

Citizen Envisioning @ Harbour

A) ACTION PLAN

In a first ever attempt to foster civil society partnership, 4 universities, 4 professional institutions and 8 civil society organizations in environmental protection, community and district services are building a platform for Hong Kong citizens to participate in designing our harbour. This is a chance for us all to envision and create with our hearts and mind the future of our beautiful Victoria Harbour – a precious asset that we and our future generations can be proud of. Citizen Envisioning @ Harbour has the following objectives:

- To facilitate a constructive understanding of the reclamation saga: history and development of the Victoria Harbour; the pros and cons of various options in developing the Habour; and the views of various stakeholders;
- 2 To facilitate a consensus building process through gauging different stakeholders' aspirations of the future development of the Victoria Harbour; and
- 3 To learn how to plan with the communities and to foster a culture of partnership, of working together convivially so that social trust and social capital can be accumulated.

We are working very hard to facilitate the design of an urban space designed by Hong Kong citizens - a harbour by the people, of the people, for the people. Currently, we are organizing a campaign to collect "Our Victoria Harbour Stories" (attached in Appendix I please find a preliminary analysis for the stories collected so far) and we will also organize the following activities to realize the above objectives:

Activity	Exhibition	Charette	Citizen Hearing
Time	10a.m. – 5:30p.m.	12:30p.m. – 5:30p.m.	2p.m- 6p.m. December 7
	November 30	November 30	Sunday
	Sunday	Sunday	
Venue	Handball Court	Handball Court	Rayson Huang Theatre,
	Victoria Park	Victoria Park	The University of Hong
			Kong

We believe that the current controversy has clearly shown that the current urban planning and development control processes are inadequate. At this juncture it is important for the government to review these processes, and in particular, the utility of public participation.

B) THEORETICAL BASE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Utility of Public Consultation

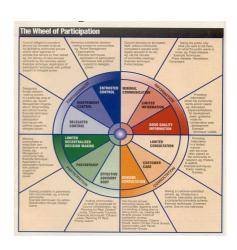
Arnstein's Ladder of Participation

DEGREE OF CITIIZEN PARTICIPATION				
8. Citizen control				
7. Delegated power				
6. Partnership				
DEGREES OF TOKENISM				
5. Placation				
4. Consultation				
3. Informing				
NON-PARTICIPATION				
2. Therapy				
1. Manipulation				

The "Wheel" of Empowerment

EMPOWERMENT			
Entrusted control			
Independent control			
Delegated control			
Limited decentralized decision making			
PARTICIPATION			
Limited decentralized decision making			
Partnership			
Effective advisory body			
CONSULTATION			
Genuine information			
Customer care			
Limited consultation			
INFORMATION			
Good quality information			
Limited information			

Minimal communication



According to the above schema, giving out information or consultation alone represent rather preliminary efforts in the "wheel of empowerment". Real participation calls for opportunities of working together, of forming partnership and of engaging in a good communication process (Healey, 1997) that is "interactive & interpretive..., that respects discussion, reflective in nature and values diversified viewpoints, that encourages mutual learning and is able to transform power through continuous "critique" and "demystification" to allow people understand the heart of the issues. In other words, the process should be "future seeking... not future defining....", it should allow us to "[make] sense together while living differently" to provide "safe spaces" for deliberation (Forester, 1998).

If we agree with these ideas, there are many fun ways of involving the general public:

Methods to Educate and Involve the Public:

- > Art workshop
- > Award scheme
- > Briefing workshop
- > Choice catalogue
- > Community profiling
- > Design game
- > Design workshop
- > Electronic map
- > Field workshop
- > Gamina

Methods to Educate and Involve the Public:

- > Ideas competition
- > Interactive display
- Models
- > Newspaper Supplement
- > Photo survey
- > Planning for real
- > Street stall
- > Urban design studio
- User Group

In face, we can use different sets of criteria to judge if we are having a good partnership (Innes and Booher, 1999):

Process Criteria:

- Includes representatives of all relevant and significantly different interests.
- Is driven by a purpose and task that are real, practical, and shared by the group.
- Is self-organizing, allowing participants to decide on ground rules, objectives, tasks, working groups, and discussion topics.
- Engages participants, keeping them at the table, interested, and learning through indepth discussion, drama, humor, and informal interaction.
- Encourages challenges to the status quo and fosters creative thinking.
- Incorporates high-quality information of many types and assures agreement on its meaning.
- Seeks consensus only after discussions have fully explored the issues and interests and significant effort has been made to find creative responses to differences.

