Public Opinion Programme (POP)
The University of Hong Kong

3.23 Civil Referendum Project

Activity Report

23 May 2012

Content

Acknowledgment

Public Opinion Programme at the University of Hong Kong (POP) would like to take this opportunity to thank more than 220,000 citizens who casted their votes in the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project". Each voter, no matter voting onsite or offsite and regardless of their voting options, means a lot to us.

Then, We would then like to thank each citizen who has ever donated to the "Civil Referendum" and made it happen and a success. Each and every cent from citizens means great encouragement to us.

We would also like to thank the staff who have been in charge of the polling stations, civil servants who have helped maintaining order, all kinds of volunteers, anonymous citizens who have cheered for us as well as the Hong Kong citizens who have put words into actions with great patience and showing civil wisdom during the two days of voting.

Effort made by each individual organization and member of the "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" is the key to success of this project. We sincerely thank them for their selflessness and will continue to adopt the principle of "what is taken from the society will be used on the society" to work hand in hand with public members and local organizations in promoting a "civil initiative, civil participation" event mode and improving the civil referendum mechanism.

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1   Objectives

As an independent academic institution, POP has been working hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum.

POP held a press conference and announced on February 8 its intention to organize a "civil referendum" on March 23, 2012 to echo with the fourth Chief Executive election on March 25. POP hoped to let the general public vote in the civil referendum to express their support towards different candidates. The "civil referendum" has three objectives, namely: 1) to provide a multi-dimensional reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system.

POP held again another press conference on February 23 and officially announced the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" would be carried out as planned.

2   Initial Design of the Activity

2.1   Operation plan of "3.23 Civil Referendum"

"3.23 Civil Referendum" targeted at Hong Kong permanent residents aged 18 or above on the voting day. They could cast electronic votes by two means on March 23.

2.1.1 Offsite e-voting

From 00:00 to 20:00 on the voting day, citizens could log onto the PopVote website (http://popvote.hk), key in one's HKID card number and cell phone number which could be used to send SMS, and then send an SMS to the telephone number prompted by the system using one's registered cell phone, and enter the voting interface.

Citizens using smart phones could download the "PopVote" application and use this app to vote.

2.1.2 Onsite e-voting

Citizens could go in person to the polling stations designated by POP with their HKID cards from 09:00 to 21:00 on the voting day. They could vote in independent voting areas within polling stations right after the verification and input of their HKID card numbers by station workers.

2.1.3 Voting options

This "civil referendum" allowed the general public to express their support towards different candidates of the fourth Chief Executive Election. Hence, the list of Chief Executive candidates and their numbers were shown in order in the voting interface according to those publicized by the government, namely No.1 Leung Chun-ying, No.2 Albert Ho Chun-yan and No.3 Henry Tang Ying-yen.

Citizens might be unfamiliar with the system and thereby submit their votes mistakenly before making their choices. To prevent this, POP added an unnumbered option "abstention" in the voting interface, to include "blank votes" in physical voting. In other words, there were in total 4 options on a ballot: No.1 Leung Chun-ying, No.2 Albert Ho Chun-yan, No.3 Henry Tang Ying-yen and abstention.

2.1.4 Repeated voting

Same as the aforementioned, citizens had to submit their HKID card numbers and cell phone numbers when voting online. The system would display the message "duplicated vote" if citizens, after successful voting, tried again to enter the HKID card number or cell phone number used for voting (even when pairing up with a new HKID card number or cell phone number). In other words, a HKID card number or cell phone number which had been used for online voting could never be used again to vote online.

However, even when the HKID card number had been used for online voting, citizens could still vote in polling stations with this HKID card number. After the verification process done by workers to prove that citizens were the identity card holders, even though the system indicated that the HKID card number had already been used for offsite voting, citizens could still vote again in polling stations, the voting record in polling stations would then replace the previous online voting record and become the final choice. On the contrary, if citizens first voted in polling stations, they could not use the same HKID card number to vote again online.

2.2   Handling and protection of personal particulars

In order to enhance the uniqueness of voters' identities and the fairness of the results, POP required citizens voting online or via Smartphone App to key in their HKID card numbers in full and mobile phone numbers which could be used to send SMS.

The system adopted the following measures to protect all personal information submitted through e-voting:

- When inputting data, a virtual keyboard must be used to prevent data from being stolen;
- Data would not be displayed on screens as normal characters to prevent third party from viewing;
- The website had obtained the Hong Kong Post e-Cert in order to prevent from being counterfeited and would ensure the data had been encrypted while processing so that it would not be stolen or changed during its transfer;
- Upon receiving the encrypted information, the system would convert the HKID card numbers in full and cell phone numbers into a chain of irreversible Hash Code for storage, so as to protect one's privacy and prevent repeated voting;

- The Hash Code used was SHA-512 of the U.S. Federal Information Processing Standard to ensure that no one (including POP workers) could revert the codes to the original word strings;
- All processed data would be stored in the central server, the computer would not store any individuals' personal data;
- All personal particulars would be completely destroyed after the activity

2.3   Security of the voting system

The whole system was equipped with 4 servers, including 2 cloud servers and 2 physical servers. These 4 servers were all stored in HKU campus and protected by the security facilities of HKU Computer Centre. The external network of HKU was equipped with "Firewall" and "Intrusion Prevention System", which played a significant role in the security of this activity.

The initial plan was to install an additional cloud firewall in the system for multiple protections, and on March 21, when the second phase of testing commenced, PopVote website stopped overseas access by adjusting the setting of the cloud firewall. Yet, on March 21, POP discovered that the cloud firewall provider carried out maintenance work and hence did not provide service for POP's servers. On the same day, HKU Computer Centre found out that POP's servers received abnormal data transfer. Therefore, POP referred the problem to the network service provider which dealt with the blocking measures. As a result, the abnormal data transfer on March 21 was successfully blocked but the cloud firewall adopted in the initial plan was forced to halt.

The system used Linux platform, the firewall of the platform only opened relevant ports for websites to connect.

The electronic voting system of physical polling stations was installed with a logon mechanism, workers must log in with the ID and password prescribed by POP. Starting from March 21, POP gave out testing accounts to workers. All testing accounts were terminated at 23:59 on March 22. The ID and password of the voting day were given to station officers by POP, and were given to and used by station workers to log onto the electronic voting system only right before the polling stations started running.

All systems, including that of online voting, Smartphone App and polling stations, used SSL connection to ensure the data was encrypted during its transfer.

3   Pre-event Preparation

3.1   Starting the fund raising

POP held a press conference on February 8 to announce its plan to launch the "Civil Referendum Project" which would be held on March 23. During the press conference, Director of POP Robert Chung explained the aims of the project, fund raising goals and the related arrangements.

This is a self-financed project and POP will follow the guidelines laid down by the University of Hong Kong in accepting donations. Donors can choose to be named or remain "anonymous". Information collected would not be used for other purpose and would not be disclosed to any third party.

POP committed to publish a financial report to account for the funding sources and usage of the money raised a month later (April 23).

POP held again a press conference on February 23 to announce the donation raised had preliminarily reached the target and its decision to go ahead with the "Civil Referendum Project" as planned.

POP also announced its decision to run a "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" on March 21 in primary and secondary schools, in order to let the underage experiment onsite e-voting at their schools, and learn and experience civil enagagement (please see chapter 3.4 for more details).

3.2   Looking for polling stations

3.2.1 Formal polling stations

According to the fund raising goals set by POP, "Civil Referendum" would set up 1 to 5 polling stations around Hong Kong. POP would manage these polling stations, and deploy staff to organize and provide support. POP later named these polling stations as "formal polling stations".

Procedures involved for booking a site were complicated, take applying from government departments as an example, one has to first call up individual site to make sure it has not been booked on that day, then apply in written form and wait for a period of time before receiving an official reply.

In light of this, POP has started, at the same time when the fund raising commenced, to liaise with the Home Affairs Department, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, as well as local organizations and educational organizations in booking their sites for whole day on March 23 as polling stations.

However, due to reasons such as scheduling and the size of site, most organizations cannot provide us with their premises. POP has finally succeeded in renting two sites.

3.2.1.1 Tuen Mun Town Hall

POP submitted application to the Tuen Mun Town Hall on February 21 to book their exhibition gallery on the first floor and received their approval on March 2.

3.2.1.2 Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan

POP submitted application to the managerial department of Y-Square (Y2) on March 7 to book their semi-open area "Y-Platform" as a polling station. The managerial department replied officially on March 15 agreeing to lease the site to POP.

3.2.1.3 Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU)

With the help of the voluntary convenor of "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" (please see chapter 3.3.1 for more details), Dr. Fernando Cheung, POP has successfully borrowed the lecture room GH 201 at PolyU for free as a polling station on March 23.

