

## “Managing Vibrant Streets”

### <<動感街道管理>>

*In a new report being launched 11 April 2018, Civic Exchange calls for the Government to revamp its management of the city’s busy pavement and pedestrian zones.*

#### Today’s Event

11:15 am – Coffee and registration

11:30 am – Opening remarks by Winnie Cheung, Civic Exchange CEO

11:35 am – Overview of “Managing Vibrant Streets” by co-author Carine Lai

11:55 am – “Constraints of Legislation” by co-author Antonio Da Roza, barrister-at-law

12:00 pm – Q&A with the media and audience members

12:30 pm – Photo call

12:40 pm – Panel discussion on “Planning for Vibrancy”

- Jennifer Walker Frisinger, Walk DVRC CEO
- Christopher Law, architect and Civic Exchange Walkability Expert
- Ada Wong, Make a Difference Institute Founder and Director
- Moderator: Michele Weldon, Civic Exchange Programme Director

1:25 pm – Closing remarks by Evan Auyang, Civic Exchange Chairman

#### Today’s Speakers

*(in alphabetical order)*

**Evan Auyang (歐陽杞浚)**, the Chairman of Civic Exchange, is Managing Director and Head of Asia-Pacific for Gerson Lehrman Group (GLG). Mr Auyang is extensively involved with civic work, chambers and NGOs, such as being a Board Member of the American Chamber of Commerce, Executive Committee of Green Monday, Executive Committee of the Young Presidents’ Organization; an Adviser of the Independent Commission Against Corruption; a Convener of Business for Social Good at Our Hong Kong Foundation. Before joining GLG, Mr Auyang was the Deputy Managing Director of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (KMB) and a Board Director of Transport International Holdings Limited, the parent company of KMB. Prior to that, he was an Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company and also worked at Citigroup’s derivatives structuring and marketing unit.

**Winnie Cheung (張智媛)**, the CEO of Civic Exchange, has decades of experience in executive leadership and public policy-making, in addition to a strong interest in well-being and sustainability issues. Ms Cheung was formerly Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, in that capacity, acted as an adviser to government, legislators and decision-makers, and as a pioneer in corporate governance and sustainability development in Hong Kong. After retiring from the HKICPA, she pursued a second career as a psychotherapist with the goal of “helping others live a better life”.

**Antonio Da Roza (羅敬韜)** is a barrister-at-law of 14 years call, practicing primarily in commercial litigation, corporate law advice, and securities regulation. He is published in civil and criminal procedure, financial and companies law, and environmental legislation. His research interests include access to justice, alternative dispute resolution and financial regulation.

**Jennifer Walker Frisinger** is the CEO of Walk DVRC Ltd., a Hong Kong-based NGO with a vision for a more walkable and liveable Central Business District that begins with the revitalization of a decaying Des Voeux Road Central. Ms Frisinger is a product development and marketing professional with 25 years' experience in the financial services and civic sectors of Asia, Europe and North America. She is has worked in public and media relations, branding and event management for such companies as Thomson Reuters, HSBC, Citibank, Mitsubishi and the WYNG Foundation.

**Carine Lai (黎文燕)** is a researcher with a special focus on urban design, the public realm, and open space. She is also a visual artist with an interest in data visualisation. She is currently a project manager at the WYNG Foundation, and was previously a project manager at Civic Exchange from 2012 to 2016.

**Christopher Law (羅健中)** is the Founding Director of the Oval Partnership, an award-winning architectural firm with offices in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, London and Liverpool. Mr Law is a member of several public committees in Hong Kong including the Development Committee of the West Kowloon Cultural District as well as the chief curator and a founder of the community-led public space cultural organisation, Very Hong Kong Foundation, among other projects. He is the co-convenor of Civic Exchange's Walkability Expert Panel.

