

# Preservation and Revitalisation: Growing Momentum



The tenement houses at No.9-12 Yu Lok Lane will be preserved and revitalised.

The URA is firmly committed to preserving and revitalising buildings, sites, and structures that are of historical, cultural or architectural interest, and that are within the scope of the URA's redevelopment projects, or outside its project site, but are supported by the Government. The intention is also to pursue preservation and revitalisation in a comprehensive, holistic and practical manner.

At present, URA's preservation and revitalisation efforts and plans cover 60 pre-war buildings as well as streets in Hong Kong's urban areas – and the momentum is expected to grow in the year ahead.

## Preserving and revitalising tenement houses on Mallyory Street/Burrows Street

Of the small number of remaining tenement houses in Hong Kong, the ten pre-war buildings that sit on Mallyory Street and Burrows Street, have been classified as Grade 2 historical buildings.

When this project is completed in end 2012/early 2013, it should justifiably take pride of place amongst Hong Kong's preservation projects.

This first pure-preservation and revitalisation project of the URA will not involve any redevelopment elements. It will also be the first URA project that is designed to promote cultural and creative industries.

It is therefore befitting that the Hong Kong Arts Centre (HKAC), in April 2011, was awarded the project's contract as the Main Operator. The HKAC intends to create a 'Comix Home Base' for art exchange and interaction, both locally and overseas.

In the coming year, and based on the HKAC's innovative proposal, the URA will work closely with the Centre to design and create a custom-built environment for Hong Kong's cultural and creative industries.



Mallyory Street tenement houses become a Comic Home Base.



## Central Oasis takes shape

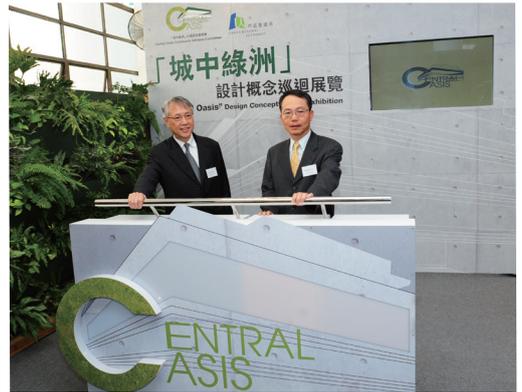
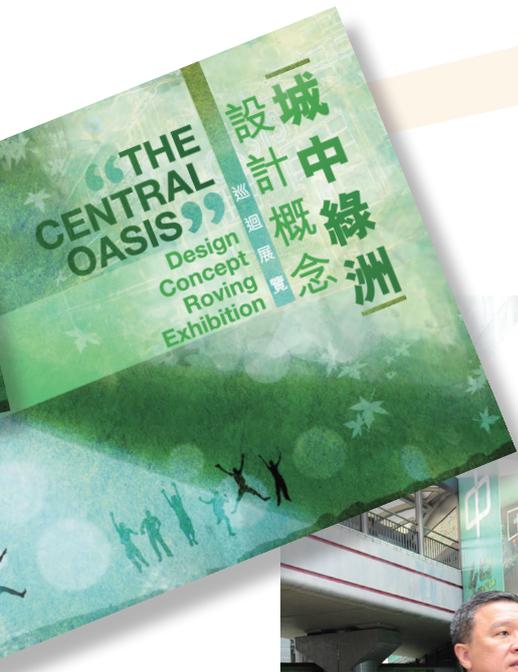
In October 2009, the Government tasked the URA with its largest and most ambitious revitalisation project - to turn the Central Market building into a 'Central Oasis' for green, recreation and leisure use.

A dedicated advisory committee chaired by Professor David Lung, a recognised conservation expert, has been established. In addition to other responsibilities, the committee will advise the URA on the community-engagement process.

The URA has conducted a structural survey to determine, in detail, the condition of the building. We have also, with professional assistance, identified the defining architectural elements of the building. An opinion survey was conducted to find out the public's aspirations for the future 'Central Oasis'. Further reinforcing the engagement process was the staging of a series of roving exhibitions that featured four designs, and conducting a supplementary opinion survey in order to obtain the community's views of the four designs.

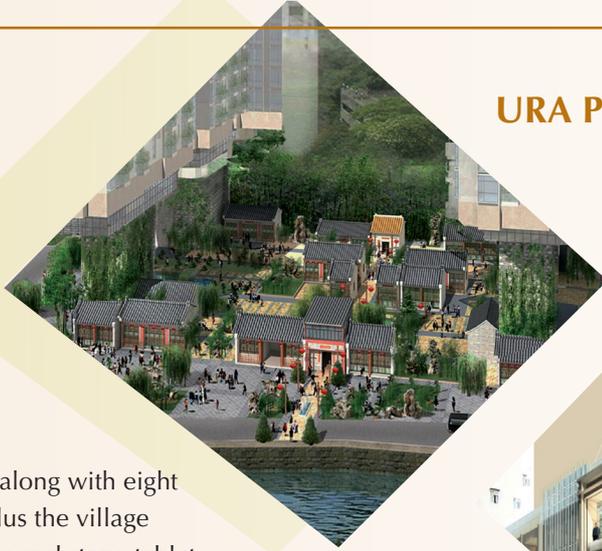


The Central Market building turns into the Central Oasis.



Community engagement process to seek the public's views of the four conceptual designs.

## URA Preservation Initiatives



The Central Axis along with eight village houses, plus the village gatehouse, temple and stone tablet, that fall within the **Nga Tsin Wai Village** project, are to be preserved in a new Conservation Park.



Two clusters of shophouses on **Shanghai Street** and **Prince Edward Road West**, where acquisition is in progress.



Three shophouses that, together with the façade of Wing Woo grocery within the **Peel Street/ Graham Street** project will be preserved.



Five shophouses, which form part of the **Johnston Road** redevelopment project, have been preserved and revitalised, and turned into specialty restaurants.

## URA Revitalisation Initiatives

### Progress in Mong Kok

Five themed streets in Mong Kok have been included in the URA's revitalisation programme.

Refurbishment of the refuse collection point at Flower Market Road commenced in March 2011, while detailed designs for Phase 1 – Flower Market Road and Tung Choi Street – have been submitted to various Government departments for approval.

Improvement works are scheduled to commence towards the end of 2011.



### Tai Kok Tsui street beautification work begins

Construction work for the Tai Kok Tsui roundabout is under way, and scheduled for completion before the end of 2011.

Other works on Beech Street have been completed.

Detailed designs for Phase 3, covering eight streets in Tai Kok Tsui, have been completed and submitted to relevant Government departments for comments. Endorsement from the Yau Tsim Mong District Council was obtained in June 2011.

### Continued vibrancy in Central and Western

#### Peel Street / Graham Street

In order to retain the wet market and its vibrancy – albeit outside the project's boundary, URA decided to carry out works in the site in phases. Wet trade operators have been moved from Site B to the other two sites nearby. A six-week shoppers' reward scheme was organised in December 2010 to promote the market. It resulted in a 10 percent increase in the street market's patronage.



### Pak Tsz Lane Project

Pak Tsz Lane was associated with revolutionary activities in early twentieth century in China. URA decided to revitalise the area and build a theme park to commemorate the history of the area. Construction continued in order to ensure completion of the first phase of the Pak Tsz Lane project, by end of 2011. That year also marks the centenary year of the 1911 Revolution.