3.2.2 Subsidiary polling stations

After the establishment of the "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups", many local organizations had contacted POP via the Alliance expressing their interest in lending their sites as polling stations. Although these sites may not have reached POP's initial standards in terms of their schedule or size, POP accepted these sites as subsidiary polling stations on March 23 taking into account the advantages of increasing polling stations which were more accessible to citizens.

These stations were managed by relevant organizations, POP has only dispatched limited number of staff for support.

3.2.3 Mobile polling stations

POP has hired a few mini vans as mobile polling stations stationing in places with higher foot travel. Each van has one voting machine only in order to let citizens vote under an environment of no disturbance and with privacy being well protected.

3.3 Recruiting volunteers

Since POP announced its plan in rolling out the "Civil Referendum", many citizens and organizations have contacted POP showing their interest to help organize the "Civil Referendum". Due to enthusiastic responses, POP has reached out these individuals and organizations before officially announced to go ahead with the "Civil Referendum".

3.3.1 Establishing the Alliance

With the help of the Centre for Social Policy Studies at the PolyU, POP staff went to PolyU on February 15 to meet with related persons in charge of the University and local organizations.

During the meeting, all organizations agreed to establish the "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" in order to facilitate the work on the day of the "Civil Referendum", whereas Dr. Fernando Cheung from the Centre for Social Policy Studies agreed to be the voluntary convener of the Alliance.

Besides, Dr. Cheung has helped POP to recruit a full-time Project Executive to coordinate and liaise with different non-governmental organizations and student organizations, and become the contact person of the event of March 23.

3.3.2 Volunteer briefing

POP held a volunteer briefing on March 19 at PolyU. POP staff has explained the "Civil Referendum" background and objectives, the design of the voting system as well as assigned posts to volunteers and briefed in detail the jobs of different volunteers.

3.4 "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project"

POP held a press conference on February 23 to explain in detail the "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" ("Mock Civil Referendum").

The target group of the "Mock Civil Referendum" was all primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong. Schools could first logon to the "PopVote" platform on March 21, using registered computers and students entered full ID card number with the assistance of teachers and students to cast their own votes. (For details please refer to the press release on February 23, listed in the appendix).

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (BGCA) started the "Youngsters vote for the next CE" project in 2011 year-end, targeting youngsters aged from 12-21. This project has initiated opinion polls on youngsters for four months starting from December 2011 to March 2012 and releasing the poll results on a regular basis. The project also let youngsters to vote for their next Chief Executive in service centres under BGCA and over 100 secondary schools using paper ballots on March 21.

BGCA contacted POP when they learnt that POP would hold the "Mock Civil Referendum". After discussion, the two parties agreed to co-host each other's event but would not interrupt with the adoptation of paper/electronic ballots to cast votes. The number of votes of the two activities would be aggregated together and would be announced by BGCA in their press conference on March 22.

3.5   Promotion

3.5.1 PopVote website

POP built the "PopVote" website (http://popvote.hk) in order to let citizens to get information related to the "Civil Referendum" and they have to logon to this website in order to vote on the event day.

3.5.2 Facebook page

POP has set up a "3.23 Civil Referendum FB official page" on Facebook and the page was managed by students from PolyU, who were also members of the "Alliance". The official page answered queries from citizens in timely manner and released information on "Civil Referendum", which has worked well with POP's design of the e-voting system.

3.5.3 Voting demonstration video clips

Members of the "Alliance", also students from the University of Hong Kong and PolyU, has made 3 promotion clips for the "Civil Referendum" introducing the aim of the project and demonstrating the voting process. POP has uploaded the links of the 3 video clips onto PopVote website (http://popvote.hk) in March.

Citizens can log onto Youtube to view these 3 video clips, their links are as follows:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLWNsF6DM8s

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yXlmkMUCww

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMlb8cggzFQ

3.5.4 Other resources

POP has made banners, flyers and poster stands used in different polling stations on the day of "Civil Referendum". Please refer to the appendix for the sample of these promotion materials

3.6   Test for voting system

3.6.1 Online voting system for public testing

POP has conducted two phases of public testing of the online voting system, aiming at letting the general public familiarize with the system before casting their votes on March 23.

The first phase was conducted between from March 16 to 20, the general public could enter the system and cast their votes once per hour.

The second phase was conducted on March 21, the general public could only cast their votes once throughout the whole phase, repeated attempts of voting would be rejected by the system and the platform would show it was repeated voting, just in exactly the same way as it would happen on the actual voting day.

Results of both tests have been destroyed before the actual vote on March 23 and were not calculated in the official results.

The voting system itself did not have any serious problems during both testing phases, yet in the second testing phase, the system had recorded unusual data transfer (Please see chapter 2.3 for more details)

3.6.2 "Mock Civil Referendum"

Besides the above mentioned objectives, to POP, the "Mock Civil Referendum" also served as a testing of the onsite e-voting system.

The system generally did not show any problems except a few schools having some technical problems (for example, did not know the login procedures)

Results of the 12 secondary schools and 5 primary schools on the voting day were: Candidate No. 1 Leung Chun-ying with 1,633 votes, Candidate No. 2 Albert Ho Chun-yan with 937 votes and Candidate No. 3 Henry Tang Ying-yen with 1,282 votes, the vote for abstention was 1,830.

4   Record of the Event Days

4.1   Online voting officially commenced

Online voting, through the Internet and smart phones (iOS and Android systems), commenced officially at 00:00 on March 23.

The system was adjusted instantly from 01:00 to 01:45 owing to the network traffic problem. Up till 07:00 of the same day, POP received 13,682 electronic votes (accounting for 10% of the total online and Smartphone App votes).

Every 15 minutes, the system would display the number of online and Smartphone App voters in the website.

4.2   Online voting system malfunctioned

Starting from 07:00 on March 23, the system became sluggish and voters could not successfully log onto the website or carry out SMS verification. Since the online voting system was stored in the cloud server, POP at once contacted the staff of HKU Computer Centre responsible for security work, network and server, hoping that the staff could aid and ensure the normal functioning of the entire voting system. Meanwhile, POP continued to look into and try to tackle the problems occurred to the system, discovering that the system was not overloaded yet could not be repaired.

Attempts to repair include:

- Optimize the system, erase web data irrelevant to the voting function, try to reduce the burden of the system;
- Slow down the SMS verification process, reduce the use of system resources;
- Check the setting of the firewall, tighten the connection limit;
- Examine the system's record, attempt to seek out the root cause of the problem;
- Examine the system's source code to ensure no error;
- Rent four more cloud servers to prepare for immediate reallocation.

Security experts were invited and they came to the spot at 17:00 on that day. After spending 4 hours, the system was successfully stabilized at 21:00.

4.3 Voting system of polling stations failed to function normally

The voting system of polling stations was placed in POP office and never disclosed to the public. At 08:00 on that day, station workers discovered that the system failed to connect or went off and on continuously. At that time, the following factors were suspected:

- The website address was complicated, station workers typed the incorrect website address;
- Mobile network devices were used in polling stations, thus the reception might not be good and connection was slow;
- The problem of the firewall's setting, which inhibited external networks from entering;
- The system was under unknown attacks, which hampered its smooth functioning.

In order to avoid the influence of unknown factors, POP contacted all station helpers right away, collected their mobile or fixed lines' IP Addresses, and immediately modified the firewall to only permit these IP Addresses to access POP's servers. Although the problem was alleviated, the time was already about 11:00. Most polling stations had already stopped running, and the polling station in PolyU switched to paper ballot voting temporarily to ease the crowd following the advice of Dr. Fernando Cheung, the convenor of "Alliance of 3.23. Civil Referendum Support Groups".

4.4 Press conference at noon

In view of the seriousness of the problem, and upon knowing from the enquiry hotline and polling stations that there were numerous enthusiastic intended voters, POP decided to hold a press conference at noon, to inform the media of the latest situation of the polling website, and how polling stations would aid citizens to vote.

4.4.1 The decision to switch to paper ballot voting

At the press conference, Dr. Robert Chung, the director of POP, stated that the voting system received a huge amount of abnormal clicks, which paralyzed the network and therefore citizens could not enter the system and vote.

He also explained at the press conference that polling stations would switch to paper ballot voting since the afternoon, until the electronic system recovered. The steps to vote were: the voter first wrote clearly on a piece of paper his/her voting option, put the paper in an envelope and sealed it, then wrote his/her HKID card number on the envelope, which was to be put in the ballot box by himself/herself after being verified by workers.

As the ballots and envelopes with HKID card numbers would be handled separately during the vote counting process, any person dealing with the votes would not be able to match voters' HKID card numbers to their voting options. Concerning the issue of privacy, POP believed that between safeguarding voters' privacy and enabling more citizens to vote, one could at best try to strike a balance. Besides, as long as voters understood the operation and its risks, whether to accept or not was dependent upon their own will.

