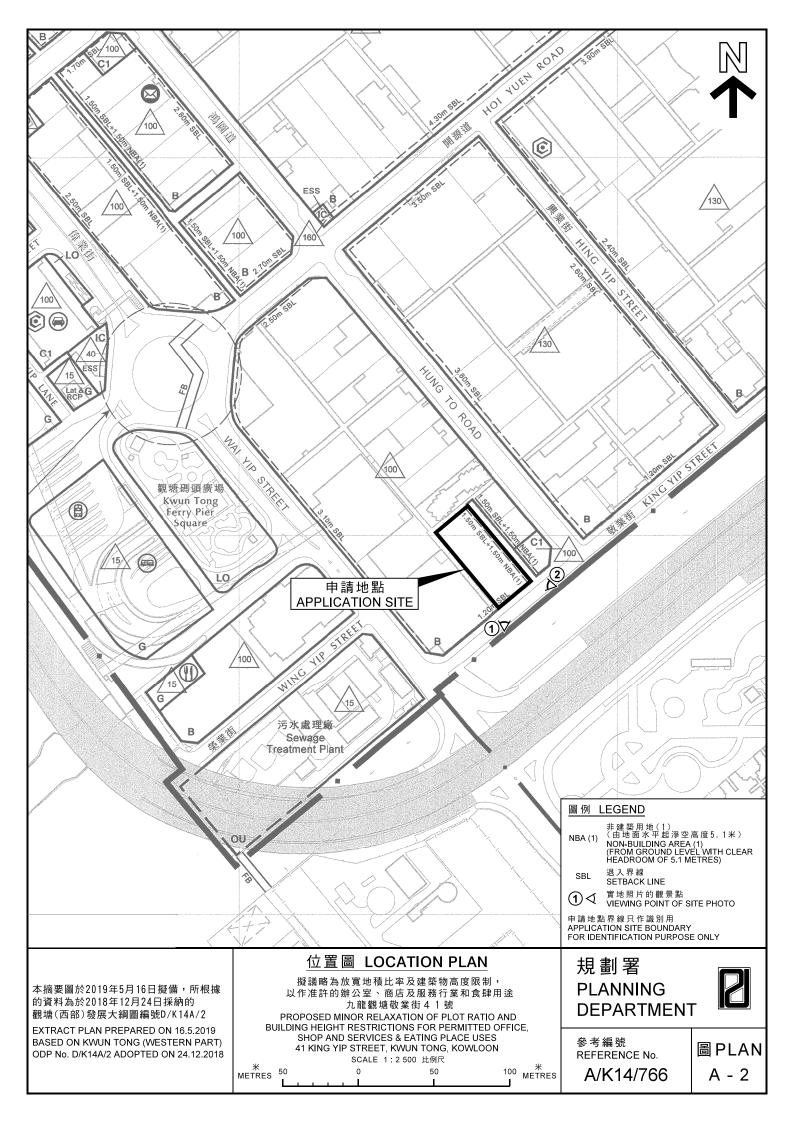


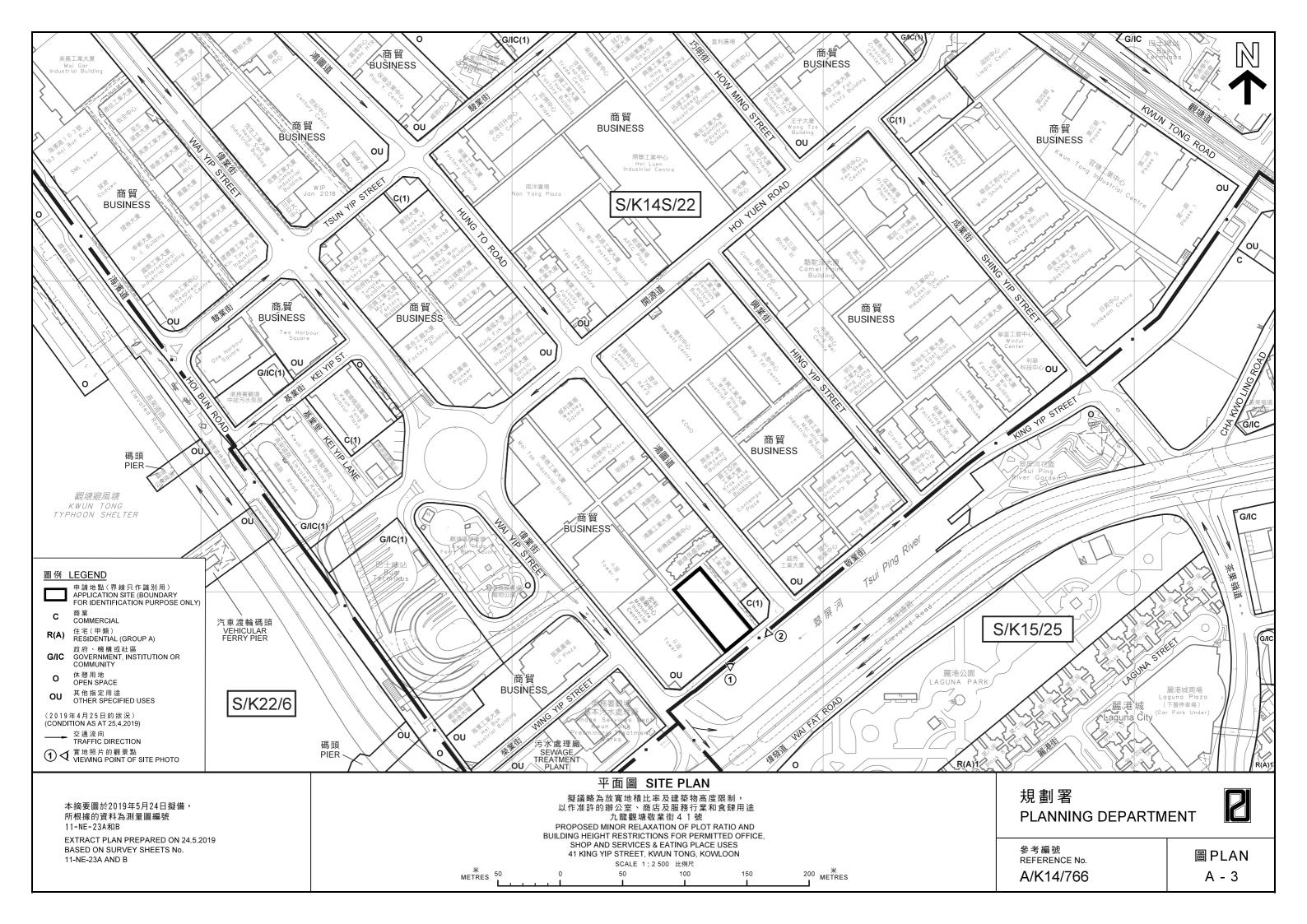


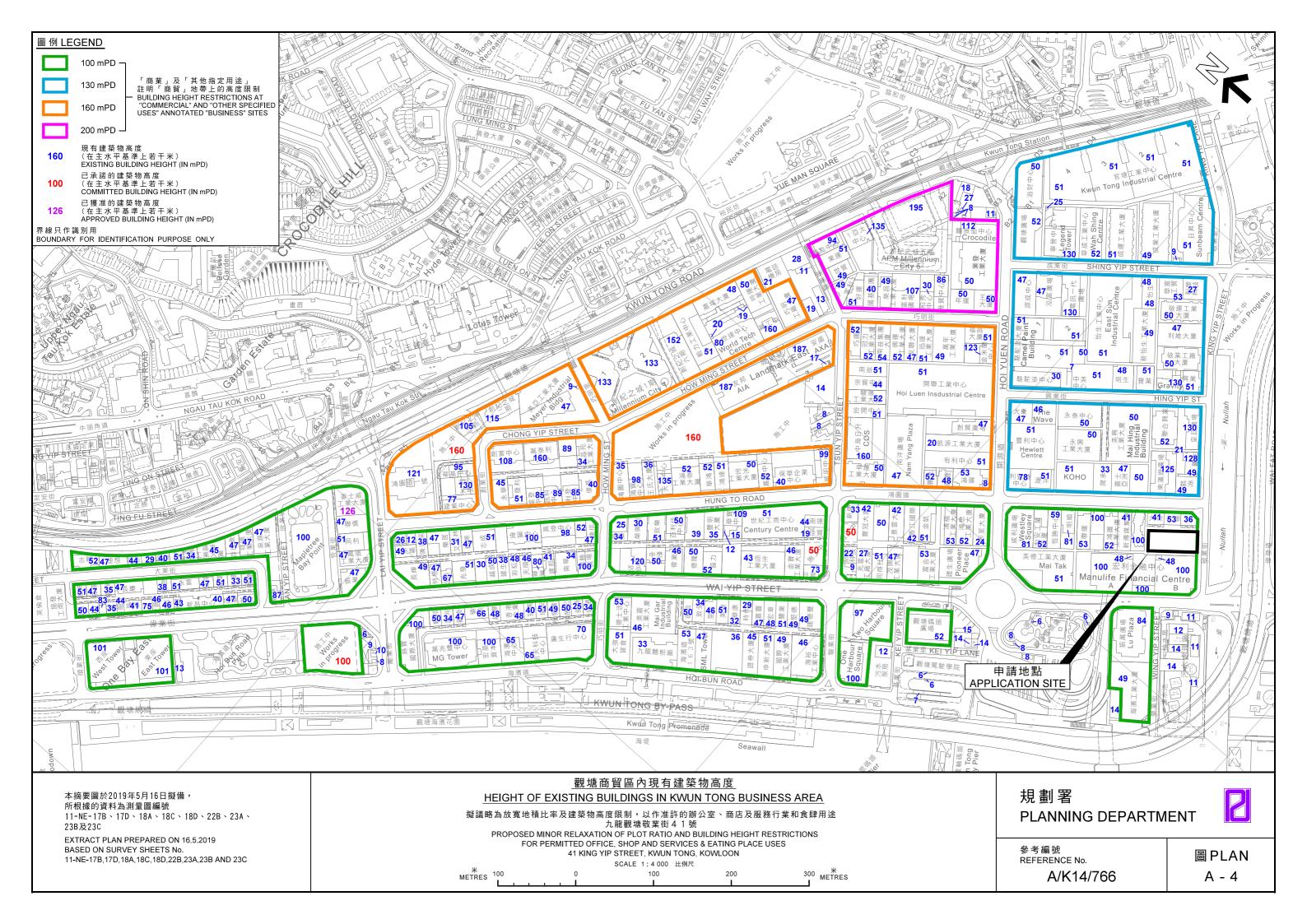


(資料來源:由申請人提交) (SOURCE: SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICANT)











Appendix F-II of MPC Paper No. A/K14/766A

# TOWN PLANNING BOARD

# Minutes of 628<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the <u>Metro Planning Committee held at 9:00 a.m. on 31.5.2019</u>

#### Present

Director of Planning Mr Raymond K.W. Lee Mr Lincoln L.H. Huang Mr Sunny L.K. Ho Mr Stephen H.B. Yau Mr Wilson Y.W. Fung Mr Thomas O.S. Ho Professor T.S. Liu Ms Sandy H.Y. Wong Mr Franklin Yu Mr Daniel K.S. Lau Ms Lilian S.K. Law Professor John C.Y. Ng Chief Traffic Engineer/Kowloon, Transport Department Mr David C.V. Ngu

Chairman

Vice-chairman

Chief Engineer (Works), Home Affairs Department Mr Martin W.C. Kwan

Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Metro Assessment), Environmental Protection Department Dr Sunny C.W. Cheung

