Notes of the 17th Meeting of Business Liaison Group (Theme Parks)

Date & time : 2:30 pm, 14 July 2014 (Monday)

Venue: Conference Room 2, G/F., Central Government Offices, Tamar

Chairman: Mr CHAN Wah Chan, Head, Business Facilitation Division,

Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit

Trade attendees:

Hong Kong International Theme Parks Limited

Ms Connie HON Government Relations Director

Ms Mabel FUNG Building Surveyor

Ocean Park Corporation

Mr Arthur WONG Project Development Director

Mr Kenneth LAU Operations Director

Mr. Gavin LAM Senior Retail Operations Manager

Ms Gillian CHO Assistant Corporate Services Manager – Administration

Observers:

Task Force on Business Liaison Groups

Mr Christopher CHAN Member

Hong Kong Sky Deck Limited

Mr Ivan LAW Senior Operation Officer

Ngong Ping 360 Limited

Ms Chris LAW Operations Support & Guest Relations Manager

Madame Tussauds

Ms Kelly MAK General Manager

Government representatives:

Buildings Department (BD)

Mr Prince WONG Building Surveyor

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)

Ms WONG Yi Mui

Superintendent

Mr CHEUNG Wai Man Chief Health Inspector

Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit (EABFU)

Ms Christie LAM Chief Management Services Officer (Secretary)

Mr Robert CHU Management Services Officer

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1. **The Chairman** welcomed all to the meeting.

Agenda 1 – Confirmation of notes of the last meeting

2. The notes of the last meeting posted at the Business Facilitation Initiatives website (http://www.gov.hk/en/theme/bf/pdf/TP_BLG_16_Notes.pdf) were confirmed without amendment.

Agenda 2 – Briefing by Department

Enhancements to the online Licence Application Tracking Facility

- 3. **FEHD** gave a briefing on the subject with presentation slides at **Annex**. On 31 March 2014, the department launched the following two new enhancements to the online Licence Application Tracking Facility (ATF) in respect of application for food business licences:
 - (a) Provision of "Centralized Login Account" to facilitate a food business licence applicant to check progress of multiple licence applications under his/her name through one single account without the need to log in each single application of the same applicant separately; and
 - (b) Sending email notifications to keep applicants updated of the progress of major milestones of their applications, including preliminary screening of proposed plans, referral of applications/plans to relevant departments for comments, updating comments from relevant departments, issue of letter of requirements and approval of licence application.

FEHD was considering expanding the scope of its ATF to cover applications for Outside Seating Accommodation permission of restaurants and other trade licences such as Places of Public Entertainment Licence.

- 4. In response to Mr Christopher CHAN's enquiry, **FEHD** said that normally the department concerned would update the relevant information of ATF within three working days after an action was taken.
- 5. **BD** remarked that theme park operators should find ATF helpful as they needed to handle a lot of food business licence applications at a time. In response to an enquiry about the identification key for "Centralized Login Account", FEHD said that the department would provide the applicant with a login name and a password

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for creation of an ATF account for each food business licence application. Also, the applicant might create one "Centralized Login Account" to manage different individual new licence applications under his/her management but each food business licence application could only be placed under one "Centralized Login Account" for progress checking.

- 6. **Ocean Park** enquired whether the notification emails could be forwarded to more than one email address. FEHD replied that applicants might provide two email accounts as indicated in the application form to receive notifications.
- 7. **The Chairman** encouraged the trade to make more use of ATF and to provide FEHD with their valuable feedback for further improvement, if any.

Agenda 3 – New Items

Admission capacity of a waterpark

- 8. **Ocean Park** said that they were planning to apply for a Swimming Pool Licence (SPL) and a Places of Public Entertainment Licence (PPEL) for their Waterpark project in Tai Shue Wan, and would like to seek clarification on whether the admission capacity of PPEL would be constrained by that of SPL.
- 9. **FEHD** replied that under section 6(2) of the Swimming Pools Regulation (Cap 132CA), the number of persons that might be accommodated in any swimming pool should be based on the maximum capacity of the pool and determined at the rate of one person for every 3m² of the water surface of the pool. In respect of an application for PPEL (other than cinema/theatre), the applicant was requested to declare in the application form the maximum capacity of the venue for the purpose of determining the provision of sanitary fitments as well as the ventilation requirements (if applicable). As the licensed boundary of SPL in the Waterpark project might not be the same as that of PPEL, the admission capacity limit would depend on the layout and to-be-licensed areas of SPL and PPEL. Further comment would be offered upon receipt of the proposed plans.
- 10. **BD** supplemented that for PPEL applications from theme park operators, FEHD would refer the proposed layout plans to the department for comments. In general, BD would consider, among other things, the occupancy capacity of PPE premises by making reference to the type of accommodation and approved building plans.

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11. To ascertain on whether facilities such as water slide and wave rider would be included in the calculation of water surface area for determining the admission capacity of SPL, it was agreed that **Ocean Park** would prepare relevant details of their project including proposed layout plans for a separate meeting with FEHD to further discuss this issue.

Agenda 4 – Any other business

Type of permit required for vehicles used in parade

12. **Disneyland** said that with the liaison of EABFU, they were seeking clarification with the Transport Department (TD) on the appropriate type of vehicle permits for their planned tricycles to be used at the coming parade. Disneyland expressed their appreciation for the prompt response of TD in the matter.

Date of next meeting

13. **The Chairman** thanked all for their attendance and active participation. The Secretary would inform trade members of the date of the next meeting in due course.

Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit July 2014