4.5   Voting time was extended by one day

After POP announced at the press conference the decision to switch to paper ballot voting, polling stations assembled resources as soon as possible and reopened in the afternoon. Yet, because of citizens' active participation, there were long queues in polling stations and some intending voters had to wait for over an hour. POP thus decided to extend the voting time by one day, and this arrangement was announced to the media in the early evening.

4.5.1 Addition and subtraction of polling stations

At 22:00 on March 23, POP held a press conference again and announced that the voting time on March 24 would be from 09:00 to 16:00.

The three formal polling stations would continue to open while only the assembly hall at Sassoon Road, HKU would remain as a subsidiary polling station. Other polling stations could not be leased for one more day due to, reasons like scheduling problem, but seven other subsidiary polling stations were newly added.

POP also decided to add one more mobile voting vehicle to be stationed near Kam Sheung Road MTR station.

4.6   Voting on the second day

"Civil Referendum" continued in the morning on March 24. The discipline of polling stations was fairly good. As the number of volunteers who were willing to help was more than that of the first day, POP also printed standard paper ballots, and the time spent on dealing with paper ballots was shortened comparing with that of the first day.

Regarding online voting, the system was basically mended. Although at times one might not be able to logon, it was only due to general network congestion.

Polling stations also resumed e-voting. Some citizens were particularly interested in this novel voting mode.

Most polling stations disallowed the incoming of voters at 16:00. Since the amount of intending voters was especially large in certain polling stations, station officers exercised discretion as they saw fit, there were polling stations which extended the cut-off time to 17:00. Voting ended in all polling stations before 18:00 and ballots were sent to POP office for vote counting. Offsite online voting also ended simultaneously.

4.7   Report of polling stations

The following lists some statistics of polling stations during the two voting days.

4.7.1 Formal polling stations

4.7.1.1 Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Venue: Hong Kong Polytechnic University (GH201)
Opening hours: 09:00 to 21:00 (March 23)   09:00 to 16:30 (March 24)
Number of workers: Around 30 (March 23)   Around 50 (March 24)
Number of votes: Around 7,000 (March 23, mostly paper ballots)   Around 10,000 (March 24, all paper ballots)
Remark: Thanks to the support from Prof. Fernando Cheung and Prof. Chung Kim-wah of PolyU's Social Work Department and other teachers and students, it was the polling station with the highest number of voters

4.7.1.2 Tuen Mun Town Hall

Venue: Tuen Mun Town Hall (the exhibition gallery, 1/F)
Opening hours: 09:30 to 21:00 (March 23)   09:00 to 16:00 (March 24)
Number of workers: Around 15 (March 23)   Around 30 (March 24)
Number of votes: Around 4,000 (March 23, all paper ballots)   Around 6,000 (March 24, mostly paper ballots)

4.7.1.3 Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan

Venue: Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan (exhibition platform)
Opening hours: 09:00 to 21:00 (March 23)   09:00 to 16:30 (March 24)
Number of workers: Around 15 (March 23)   Around 20 (March 24)
Number of votes: About 3,000 (March 23, mostly paper ballots)   About 5,000 (March 23, mostly paper ballots)

4.7.2 Subsidiary polling stations

Venues: March 23 HKU: Assembly Hall at Sassoon Road, Ho Tim Hall, Main Campus Hong Kong Federation of the Blind Silence Association Hong Kong Association of the Deaf March 24 Assembly Hall at Sassoon Road, HKU Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union Causeway Bay Service Centre Gallery Exit, Central Rat's Cave, Sheung Wan HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity Shanghai Street Artspace Community Second Hand Store Mapopo Community Farm
Opening hours: 09:00 to 21:00 (March 23)   09:00 to 16:00 (March 24)
Number of workers: About 100 in total for two days
Number of votes: About 20,000 in total for two days (mostly   paper ballots)

4.7.3 Mobile polling stations

Venues: March 23 Kowloon West (near Golden Computer Arcade, Sham Shui Po) New Territories East (near Tai Wai MTR station) New Territories East (near Sheung Shui MTR station) New Territories West (near Yuen Long Pau Cheung Fong Square) New Territories West (near CitiStore, Shiu Wo Street and Lo Tak Court, Tsuen Wan) March 24 Kowloon West (Near Golden Computer Arcade, Sham Shui Po) New Territories East (Near Tai Wai MTR station) New Territories East (Near Sheung Shui MTR station) New Territories West (Near Yuen Long Pau Cheung Fong Square) New Territories West (Near Kam Sheung Road MTR station) New Territories West (Near CitiStore, Shiu Wo Street and Lo Tak Court, Tsuen Wan)
Opening hours: 09:00 to 21:00 (March 23) 09:00 to 16:00 (March 24)
Number of workers: About 100 in total for two days
Number of votes: About 20, 000 in total for two days (mostly paper ballots)

4.8 POP office

From March 23 to March 24, POP office gathered around 10 volunteers and POP staff to answer citizens' telephone enquiries.

On March 23 at night, these volunteers and POP staff were responsible for contacting intending volunteers who offered to be station helpers on March 24, so as to confirm the division of labour on the following day.

The several press conferences held by POP took place in the POP office. When the voting ended, POP office switched to serve as the vote counting centre.

5   Vote Counting & Result Release

5.1   Initial plan of vote counting procedures

The initial plan of "3.23 Civil Referendum" was to solely adopt electronic voting, meaning that all voting records, be they from polling stations, online system or Smartphone App, should be stored in POP's servers.

In terms of design, this vote counting method was the most simple and direct. It was at the same time the most efficient and accurate way. Otherwise stated, POP only had to issue some simple computer instructions regarding all the voting records in its servers after the voting. The "vote counting" process would be accomplished and the result could be released.

Nevertheless, as POP decided to simultaneously adopt paper and pen voting after the online voting system had been attacked, this complicated and prolonged the whole vote counting process, no longer just a few computer instructions.

5.2   Vote counting process commenced

In fact, the most meticulous vote counting method was to likewise use computers to enter the votes because this could guarantee that all verification procedures in design would not be missed out.

After POP received about 12,000 votes on March 23, we already planned how to count these paper ballots.

In the afternoon of March 24, POP decided to first employ the computer system to count votes for trial. Yet, after testing for two hours in 3 small groups, it was discovered that the computer could only handle around 500 votes, which was undeniably distant from the 12,000 votes received on March 23.

Since it was anticipated that there were few tens of thousands of votes to be handled on March 24, relying only on this process would be hardly possible to accomplish the counting process before March 25. In light of this, starting from 14:00 on March 24, POP decided to switch to manual vote counting solely and gave up on computer counting.

5.3   Privacy concern when counting paper ballots

For paper and pen voting, since POP required voters to write down their HKID card numbers on the envelopes for verification, each paper ballot recorded not merely a voter's chosen option but also his/her HKID information.

Therefore, when conducting manual counting for paper ballots, POP paid special attention to the issue of privacy.

To make sure that all voting records and voters' identities could not be matched, POP required strictly a vote counter to take out paper ballots and pass them to the remaining vote counters right away after opening the envelopes. Hence, during the vote counting process, all vote counters were unable to match voters' identities.

5.4   The entire vote counting process

The following briefly illustrates the procedures of manual counting adopted by POP:

- Enter HKID card numbers on the received envelopes in the computer for verification, including to confirm voters' HKID card numbers and record the total sum of duplicated votes;
- After verification, all paper ballots would be put in different voting boxes;
- One vote counter would separate HKID card numbers from paper ballots in accordance with the above procedure;
- Upon receiving paper ballots, other vote counters would categorize them according to the choices indicated into four options, namely No.1 candidate, No. 2 candidate, No. 3 candidate and abstention.
- To speed up the vote counting process, five vote counters would form a group and be responsible for counting paper ballots in one voting box each time.

POP completed the vote counting process for the first polling box at around 16:00. At that moment, there were around 20 workers in charge of vote counting. However, there was a considerable amount of volunteers coming to POP headquarter to help with vote counting. Up till 19:00, the number of vote counters increased to 50 and it reached its climax at around 21:00 when there were nearly 100 volunteers.

With the efforts of almost 100 volunteers who were divided into around 20 groups of vote counters, POP successfully counted 48 boxes of paper ballots in total, amounting to about 60,000 votes, and publicized the result at 00:00 on March 25.

5.5   Result release

To conclude the result of "3.23 Civil Referendum", the number of citizens supporting C.Y. Leung was 39,614, accounting for 18%; the number of citizens supporting Albert Ho Chun-yan was 25,452, accounting for 11% whereas Henry Tang Ying-yen was supported by 36, 226 voters, taking up 16%, the number of voters choosing abstention was 121,580, which accounted for 55% (please refer to the press release on March 24 and its appendices for more details).

6   Post-event Follow up

6.1   Evaluation meeting of the Alliance

The "Alliance" has gathered polling station officers and volunteers from three different types of polling stations, POP staff, POP Director Dr. Robert Chung and the convenor of the Alliance Dr. Fernando Cheung to hold an evaluation meeting on March 28.