Assistant Director (Regional 1), Lands Department Mr Simon S.W. Wang

Deputy Director of Planning/District Miss Fiona S.Y. Lung

#### **Absent with Apologies**

Dr Frankie W.C. Yeung

Dr Lawrence W.C. Poon

Mr Alex T.H. Lai

Mr Stanley T.S. Choi

Professor Jonathan W.C. Wong

### In Attendance

Assistant Director of Planning/Board Ms April K.Y. Kun

Chief Town Planner/Town Planning Board Mr Kepler S.Y. Yuen

Town Planner/Town Planning Board Mr Gary T.L. Lam Secretary

### Agenda Items 13 and 14

Section 16 Applications

[Open Meeting (Presentation and Question Sessions Only)]

- A/K14/766 Proposed Minor Relaxation of Plot Ratio and Building Height Restrictions for Permitted Office, Shop and Services & Eating Place Uses in "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" Zone, 41 King Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon (MPC Paper No. A/K14/766)
- A/K14/771 Proposed Minor Relaxation of Plot Ratio and Building Height Restrictions for Permitted Office, Shop and Services & Eating Place Uses in "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" Zone, 32 Hung To Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon (MPC Paper No. A/K14/771)

75. The Committee noted that the two section 16 applications for proposed minor relaxation of plot ratio (PR) and building height (BH) restrictions for permitted office, shop and services and eating place uses were similar in nature and the sites fell within the "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" ("OU(B)") zone with the same maximum BH restriction of 100mPD. The Committee agreed that they could be considered together.

76. The Secretary reported that Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd. (ARUP) and Lu Tang Lai Architects Ltd. (LTL) were the consultants of the applicant for application No. A/K14/766, while ARUP and WSP Hong Kong Ltd. (WSP) were the consultants of the applicant for application No. A/K14/771. The following Members had declared interests on the items:

Mr Alex T.H. Lai -	his firm having current business dealings with ARUP, LTL and WSP;
Mr Thomas O.S. Ho -	having current business dealings with ARUP; and
Mr Franklin Yu -	having past business dealings with ARUP and WSP.

77. The Committee noted that Mr Alex T.H. Lai had tendered an apology for being unable to attend the meeting and Mr Thomas O.S. Ho had already left the meeting. As Mr Franklin Yu had no direct involvement in the applications, the Committee agreed that he could stay in the meeting.

[Mr Stephen H.B. Yau left the meeting at this point.]

#### Presentation and Question Sessions

78. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Jessie K.P. Kwan, STP/K, presented the applications and covered the following aspects as detailed in the Papers :

- (a) background to the applications;
- (b) the proposed minor relaxation of PR and BH restrictions for permitted office, shop and services & eating place uses at each of the application sites;
- (c) departmental comments departmental comments were set out in paragraph 9 of the Papers. The Development Bureau (DEVB) had given policy support to the two applications for relaxation of PR restriction. Other concerned government departments had no objection to or no adverse comment on the applications;
- (d) during the first three weeks of the statutory publication period, there were 14 and three public comments for applications No. A/K14/766 and A/K14/771 respectively. A total of 10 comments received were objecting to application No. A/K14/766 while four were supportive. All three comments received were objecting to application No. A/K14/771. The major views were set out in paragraph 10 of the Papers; and
- (e) the Planning Department (PlanD)'s views PlanD had no objection to the applications based on the assessments set out in paragraph 11 of the Papers.

The proposed uses were in line with the planning intention of the "OU(B)" zone and the transformation taking place in Kwun Tong Business Area (KTBA) from industrial to business/commercial uses. Both applications had incorporated full-height setbacks to facilitate widening of road-side pavements and back alleys, which in general would enhance the pedestrian environment. DEVB gave policy support to both applications for the proposed minor relaxation of PR by 20%. On technical aspects, concerned departments had no objection to or no adverse comment on both applications in respect of the minor relaxation of PR under applications. The proposed minor relaxation of BH restriction for both applications might be considered generally proportionate to the 20% increase in PR and for accommodating the refuge floor cum communal sky garden (communal sky garden). As the application sites were at the edge of the "OU(B)" cluster subject to BH restriction of 100mPD and that for the sites across Hung To Road were 130mPD and 160mPD for applications No. A/K14/766 and A/K14/771 respectively, the proposed BH of 126mPD (No. A/K14/766) and 119.7mPD (No. A/K14/771) would still allow a stepped BH profile and were considered not unacceptable. Regarding public comments received, the comments from concerned government departments and the planning assessments above were relevant. For the comment that the approval of the application (No. A/K14/771) might affect the judicial proceedings over the Site, it was a legal dispute between the occupiers and the owner which was not a valid consideration of the planning application.

