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(1) Vision-led Sustainable Neighborhoods: Myths and Musts

Session Organiser: AECOM

Session 1.7

SESSION OUTLINE

Why is it time to reboot established approaches to neighborhood planning? When is a vision not a vision? And what are the myths and musts for achieving vision-led planning?

Fact

Asia is one of the world's fastest urbanizing regions, providing significant opportunities and challenges for those shaping new developments or regenerating and re-integrating older ones. It has the ability to tip the scale for the rest of the world through its successes and failures. However, societal needs and environmental challenges in cities are growing in complexity.

Worldwide, there is reducing availability of green-field versus brown-field land. And decades of galloping urbanization now raise the challenges of preserving the natural resources, heritage and public realms that distinguish and nurture the city, and that connect citizens with the city and with each other. Future climate change particularly for coastal cities and those in flood plains also makes the challenges even more complex.

The factors driving designs of future new towns are considerably evolved from those that shaped the "older" new towns – such as Shatin, Hong Kong's first new town development forty years ago. Also, Hong Kong, Macau, Guangzhou and Shenzhen are now not only cities, they are part of arguably the world's largest metropolis – the Pearl River Delta. How can we achieve sustainable neighborhoods in the face of urbanization on such a scale? Beyond meeting the basic necessity of housing, what role should the built environment play – in resilience and sustainability - in the future? How can the built environment take on a more adaptive and citizen-friendly form for neighborhood communities to flourish?

Make up your own mind

What are the myths and musts of achieving sustainable neighborhoods? This AECOM-moderated session will engage panelists and audience participants in an exchange of experiences and innovative ideas to better anticipate and address the future design and delivery of sustainable neighborhoods that achieve jointly positive economic, environmental and social impact.

SESSION CHAIR

WONG Chi-chung, Executive Vice President, Asia; Global Head, Chinese Overseas Investment (COI) Program, AECOM, Hong Kong SAR

SPEAKERS

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