**Michele Weldon (溫敏萃)**, who first worked with Civic Exchange in 2004, rejoined the organisation in November 2017 as Programme Director. She has more than 20 years of experience in managing development and environmental programs with think-tanks, the private sector, nongovernment organizations, and the United Nations (UN). Prior to joining Civic Exchange, Ms Weldon worked at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines and the UN in India. She has a wide range of experience across many countries, including Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, the Philippines, Thailand, South Africa, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

**Ada Wong (黃英琦)** is the Founder and Director of the Make a Difference Institute, a community-initiated organization which provides a collaborative platform for working across sectors to find innovative solutions to social challenges. As a former Wan Chai District Council Chairperson, she lent her experiences and expertise as an interviewee during the research of "Vibrant Streets." A solicitor, educator, social innovator and civil society figure, she is also the Director of the Hong Kong Institute of Contemporary Culture and Director of The Good Lab.

## Background & Context

The Government announced in February 2018 that HK\$ 8 billion (over US \$ 1 billion) would be spent on improving city's 18 districts, including pedestrian links. This announcement comes at a time of increased attention to pedestrians, and after the launch of a Transport Department Walkability Task Force and walkability-related studies in late 2017. However, Civic Exchange advises that the Government look not only at hardware like overpasses and escalators, but at the "software" of human activity.

One case in point, explored in "Management Vibrant Streets," was a pedestrianisation scheme in Mong Kok which failed in 2013 after mismanagement led to complaints about noise and nuisance. The "Mong Kok example" should be used as a learning opportunity, as Hong Kong pushes ahead on improving street life and the pedestrian experience.

## Six Categories of Activities under “Street Management”



*Political* 政治活動 – Protests and public meetings

*Charitable* 慈善活動 – Authorised actions (like NGO flag days) and unauthorised (begging)

*Servicing* 物流 / 服務性活動 – Parking, deliveries, loading, waste collection and recycling

*Shopfront extension* 店前營業 – Al fresco dining and store product displays

*Itinerant commercial activities* 流動商業活動 – Hawking, salespeople, advertising and touts

*Artistic / recreational* 康樂活動 – Fairs, bazaars, music, dancing, sports and picnicking

### Problems 問題

Silos in Government 政府不同部門各自為政

Misaligned priorities 施政重點不再符合現況

Policies do not facilitate vibrant street use in fair or systematic way 政策無助建構動感街道

Inconsistent and arbitrary rules on the use of Government land for commercial purposes 政府土地商用政策混亂

Outdated legislation that is no longer enforceable or does not fit the current situation 過期法例已與現實脫節

Inefficient and cumbersome bureaucratic procedures 官僚程序繁複兼效率低

### Policy Recommendations 政策建議

Promote joined-up Government 加強協調各個政府部門

Address intra-departmental silos in FEHD 減少食環署內各自為政

Facilitate vibrancy through outdoor dining, shopfront extensions and hawking 店外營業與販賣添動感

Set up a licensing scheme for street performers 訂立街頭表演發牌制度

Set up a registration scheme for commercial promoters 訂立商業推廣登記制度

### Useful Terms 詞彙表

District Council (DC)	區議會
District Management Committees (DMCs)	地區管理委員會
Environmental Protection Department (EPD)	環境保護署(環保署)
Foreign domestic helper (FDH)	外籍家庭傭工(外傭)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)	食物環境衛生署(食環署)
Home Affairs Department (HAD)	民政事務總署(民政署)
Highways Department (HYD)	路政署
Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF)	香港警務處
Lands Department (LandsD)	地政總署
Legislative Council (LegCo)	立法會
Social Welfare Department (SWD)	社會福利署(社署)
Transport Department (TD)	運輸署
Buildings Department (BD)	屋宇署
Placemaking	地方營造
District Officers	民政事務專員

### Relevant Ordinances

Summary Offences Ordinance	《簡易程序治罪條例》
Noise Control Ordinance	《噪音管制條例》
Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance	《公眾衛生及市政條例》