[Mr Wilson Y.W. Fung and Ms Sandy H.Y. Wong left the meeting at this point.]

79. Some Members raised the following questions:

 (a) whether the demolished industrial building (IB) under application No. A/K14/766 was considered as IB which was wholly or partly constructed on or before 1.3.1987 eligible for the DEVB initiative to incentivise redevelopment of IBs (pre-1987 IBs);

- (b) how the design merits of the applications could improve the quality of streetscape;
- (c) whether the proposed 1.5m non-building area (NBA) under application No.A/K14/766 would be opened for public use;
- (d) any reason for the applicant of application No. A/K14/771 not intending to apply for bonus PR under the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R);
- (e) whether provision of greenery fulfilling the requirement of minimum 20% site coverage of greenery was a pre-requisite for minor relaxation of PR restriction;
- (f) the floor-to-floor height for typical floors and sky garden of similar applications; and
- (g) the details of proposed stepped setback to fulfil the prescribed windows requirement for application No. A/K14/771 and whether the Members' concerns of its previous rejected application had been properly addressed.
- 80. Ms Jessie K.P. Kwan, STP/K, made the following responses:
  - (a) the application site (No. A/K14/766) had been occupied by a pre-1987 IB immediately before it was left vacant, DEVB advised that the applicant should be eligible for applying for the proposed relaxation of PR to pursue redevelopment under the Government's initiative for IB revitalisation. Advice was sought from DEVB on whether the policy support would be given for individual cases;
  - (b) setback requirements had been stipulated on the adopted Kwun Tong (Western Part) Outline Development Plan (ODP). The proposed setback of buildings under both applications met the ODP requirements and would allow widening of the existing narrow and congested pavements, which

could improve the walking environment. Provision of setbacks and non-building areas (NBA) under application No. A/K14/766 would further allow provision of landscaping to echo the revitalisation of the Tsui Ping River, which was on the opposite side of King Yip Street, and improvements to the loading/unloading (L/UL) condition at the existing back alley to the northeast of the site. It was envisaged that the back alley could have a total width of 9 metres upon redevelopment of the application site and adjacent IBs;

- (c) although no detailed management arrangement had been submitted by the applicant for application No. A/K14/766, the Transport Department (TD) raised no objection to the application and suggested that approval conditions should be imposed for submission of a revised traffic impact assessment (TIA) and implementation of the management proposal and mitigation measures identified in the revised TIA to ensure the provision and proper implementation of the traffic management plan, including the management of the proposed setback and NBA;
- (d) no reason had been provided by the applicant (No. A/K14/771) for not intending to apply for bonus PR under the B(P)R. The applicant of a previously approved similar application also indicated that he had no intention to apply for bonus PR, without any reason provided. It was considered that whether to claim the bonus PR under the B(P)R was not a planning consideration of the applications;
- (e) the requirement of a minimum 20% site coverage of greenery was a requirement under the Sustainable Building Design Guidelines for the claim of GFA concessions but not a pre-requisite for minor relaxation of PR restriction. Provision of greenery was subject to various site constraints and considerations of different sites. It was noted that the overall greenery area for application No. A/K14/771 was less than 20%;
- (f) typical floor-to-floor height of commercial developments in KTBA completed in the past five years or under construction ranging from 3.9m to

4.55m. The typical floor-to-floor height of the building under similar approved application (No. A/K14/763) was 4m. The refuge floor cum communal sky garden should have a clear height of not less than 4.5m to fulfill the requirement under Joint Practice Notes and an additional of 1.4m to 1.45m for building services were proposed for the current applications. The proposed headroom of 5.9m to 5.95m for the communal sky garden was considered comparable to similar approved cases in the area; and

(g) similar to the previous application, proposed stepped setback for application No. A/K14/771 facing the adjacent building to the south was designed to fulfil the prescribed windows requirement. To address Members' concerns on the excessive BH under the previous application (No. A/K14/764), the applicant had reduced the BH of the proposed development by increasing the site coverage of most of the typical floors.

