Proposed Conversion of Part of the Pulse into Hotel in "Other Specified Uses (Beach Related Leisure Use)" and "Government, Institution or Community" Zones at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay – S16 Planning Application

# Annex A of FI (3)

**Updated Supporting Planning Statement** 

# S16 PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVED SHOUSON HILL & REPULSE BAY OZP No. S/H17/13

Proposed Conversion of Part of The Pulse into Hotel in "Other Specified Uses (Beach Related Leisure Use)" and "Government, Institution or Community" Zones at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay

# SUPPORTING PLANNING STATEMENT

September 2025

Applicant
Gold Shine Investment Limited

Consultancy Team
KTA Planning Ltd.
T. K. Tsui & Associates Ltd.
CKM Asia Ltd.
C.M. Consulting (H.K.) Ltd.





#### **Executive Summary**

This Supporting Planning Statement is prepared and submitted on behalf of Gold Shine Investment Limited (the "Applicant") to seek approval from the Town Planning Board ("TPB") under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance for Proposed Conversion of Part of The Pulse into Hotel at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay (the "Site"). The Site has an area of about 4,230m², primarily falling within an area zoned "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Beach Related Leisure Use" ("OU(BRLU)") on the Approved Shouson Hill & Repulse Bay Outline Zoning Plan (the "Approved OZP") No. S/H17/13. According to the Notes of the Approved OZP, 'Hotel' is a Column 2 use within the "OU(BRLU)" zone.

The Proposed Conversion involves some demolition and alteration works for converting the B1/F, UG/F and 1/F of existing building into a hotel with 96 guest rooms (about 6,590m²). The building height will remain unchanged at 18.05mPD (main roof level). The existing shops and restaurants on LG/F and B1/F will continue to serve visitors to The Pulse and Repulse Bay Beach.

The Proposed Conversion is fully justified for the following main reasons:

- The Proposed Hotel fully respects the history of Repulse Bay and helps to reinvigorate the legend of Repulse Bay as a famous weekend resort area.
- The Proposed Hotel would improve the existing supporting tourism facilities and strengthen Repulse Bay as a renowned tourism spot.
- The Proposed Conversion would conform with the prevailing planning intention of "OU(BRLU)" zone.
- In view of the limited beachside hotels in Hong Kong, the Proposed Hotel would widen the variety of accommodation for tourist.
- The Proposed Hotel is in-line with tourism development trend in Hong Kong according to the "Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030".
- There is no increase in building bulk including building height and development scale as all alteration and addition works will take place within the existing building.
- Technical assessments have been carried out and the results revealed that the Proposed Conversion will not lead to adverse traffic and sewerage impacts.

In light of justifications given throughout the Supporting Planning Statement, we sincerely request the TPB to give favourable consideration to this Planning Application.

#### 行政摘要

(內文如有差異,應以英文版本為準)

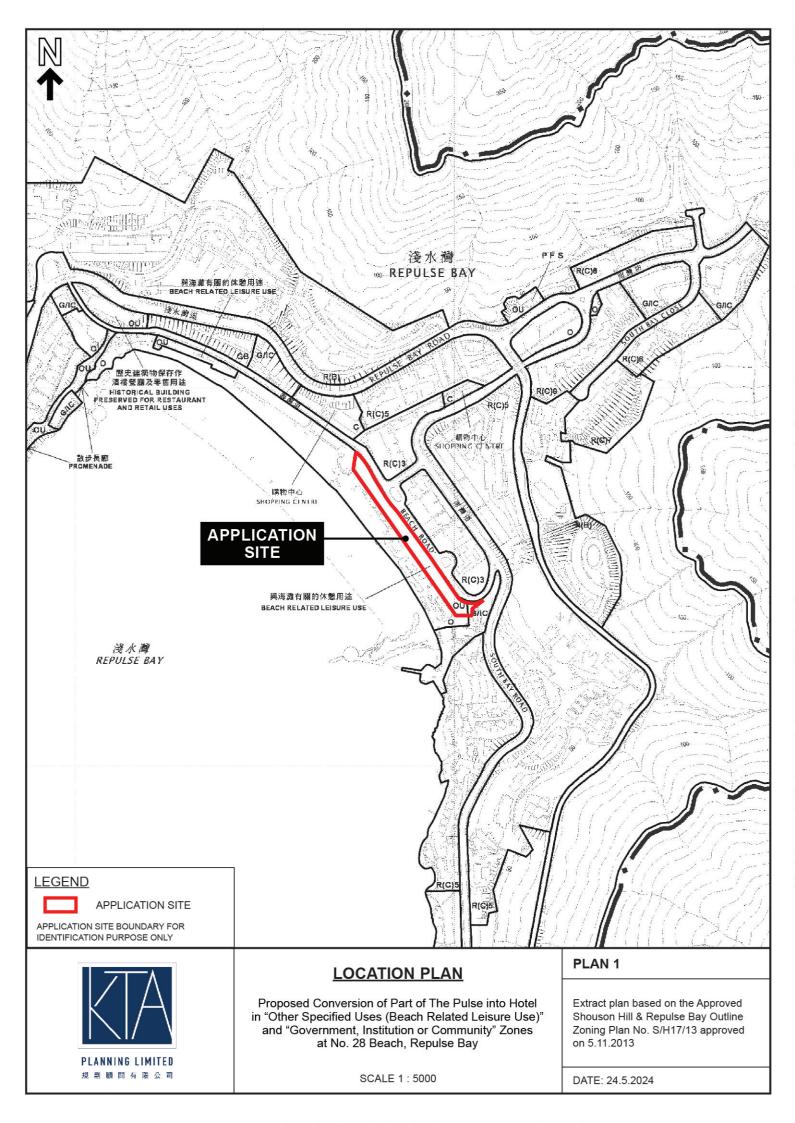
本規劃申請書是代表申請人通耀投資有限公司(下稱「申請人」)根據城市規劃條例第 16條,向城市規劃委員會(下稱「城規會」)提出規劃申請,擬議將淺水灣海灘道28 號The Pulse的的部份樓層(下稱「申請地點」)改建為酒店。申請地點面積約4,230 平方米。根據壽臣山及淺水灣分區計劃大綱核准圖(下稱「核准圖」)編號S/H17/13,申請地點大部份被劃為「其他指定用途」註明「與海灘有關的休憩用途」地帶。擬議「酒店」屬該地帶內的第二欄《須先向城規會申請以獲准許的用途》。

