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Revitalisation

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The URA's revitalisation efforts have achieved solid progress in 2011/12 with several initiatives nearing fruition.

Wan Chai

The Old Wan Chai Revitalisation Initiatives Special Committee, set up by the Government in 2008, was disbanded in February 2012 after accomplishing its mission to revitalise Old Wan Chai. Projects of note which have been or are nearly completed include:



- metered electricity supply to about 130 hawker stalls in Tai Yuen Street and Cross Street; and
- open space and street improvements in the St Francis Street neighbourhood under the "Public Private Partnership on Revitalisation for Old Wan Chai".



Improvement work of the open space in St. Francis Street, Wan Chai.



URA staff explains to a hawker about the installation of metered electricity supply.

Tai Kok Tsui

In Tai Kok Tsui, the Phase 1 Beech Street and Beech Street Sitting-out Area beautification and upgrading works, and Phase 2 Cherry Street roundabout works are now complete. The design theme of "Urban Wood" has been adopted for Phase 3 which covers eight other Streets in Tai Kok Tsui, works are underway.



Beautification work in the Cherry Street roundabout.

Mong Kok

The Flower Market Road Refuse Collection Point facelift is now complete and the streetscape improvement works for Flower Market Road started in December 2011.



Facelift of the Refuse Collection Point at Flower Market Road.

Central & Western

Central Oasis

The URA has taken up the challenge of turning the Central Market into a Central Oasis for green recreation and leisure use. In 2011/12, the Central Oasis Community Advisory Committee, chaired by Professor David Lung Ping-yee, sought public views on the design of Central Oasis through a territory-wide roving exhibition and opinion polls. A comprehensive design consultancy based on public views, the findings of a structural survey and the outcome of studies on the Central Market's character-defining elements, was awarded in November 2011. Since then, the design team has been pressing ahead with the market building designs for submission to the Town Planning Board.

Meanwhile, the URA issued an open "Request for Information" seeking interested organisations to submit their proposals on the future operation of the Central Oasis. The information collected will facilitate the future Expression of Interest invitation for the project and assist URA in creating the business structure for the future project operation.



Japanese master architect Arata Isozaki (third from left) shares his design philosophy for the Central Oasis.

Peel Street/Graham Street Market Vibrancy Initiatives

The URA is keen to maintain the vibrancy of the market along streets abutting the Peel Street and Graham Street redevelopment project and has launched a series of market promotion cum branding exercises involving about 90 shop operators and hawkers. Newly designed fire-resistant stalls were reprovisioned and handed over to hawkers affected by the site works.



URA staff explains the newly designed fire resistant stalls.

Pak Tsz Lane Revitalisation Project

The Pak Tsz Lane Revitalisation Project includes the construction of the Pak Tsz Lane Park based on a theme which commemorates the association of the area with the Chinese revolution in the early 20th century. The park has been handed over to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The URA is working on the remaining phase of the project.



A themed and landscaped open space at Pak Tsz Lane commemorates the 1991 Chinese Revolution.

Western Market

The URA has obtained a three-year lease extension in late 2011 with a premium paid to the Government. This will facilitate a detailed structural assessment, public engagement on possible future uses of the premises, and a conservation study of the century old market.



The century old Western Market.