#### **Deliberation Session**

81. While Members were in support of the policy to incentivise the redevelopment of IBs in the KTBA, they considered that there was inadequate information to demonstrate strong justification and planning merits for the proposed minor relaxation of BH restriction of the two applications. Approving such applications without strong justification and planning merits would set an undesirable precedent.

82. Members noted that upon redevelopment of the existing buildings in KTBA and implementation of the setback and NBA requirements under the ODP, condition of the back alleys and their capacity could be improved. Members also noted that two similar applications in KTBA were previously considered by the Committee on 22.3.2019 under the same policy for redevelopment of IBs. The application No. A/K14/763 was approved by the Committee as it was technically feasible and the applicant had provided adequate justifications for the minor relaxation of BH restriction. Another application No. A/K14/764 was rejected as there was no strong justification or planning merit for the proposed minor relaxation of BH restriction from 100mPD to 130.2mPD.

83. Upon further discussion, Members agreed that more information would be

required from the applicants for the Committee to further consider the planning and design merits of each of the applications. The required additional information included:

- (a) the planning and design merits of the proposed scheme, taking into account the site specific characteristics and local context;
- (b) design of street level on pedestrian accessibility, connectivity and comfort;
- (c) compliance with relevant provisions of Sustainable Building Design Guidelines; and
- (d) consideration of green building design.

84. Members also agreed that an analysis of similar approved and rejected applications should be provided to facilitate the Committee's assessment of the subject applications.

85. After deliberation, the Committee <u>decided</u> to <u>defer</u> a decision on the applications, pending submission of the above information.

## Agenda Item 15

## Section 16 Application

[Open Meeting (Presentation and Question Sessions Only)]

A/K14/772 Shop and Services in "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" Zone, Watchman Room, G/F, Liven House, 61-63 King Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon (MPC Paper No. A/K14/772)

### Presentation and Question Sessions

86. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Jessie K.P. Kwan, STP/K, presented the application and covered the following aspects as detailed in the Paper :

## Appendix F-III of <u>MPC Paper No. A/K14/766A</u> TOWN PLANNING BOARD

15/F., North Point Government Offices 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong.

By Post & Fax (2779 8428)

城市規劃委員會

香港北角渣華道三百三十三號 北角政府合署十五樓

傳 <sub>真 Fax:</sub> 2877 0245 / 2522 8426

電 話 Tel: 2231 4810

來函檔號 Your Reference:

覆函請註明本會檔號 In reply please quote this ref.: TPB/A/K14/766

Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd. Level 5, Festival Walk 80 Tat Chee Avenue Kowloon Tong, Kowloon (Attn: Yeung Wing Shan, Theresa)

Dear Sir/Madam,

#### Proposed Minor Relaxation of Plot Ratio and Building Height Restrictions for Permitted Office, Shop and Services & Eating Place Uses in "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" Zone, 41 King Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

I refer to my letter to you dated 30.5.2019.

After giving consideration to the application, the Town Planning Board (TPB) decided at its meeting on 31.5.2019 to defer a decision on the application pending submission of the below information.

- (a) the planning and design merits of the proposed scheme, taking into account the site specific characteristics and local context;
- (b) design of street level on pedestrian accessibility, connectivity and comfort;
- (c) compliance with relevant provisions of Sustainable Building Design Guidelines; and
- (d) considerations of green building design.

A copy of the TPB Paper in respect of the application (except the supplementary planning statement/technical report(s), if any) and the relevant extract of minutes of the TPB meeting held on 31.5.2019 are enclosed herewith for your reference.