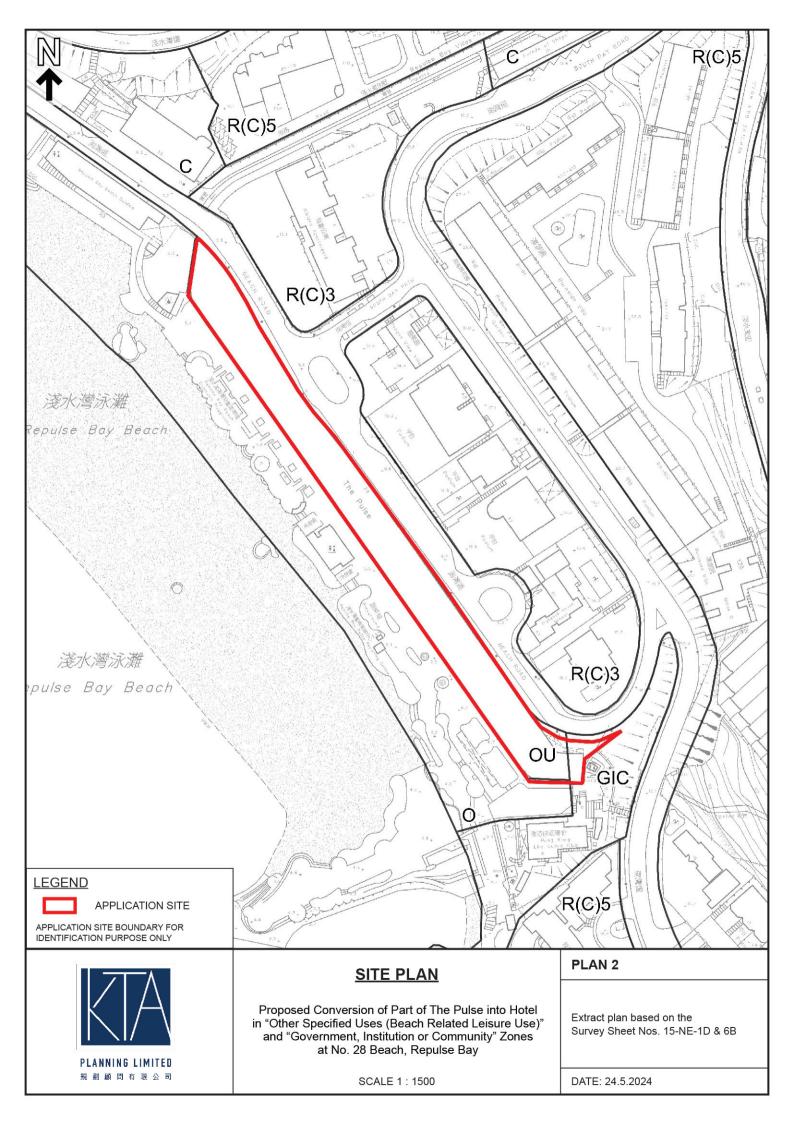
擬議改建將涉及清拆和改裝工程,以將地庫一層,地下高層及一樓改建成酒店並提供約 96 間客房(樓面面積約為 6,590 平方米)。建築物高度將維持不變,為主水平基準上18.05 米。地下低層及地庫一層將繼續用作商店及餐廳用途,以服務 The Pulse 和淺水灣海灘的遊客。

#### 擬議改建的主要理據如下:

- 擬議酒店充分尊重淺水灣的歷史,並希望藉此機會重振淺水灣作為著名週未度假 勝地的名聲。
- 擬建酒店可改善淺水灣現有的旅遊配套設施,並加強淺水灣作為著名旅遊景點的 吸引力。
- 擬議改建符合現行「其他指定用途」註明「與海灘有關的休憩用途」地帶的規劃 意向。
- 鑑於香港海濱酒店數量有限,擬議酒店可為旅客提供更多住宿選擇。
- · 根據"香港2030+: 邁向2030年規劃遠景與策略", 擬議酒店發展與香港旅遊業 的發展方向吻合。
- 現有建築物內的改建及加建工程並不會增加建築物的體積包括高度及發展規模。
- 各項技術評估經已完成,評估結果顯示擬議改建於交通、污水方面不會帶來不良 影響。

基於以上各項規劃理據,申請人希望是次的規劃申請能獲城規會支持。





#### **OTHER SPECIFIED USES**

Column 1 Uses always permitted Column 2
Uses that may be permitted with or without conditions on application to the Town Planning Board

# For "Beach Related Leisure Use" only

Barbecue Spot
Changing Room
Eating Place
Place of Recreation, Sports or Culture
Playground/Playing Field
Public Convenience
Public Vehicle Park (excluding container
vehicle)
Shop and Services

Government Use

Hotel

Private Club
Public Clinic
Social Welfare Facility
Utility Installation not ancillary to the
Specified Use

## **Planning Intention**

This zone is intended to enhance the role of Repulse Bay as a recreational and tourism district, as well as maintaining the existing beach related character of the developments. Future development/redevelopment should blend in harmoniously with the environment in terms of use and design.