Participants of the meeting has concluded much experience and made some recommendations. Lastly, all participants agreed to suspend the operation of the "Alliance" and if in future there are any events similar to the "Civil Referendum", they would consider establishing a new "Alliance of Civil Referendum Support Groups".

6.2   Dealing with personal data

POP has destroyed all personal information collected during the "3.23 Civil Referendum" project, including all HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers, in electronic and paper format in late March. POP also released a press release on April 3 informing the public (Please see the appendix):

In terms of electronic format, POP has completely destroyed all personal data collected in electronic format from all the polling stations, internet platform and mobile applications which included citizens' HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers on March 28. Moreover, since the system has converted all HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers upon registration into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage and such information has been completely destroyed, hence, the privacy of all registered citizens has been well protected.

In terms of paper format, POP has entrusted the "Secure Information Disposal Services Limited" on March 30 to completely destroy all personal data collected from the polling stations during the event which included all envelopes with HKID card numbers as well as the paper ballots casted. The whole transfer and destruction process was closely monitored and photographed by POP staff ensuring all information was completely destroyed.

During the preparation of the project, POP has written to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, Hong Kong (The Office) for record in explaining how to collect and handle citizens' personal data.

6.3 The financial report/ usage of the surplus

POP released on schedule the financial report of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" on April 23, which has accounted the total amount of donations and the amount and source of each donation. The report has also accounted in detail the expenditure of the whole project.

Part of the surplus of the project will be used to publish a book to record and commemorate the civil referendum and a digital archive (Please see chapter 6.4 and 6.5 for more details). Another part of the surplus will be used to develop various online platforms.

6.4 Commemoration book

During the evaluation meeting with the Alliance on March 28, POP Director Dr. Robert Chung thought that due to citizens' enthusiastic response, it is worthwhile to document this "Civil Referendum Project" by means of words and thus suggested publishing a commemoration book. Participants of the meeting, such as students from Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the voluntary convenor Dr. Fernando Cheung, agreed with the suggestion and decided to let members of the Alliance to establish an editorial board responsible for editorial work. POP also agreed to assign HKD 50,000 from the surplus of "Civil Referendum" as the editorial funding of the commemoration book, it is anticipated to be published in early July, 2012.

6.5 Digital archive

POP also arranged to assign HKD 25,000 from the surplus of the "Civil Referendum" to establish a "digital archive" for this event, that is, to document the whole process in electronic format and upload it to the internet for public access.

7   Evaluation and Recommendation

7.1   The idea and experiment of the "Civil Referendum Project itself has a history of more than 20 years. However, POP's involvement over the years has been consulting and experimenting in nature. The research report entitled "Referendums Around the World and Lessons for Hong Kong" released in February 2005 was mainly based on theoretical discussion. It could be said as unprecedented for POP to fully plan and lead the civil society in conducting the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project". Therefore, a lot of the problems faced could be said as unexpected.

7.2   The initial idea of the project was to mainly use "offsite e-voting" and supplemented with "onsite e-voting". As for the number of votes, we would regard the project as successful with 50,000 votes and as the highest ideal with 100,000 votes whereas the limit of the e-voting system was 200,000 votes. As a result, the number of successful votes has exceeded 220,000, and for those who have tried to vote but failed was estimated to be around 200,000. Therefore, due to various reasons, the main problem lied on the fact that the system was unable to deal with the voting flow. In future, if POP will host similar "civil referendum" projects again, we will set the benchmark at 200,000 votes, regard 500,000 votes as the highest ideal and 1,000,000 votes as the limit of the system. With economies of scale and existing investment made, the amount of resources input should be doubled.

7.3   The obstacles of the project include insufficient preparation time and promotion, not enough manpower, lack of volunteer training as well as shortage of polling stations and unclear directions to polling stations, etc. If there are enough resources and longer preparation time in future, it should not be a big problem.

7.4   However, regarding the security issues of the computer system, given the level of electronic technology as well as the international network environment nowadays, it is almost impossible to completely resist hackers' invasion. Learning the lesson from this project, if POP plans to host similar events in future, we will mobilize experts from local Information Technology field in advance to help build a security system and plan ahead the deployment of security work. In fact, POP has started to liaise with IT experts after the project, adopting the principle of "what is taken from the society will be used on the society" to develop an online voting system together.

7.5   Since it is almost impossible to completely resist the invasion of hackers, POP has adopted other measures in parallel with the building and consolidating of the system's security in order to prevent problems evoked by the paralysis of the electronic system.

First, POP will prepare paper ballots for emergency use. Next, POP will formulate and publicize a "back up paper ballot system", just in case. This system most likely will include the following: 1) Paper voting can be done in simple mode when the e-voting system is undergoing severe traffic jam or even in complete paralysis yet can still be used for identity verification. 2) Paper voting will be done according to a more complicated procedure, including sealed ballots, when the e-voting system comes to a complete paralysis.

7.6   Since some citizens are still not familiar with e-voting or have no confidence in it, POP may consider providing simple "paper ballot system" for citizens to opt for even when the e-voting system runs very smoothly However, the identity verification process will still be conducted using the electronic system, with the help of staff or have them in charge. In fact, the present design of the system allows citizens to have longer time to vote at the polling station onsite to overwrite the possible incorrect record of "offsite voting". Such design should be kept in the short run. In other words, onsite polling stations should be kept.

7.7   Regarding the design of the "offsite voting system" this time, including online voting and using mobile phone application for voting, POP believes that it should be kept but with appropriate adjustments to be made in order to increase its efficiency. As for the offsite voting verification process, including SMS verification, POP believes it could be continued. As long as the network is smooth and voters understand the reasons behind, it should not be of a big problem. There have been opinions that POP should not announce the details of the electronic voting system and should not use the real voting site for public testing because this would have helped hackers to plan for the attack. POP believes that to announce its design is to gather ideas for brainstorming and has been the usual practice of POP. POP will insist in using the "sunshine policy", to exert positive power.

7.8   POP believes that the system of civil referendum is not a private property. When POP initiated the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project", the principle of "what is taken from the society will be used on the society" was adopted right from the start. First of all, we let citizens decide whether the project should be carried out by calling for public donations, then, we took the advice of different individuals (including students) to let public members and organizations to handle the promotion and coordination. The success of this event was totally because of "civil initiative, civil participation" and hence the massive response. This experience and this persistence should be the best guidance for the planning of future projects.

Appendix 1
Press releases

February 8

HKUPOP rolls out the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

Press Release   February 8, 2012

HKUPOP rolls out the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Website: http://popvote.hk

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong held a press conference on February 8, 2012 (Wednesday) to announce its plan to launch the "Civil Referendum Project" which could be held on March 23, 2012 (Friday). During the press conference, Director of POP Robert Chung explained the aims of the project, fund raising goals and the related arrangements while IT Manager Jazz Ma explained the operation concepts and other technical arrangements.

Background and Objectives

As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum. POP plans to hold a "civil referendum" on March 23, 2012 to echo with the fourth Chief Executive election to be held on March 25. POP hopes to let the general public vote via the civil referendum in order to express their support towards different candidates. The "civil referendum" has three objectives, namely: 1) to integrate with the results of public opinion surveys to form a comprehensive reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system.

"Although the civil referendum does not have legal status, and will not be carried out as strictly as official voting, if the civil referendum can be conducted fairly and independently, and the number of votes count up to five digits, then it will have very high reference value," says Robert Chung.

Operation Plan

The proposed timelines of "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" are as follows:

February 8	Fund raising begins
February 23	Report on the fund raising progress and finalize the project scale
early March	Mock voting and system testing
March 21 (tbc)	"School Mock Voting" (details to be confirmed, depends on fund raising progress)
March 23	**Civil Referendum, results to be announced on the same night**
April 23	Financial report to be released

POP plans to use an onsite-offsite parallel mode of voting and welcomes any <u>Hong Kong permanent residents aged 18 or above</u> on the voting day to vote via either one of the following methods: (see Annex 1 for details)

Offsite e-polling	Onsite polling
Voting time: 0000 to 2000 on 3.23	Voting time: 0900 to 2100 on 3.23
Website: PopVote (http://popvote.hk)	Number of polling stations and venue: (tbc)
Information for verification: Identity Card Number in full of the voter and a cell phone number which can be used to send SMS	Information for verification: Identity Card

Note: see Annex 2 for initial layout of station

Smartphone App Voting
The voting time and process will be the same as the offsite e-polling but for those using Smartphone App voting, they must download the PopVote application first. Details will be confirmed.