If you wish to seek further clarifications/information on matters relating to the above decision, please contact Ms. Jessie Kwan of Kowloon District Planning Office at 2231 4966.

Yours faithfully,

(Raymond KAN) for Secretary, Town Planning Board

21 June 2019

Similar Application Register

OZP <sup>(#)</sup>	Application	Proposed Uses	Proposed Relaxation in	Date of	Typical	Grounds
(Address)	No.		PR and/or BH	Consideration	Floor Height	
			restrictions		(Uses)	
S/K14S/22	A/K14/763	Minor Relaxation of PR	PR: from 12 to 14.4	Approved with	4m	• Proposed minor relaxation of PR
(350 Kwun		and BHRs for Proposed	(+20%) and	Conditions on	(Office)	is in line with the Policy
Tong Road,		Development for	BH: from 100mPD to	22.3.2019		• Proposed increase in BH is not
Kwun Tong)		Office, Shop and	125.9mPD (+25.9%)			unacceptable.
		Services & Eating Place				
		Uses				
S/K14S/22	A/K14/764	Minor Relaxation of PR	PR: from 12 to 14.4	Rejected on	3.5m	• Proposed minor relaxation of PR
(32 Hung To		and BHRs for Proposed	(+20%) and	22.3.2019	(Office)	is in line with the Policy
Road, Kwun		Development for	BH: from 100mPD to			• Proposed minor relaxation of
Tong)		Office, Shop and	130.2mPD (+30.2%)			BHR rejected on the grounds that
		Services & Eating Place				the applicant failed to
		Uses				demonstrate that there were
						sufficient planning and design
						merits, and the approval of the
						application would set an
						undesirable precedent for similar
						applications for minor relaxation
						of BHR in the area, the
						cumulative effects of approving
						similar applications would have

OZP <sup>(#)</sup> (Address)	Application No.	Proposed Uses	Proposed Relaxation in PR and/or BH restrictions	Date of Consideration	Typical Floor Height (Uses)	Grounds
						adverse visual impact on the area.
S/K11/29 (1 Tsat Po Street, San Po Kong)	A/K11/233	Minor Relaxation of PR for Permitted Non-polluting Industrial Use (excluding industrial undertakings involving the use/storage of Dangerous Goods)	PR: from 12 to 14.4 (+20%)	Approved with Conditions on 12.4.2019	3.325m (Workshop)	• Proposed minor relaxation of PR is in line with the Policy
S/K9/26 (13 Hok Yuen Street, Hung Hom)	A/K9/274	Minor Relaxation of PR for Permitted Office, Eating Place and Shop and Services Uses	PR: from 12 to 12.782 (+6.52%)	Approved with Conditions on 17.5.2019	N/A	• Proposed minor relaxation of PR is in line with the Policy
S/K14S/22 (41 King Yip Street) [Current application]	A/K14/766	Minor Relaxation of PR and BHRs for Proposed Development for Office, Shop and Services & Eating Place Uses	PR: from 12 to 14.4 (+20%) and BH: from 100mPD to 126mPD (+26%)	Deferred by the Committee on 31.5.2019	4.025m (Office)	<ul> <li>Proposed minor relaxation of PR is in line with the Policy</li> <li>Inadequate information to demonstrate strong justification and planning merits for the proposed minor relaxation of</li> </ul>

OZP <sup>(#)</sup>	Application	Proposed Uses	Proposed Relaxation in	Date of	Typical	Grounds
(Address)	No.		PR and/or BH	Consideration	Floor Height	
			restrictions		(Uses)	
						BHR and requested further
						information for consideration
S/K14S/22	A/K14/771	Minor Relaxation of PR	PR: from 12 to 14.4	Deferred by the	3.5m	Proposed minor relaxation of PR
(32 Hung To		and BHRs for Proposed	(+20%) and	Committee on	(Office)	is in line with the Policy
Road, Kwun		Development for	BH: from 100mPD to	31.5.2019		• Inadequate information to
Tong)		Office, Shop and	119.7mPD (+19.7%)			demonstrate strong justification
		Services & Eating Place				and planning merits for the
		Uses				proposed minor relaxation of
						BHR and requested further
						information for consideration
S/KC/29	A/KC/460	Minor Relaxation of PR	PR: from 9.5 to 11.648	Approved with	N/A	• Proposed minor relaxation of PR
(57 – 61 Ta		for Permitted	(+20%)	Conditions on		is in line with the Policy
Chuen Ping		Industrial-Office		5.7.2019		
Street, Kwai		Redevelopment				
Chung)						