#### Remarks

- (a) No new development, or addition, alteration and/or modification to or redevelopment of an existing building shall result in a total development and/or redevelopment in excess of a maximum building height of two storeys or the height of the existing building, whichever is the greater.
- (b) Based on the individual merits of a development or redevelopment proposal, minor relaxation of the building height restriction stated in paragraph (a) above may be considered by the Town Planning Board on application under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance.

(Please see next page)

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Executive Summary**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Purpose
- 1.2 Report Structure

#### 2. SITE AND PLANNING CONTEXT

- 2.1 Site Location
- 2.2 Existing Condition of the Site
- 2.3 Development History of Repulse Bay
- 2.4 Land Status
- 2.5 Statutory Planning Context
- 2.6 Surrounding Land Use Pattern

#### 3. PROPOSED CONVERSION SCHEME

- 3.1 Alteration and Addition Works for the Proposed Hotel
- 3.2 Access and Transportation Provisions

# 4. PLANNING MERITS AND JUSTIFICATIONS

- 4.1 Respecting the History of Repulse Bay
- 4.2 Premier Tourism Attraction Recognised and Promoted by Government and Quasi-government Organisations
- 4.3 Strengthening Repulse Bay as a Renowned Tourism Spot
- 4.4 Continuing to Meet the Prevailing Planning Intention
- 4.5 Widening the Variety of Accommodation for Tourist
- 4.6 In-line with Tourism Development Trend in Hong Kong
- 4.7 No Increase in Building Bulk
- 4.8 No Adverse Traffic Impact
- 4.9 No Adverse Environmental Impact
- 4.10 No Adverse Sewerage and Water Supply Impact

#### 5. CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY

Proposed Conversion of Part of The Pulse into Hotel in "Other Specified Uses (Beach Related Leisure Use)" and "Government, Institution or Community" Zones at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay – S16 Planning Application

# **List of Figures**

Figure 2.1	Site Location Plan
Figure 2.2	Lot Index Plan
Figure 2.3	Zoning Plan

Figure 2.4 Site and Surrounding Context Plan

# **List of Photos**

Photo 2.1	Site Photos
Photo 2.2	The Lido of Repulse Bay Hotel in 1940s
Photo 2.3	Lido Repulse Bay Tariff in 1952
Photo 2.4	The Swimming Raft nicknamed the 'Lady Lido'
Photo 2.5	Matsheds on Repulse Bay Beach in 1930s

# **List of Tables**

Table 3.1	Key Development Parameters
Table 3.2	Floor Uses Upon Proposed Conversion
Table 3.3	Comparison of Major Development Parameters
Table 3.4	Internal Transport Facilities Provision

# **List of Appendices**

Appendix 1	Indicative Architectural Drawings
Appendix 2	Artist Impression of the Proposed Conversion
Appendix 3	Traffic Impact Assessment
Appendix 4	Sewerage Impact Assessment
Appendix 5	Water Demand Assessment
Appendix 6	Air Quality Impact Assessment
Appendix 7	Noise Quality Impact Assessment
Appendix 8	Waste Management Assessment

# S16 Planning Application Approved Shouson Hill & Repulse Bay OZP No. S/H17/13

Proposed Conversion of Part of The Pulse into Hotel in "Other Specified Uses (Beach Related Leisure Use)" and "Government, Institution or Community" Zones at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay

#### **Supporting Planning Statement**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Purpose

1.1.1 The Application is prepared and submitted on behalf of Gold Shine Investment Limited (the "Applicant") to seek approval from the Town Planning Board ("TPB") under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance for the Proposed Conversion of Part of The Pulse into Hotel at No. 28 Beach Road, Repulse Bay (the "Site"). The Site primarily falls within an area zoned "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Beach Related Leisure Use" ("OU(BRLU)") on the Approved Shouson Hill & Repulse Bay Outline Zoning Plan (the "Approved OZP") No. S/H17/13. This Supporting Planning Statement is to provide the TPB with necessary information to facilitate consideration of this Application.

#### 1.2 Report Structure

1.2.1 Following this introductory section, the site and planning contexts will be briefly set out in Section 2. The proposed conversion scheme is included in Section 3, followed by planning merits and justifications for the Planning Application in Section 4. Section 5 concludes and summarises this Supporting Planning Statement.

#### 2. SITE AND PLANNING CONTEXT

#### 2.1 Site Location

2.1.1 The Site is situated at No. 28 Beach Road on the eastern part of Repulse Bay (**Figure 2.1** refers). The linear site along Beach Road fronts directly onto the large crescent shaped beach of the renowned Repulse Bay. The Site has an area of approximately 4,230m<sup>2</sup>.

