



賽馬會齡活城市  
Jockey Club Age-friendly City

# Jockey Club Age-Friendly City Project



## Action Plan EASTERN



Hong Kong Film Archive

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Sau Po Centre on Ageing  
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香港大學  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

# **Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project**

## **Eastern District**

### **Proposed Priority Areas for Further Improvement and 3-Year Action Plan**

**2018 – 2020**

Submitted by  
**Sau Po Centre on Ageing  
The University of Hong Kong**

Initiated and funded by  
**The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust**

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# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1 District and Project Background**

The Eastern District ranks third (with Southern District) among other districts in its percentage of elderly population, with 16.6% of the total district population aged 65 years or above. In collaboration of the District Council, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the commercial sector and local elderly residents, Eastern district has made concerted efforts in promoting the concept of AFC and in improving the community environment in response to changing needs of elderly residents.

NGOs in the Eastern District have actively initiated and implemented a number of district based programs. Such efforts bring older people's view to the community and enhance the level of age-friendliness in the district. The cooperation between the District Council, NGOs, and district residents have laid a solid foundation in facilitating the Eastern district to become more age-friendly.

The Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project aims to move Hong Kong towards becoming an age-friendly city. Based on findings of a baseline assessment in phase 1 of the project, this document outlines the overall strategy and the proposed priority areas for further improvement for the Eastern District to make the district more age-friendly.

## **1.2 Baseline Assessment**

A baseline assessment was completed for the Eastern District in July 2017. Its objective was to understand the needs of the district in preparing itself to become more age-friendly. The baseline assessment consisted of a quantitative (questionnaire survey) study and a qualitative (focus group) study. All participants were recruited from four communities within the district: North Point, Quarry Bay (NQ); Tai Koo (TK); Shau Kei Wan (SKW); and Heng Fa Chuen, Chai Wan (HC).

According to the questionnaire survey, participants perceived the district to be age-friendly in general, particularly in terms of social participation, but least in terms of community support and health services. The sense of community is strong particularly in terms of sense of membership. The older the resident, the stronger the sense of community and perceived age-friendliness. The four sub-district communities differed in their profile of perceived age-friendliness and overall sense of community.

Participants of the focus groups drew attention to (1) physical environment issues: potential risk of the open public space, pavement obstruction, and the challenges in and need for renovation and maintenance of residential buildings; (2) social and cultural environmental issues: reducing in job opportunity; and (3) communication and services issues: the general availability of healthcare services, and long waiting time.

Results from this baseline assessment suggested existing groundwork with a reasonably good sense of community and perceived age-friendliness in the district.

## **2. Overall Strategy**

Future actions for making the district more age-friendly should build on the existing infrastructure and network, including the district's good general sense of community and perceived age-friendliness. They should leverage on the sense of membership and emotional connectedness in the district, strengthen the sense of influence and need fulfilment, and include older adults in the implementation of the Action Plan to be compiled by the DC in consideration of the proposed priority areas for further improvement.

### **3. Proposed Priority Areas for Further Improvement**

Based on the findings from the baseline assessment, we propose and organize priority areas for further improvement around 3 themes, including ‘Physical Environment’, ‘Social and Cultural Environment’, and ‘Communication, Community and Health Services’, covering all 8 domains of World Health Organization’s age-friendly city framework. The theme of “Physical Environment” include areas related to both hardware and software improvements, whereas the other two themes include areas mainly related to software improvements.

### **3.1 Theme 1 – Physical Environment**

#### **Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Improving hygiene of wet markets and streets	The Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC) of the Eastern District Council holds annual meetings with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to discuss ways to improve district hygiene
2. Reducing the uneven bricks and improving the slip resistance of pedestrian walkways in the district	The Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC) of the Eastern District Council has submitted a document urging the department to review the paving and maintenance of pedestrian walkways
3. Strengthening public education and law enforcement to regulate the shop who place merchandise on pedestrian walkway	The Working Group on Environmental Protection, Greening and Street Management of the Eastern District Council will closely monitor the blockage of public space caused by illegal hawking or other sales activities in the district. Possible solution, as well as related publicity and education activities will be discussed and organized
4. Increasing the number of public toilets	The FEHC of the Eastern District Council holds annual meetings with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to discuss ways to improve district hygiene, including the management of public toilets
5. Increasing the number of parks for residents to conduct leisure activities and other exercise in Shau Kei Wan and North Point	The Planning, Works and Housing Committee (PWHC) of the Eastern District Council will follow up the recreational area planning, such as greening work alongside Tung Hei Road
6. Installing elevators for some of the footbridges in North Point to make it more accessible for the older people	The TTC of the Eastern District Council will continue to follow up the progress of the lifts construction of the footbridge across King's road and Tin Chiu street under the "Universal Accessibility Programme"