Remarks: (#) All application sites fall within "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" zone in respective OZP.

### Advisory clauses

- (a) the planning permission is for minor relaxation of the plot ratio (PR) of the proposed development from 12 to 14.4. The claim for bonus PR should be dealt with under building plan submission stage and should not be taken as approved under the subject planning application;
- (b) the approval of the application does not imply that any proposal on building design elements to fulfill the requirements under the Sustainable Building Design Guidelines and any gross floor area (GFA) concession of the proposed commercial development will be granted by the Building Authority (BA). The applicant should approach the Buildings Department (BD) direct to obtain the necessary approval. If the proposed building design elements and GFA concession are not approved/granted by the BA and major changes to the current scheme are required, a fresh planning application to the Town Planning Board may be required;
- to note the comments of the District Lands Officer/Kowloon East, Lands (c) Department (LandsD) on the need to apply to the District Lands Office, Kowloon East for a lease modification to give effect to the proposal. However, there is no guarantee at this stage that the lease modification would If the application for lease modification is approved by be approved. LandsD in the capacity as landlord at his sole discretion, it will be subject to such terms and conditions including the payment of premium and administration fee as considered appropriate by LandsD. Among the conditions under the 2018 IB revitalisation measure for redevelopment, the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange shall be executed no later than three years from the date of the TPB's approval letter and the proposed redevelopment shall be completed within 5 years from the date of execution of the lease modification letter/conditions of land exchange;
- to note the comments of the Chief Building Surveyor/Kowloon, BD that the (d) proposal should in all aspects comply with the Buildings Ordinance (BO). Under Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers (PNAP) APP-2, 100% gross floor area (GFA) concession may be granted for underground private carpark while only 50% GFA concession may be granted for aboveground private carpark. No part of the building, up to a level of 15m above the street level, shall be within 7.5m from the centreline of the street; PNAP APP-151 and APP-152 Under Joint Practice Note No. 2, 100% GFA concession may be refer. granted to sky garden, but is subject to the compliance with the pre-requisites stipulated in PNAP APP-151 on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment". The bonus GFA can only be considered upon formal submission of building plans (BPs). Detailed comments under BO will be given at the BP submission stage;
- (e) to note the comments of the Commissioner for Transport that a revised traffic impact assessment, including a traffic management plan for the vehicular access along the back alley, should be submitted which incorporates the details in all the submitted further information to demonstrate the provision of parking facilities, loading/unloading (L/UL) spaces, vehicular access,

internal driveway, efficiency of the car lift system (if applicable) and the impact on the public road. Implementation of the traffic management proposal and the mitigation measures, if any, identified in the revised traffic impact assessment and provision of parking facilities, L/UL spaces and vehicular access for the proposed development are also required;

- (f) to note the comments of the Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon, Highways Department that the setback areas to be surrendered to the Government shall in general be free of structures;
- (g) to note the comments of the Director of Environment Protection that the applicant should address the potential land contamination and associated waste management issues during detailed design stage. Land contamination assessment and remediation (if needed) should be completed prior to development of the Site;
- (h) to note the comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland South, Drainage Services Department that the sewerage impact assessment should be prepared and submitted as early as possible in view of the time required for the implementation of any required sewerage works; and
- (i) to note the comments of the Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department that to consider extending the vertical greening to the front façade to enhance the building's visual appeal for the pedestrian and further reinforce the visual distinction between the tower and the podium.