Outcome Criteria

- Produces a high-quality agreement.
- Ends stalemate.
- Compares favourably with other planning methods in terms of costs and benefits.
- Produces creative ideas.
- Results in learning and change in and beyond the group.
- Creates social and political capital.
- Produces information that stakeholders understand and accept.
- Sets in motion a cascade of changes in attitudes, behaviours and actions, spinoff partnerships, and new practices or institutions.
- Results in institutions and practices that are flexible and networked, permitting the community to be more creatively responsive to change and conflict.

If we do it in a right way, there can be a lot of payoffs in fostering partnerships:

First Order Effects	Second Order Effects	Third Order Effects	
 Social Capital: Trust, Relationships Intellectual Capital: Mutual understanding, Shared problem frames, Agreed upon data Political Capital: Ability to work together for agreed ends High-quality agreements Innovative strategies 	 New partnerships Coordination and joint action Joint learning extends into the community Implementation of agreements Changes in practices Changes in perceptions 	 New collaborations More coevolution, less destructive conflict Results on the ground: adaptation of cities, regions, resources, services New institutions New norms and heuristics New discourses 	

Hong Kong needs to rethink about the utility of consultation. If we trust that involving different players in the planning and development process will bring about the above positive effects, we should review our consultation mechanisms. We need a process that can educate, inform and facilitate a communicative discourse that can build consensus and bring out high-quality win-win solutions.

As argued by Thomas Jefferson in 1820:

"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of this society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion."

C) CONCLUDING REMARKS

The current controversy in harbour reclamation has shown that the existing public consultation process is grossly inadequate. Hong Kong people have said clearly and loudly that they do not wish to leave important decisions concerning their urban space entirely in the hands of government bureaucrats.

We suggest that government officials would do well to familiarise themselves with Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration* signed by China along with 177 countries in the 1992 Earth Summit. This is the Access Principle applicable to environmental policy-making: "each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities... and the opportunities to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided."

Public consultation in its current form, coupled with a top-down approach in town planning, falls far short of the standard called for in the *Rio Declaration*.

Getting people involved in deciding upon their urban space is not a purist's dream. International examples are abound. Take, for instance, the other Victoria Harbour in the

world – the harbour on Vancouver Island at the west coast of Canada. An independent, non-profit Harbour Authority was set up last year to own and manage harbour assets. The board of the Authority was made up of representatives from governments, chambers of commerce and indigenous peoples.

The public in the other Victoria Harbour is not merely consulted; the public is there to have its representatives making decisions for their environment independent of the political process. The government still plays the important role of facilitating the public's decision-making, but is no longer the sole decision-maker.

No doubt Hong Kong shall develop its own model of governing the Victoria Harbour. Yet a partnership approach engaging the private sector and civil society groups is regarded as the only realistic choice for sustainable development.

We are wary of the divisive force that the recent controversy may inflict upon our society. We believe that it is essential to turn people's energy into a positive drive to develop and embrace a new and innovative mechanism for community-based urban design, public participation and consensus building.

Our new partnership has launched a platform for Hong Kong citizens to share their collective memories on the harbour, review the history of reclamation, examine constraints and opportunities, unleash their creative power and begin building a consensus through a citizen hearing process.

In Hong Kong's town planning history, this is an unprecedented attempt to empower people and foster participation through such a broad alliance in the third sector.

When provided with relevant information, Hong Kong people can be trusted to make wise decisions for themselves and their future generations. It is however important that all planning constraints and potential opportunities are laid out for the public in a clear and coherent manner. Civil society has taken a lead to facilitate this process but we also urge the government to play a constructive role by providing detailed information and participating in the process. We would also like to call for the active engagement of LegCo members in this participatory process.

In the long run, whether reclamation is justified or not, whether reclaimed land should be used for road-building or for waterfront promenade alone, whether a statutory shoreline should be declared or not, may prove less important than establishing a process which truly reflects community value and truly allows the public to decide the future of their urban space.

A community planning approach with broad-based participation has a much higher chance of success in building a consensus for the way forward than the existing town planning process. A successful consensus-building process will benefit everyone, including those for and against reclamation.

