

A Summary of the DAB Election Platform

Reform, Seek Changes for the Future

Election Platform for the 2021 Legislative Council General Election

October 29, 2021

Hong Kong has always been a unique, blessed place.

With our motherland as leverage, our fronts facing the world, a unique blend of East meets West

and the advantages of "One Country, Two Systems", Hong Kong enjoys unlimited opportunities.

Hong Kong is a place that breeds talented individuals who are resilient, adaptable, perseverant

and diligent. They are constantly making breakthroughs and creating countless legendary exploits.

However, we also face many challenges.

Society was torn apart by the black riots, ravaged by the epidemic, and the economy suffered as

chronic, deep-seated problems remained unresolved.

The global political scene faces upheaval. Western hegemony has blocked the country's

development and continues to undermine One Country, Two Systems.

Today, Hong Kong must rise and fall with our nation. We must share weal and woe, strive to

safeguard national sovereignty, security and development interests, and contribute to the country's

prosperity and national rejuvenation.

Hong Kong must start anew and revitalise itself.

The DAB is fully behind Hong Kong's innovation and change.

Innovation and change allow society to adjust its thinking, think outside the box and solve

problems.

Innovation and change will allow governance to become people-oriented, fair and just, allowing

people to live and work in peace.

Innovation and change will allow Hong Kong to seize opportunities, integrate into the country

and accelerate development.

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The DAB has stayed consistent through it all, remaining loyal to the country and Hong Kong while upholding One Country, Two Systems.

Even in the face of attacks and repeated slander, the DAB remains steadfast and adheres to its principles.

It's all because we are rooted in the community, care deeply about the people, and work sincerely for the good of Hong Kong.

Please support the DAB! Innovate and pursue change for the future!

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To promote Hong Kong's reform and change, the DAB believes it is imperative to defend the hard-won stability. It would help improve governance efficiency and allow the government to focus on solving the population's most pressing concerns, such as housing, helping the underprivileged, and medical issues. By responding to people's most urgent needs, the government can blaze a new economic trail and help the youth spread their wings to accelerate long-term development. And by improving transportation, making the city greener and solving community problems, the government can create a more liveable city. As such, the DAB submits the following proposals and requests:

1. Establish a national identity, safeguard stability and security

Objectives: Pass on Chinese culture, deepen understanding of the country, improve the legal framework, and ensure the safety and stability of the nation and Hong Kong

- Deepen understanding of Chinese culture, by providing clear policy support and making good
 use of existing government and social resources to facilitate the widespread promotion of
 Chinese culture among all sectors. Fully integrate Chinese culture into all stages of education
 and life.
- 2. Set up a Museum of Modern Chinese History to raise the public's understanding of the nation and strengthen the publicity of Hong Kong's anti-Japanese heroic deeds.
- 3. Complete the enactment of Article 23 of the Basic Law. Urge the current administration to complete the legislative work of Article 23.
- 4. Enact the "Online Fake News Law" to combat false online information.
- 5. Increase the preparedness of police officers and strengthen their armament to enhance the efficiency of the police force in combating crimes and triads. That also raises the force's ability to maintain national security, social and public order.

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2. Reform the bureaucratic structure to improve governance effectiveness

Objectives: Build an efficient and responsible administration that possesses a macro view of society

- 1. Set up a policy development and reform team to strengthen the connection between Hong Kong and the country's policy-planning organisations, conduct in-depth and thorough policy research, and make recommendations on various significant issues related to Hong Kong.
- 2. Establish a Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau to shape a better Chinese narrative. Elevate the population's cultural and artistic sensibilities, improve the general level of health, and promote the development of related industries.
- 3. Restructure the bureaus responsible for land and housing to improve the efficiency and accountability of decision-making on land and housing supply
- 4. Develop a strict set of key performance indicators (KPI) for political appointees to objectively evaluate their performance and improve the quality of governance.
- 5. Provide institutionalised support for political appointees' transitioning and comprehensive induction training for their successors.

3. Focusing on land reform to achieve housing for all

Objectives: Accomplish the promised three-year wait for public housing, assist young families in becoming homeowners and bidding farewell to subdivided housing

- 1. Build more public housing. Fulfil the target of a three-year wait for public housing and increase the supply of Home Ownership Scheme ("HOS") flats to 15,000 units per year. Increase homeownership opportunities by trailing the "New Home Ownership Scheme" through the pre-sale of HOS flats in New Territories North.
- 2. Increase the short-term supply of land for public housing. Expand the proportion of residential land in developing areas, increase the plot ratio, and actively use the "Lands Resumption Ordinance" to increase the land supply for public housing in the short term.