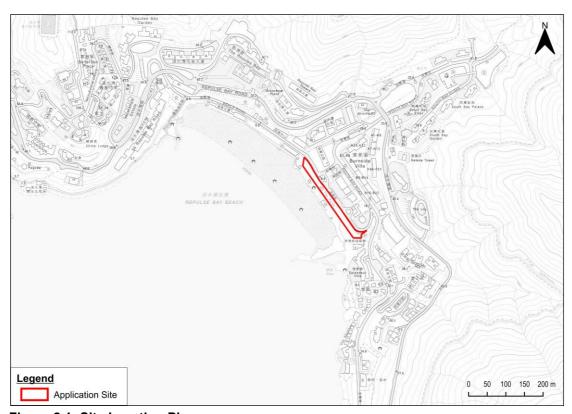


Figure 2.1: Site Location Plan

# 2.2 Existing Condition of the Site

- 2.2.1 The Site is currently occupied by an existing development, namely The Pulse. It is a 6-storey beachside retail complex officially opened in 2015, with a Gross Floor Area (GFA) of about 13,728m². Various retail facilities including restaurants, cafe, retail shops, clinic, beauty parlour, education centre, and real estate agency, etc. are provided and diversified activities such as thematic display, art workshops, pet parade and weekend bazaar are also regularly held to attract visitors (**Photo 2.1** refers).
- 2.2.2 While the vehicular entrance is located on UG/F abutting Beach Road, the carpark is provided on B3/F. Shops and restaurants at LG/F front directly onto the Beach, promenade and children play area, enjoying a panoramic sea view.









Photo 2.1: Site Photos

# 2.3 Development History of Repulse Bay

#### Repulse Bay Hotel (now renamed as The Repulse Bay)

2.3.1 The Hongkong Hotel Company, owned by the Kadoorie family, had a vision to make Repulse Bay into seaside resort area and subsequently opened the Repulse Bay Hotel in 1920¹. Since then, Repulse Bay has become a famous weekend resort area in the Far East and Asia. Former Repulse Bay Hotel was a well-known refuge for royalty and celebrities as well as a filming site for classical movies until its closure in 1982 and subsequently redeveloped as a luxury apartment (i.e. The Repulse Bay) in 1989.

#### Lido of Repulse Bay Hotel / Lido Complex (now renamed as The Pulse)

2.3.2 Following the success of Repulse Bay Hotel, the Kadoories soon expanded their business empire with the Lido of Repulse Bay Hotel (淺水 灣酒店麗都浴場), which is the subject site of this Planning Application. Opened in 1935 by Lady Southorn - wife of then-governor Sir Wilfred Thomas Southorn, the Lido is a beachside entertainment complex built in an art deco style. It included a restaurant, dance hall, public and private changing rooms, public swimming cabins and a swimming raft, nicknamed the 'Lady Lido', which had a sun canopy and water slide. The Lido was once a popular holiday spot for people from all walks of life.

Source: SCMP (Available at: http://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/travel-leisure/article/2127407/hong-kong-district-stories-repulse-bay-deep-water-bay-and)





Photo 2.2: The Lido of Repulse Bay Hotel in 1940s (Source: Gwulo)



Photo 2.3: Lido Repulse Bay Tariff in 1952 (Source: Gwulo)



Photo 2.4: The Swimming Raft nicknamed the 'Lady Lido' (Source: Gwulo)

- 2.3.3 However, the Lido was closed on 31 October 1951<sup>2</sup> and was later converted into a shopping centre, which housed a number of restaurants and barbecue places.
- 2.3.4 Built in 1935, the Lido of Repulse Bay Hotel was already in place before the gazettal of the first statutory plan in 1987. According to the Explanatory Statement of the then Draft Shouson Hill & Repulse Bay OZP No. S/H17/1, it is stipulated that "two prominent beach front sites at Repulse Bay, the Lido and Seaview Buildings are also included in this zone and annotated "Beach Related Leisure Use". It is also stated that "this is to ensure the beach related character of developments on these sites would be maintained; and future developments/redevelopments would blend in harmoniously with the environment in terms of use and design".
- 2.3.5 In 2002, the Lido Complex was demolished and later redeveloped into a retail complex, namely The Pulse.

Source: Flickr (Available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/10766387@N05/2182254649/in/photostream/)

#### Repulse Bay Beach

- 2.3.6 Coincided with the development of Repulse Bay Hotel in 1920, the Government also planned to develop the Repulse Bay Beach into a seaside resort at the same juncture. Pebbles on the beach were cleared up and changing rooms made of wood were provided on the beach<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.3.7 As the Repulse Bay Beach gained popularity, these wooden changing rooms were later removed and replaced by matshed in 1930s, which is a rentable temporary shelter made of bamboo and palm leaves, with verandah in front and changing rooms in the back<sup>4</sup>. The whole beach was lined with matsheds at the time (**Photo 2.5** refers). Upon completion of the Lido in 1935, public changing rooms were provided therein, offering great convenience to the public and enabling them to enjoy the beach without renting a matshed.



Photo 2.5: Matsheds on Repulse Bay Beach in 1930s (Source: Historical Photographs of China)

2.3.8 During the period between 1980s and 1990s, the Repulse Bay Beach had undergone various improvement works, including sewerage works to divert polluting stormwater drains away in late 1980s, construction of sewage pumping facilities, namely Repulse Bay Chlorination Plant in 1989<sup>5</sup>, as well as the major beach replenishment works in 1990<sup>6</sup>. The Repulse Bay Beach Building (#8 in **Figure 2.4**), containing public toilets, changing rooms, shower area, first aid room and beach office, was centrally in the beach and completed around 1999. Since then, it has provided essential amenities and served countless beach visitors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: 老香港. 歲月留情 (Available at: https://archive.org/details/20190818 20190818 0808/page/18/mode/2up)

Source: zolimacitymag (Available at: <a href="https://zolimacitymag.com/a-place-to-escape-hong-kongs-beach-culture-through-the-years/">https://zolimacitymag.com/a-place-to-escape-hong-kongs-beach-culture-through-the-years/</a>)

Source: EPD (Available at: https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/misc/beach\_report/2005/eng/page1.htm)

Source: minutes of Southern District Council dated 27.9.2010 (Available at: https://www.districtcouncils.gov.hk/archive/south/english/welcome.htm)

#### 2.4 Land Status

2.4.1 The Site is registered as Rural Building Lot (RBL) No. 368 Remaining Portion (RP). The said private lot has a total area of about 4,230m<sup>2</sup> and is wholly owned by the Applicant. The Lot Index Plan is provided in **Figure 2.2** below.