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Organisers:

- 1. Centre of Urban Planning and Environmental Management, The University of Hong Kong
- 2. "LIVE.Architecture" programme, Department of Architecture, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 3. Hong Kong People's Council for Sustainable Development
- 4. Hong Kong Council of Social Service
- 5. Hong Kong Christian Services
- 6. Caritas Mok Cheung Sui Kun Community Centre
- 7. Caritas Community Centre Caine Road
- 8. St. James' Settlement
- 9. Hong Kong Institute of Architects
- 10. Urban Design Alliance
- 11. American Institute of Architects, Hong Kong
- 12. Professors and students from City University of Hong Kong
- 13. Professors and students from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- 14. Central & Western Development Concern Group
- 15. The Conservancy Association

References

- Forester, J., 1998, "Rationality, dialogue and learning: what community and environmental mediators can teach us about the practice of civil society," in Douglass, M. and Friedmann, J., *Cities for Citizens*, New York: John Wiley and Sons Ltd., pp. 213-226.
- Healey, P., 1997, *Collaborative planning: shaping places in fragmented societies*, Vancouver: UBC Press; Basingstoke, Hampshire: Macmillan Press.
- Innes, J.E. and D.E. Booher, 1999, "Consensus Building and Complex Adaptive Systems: a framework for evaluating collaborative planning," *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Vol.65, No.4, Autumn 1999, pp.412-423.

Appendix I



我們的維港故事——維港印象及集體回憶 初步分析

郭毅權博士 2003年11月

前言

維多利亞港作爲香港的象徵,最近受到萬眾觸目,爲的是它正面臨失去東方之珠的光輝的危機-假如大規模填海工程仍按原定計劃進行。

因此,我們發起「 一個客觀和建設性的」稱,例如維港的發展歷史、不同方案的利弊、以及各有關人士的意見;(2) 促使市民、有關人士和團體進行對話和討論,以對維港的未來理想發展達成共識;及(3) 與社區一起以伙伴形式共同進行設計,並且透過這一個合作過程增加市民互信和社會資本,從而加強社會凝聚力。我們深信,香港是一個成熟的社會,而市民也有能力以一個客觀、理性、和互諒互讓的方式,去共同決定維多利亞港將來的發展。

作爲一連串活動的第一炮,我們由 11 月 17 日起開始向市民收集「維港故事 -人與環境的集體回憶」,以喚起市民了解到維港對我們的不可替代的價值,以及作爲將來活動討論的參考資料。。這些回憶以舊相片、有關維港的親身經歷故事、以及對維港印象的感思等形式出現。在短短的 4 天時間之內,我們已收集到 135 份作品,其中包句反映他們感想的片言隻語,也有他們還瀝瀝在目、未有忘懷的自身的故事。

交回作品的市民的背景

該 135 名交回作品的市民,其中四成爲男,而年齡最少的爲 6 歲以下,最年長的則超過 60 歲。

其中值得一提的是,有一份作品是遠自美國加州的,反映了港人雖然身在外,但仍是 心繫維港,亦表明維港對港人來說是何等重要。

性別

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	男	52	38.5	39.1	39.1
	女	81	60.0	60.9	100.0
	Total	133	98.5	100.0	
Missing	System	2	1.5		
Total		135	100.0		

年齡

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	6歲或以下	11	8.1	8.7	8.7
	7-17歲	7	5.2	5.5	14.2
	18-24歳	39	28.9	30.7	44.9
	25-34歳	25	18.5	19.7	64.6
	35-44歳	24	17.8	18.9	83.5
	45-54歳	20	14.8	15.7	99.2
	55-64歳	1	.7	.8	100.0
	Total	127	94.1	100.0	
Missing	System	8	5.9		
Total		135	100.0		

居住地區

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	27	20.0	20.0	20.0
California	1	.7	.7	20.7
九龍城	2	1.5	1.5	22.2
大埔	3	2.2	2.2	24.4
中西區	25	18.5	18.5	43.0
元朗	1	.7	.7	43.7
屯門	4	3.0	3.0	46.7
北區	3	2.2	2.2	48.9
西貢	4	3.0	3.0	51.9
沙田	6	4.4	4.4	56.3
東區	8	5.9	5.9	62.2
油尖旺	2	1.5	1.5	63.7
南區	3	2.2	2.2	65.9
荃灣	3	2.2	2.2	68.1
深水埗	9	6.7	6.7	74.8
黃大仙	2	1.5	1.5	76.3
葵青	7	5.2	5.2	81.5
離島	1	.7	.7	82.2
灣仔	11	8.1	8.1	90.4
觀塘	13	9.6	9.6	100.0
Total	135	100.0	100.0	

感言與故事的分析

在回應的135名市民作品中,117名市民都有精簡的感言,而述說他們自己故事的作品,也有80份。這些作品大致有以下性質:

1. 經濟方面:

究竟維多利亞港對市民來說有甚麼意義呢?不少市民都聯想到經濟方面的發展和 重要性,例如:

代表香港的經濟,香港的形象! 香港的靈魂,香港經濟的源頭,香港的 symbol。 An important asset for Hong Kong. Has contributed to the economy and society of Hong Kong.