Fund Raising Goals and Arrangement

The "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" is a self-financed project and POP will follow the guidelines laid down by the University of Hong Kong in accepting donations. Donors can choose to be named or remain "anonymous" but their names and contact information must be supplied to POP for follow up. Information collected will not be used for other purpose and will not be disclosed to any third party. POP will publish a financial report to account for the funding sources and usage of the money raised. The initial fund raising goals are as follows:

■ For HKD 500,000 raised, there will be an **offsite voting system** and **1 onsite polling station**

■ For HKD 600,000 raised, there will be up to **3 onsite polling stations**

■ For HKD 700,000 raised, there will be up to **5 onsite polling stations**

■ For HKD 800,000 raised, there will be an extra "School Mock Voting" system constructed

■ If over HKD 800,000 is raised, the surplus will be used to develop online platforms and other civil referendum projects

-End-

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Karie Pang Tel：XXXX-XXXX	

Annex 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
PUBLIC OPINION PROGRAMME
"3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Outline

(1) "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" shall adopt an onsite-offsite parallel mode voting system described as follows:

- Offsite e-polling at self-selected computer terminals or mobile devices will take place on 2012.3.23 from 0000 to 2000.

- Onsite e-polling at polling station(s) will take place on 2012.3.23 from 0900 to 2100 at specific polling station(s).

(2) For offsite e-polling using self-selected computer terminals or mobile devices, the following procedures shall apply:

- An intending voter clicks on a designated webpage, declares oneself to be a Hong Kong permanent resident over 18 years of age, then keys in one's HKID number in full, and a cell phone number which can be used to send SMS.

- The HKID number will then be converted by the system into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage, in order to protect one's privacy, and to prevent repeated voting. The system will then show a telephone number for verification. The intending voter must then send a blank SMS within one minute using one's registered cell phone to the telephone number prompted by the system.

- Upon receiving the blank SMS, the system will open a voting interface for the person to vote. In case the person's HKID number or cell phone number has already been used, the system will not open the voting interface.

(3) For onsite e-polling at polling station(s), the following procedures shall apply:

- An intending voter shows one's HKID card to a polling station worker. The worker will check that the person is a Hong Kong permanent resident over 18 years of age.

- The worker will key in the person's HKID number in full. The system will then convert the number into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage, in order to protect one's privacy, and to prevent repeated voting.

- In case the person's HKID number has already been used in onsite e-polling, the person would not be allowed to vote.

- In case the person's HKID number has already been used in offsite e-polling, the person would be allowed to vote, but would also be informed that the previous offsite e-polling record would be disqualified.

(4) After the close of poll, the system will locate and delete disqualified votes due to duplicated HKID numbers. It will then calculate and display the polling results, as well as the number of such disqualified votes. All personal information would then be permanently erased. No people or group, including civil referendum project sponsors will obtain any information other than those already published.

Annex 2

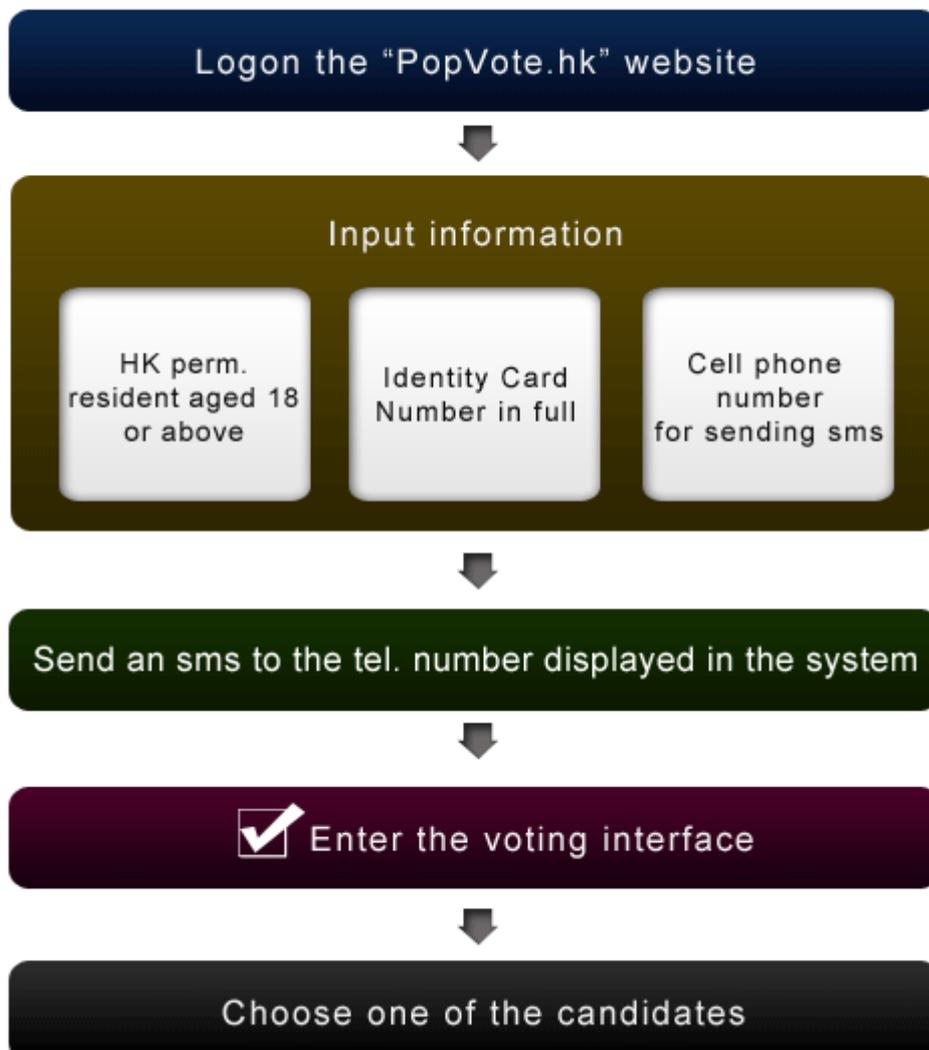## "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Operation Plan

Offsite e-polling

Voting time: 0000 to 2000

Website: PopVote (http://popvote.hk)

Information for verification: Identity Card Number in full of the voter and a cell phone number which can be used to send SMS

Voting procedures：

1) Intending voters must logon the PopVote website (http://popvote.hk)

2) Declares oneself to be a Hong Kong permanent resident over 18 years of age, then keys in one's HKID number in full, and a cell phone number which can be used to send SMS

3) The intending voter must then send a blank or worded SMS within one minute using one's registered cell phone to the telephone number prompted by the system

4) Upon receiving the blank or worded SMS, the system will open a voting interface for the person to vote. In case the person's HKID number or cell phone number has already been used, the system will not open the voting interface

5) The voter can choose one of the candidates or to abstain from voting under his/her own will within 3 minutes and then send out the e-voting form

Data protection measures:

1) The HKID number in full will then be converted by the system into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage, in order to protect one's privacy, and to prevent repeated voting

2) The website has obtained the Hong Kong Post e-Cert in order to prevent from being counterfeited and will ensure the data is encrypted while processing

3) The system of the registration computer will be equipped with a virtual keyboard to prevent data from being stolen

4) Since no data will be stored in the computer, if one left the voting interface before completing the voting process, the intending voter will have to repeat all steps