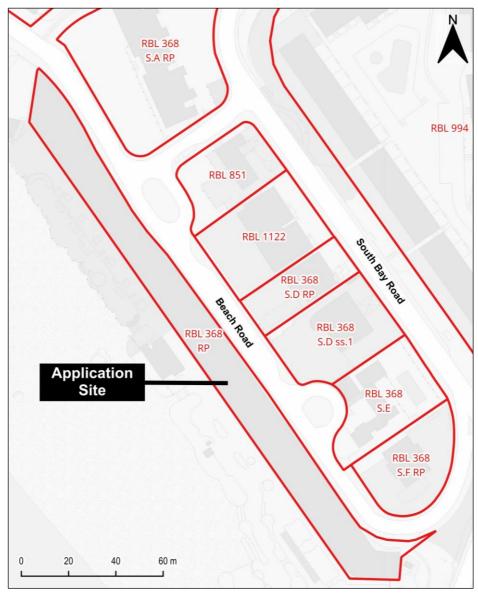


Figure 2.2: Lot Index Plan

#### 2.5 Statutory Planning Context

2.5.1 Majority portion of the Site (about 4047.8m², 95.7%) falls within an area zoned "OU(BRLU)", with minor portion of about 144.4m² (3.4%), 19.8m² (0.5%), and 16.7m² (0.4%) falling within "Government, Institution or Community" ("G/IC"), "Open Space" ("O"), and an area shown as 'Road' on the Approved OZP (**Figure 2.3** refers).

### "OU(BRLU)"

2.5.2 According to the Statutory Notes of the OZP, the planning intention of the "OU(BRLU)" zone is as follows:

"This zone is intended to enhance the role of Repulse Bay as a recreational and tourism district, as well as maintaining the existing beach related character of the developments. Future development /redevelopment should blend in harmoniously with the environment in terms of use and design."

2.5.3 According to the Notes of the OZP, 'Hotel' is a Column 2 use within the "OU(BRLU)" zone, requiring planning permission form the TPB.

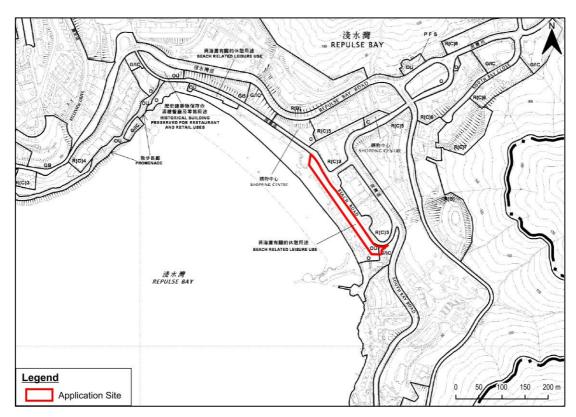


Figure 2.3: Zoning Plan (Extracted from the Approved OZP)

#### 2.6 Surrounding Land Use Pattern

- 2.6.1 Characterised by the renowned Repulse Bay Beach, the Site is located in a neighbourhood predominately occupied by low to medium-rise residential developments (**Figure 2.4** refers):
  - Upmarket residential towers and low-rise houses are mostly enclosed by hillsides overlooking the scenic Repulse Bay Beach to the north, east and south of the Site;
  - To its immediate southeast is a "G/IC" zone where the twin statues of the deities Kwun Yam and Tin Hau as well as the Hong Kong Life Guard Club are located;
  - To the immediate south and southwest is the Repulse Bay Beach and an "Open Space" ("O") zone;
  - To its north across Beach Road is a "Commercial" ("C") zone covering an existing local shopping centre, namely Beach Centre; and
  - To its further northwest on the western part of Repulse Bay Beach is another beach front site zoned "OU(BRLU)", which is currently occupied by the Seaview Building and rented by a private club offering banquet services (#11 in Figure 2.4).



#### 3. PROPOSED CONVERSION SCHEME

# 3.1 Alteration and Addition Works for the Proposed Hotel

3.1.1 The Proposed Conversion involves some demolition and alteration works for converting the B1/F, UG/F and 1/F of the existing building into a hotel with provision of 96 guest rooms. While the external facade of UG/F and 1/F will be partially demolished and set back to make way for the hotel rooms with balcony (those fronting the Repulse Bay Beach only), portion of 1/F will also be removed in order to allow sufficient headroom for Loading/unloading (L/UL) facilities. The existing building height will remain unchanged at 18.05mPD (main roof level). Shops and restaurants on B1/F and LG/F will continue to serve visitors to The Pulse and Repulse Bay Beach. L/UL facilities and carparking spaces will be provided at UG/F and B3/F respectively. The Indicative architectural drawings and artist impression are devised and presented in Appendices 1 and 2 of this Supporting Planning Statement, while the key development parameters and floor uses are shown in Tables 3.1 and 3.2 respectively.