其中,有市民也提到香港作爲物流樞紐的重要角色:

代表了「東方之珠」之美喻,珠江三角洲的運輸焦點,香港在東南亞的位置。 香港的一個主要海港,曾是香港能發展的重要原因(深水港),方便轉口貿易。 香港象徵與地標,海上交通運輸樞紐。

2. 環境方面:

當然,維港給香港市民的印象,並非局限於經濟方面。原來維港在環境的角度, 是有一個很根深柢固的形象 — <u>水深港闊</u>:

水深港潤,香港象徵。 香港的一個海港,一個代表。 得天獨厚,兩岸阻擋了風浪,水深能容納大船。

有趣的是,不少市民原來最初是由教科書得到這個印象的:

唸小學的時候,已從社會科目認識到香港的維多利亞港是世界著名的海港,水深廣闊,爲香港帶來了不少的生機。

從小學課堂的社會科,年年都教學生香港發展迅速的理由是香港擁有一個水深廣闊的海港。

但教科書所說的,究竟是不是真的呢?不親眼看見,總教人有所懷疑;一旦看過後,卻更令人<u>不能忘懷</u> — 即使已移居外地:

第一次乘搭天星小輪由九龍至中環,心情既興奮又緊張。當在船上看見維港上的情況,簡直令我嘆爲觀止。

Having traveled more than three hundred countries, areas and islands around the world, I found only Rio Janeiro and Cape Town can match the beauty of Hong Kong from the top of a hill at night.

但好景不常,維港對不少市民來說,卻也是<u>一種遺憾,一種失落,一種無奈</u>,甚至是<u>一種憤慨</u>,爲的是維港的改變:

本是水深港闊多美好,改成水淺港窄太可惜。 未填海前的維港是很大,很漂亮,小魚也很開心,填海後的維港會污濁,而且變得很細,小魚也 不開心。

由水清漸轉污瀆,由廣闊變成狹窄。

Harbour? You are kidding, it is an open water.

而這些*環境上的改變*,更是市民直接感受到的,即使是主觀的感覺:

兒時我從尖沙咀坐天星小輪去中環,覺得對岸中環跟我距離十分遙遠。但現在再從尖沙咀去中環,簡直是非常近,感覺是伸手已觸到,非常感慨。

以前的可以帶備望遠鏡在香港上船,遙望尖沙咀。現在不只因距離太近不需用望遠鏡(尤其是泊船的時候),海港風貌已再不復往,可惜可惜。

以前乘搭渡海輪穿梭維港,感覺非常好,及可順道欣賞對岸景色。因海岸線兩邊收窄,導致海浪加大,坐船時,有量眩的感覺。

維港兩旁每逢假日均有大量市民在垂釣(釣泥),當時的魚穫可供人食用。但到近年,雖然仍有市民在兩旁垂釣,但魚穫並不能食用,我更見過泥魚的肚內充滿白色的小虫,十分恐怖。

3. 社會方面:

維港不單在經濟和環境方面賦予市民特殊的意義和感覺,在社會方面的影響也不少。原來,維港是一個可以*鞏固家庭關係、改善溝通*的地方:

小時候跟父母到九龍,總希望搭搭天星小輪,欣賞兩岸美景,涼涼風,談談笑笑,轉眼間便到了彼岸。

I still remember the days when my pa brought me and my brother to catch ferry to Hong Kong Island. It was a moment when my whole family could really enjoy the harbour, smell it, feel the gentle waves (unlike the very wavy harbour we are seeing) and catch the last part of sunshine.