5) All processed data will be stored in the central server, the computer will not store any individuals' data
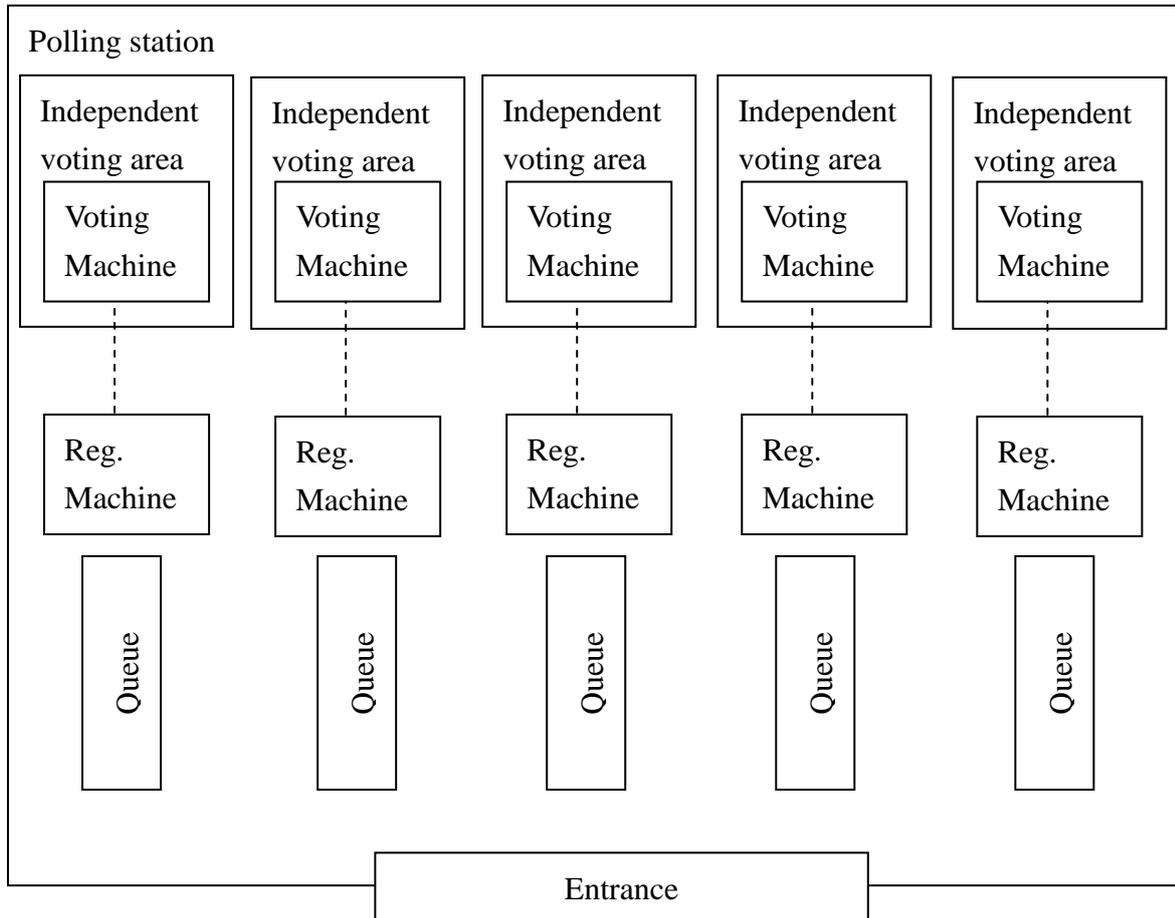
Smartphone App Voting

The voting time and process will be the same as the offsite e-polling but for those using Smartphone App voting must download the PopVote app.

Design of the onsite polling station

Initial layout of the polling station:

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┌────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│ Polling station                                                              │
│ ┌──────────────┐ ┌──────────────┐ ┌──────────────┐ ┌──────────────┐ ┌──────────────┐ │
│ │ Independent  │ │ Independent  │ │ Independent  │ │ Independent  │ │ Independent  │ │
│ │ voting area  │ │ voting area  │ │ voting area  │ │ voting area  │ │ voting area  │ │
│ │ ┌──────────┐ │ │ ┌──────────┐ │ │ ┌──────────┐ │ │ ┌──────────┐ │ │ ┌──────────┐ │ │
│ │ │ Voting   │ │ │ │ Voting   │ │ │ │ Voting   │ │ │ │ Voting   │ │ │ │ Voting   │ │ │
│ │ │ Machine  │ │ │ │ Machine  │ │ │ │ Machine  │ │ │ │ Machine  │ │ │ │ Machine  │ │ │
│ │ └──────────┘ │ │ └──────────┘ │ │ └──────────┘ │ │ └──────────┘ │ │ └──────────┘ │ │
│ └──────────────┘ └──────────────┘ └──────────────┘ └──────────────┘ └──────────────┘ │
│ ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     │
│ │ Reg.     │     │ Reg.     │     │ Reg.     │     │ Reg.     │     │ Reg.     │     │
│ │ Machine  │     │ Machine  │     │ Machine  │     │ Machine  │     │ Machine  │     │
│ └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     │
│ ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     ┌──────────┐     │
│ │  Queue   │     │  Queue   │     │  Queue   │     │  Queue   │     │  Queue   │     │
│ └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     └──────────┘     │
│                        ┌──────────────────────────┐                          │
│                        │        Entrance          │                          │
│                        └──────────────────────────┘                          │
└────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
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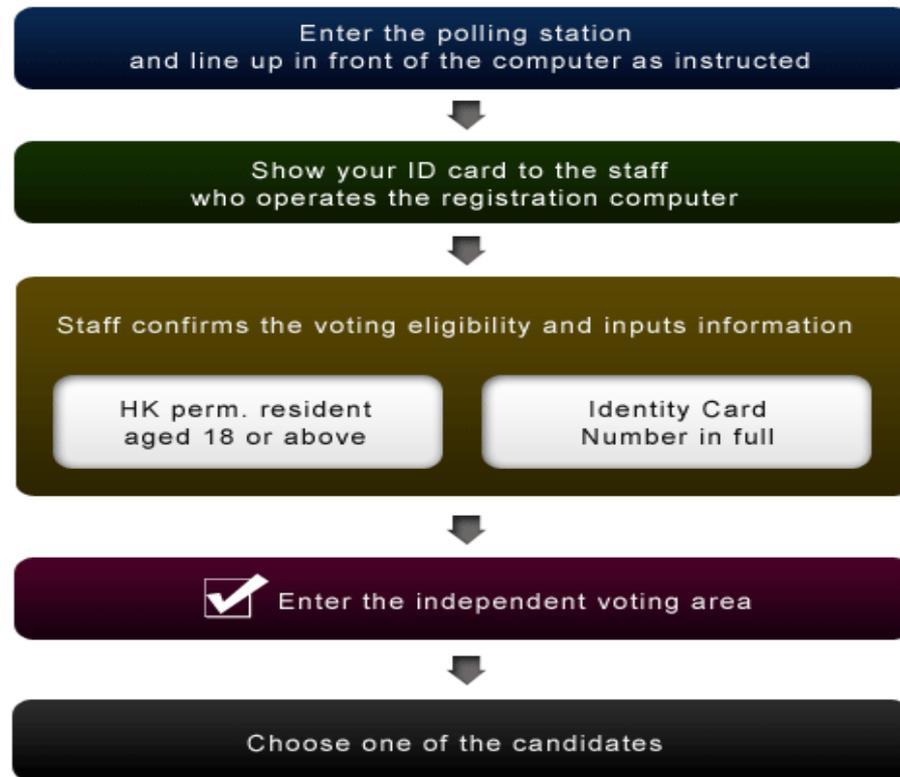
Voting time: 0900 to 2100

Number of computers: Around 10

Polling station staff: Around 12

Number of polling stations and venue: tbc

Information for verification: Identity Card

Onsite e-polling Process

Enter the polling station
and line up in front of the computer as instructed

Show your ID card to the staff
who operates the registration computer

Staff confirms the voting eligibility and inputs information

HK perm. resident
aged 18 or above

Identity Card
Number in full

☑ Enter the independent voting area

Choose one of the candidates

Voting Procedures：
1) Enter the polling station and line up in front of the computer as instructed
2) Show your ID card to the staff who operates the registration computer
3) Staff confirms the voting eligibility and inputs the Identity Card Number in full and then arranges the voter to designated independent voting area
4) After entering the voting area, the voting computer will be automatically switched on without requesting to input any personal information. The voter has to choose one of the candidates or to abstain from voting under his/her own will within 3 minutes and then send out the e-voting form
5) There will be staff near the voting area to help those who encountered problems during the voting

Data protection measures:
1) High privacy independent voting area will be adopted so that voters will not be interfered while voting
2) Staff will only input voter's Identity Card Number into the voting system
3) The HKID number in full will then be converted by the system into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage, in order to protect one's privacy, and to prevent repeated voting
4) The system of registration computer will be equipped with a virtual keyboard to prevent data from being stolen
5) The website has obtained the Hong Kong Post e-Cert in order to prevent from being counterfeited and will ensure the data will be encrypted while processing
6) All processed data will be stored in the central server, the computer will not store any individuals' data

February 16

Fund raising situation of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

2012 年 2 月 16 日　公告　Public Annoucement on February 16, 2012

「3.23 民間全民投票計劃」籌款狀況
Fund raising situation of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
http://popvote.hk

香港大學民意研究計劃（民研計劃）於 2012 年 2 月 8 日正式開展「3.23 民間全民投票計劃」籌款工作。民研計劃本著「取之社會、用之社會」的原則，會小心處理一分一毫的捐款，並會採取「陽光政策」，適時公佈募捐情況和財政狀況。本公告可以視為第一次中期報告。

The Public Opinion Prgramme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong rolled out its "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" fund-raising campaign on February 8, 2012. Under the principle of "what is taken from the society will be used on the society", POP will handle every cent received cautiously, and will also adopt a "sunshine policy" in publicizing its fund-raising progress and financial conditions. This public annoucement can be regarded as our first interim report.