## Transportation

Improvements	Follow-up by Eastern District Council
1. Increasing the font size of the bus stop timetable, and lowering it to eye level	The Culture, Leisure, Community Building and Services Committee (CLCBSC) of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
2. Increasing law enforcement to reduce illegal parking	The Working Group on Public Transport and Road Safety under TTC will follow up the illegal parking issue and urge related departments to increase law enforcement at the locations concerned
3. Improving the shelter and seats at the bus stop	<p>The Government will subsidise franchised bus companies to install seats at covered bus stops in order to speed up the installation process</p> <p>The Working Group on Public Transport and Road Safety under TTC will follow up with this issue</p>
4. Providing a new bus route from Eastern district to Tung Wah Eastern Hospital directly	NWFB has begun operating the route 8H from July 23, 2017 travelling from Siu Sai Wan to Tung Wah Eastern Hospital. The TTC of the Eastern District Council will monitor the operation of route 8H
5. Improving the awareness of mini bus drivers to drive within the speed limit and only drive when all passengers are seated	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

## Housing

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Increasing support for renovating and maintaining old units, and non-PRH estates	The PWHC of the Eastern District Council will continue to provide advice to relevant government departments on facilities management, maintenance and improvement in public and private housing in the district.
2. Providing leaflets or seminars/talks on home modification to improve their knowledge and access to relevant resources	The Working group on Harbourfront Development and Housing Management under PWHC organizes building management training courses and prepares Eastern District Building Management Newsletter regularly
3. Regulating the subdivided flats, where its safety and hygiene may be subpar	The PWHC of the Eastern District Council will continue to provide advice to relevant government departments on facilities management, maintenance and improvement in public and private housing in the district

## **3.2 Theme 2 – Social and Cultural Environment**

### **Social Participation**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Adjusting some activities for elderly in DECCs and NECs to cater toward an increasingly educated elderly population	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

### **Respect and Social Inclusion**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Promoting actions of respect, particularly courtesy behaviours (e.g. giving priority seats to people in need, be patient towards elderly, and anti-discrimination etc.) on public transportations, in restaurant and shop	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

### **Civic Participation and Employment**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Creating flexible and meaningful job opportunities to older people	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
2. Empowering the older people by providing them with necessary district and contact information for complain and follow up	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

### **3.3 Theme 3 – Communication, Community and Health Services**

#### **Communication and Information**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Improving the reach and exchange of information outside of elderly centres especially for elderly living alone or people living in non PRH	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
2. Exploring the use of digital devices for improving communication among older people in the district	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
3. Providing support for elderly with minimal technological skill to access information	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
4. Cleaning up unattended and old posters and banners to avoid miscommunication	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

#### **Community Support and Health Services**

<b>Improvements</b>	<b>Follow-up by Eastern District Council</b>
1. Enhancing the telephone medical appointment system, or providing sufficient assistance for medical appointment booking	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
2. Improving the availability of subsidised dental services and rehabilitation service in the district, and reducing the price of private dental and specialist service	On 3 July 2017, the Community Care Fund has further extended the "Elderly Dental Assistance Programme" to Old Age Living Allowance's (OALA) recipients aged 70 or above  The District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC) of the Eastern District Council will continue to urge the government to expand the coverage of related services
3. Reducing the waiting time for health services	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

4. Providing large font size and Chinese on medicine packaging	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties
5. Regulating the private medical service providers for not charging higher price for medical voucher users	The CLCBSC of the Eastern District Council will report this to relevant departments and parties

**Note:**

In addition to the above plans, the Hong Kong Jockey Club will contribute HK\$0.5 million annually (a total of \$1.5 million in three years) to subsidize non-government organisations or community groups in the district to enhance the age-friendliness of the Eastern District. It is expected to be implemented within three years from 2018 to 2020.