維港是一個美麗的海港。記得小時候,每年聖誕節,爸爸媽媽都帶我和姊姊到尖東看燈飾。每次我都嚷著要媽媽替我拍照,而背景不是燦爛的燼飾,而是港灣,因爲我覺得夜晚的維港是最漂亮的。海面反映了聖誕燈飾。維港就代表了我和家人的共同回憶。

記得在小時候,我常和家人到銅鑼灣遊風塘乘坐小艇觀賞維港景色。當時還有點唱,小食,水果等,又清涼,又好玩。

對於一些尚未成家立室的市民來說,維港竟也有仿如*姻緣地*的重要地位:

在尖東海旁不難發現一雙一對的老中青的男女。

未結婚前曾和丈夫在這裡看煙花和海景,如果被填海,便少了一個海景,及破壞自然。當年我和男朋友曾經拍拖亦在此地,令我們心情舒暢,減低不少壓力。

在節奏飛快、競爭激烈的香港,維港卻無意中發揮了*治療作用*:

I like to go there with friends, the harbour make me feel relax.

流動的風景,洗滌心靈的地方。

一處令城市人忙碌過後,消閒沉思的好去處。

Victoria Harbour is the source of nourishment, a place for peace of mind and an everlasting part of our memory from generation to generation.

我曾經看過維多利亞況的夜景,覺得很迷人,燈光燦爛。當你望著那些燈光的時候,一切的煩惱 就自自然然全消失。那份感覺很特別,心中好像突然豁然開然開朗,就覺得心中有鬱悶或遭遇挫 折的人,最好去看看我們的維港。

此外,維港也代表了歡樂,笑聲和讚美,更帶來了社會共融:

每次當搭渡船小輪,的時常聽到很多人發出驚嘆的讚美詞。

船聲一響,踏入千禧年,眾人歡呼,我和一班朋友亦歡呼起來。船上有外國人大叫 Happy New Year,更有些外國人在船上周圍跳舞,最高興的是他們竟大開香檳,派給船上各人分享,大家情 緒高漲,不斷歡呼。此刻我覺得將兩個不同種族的人連在一起,大家心連心,展望香港邁向新的 里程。維港 — 確是我們共同的回憶。

維港的使人難忘,在於它豐富的內涵 — 爲香港人帶來多重意義,包括<u>煙花,燈飾</u> 和天星小輪:

看煙花, 坐渡輪。

我愛在維多利亞港看煙花,我不希望海港消失呀!

最深印象的是維港舉行的煙花匯演和燈飾。

說起維港,這一定使我想起煙花。每逢節日和慶典,維港夜都會有五光十色的煙花表演,場面不時傳來嘩嘩聱,更是雷隆巨響。

對不少市民來說,維港的重要意義在於它爲他們帶來了今生*難忘的第一次*:

回想二十多年前,我仍是小學生的時候,一個假期天,姑姐帶著我乘搭渡海小輪往香港島。那時 是我第一次在一個這麼大海港的「懷抱」。清涼的海水隨著小輪的行駛撲鼻而來,姑姐告訴我這 個海港叫「維多利亞港」。

有一次,當女兒只有3歲多時,我們從尖沙咀乘郵艇到南丫島吃海鮮。由於維港的面積越來越小,郵艇在啓航時海浪很大,令船非常不穩。女兒很害怕,並向天父祈禱,使她不要驚慌。這是我第一次見到女兒因困難而懂得向天父祈禱,但也令我深深感受到維港受填海影響很大。 我第一次看見彩虹,就是虚良於維条利亞港中的海海小岭,那一刻乘著微涼的海風,看看淡淡的

我第一次看見彩虹,就是處身於維多利亞港中的渡海小輪,那一刻乘著微涼的海風,看看淡淡的彩虹,感覺著世界美好的其中一面。

第一份工作是需要每天乘天星小輪來往港九兩地,可欣賞到港九兩岸的慢慢轉變。那時渡輪是非常的平穩,但至今而面目全非,可惜可惜。

第一次乘搭天星小輪由九龍至中環,心情既興奮又緊張。

對於不少市民來說,維港也代表了他們身爲香港人的驕傲:

每次乘搭天星小輪從香港島往九龍上班,若遇到遊客,我都感到很驕傲作爲香港人,亦很樂意將 美麗的維港介紹一番。

When I tell something about Hong Kong to my oversea friends, I will mention VH. When I send postcard to my oversea friend, I will choose the image of VH.