**Table 3.1: Key Development Parameters** 

	Parameters (approx.)
Site Area	4,230m <sup>2</sup>
Total GFA (approx.)	13,728m <sup>2</sup>
<ul> <li>Shops &amp; Restaurants &amp; E&amp;M Facilities</li> <li>(B2/F, B1/F &amp; LG/F)</li> </ul>	5,841m²
<ul> <li>Hotel (B1/F, UG/F &amp; 1/F)</li> </ul>	6,590m²
Others (incl. Carparking Facilities (B3/F)) (1)	1,297m²
No. of Hotel Room	96
Building Height at Main Roof	18.05mPD

#### Note

(1) The GFA incurred from the carparking facilities is subject to further review, consideration and approval by the Building Authority at GBP submission stage. In any case, the total GFA upon conversion would not exceed the existing total GFA.

**Table 3.2: Floor Uses Upon Proposed Conversion** 

Floor	Use(s)
R/F	E&M facilities
1/F	Hotel
UG/F	Hotel & L/UL facilities
LG/F	Shops & Restaurants
B1/F	Hotel & Shops
B2/F	E&M facilities
B3/F	Carpark

3.1.2 Upon conversion, the total GFA would not exceed the existing total GFA (i.e. 13,728m²). The Proposed Hotel would account for a GFA of approx. 6,590m², while the carparking facilities will not be more than 1,297m². For the ease of reference, a comparison of the major development parameters of the existing development and the Proposed Conversion scheme are provided in **Table 3.3**. It is anticipated that the Proposed Conversion would be completed by 2027.

**Table 3.3: Comparison of Major Development Parameters** 

	Existing Development (a)	Conversion Scheme (b)	Differences (%) (b) - (a)
Site Area (approx.)	4,230m <sup>2</sup>	4,230m <sup>2</sup>	No Change
Total GFA (approx.)	13,728m <sup>2</sup>	13,728m <sup>2</sup>	No Change @
Shops & Restaurants	13,728m <sup>2</sup>	5,841m <sup>2</sup>	-7,887m²
& E&M Facilities	(B2/F - 1/F)	(B2/F - LG/F)	
<ul><li>Hotel</li><li>Others (incl.</li></ul>	Nil (-) Nil	6,590m <sup>2</sup> (B1/F, UG/F & 1/F) 1,297m <sup>2</sup>	+6,590m² +1,297m² @
Carparking Facilities)	(-)	(B3/F)	
No. of Hotel Room	Nil	96	+96
No. of Storey	6 (including 1/F, UG/F, LG/F, B1- B3/F)	6 (including 1/F, UG/F, LG/F, B1- B3/F)	No Change
Building Height (at Main Roof)	18.05mPD	18.05mPD	No Change

The calculation of accountable GFA and GFA concession are subject to further review, consideration and approval by BD under GBP submission stage. In any case, the total GFA upon conversion would not exceed the existing total GFA.

#### 3.2 Access and Transportation Provisions

3.2.1 The vehicular accesses to the existing building are situated at LG/F and UG/F via the ingress/egress points on Beach Road. Upon conversion, 587 and 6 nos. of parking spaces for private car and motorcycle will be provided respectively at B3/F, resulting in no reduction in parking space compared to existing situation. In addition to the high-end requirement as set out in the HKPSG, additional 16 nos. of private carparking space will also be provided.

Among the 58 nos. of car parking space for private car, 42 nos. are ancillary carpark spaces, whilst the remaining 16 nos. will be GFA accountable. The calculation of accountable GFA is subject to the consideration of BD under GBP submission stage.

3.2.2 Regarding L/UL facilities, the existing lay-by for loading and unloading near the eastern end of The Pulse along Beach Road will be converted into a lay-by for single deck tour bus, while the existing loading and unloading area on UG/F of The Pulse will be modified to provide new L/UL bays for heavy goods vehicle (HGV) and light goods vehicle (LGV). The proposed internal transport facilities, including carparking spaces for private car and motorcycle, L/UL bays for HGV, LGV and van-type vehicle, as well as lay-by for taxi and private car and single deck tour bus will meet the operational needs of the proposed hotel. Details of the internal transport facilities provision are summarised in **Table 3.4** below.

**Table 3.4: Internal Transport Facilities Provision** 

Type of Facilities	Provision	
Parking Spaces	<mark>64</mark>	
Private Car	58 (including 2 nos. of accessible carparking space)	
Motorcycle	carparking space)  6	
L/UL Bays	9	
• HGV	2	
• LGV	2	
Van-type Vehicle	5	
Lay-by	3	
Taxi and Private Car	2	
Single Deck Tour Bus	1	

3.2.3 A Traffic Impact Assessment ("TIA") has been carried out to assess the impact of the Proposed Conversion onto the surrounding road network and is annexed at **Appendix 3** of this Supporting Planning Statement.

#### 4. PLANNING MERITS AND JUSTIFICATIONS

# 4.1 Respecting the History of Repulse Bay

- 4.1.1 The once renowned Repulse Bay Hotel is of paramount importance in developing Repulse Bay as a sought-after seaside resort area. It constitutes such a vital part of the Repulse Bay's legendary story over the past decades. Numerous celebrities and royalties around the world, such as writers Eileen Chang, Ernest Hemingway and George Bernard Shaw, American actors William Holden and Marlon Brando and Spanish Crown Prince Juan Carlos and Crown Princess Sofia, used to stay at the Repulse Bay when they visited Hong Kong.
- 4.1.2 Since the demolition of the Repulse Bay Hotel during the 1980s, the Repulse Bay has nil provision of accommodation for short stays for both local and foreign visitors. The Proposed Conversion could help to reinvigorate the legend of Repulse Bay as a famous weekend resort area while at the same time respecting the history of the area and enhancing its attractiveness.