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- 3. "Bid Farewell to subdivided homes" with policies. Increase the supply of transitional housing to between 30,000 and 50,000 units, promptly research and set guidelines for initial rent, and formulate basic housing requirements for subdivided units.
- 4. Reduce the burden on genuine first-time homebuyers. Fully exempt stamp duty on residential properties for first-time homebuyers with the price capped at 8 million dollars to reduce the cost of purchasing a property.
- 5. Set a limit on the minimum area of private units. The Buildings Department should stop approving building plans for private residential units with a useable area of less than 200 square feet.

4. Integrate into the national development plan and create a new economic outlook

Objectives: Resume quarantine-free travel with the Mainland as soon as possible, make good use of Hong Kong's advantages to become a super-connector between the nation and the world

- 1. Resume quarantine-free travel with the Mainland as soon as possible. Actively follow up and urge the government to implement anti-pandemic measures recommended by mainland experts promptly; proactively increase the vaccination rate in Hong Kong to facilitate the resumption of quarantine-free travel with the Mainland and Macau as soon as possible.
- 2. Improve the services of HKSARG offices in the Mainland. Allow non-civil servants to serve in the five official roles at the government offices in the Mainland. Set up liaison offices in all nine mainland cities in the Greater Bay Area to strengthen communication and cooperation with the mainland government and increase support for Hong Kong residents and enterprises stationed in the Mainland.
- 3. Promote New Territories North to become a new development centre. Turn New Territories North into a new innovation-driven hub based on a general cross-border planning concept to connect with the Greater Gay Area knowledge base and innovation industries. Form a "Finance down South, Innovation and Technology up North" structure with the traditional financial district of Central. Implement a comprehensive transport network that connects the Hong Kong and Shenzhen railway network and simplify clearance procedures.

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- 4. Promote Hong Kong as a global innovation and technology powerhouse. Set a target for Hong Kong's manufacturing industry based on the percentage of the GDP it occupies. Move high-tech manufacturing facilities to Tuen Mun or Hung Shui Kiu and strengthen the training of talents for Industry 4.0.
- 5. Strengthen Hong Kong's competitiveness in the Asian market. Strive to join the "Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership" (RCEP) as soon as possible to open up new opportunities for trade and investment for Hong Kong companies in the Asia-Pacific region, including emerging markets such as Japan and South Korea.

5. Invest in people's livelihood and support disadvantaged groups

Objectives: Promote cross-border welfare to provide support to those in need

- 1. Improve services for the elderly. Establish "Residential Care Homes for the Elderly Development Fund" to upgrade the facilities and quality of service of private residential care homes for the elderly. Look into extending the application scope of certain subsidies to local elderly residents, such as medical and care home vouchers, to all suitable medical and elderly care organisations in the Greater Bay Area.
- 2. Set up a "caregiver allowance system". The government, professional organisations and caregivers shall make a personalised service agreement. Caregivers shall provide caregiving services according to the agreement to receive a monthly allowance.
- 3. Improve waiting times at residential care homes for persons with disabilities and special needs. Set a reasonable waiting time for residential care homes for persons with disabilities and special needs. Provide more places at care homes by constructing more subsidised care homes, cooperating with private care homes to buy places, and encouraging the expansion of land earmarked for social welfare purposes. Let disability allowances be portable cross-border.
- 4. Enact laws to protect children. Enact laws to protect children's psychological and mental health, and ensure those who cause psychological or mental harm to children bear criminal responsibility.

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5. Strengthen support for ethnic minorities. Set up an alternative Chinese course and open examination for non-Chinese speaking students. Strengthen support for ethnic minorities' jobseeking efforts and translation services, which allows them to seek public services such as medical and legal services more effectively.

6. Reform medical services to relieve patients' distress

Objectives: Reform the medical system to solve chronic issues of long waiting time, expensive medicine, and difficulty in acquiring cross-border services

- 1. Increase the supply of medical staff. Implement special arrangements to register non-locally trained doctors as soon as possible, improve the Hospital Authority's Special Retired and Rehire Scheme, and look into constructing a third local medical school.
- 2. Designate an official definition for "rare diseases". Set an official definition for "rare diseases", include expensive drugs for rare diseases and cancers in the drug roster, and lower the threshold for inclusion.
- 3. Take part in the Mainland's collective procurement system. Take part in the collective procurement system for drugs and high-value medical consumables in the Mainland as soon as possible to drastically reduce related expenses through large purchases.
- 4. Establish a reimbursement mechanism for medical expenses. Using local hospitals' per capita subsidy ratio as a foundation, coordinate with other Greater Bay Area cities to establish a medical expense reimbursement mechanism. It allows Hong Kong residents to enjoy the same benefits in designated high-quality hospitals in the GBA.
- 5. Enhance public Traditional Chinese Medicine services. Increase the daily service quotas of public TCM clinics and set an appropriate salary scale for TCM doctors in the public sector.