維港的夜景,其璀璨的燈飾是從不同建築物去構成美麗的圖畫。本人多番用以向外國人炫耀。因 其他國家城市,人口疏落,實難以構成如此美麗的景色。每當有外國朋友訪港,必定會帶他們欣 賞維港的美景,包括日和夜。

既然有這麼多深刻的感受和經歷,其實市民對維港的整體印象又是甚麼呢?原來,維港首先就代表了<u>香港的歷史、是香港的見證</u>,因爲伴隨著香港市民<u>成長,</u>發展和轉變:

(維港代表了)生活與成長。

維多利亞港好像代表了一個人的生長和發展,隨著歲月流逝,受著身邊環境的轉變和影響。維多利亞港見證了香港的歷史,亦隨著香港的經濟而轉變,就像香港的倒影。

更重要的是,對很多香港人來說,維港根本便等於香港。維港不單是香港的<u>標記</u> 和財富,甚至更是香港的媽媽,守護神,因為維港是香港的根:

代表香港,是香港的中心。 維多利亞港是東方明珠,亦是香港的財富。 香港的靈魂。 香港的像徵,是香港不可缺少的部份。 香港的標誌。

維港像香港人的媽媽,看著每一個人的成長,陪伴著香港人走過每一段快樂和艱苦的日子。維多利亞港是香港的根,它創造港島及九龍沿岸的繁榮景象,象徵香港東方之珠的美譽。

總結

一人有一個維港動人故事。

既然每人的經歷和成長都不同,他們的維港故事都是特殊的。但有甚麼可以將他 們連在一起,共同建構對維港的集體回憶呢?

從以上分析,可以看到他們的感覺都不一樣,但卻也一樣。不一樣的,是每個人的成長軌跡(idiosyncratic trajectory)都或多或少有所不同。但從他們的字裡行間,我們卻又感受到他們是一致的。

這些一致性,在於他們對維港的感情都是那麼真、那麼深、那麼濃、那麼刻骨銘心。回憶時,他們都是那樣愉快、歡樂、滿足,都是那樣滿襟喜悅、恬靜、閒適、興奮。但提到今天,他們卻又是那樣無奈、那樣氣憤,是那樣充滿悲哀、怨懟、憤懣、卻又激情。

這些種種複雜的心情,究其原因,在於維港對他們來說是那麼重要。因爲維多利亞港帶來了他們的回憶、見證了他們的很多第一次、也伴隨著他們成長和發展。維港對他們來說,仿如媽媽和守護神。

但如果沒有維港事件,這種種思緒,卻也可能被忘記了、被營營役役的終身學習 和資源增值淹沒了。市民也會繼續沉默了。

這次的「我們的維港故事——維港印象及集體回憶」活動,正是要重新發掘(rediscovery)維多利亞港的文化意義,讓市民在尋找自身的文化身份和意義方面從新再出發。集體回憶,其實正是集體參與、集體認知、集體反思、集體建構、集體認同、集體行動、集體爭取的起步點。而這,正正是我們終日夢寐以求的社會資本和社會凝聚力的建立。

正如其中一位市民所說:

記得在小時候,我常和家人到銅鑼灣避風塘乘坐小艇觀賞維港景色。當時還有點唱, 小食,水果等,又淸涼,又好玩。另外,記得我和太太拍拖的時候,我們經常到灣仔 碼頭談心,一邊吃小食,一邊看維港兩岸景色。我們還說,他日我們也要帶小朋友到 這裡觀賞這美麗的夜景。可惜,想不到幾年後,一大座會展中心已建在眼前,維港的 景色也比以前窄了不少。

維多利亞港對香港人來說既然如此重要,我們也得要以<u>可持續發展的視角</u>,去保護和珍惜它,使我們的孩子的孩子的孩子,仍然可以享有這自然資產。因為,正如以下市民的心聲,維港給了我們太多,我們是否也應作出回饋呢?

維多利亞港,一個既熟識又陌生的名字。想起她,我有著很多感觸,好令我聯想起人與人之間的關係。她與我們關係密切,但我們又不甚了解,就像我們有時也不甚了解家人

一樣;好對我們是很重要,但我們又不懂珍惜,往往到失去反才懂得後悔;她盡心盡力,爲我們建立基礎、帶來機會,但我們卻忘記回饋,如同我們忘記對父母感恩。我們真的要好好反思,有沒有愛護她,珍惜她,滿以爲理所當然地,一定要她爲我們作出貢獻。來吧!由今天起,好好珍惜我們美麗的海港,多些關心身邊的人,看看自己有沒有遺忘了甚麼吧!

這,正如其中一位市民(女,25-34歲,觀塘區)的感言所說,維港的意義在於:

維多利亞港代表香港,代表市民,代表愛!