截至 2012 年 2 月 16 日正午　As of noon time on February 16, 2012

承諾募捐人數（包括 143 位「無名氏」，但撤除 1 個可疑個案） Number of pledged donors (including 143 anonymous donors, but excluding 1 skeptical case)	327
已經募捐人數（包括 51 位「無名氏」） Number of actual donors (including 51 anonymous donors)	131
承諾募捐金額總數 Amount of donations pledged	HK$345,645
初步確認金額總數 Amount of donations initially verified	HK$119,004
募捐金額平均數（以初步確認者計） Average amount per actual donor	HK$908
募捐金額中位數（以初步確認者計） Median value of actual donations	HK$300
募捐金額眾數（以初步確認者計） Mode value of actual donations	HK$100

February 23

HKUPOP goes ahead with the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

HKUPOP goes ahead with the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Website: http://popvote.hk

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong held a press conference on February 23, 2012 (Thursday) to announce its decision to go ahead with the "Civil Referendum Project" which could be held on March 23, 2012 (Friday), in order to let people express their support towards different candidates of the fourth Chief Executive election, by means of onsite and offsite electronic voting. POP has also decided to run a "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" on March 21, 2012 (Wednesday) in primary and secondary schools, in order to let the underage practice online electronic voting at their schools. During the press conference, Director of POP Robert Chung explained fund raising situation of the project, and the activity schedule, while IT Manager of POP Jazz Ma explained the operation concepts and other technical arrangements.

Objectives

As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum. To echo with the fourth Chief Executive election to be held on March 25, the "civil referendum" of March 23 has three objective:

1) to provide a multi-dimensional reference for the public and the election committee
2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation
3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system

Fund Raising Situation (as of noon time on February 23, 2012)

Number of pledged donors (including 206 anonymous donors, but excluding 1 skeptical case)	454
Number of actual donors (including 90 anonymous donors)	235
Amount of donation pledged	HK$577,678
Amount of donations initially verified	HK$482,338
Average amount per actual donor	HK$2,053
Median value of actual donations	HK$400
Mode value of actual donations	HK$100

Activity Schedule (preliminary)

February 8	Fund raising begins
February 23	Fixing the scale of the project
March 1	Fixing the extent of civic participation
March 16	Fixing the number and location of polling stations for 3.23
March 21	3.21 Mock Civil Referendum: Onsite e-voting only for primary and secondary schools Pilot offsite e-voting for the general public: Results would not be released
March 23	3.23 Civil Referendum, results to be announced on the same night
April 23	Financial report to be released

Ballot Design

The electronic ballot for both the "3.23 Civil Referendum" and the "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" will contain all official candidates of the CE election, plus "abstention". In paper ballots, "blank" or invalid votes can be regarded as "abstention", but in electronic voting, non-submission is normally not registered, so an extra option of "abstention" is offered. It would be counted and reported exactly like other options.

Operation Plan for "3.23 Civil Referendum"

Offsite e-polling	Onsite polling
Voting time: 0000 to 2000 on 3.23	Voting time: 0900 to 2100 on 3.23
Website: PopVote (http://popvote.hk)	Number of polling stations and venue: (tbc)
Information for verification: Identity Card Number in full of the voter and a cell phone number which can be used to send SMS	Information for verification: Identity Card

Note: see Annex 2 for initial layout of station

Smartphone App Voting

The voting time and process will be the same as the offsite e-polling but for those using Smartphone App voting, they must download the PopVote application first. Details will be confirmed.

Smartphone App screenshots preview
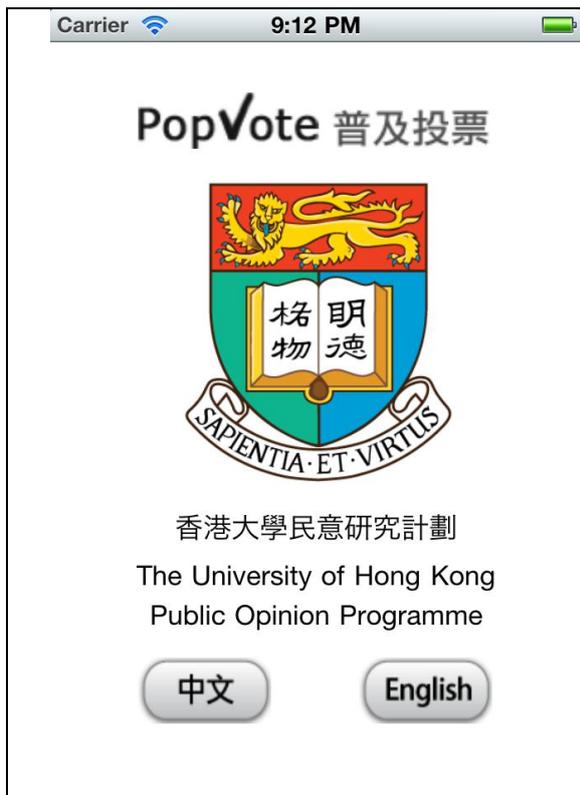
Diagram 1. Select language
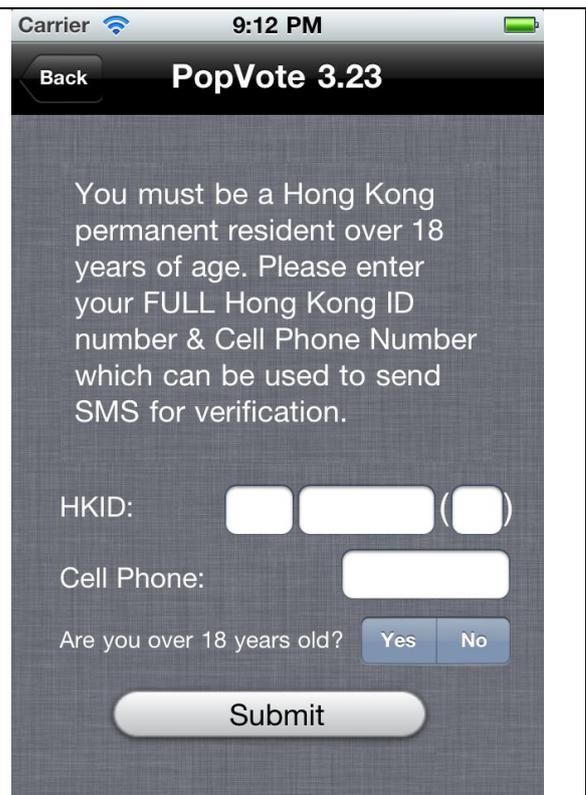
Diagram 2. Fill-in information
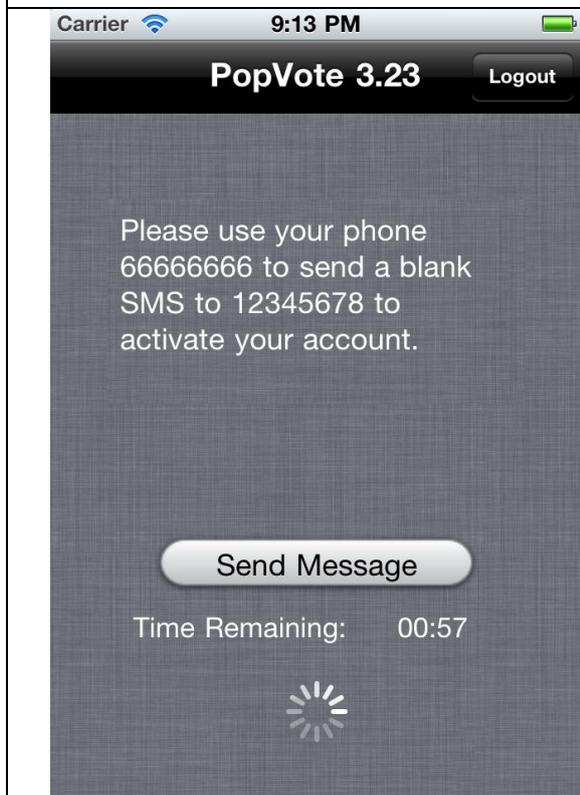
Diagram 3. Send SMS
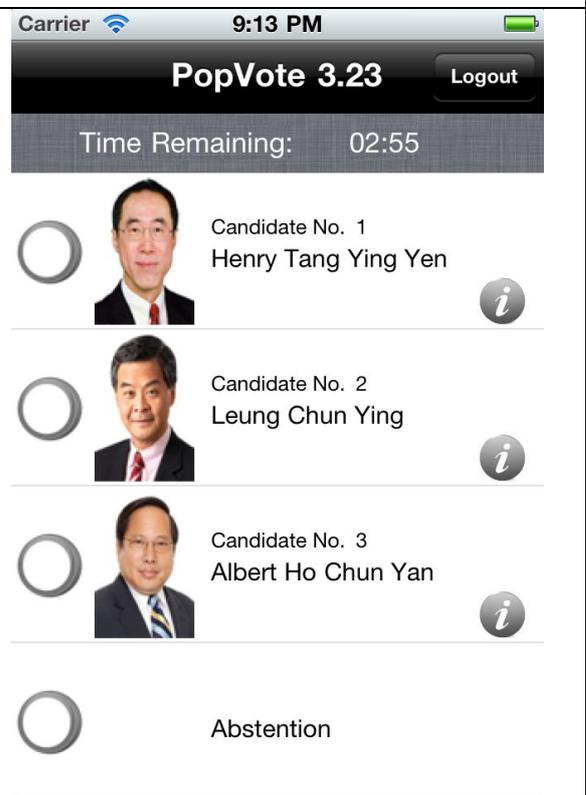
Diagram 4. Cast vote

