

# BRE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

## City Problem | Problem City: How the Land Comes/What to do with “Double Aging”



### Speaker:

Mr. Kar Kan LING, SBS

FHKIP, RPP, MHKIUD

PRC Registered Urban Planner Qualification

Professor of Practice (Planning),  
Department of Building & Real Estate,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

### About the Speaker :

Mr. K. K. Ling is a professional town planner with extensive experience including planning for the new airport and the Tung Chung New Town, review of the Town Planning Ordinance, harbor-front planning and development, planning enforcement and prosecution, cross-boundary planning, and planning for new development areas.

He is Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Planners (FHKIP) and Registered Professional Planner (RPP), with the People's Republic of China Registered Urban Planner Qualification and Member of Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design. He was the President of HKIP from 2007 to 2009.

After retiring from the post of Director of Planning in November 2016, he was appointed as Professor of Practice (Planning), Honorary Professor and Adjunct Professor by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, respectively.

### About the Lecture:

Hong Kong's strategic land reserve no doubt rested in the vast brownfield sites in the New Territories and potential reclamations from the sea. The Government proposed four New Development Areas as well as the North New Territories New Town which cover altogether more than 600 ha of brownfield sites. The Tung Chung New Town Expansion and the proposed East Lantau Metropolis consist of reclamations respectively in the size of 120 ha and 400 to 700 ha. The **CITY PROBLEM** is perhaps not “where”, but “how” such sheer size of land can come for development.

The problem of aging population has already caught the attention of our city, but less is the problem of aging housing stock. Compared with today, percentage of 85+ elderlies in our population will increase from 2.2% by about 5 times to 10.1% in 2064, whilst private housing units aged 70 years or above will increase by 300 times to 326,000 units in 2046. The combined impact of this “double-aging” trend on our city is not only unprecedented in our experience but perhaps unique in the world. This is one of the most difficult challenges that we must overcome in the coming decades to avoid Hong Kong becoming a **PROBLEM CITY**.

Innovative institutional arrangement and technical solutions must be worked out to turn challenges into opportunities for making Hong Kong a better place for our people. Endowed with strong research capacity, universities are obliged to contribute. The city is our laboratory. These challenges will provide academia in various disciplines under the umbrella of *urban sciences* with unique opportunities for world-class research.



**Date**  
2 November 2017 (Thursday)

**Time**  
6:30pm – 8:00pm  
(Registration from 6:00pm)

**Venue**  
Z209, 2/F, Block Z, Phase 8,  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic  
University, Hung Hom,  
Kowloon

**Medium**  
English

**Fee**  
Free of Charge

*All interested are welcome.*

For details and reservation, please visit