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7. Help young people to spread their wings and develop holistically

Objectives: Educate the young so that they are loyal to the country, allow them to develop their bodies and minds to pursue their dreams fully

- Promote Chinese culture in education. Based on phased learning and step-by-step teaching
 principles, integrate the Chinese culture's "Five Ways of Life" into the system, comprising
 moral, intellectual, physical, social and aesthetic education. Deepen young people's
 understanding of our nation's modern history and its anti-Japanese exploits to strengthen
 national identity.
- Establish a dual vocational training system. Refer to Germany's experience with its dual vocational training system and encourage colleges to cooperate with enterprises to provide similar training programmes.
- 3. Help schools organise "life planning" courses. Provide schools with support and contacts; make arrangements to allow students to meet successful people from different industries. Make arrangements for students to visit or intern at enterprises during holidays via cooperation between the Labour Department and Education Bureau. Students may better understand the job market from experience and could plan their lives and career direction better.
- 4. Relax the prerequisites for the "Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme" to allow graduates with associate degrees and higher diplomas and current university students to apply.
- 5. Launch the "New Home Ownership Scheme". Give young people an extra opportunity to become homeowners by pre-selling flats in more recently completed housing projects in areas such as New Territories North at a lower price than other HOS flats.

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8. Improve transportation facilities to reduce people's fare burden

Objectives: Introduce new traffic management concepts and develop a green, smart, convenient and affordable transportation system

- 1. Introduce a "flexible time-varying toll system", where tolls vary according to how busy the tunnels are, to encourage drivers to use tunnels during off-peak hours.
- 2. Improve the park-and-ride management strategy. Build large-scale park-and-ride complexes at major transportation hubs, improve the environment at interchange stations and increase routes and the frequency of public transportation to entice drivers to take public transport, hence alleviating congestion.
- 3. Formulate policies for green public transportation, including constructing a light railway in the Kai Tak New Development Area and adjacent areas, and the Fanling North, Kwu Tung North and Ping Che new development areas.
- 4. Revise the MTR fare adjustment mechanism. Add a "profit index" to the fare adjustment equation to adjust fares according to the MTRC's profitability and reduce the pressure of fare hikes.
- 5. Increase transportation subsidy. Gradually remove the "Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme" subsidy threshold and increase the subsidy amount to \$600.

9. Build vibrant green city that has a rich culture

Objectives: To energize the people, build more green infrastructure, cultivate cultured atmosphere, and enrich the city's rich culture.

- Increase support for athletes. Allocate additional resources to professionalise athlete training
 and strengthen support for active and retired athletes for further studies and career
 opportunities.
- 2. Increase the number of sports venues. Complete construction of the 26 projects in the "Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities" as soon as possible, combat the problem of "touting", and solve existing difficulties in public sports venue reservation.
- 3. Promote comprehensive carbon neutralisation strategies and actions;

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- 4. Promote food donation work. Authorities should refer to foreign practices and make it mandatory for supermarkets that exceed a certain size to enter into donation agreements with food banks. Enact the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to exempt food donors from legal liabilities.
- 5. Establish a regional cultural and artistic resource centre to promote and educate the public about local traditional festivals and customs. Encourage the training of new creative talents, provide more space for community activities, and support community efforts to conserve and promote the unique cultures of different districts.

10. Solve problems in the community and put people first

Objectives: Introduce an accountability system at the district level to solve chronic problems in the community.

- 1. Include district officers in the accountability system to strengthen the connection between the central and district offices and to form a more comprehensive and grounded management team.
- 2. Reassign waste collection work. Unify the waste collection and management tasks currently shared by the Environmental Protection Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. The government should reassign the waste collection work so that the Environmental Protection Department handles all waste collection. Set up a special team to deal with illegal disposal of construction waste and WEEE waste.
- 3. Strengthen pest control work in the community by stepping up community cleaning, using rodent control promptly according to the rodent situation. Formulate an integrated strategy for mosquito management, set up an index on the "midges", and strengthen relevant publicity and education.
- 4. Improve the environment of public markets. Speed up the installation of air-conditioning systems in old public markets, improve management, solve the problems of "old, wet and dirty" in public markets, and establish new public markets in suitable locations to meet the shopping needs of the public.

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5. Increase support for building maintenance work. Establish a "Building Maintenance Department" to provide advice and support to residents on building maintenance matters and supervise the quality of building services. Also, set up a "Building Affairs Tribunal" to resolve issues such as building management disputes being too lengthy or legal costs too expensive.

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