# 4.2 Premier Tourism Attraction Recognised and Promoted by Government and Quasi-government Organisations

4.2.1 Standing as one of Hong Kong's most renowned and stunning beaches, Repulse Bay is often branded as a must-visit spot of Hong Kong by Government and quasi-government organisations. While the Home Affairs Department has listed Repulse Bay under the *Hong Kong Fun in 18 Districts*, it is also a tourist spot heavily promoted by the Hong Kong Tourism Board. These have highlighted the status and significance of the Repulse Bay as a premier tourism attraction of Hong Kong.

#### 4.3 Strengthening Repulse Bay as a Renowned Tourism Spot

- 4.3.1 Being one of the prestigious scenic and popular tourist spots in Hong Kong, the Repulse Bay Beach is well visited by tourists, local residents as well as people from other parts of the Territory. Apart from the Beach, Repulse Bay has other tourist attractions including colonial architectures and the statues of the deities Kwun Yam and Tin Hau.
- 4.3.2 Development of diversified tourism experiences is recently prompted by Government to elevate the tourism appeal and uphold competitiveness<sup>8</sup>. Other than the usual tourism attractions (e.g. the Peak and Victoria Harbour), Repulse Bay Beach, together with the other tourist attractions as mentioned above, offer an alternative option for an enriching and immersive tourism experience, presenting a different charm of Hong Kong.

Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development Hong Kong Tourism Board Work Plan for 2024-25 (Available at: <a href="https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr2024/english/panels/edev/papers/edev20240402cb4-373-2-e.pdf">https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr2024/english/panels/edev/papers/edev20240402cb4-373-2-e.pdf</a>)

The Proposed Hotel would improve the supporting tourism facilities at the Repulse Bay and further enhance the area's appeal to locals and visitors.

#### 4.4 Continuing to Meet the Prevailing Planning Intention

4.4.1 The Proposed Conversion is in line with the planning intention of the "OU(BRLU)" zone of the OZP which is "intended to enhance the role of Repulse Bay as a recreational and tourism district, as well as maintaining the existing beach related character of the developments". The Proposed Hotel will continue to meet the planning intention and will not deviate from the planned use of the Site at all.

#### 4.5 Widening the Variety of Accommodation for Tourist

- 4.5.1 Since the demolition of the Repulse Bay Hotel, the Repulse Bay has no hotel accommodation. At present, the Stanley Oriental Hotel in Stanley (about 2.3km away from the Site) is already the nearest hotel in the vicinity of the Repulse Bay for tourists, which provides only 9 guest rooms.
- 4.5.2 In fact, there are limited beachside hotels in Hong Kong and the Gold Coast Hotel in Tuen Mun and the Silvermine Beach Hotel in Mui Wo are two of them. The Proposed Hotel, which adjoins the Repulse Bay Beach, will provide a great alternative for tourists and offer distinctive touches and experience to overnight visitors.

#### 4.6 In-line with Tourism Development Trend in Hong Kong

4.6.1 In the "Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030" published by Planning Department, HKSAR Government in October 2016, it was stated within the report titled "Baseline Review: Population, Housing, Economy and Spatial Development Pattern" 9 that "... The continued growth in visitor arrivals will generate demands for different tourism-related facilities, such as hotels.... The proactive way out is to enhance our receiving capacity, including ....increasing the supply of hotel rooms...to ensure the long-term and healthy development of Hong Kong's tourism industry. On these... the Government has been taking forward several initiatives, such as ...continuing to adopt a multi-pronged approach to increase the supply of hotel rooms, etc.". Thus, the Proposed Conversion of retail facilities into hotel use is in line with the long-term strategic direction for tourism-related facilities.

Source: "Baseline Review: Population, Housing, Economy and Spatial Development Pattern", November 2016, paragraph 3.65, page 57

#### 4.7 No Increase in Building Bulk

4.7.1 It should be noted that there will be no change in the physical building bulk, building height and development scale of the existing retail complex. The existing building height of The Pulse will remain unchanged at 18.05mPD (main roof level). The Proposed Conversion simply intended to convert part of The Pulse (i.e. B1/F, UG/F and 1/F) into a hotel. It would only require some demolition and alteration works within the existing building. The shops and restaurants on B1/F and LG/F will continue to serve the visitors to The Pulse and Repulse Bay Beach. In this regard, the Proposed Conversion is considered appropriate and no out of context development will be resulted.

#### 4.8 No Adverse Traffic Impact

4.8.1 A TIA has been carried out (**Appendix 3** refers). It is estimated that, during weekend, the Proposed Conversion would reduce some 27 pcu/hr (2-way) and some 47 pcu/hr (2-way) in the AM peak and PM peak respectively, comparing to the existing development. With the increase of L/UL facilities and lay-by, the proposed internal transport facilities in association with the Proposed Hotel will be improved and considered acceptable. The surveyed junctions would continue to have sufficient capacity to accommodate the future traffic growth and the additional traffic generated by the Proposed Hotel. No adverse traffic impact would be resulted.

