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[By Fax : 2896 3938 (2 pages)]

Mr Tak Y. Wong
The President
The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects
P.O. Box 20561
Johnston Road Post Office
Wan Chai
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Wong,

Review of
Environment, Transport and Works Bureau Technical Circular (Works) No. 3/2006
and Lands Administration Office Practice Note No. 7/2007

Thank you for your letter of 19 June 2013. We appreciate that the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects has undertaken an in-depth review of tree preservation and tree removal application procedures as stipulated in the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau Technical Circular (Works) No. 3/2006 – *'Tree Preservation'* (TC No. 3/2006) and Lands Administration Office Practice Note No. 7/2007 – *'Tree Preservation and Tree Removal Application for Building Development in Private Projects'* (LAO PN No. 7/2007). The professional comments and hands-on experiences of members of your Institute on these documents are valuable references.

As you are aware, the Tree Management Office of the Development Bureau with the advice from various departments is reviewing the TC No. 3/2006 which is mainly applicable to government projects. We have received comments and suggestions from professional organisations, non-government organisations, practitioners and industry stakeholders on various aspects of the technical circular.

Your Institute has also given some initial comments on the topic of tree preservation and removal in our meeting in January 2013. We are considering carefully the comments given in your letter, including the comments on compensatory planting requirements, in the review of the circular.

While TC No. 3/2006 and LAO PN No. 7/2007 deal with government and private projects respectively under separate sets of procedures, there are common arboricultural aspects such as tree survey, compensatory planting, transplanting, etc. We agree that there are merits in synchronization. We have taken the liberty to forward your comments on LAO PN No. 7/2007 to the Lands Department for consideration. The Tree Management Office would work in partnership with the Lands Department in achieving consistency and compatibility in the arboricultural aspects of TC No. 3/2006 and LAO PN No. 7/2007.

Thank you again for your active contribution in the review of tree preservation and tree removal application procedures.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Grace LUI)
for Secretary for Development

c.c.

D of Lands (Attn: Ms Karen Chan) – with a copy of HKILA's letter dd 19.6.2013