## 4.9 No Adverse Environmental Impact

- 4.9.1 Since The Pulse fronts directly onto the tranquil beach in the southwest and is located away from the busy Repulse Bay Road, traffic noise from the surrounding road network will not cause noise impact upon the Proposed Hotel. Similar to ordinary hotel development, the hotel guest rooms will be provided with air-conditioning. It is anticipated that the Proposed Hotel will not be subject to adverse noise impact.
- 4.9.2 In terms of air quality, dust control requirements as stipulated in the Air Pollution Control (Construction Dust) Regulation, Air Pollution Control (Non-road Mobile Machinery) (Emission) Regulation, Air Pollution Control (Fuel Restriction) Regulations, and relevant mitigation measures for dust emissions will be followed and implemented. It is revealed the Beach Road is classified as a Local Distributor. According to the HKPSG, the recommended buffer distance for Local Distributor shall be 5m. The Proposed Hotel will rely on centralised air-conditioning for ventilation, and that fresh air intake are positioned outside the buffer zone. There is also no industrial chimney and odour source locating within the 500m radius of In view of the above, adverse air quality impact during the Site. construction and operation phase is therefore not anticipated. Nonetheless, while the existing E&M facilities have been in operation on R/F of the Pulse since its opening (with mitigation measures such as acoustic barrier and silencer for chillers already in place), the Applicant will ensure that the Proposed Hotel will comply with the noise standard as

stipulated in HKPSG and relevant pollution control ordinances and regulations. Not least, other mitigation measures, such as low-noise equipment, acoustic enclosures or orienting away from sensitive receivers will also be explored in detailed design stage, where appropriate. A summary of mitigation measures is tabulated below for reference:

**Table 4.10.1: Summary of Mitigation Measures** 

	Mitigation Measures
Traffic Noise	Centralised air-conditioning
Fixed Noise	Low-noise equipment, acoustic enclosures, or
	orienting away from sensitive receivers
Air Quality	Operation Phase
	Centralised air-conditioning
	Fresh air intake positioned outside the 5m buffer
	zone from local distributor
	Construction Phase
	Good practice and control measures (e.g. dust
	screens, enclosed debris chute and collection
	chamber, spray water on debris etc.)

4.9.3 The Air Quality Impact Assessment, Noise Impact Assessment and Waste Management Assessment are summarised below:

### Air Quality

- 4.9.4 An Air Quality Impact Assessment (**Appendix 6** refers) has been conducted. With the implementation of the recommended dust suppression measures, exhaust emissions measures and good site practice (e.g. covering/spraying of dusty materials, wetting with water after removal of dusty materials and liquid fuel with a Sulphur content of less than 0.001% by weight), adverse air quality impact is not anticipated during the construction stage.
- 4.9.5 In addition, the Proposed Hotel will rely on centralised air-conditioning for ventilation. There will be no air-sensitive uses, including openable window<sup>10</sup>, fresh air intake and recreational uses in open space, within the 5m buffer distance from Beach Road upon conversion. There is also no industrial chimney or other industrial emission or odour source locating within the 500m radius of the Site. In view of the above, the relevant buffer requirement in HKPSG will be complied with, and that adverse air quality impact during construction and operation phases is therefore not anticipated.

Windows are not opened under normal circumstances, except for emergency and maintenance purpose.

#### Noise

- 4.9.6 A Noise Impact Assessment (**Appendix 7** refers) has been carried out. For traffic noise, since the Proposed Hotel will rely on centralised airconditioning for ventilation, and that there will be reduction in traffic induced upon conversion, adverse traffic noise impact is therefore not envisaged.
- 4.9.7 In addition, with the implementation of noise mitigation measures as recommended in ProPECC PN 1/24 and acoustic treatments as recommended in the "Good practices for controlling noise from electrical & mechanical systems", the Proposed Conversion will not result in adverse noise impact during the construction and operation stages. The surrounding Noise Sensitive Receivers will also not be subject to adverse noise impact.

#### Waste Management

4.9.8 A Waste Management Assessment has been conducted (**Appendix 8** refers). With the implementation of waste management measures in place, adverse waste management impact is not anticipated during the construction and operation phases.

# 4.10 No Adverse Sewerage and Water Supply Impact

- 4.10.1 The estimated daily sewerage flow of the existing B1/F, UG/F and 1/F of The Pulse is approx. 353.5m³/day (**Appendix 4** refers). It is estimated that the daily sewerage flow would decrease to 333.4m³/day after the Proposed Conversion. The estimation implies that the sewerage generation from The Pulse will be lower and no adverse sewerage impact is anticipated.
- 4.10.2 In addition, as revealed in the water demand assessment (**Appendix 5** refers), the proposed conversion to hotel will result in a reduction in water demand as compared with the existing level.

#### 5. CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY

- 5.1.1 In light of the above, it is believed that the Proposed Conversion should be favourably considered by the TPB from a planning and technical point of view.
- 5.1.2 The Planning Department and Members of the TPB are respectfully requested to give favourable consideration to support the on the following main reasons:
  - The Proposed Hotel fully respects the history of Repulse Bay and helps to reinvigorate the legend of Repulse Bay as a famous weekend resort area.
  - The Proposed Hotel would improve the existing supporting tourism facilities and strengthen Repulse Bay as a renowned tourism spot.
  - The Proposed Conversion would conform with the prevailing planning intention of "OU(BRLU)" zone.
  - In view of the limited beachside hotels in Hong Kong, the Proposed Hotel would widen the variety of accommodation for tourist.
  - The Proposed Hotel is in-line with tourism development trend in Hong Kong according to the "Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030".
  - There is no increase in building bulk including building height and development scale as all alteration and addition works will take place within the existing building.
  - Technical assessments have been carried out and the results revealed that the Proposed Conversion will not lead to adverse traffic, sewerage and environmental impacts.