Arrangement for "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in Schools

Voting platform access time: March 21, 2012, between 0900-2100 hr

Preparation
1. Submit school information at PopVote.hk
2. Submit voting machine's IP addresses to HKUPOP

Flow on mock voting day
1. Setup a venue using the suggested floorplan or your own
2. Logon to the "School Mock Voting" platform
3. Students enter full ID card number with the assistance by teachers
4. Students cast their vote on their own

Suggested floor plan for "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in schools
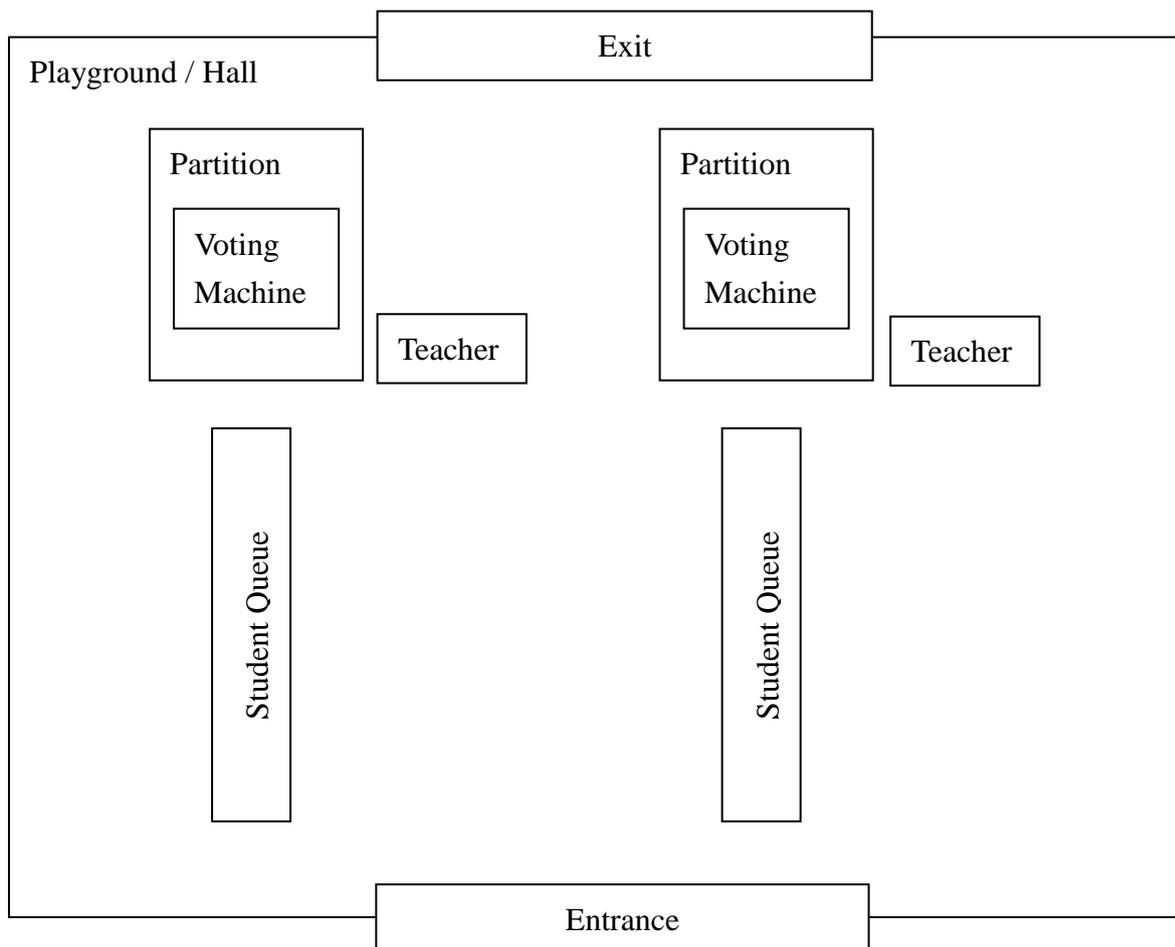
Civic Participation

Since POP's announcement about the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project", many students and citizens have come forward to express their wish to provide active support for the project. An "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" was also formed yesterday (February 22, 2012, Wednesday), with the following members initially:

- Centre for Social Policy Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (also became a co-organizer of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project")
- Executive Committee (Designate) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Students' Union
- Applied Social Science Departmental Society, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Students' Union
- Social Affairs Committee of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Students' Union

In view of this, POP has decided to encourage Hong Kong people to provide support to the project in the following ways:

- Provide free venues for setting up polling stations on March 23, including halls, empty stores, public areas in shopping malls, and so on.
- Provide free vehicles for setting up mobile polling stations on March 23.
- Organize publicity teams on March 23 to encourage and assist people voting.
- (Only for post-secondary students) Volunteer for helping or publicizing the event.
- (Only for school teachers and principals) Organize electronic voting in their schools on March 21, while POP provides guidelines and technical support.

If any people would like to support the activity, or has other ideas, they can click on our PopVote website at http://popvote.hk then "tangible support" and then leave their information. The "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" will follow up with them in due course.

The main difference between civil referendums and opinion polling lies in people's degree of participation. Civil referendum stresses active and civilized participation, much more than scientific analysis of the results.

-End-

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March 15

Latest update on HKUPOP "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project"

and "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

Press Release   15 March, 2012

Latest update on HKUPOP "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" and "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Website: http://popvote.hk

The University of Hong Kong Public Opinion Programme (POP) releases on 15 March 2012 (Thursday) that it will co-host the "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" with The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (BGCA). Integrated results from both sides will be released in conjunction by BGCA on 22 March. A total of 140 primary and secondary schools or so have joined this project up till now.

POP plans to set up 10 polling stations across the territory in Hong Kong on the day of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" and there will be mobile voting vehicles in areas not covered by the polling stations for the local citizens to vote. The design of our online voting system has been completed and will be open for public testing tomorrow, iPhone users can also download the voting application starting from tomorrow.

The fund raising progress of the project is as follows (as of 15 March, 2012 noon):

Pledged donors（Including 242 "anonymous" with 6 suspicious cases removed）	545
Actual donors（Including 127 "anonymous" donors）	327
Pledged amount of donations	HK$829,061
Initial confirmed amount of donations	HK$748,530
Mean of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$2,289
Median of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$500
Mode of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$100

"3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project"

POP will co-host the "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" with BGCA. Paper and pen voting will be responsible by BGCA and the electronic voting will be responsible by POP. Results of the 3.21 voting in schools will be merged with results of the "Youngsters vote for the next CE" activity initiated by BGCA and will be released together by BGCA on 22 March. Up till now, 140 primary and secondary schools or so have joined this project. POP calls for interested schools to sign up through our activity website. POP has already provided initial guidelines to schools that have already joined the electronic voting.

Polling stations arrangement of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

POP has confirmed initially that there will be 10 polling stations in different districts of Hong Kong on the day of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project":

1. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University 2. The exhibition gallery of the Tuen Mun Town Hall 3. Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan 4. Assembly Hall, 6 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong (HKU) 5. Ho Tim Hall of The University of Hong Kong	6. Main Campus of The University of Hong Kong 7. City University of Hong Kong 8. Hong Kong Federation of the Blind (Shun Chi Street, Kwun Tong) 9. Silence Association (Pak Tin Estate, Shek Kip Mei) 10. Hong Kong Association of the Deaf (Ap Lei Chau Estate, Aberdeen)

The final list of polling stations will be released on March 20.

POP now appeals to different civil organizations, if there are any appropriate places for lent, please contact us as soon as possible. On the day of March 23, POP plans to arrange vehicles as mobile polling stations in areas not covered by the fixed polling stations in order to let citizens vote. Since polling stations are limited, POP encourages citizens to use personal computer or smart phone to vote online that day and let those who do not have access to the internet vote at the fixed and mobile polling stations.

Completion of the design of "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" online voting system for public testing

The design of the online voting system of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" has been completed, the public can log onto http://popvote.hk for trial voting starting from 16 March 8pm up till 20 March 8pm, and voters will be allowed to vote once every hour. Results of the trial voting will be erased before "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" kicks off, and it will not be used in the final analysis of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project".

iPhone users can start searching "PopVote" in App Store starting from 16 March and download the "PopVote 323" application or use the QR Code below to enter the interface directly.

Project Schedule (tentative)

March 19-20	Holds 3.21 school and 3.23 volunteer briefing sessions
March 20	Pre 3.23 Press Conference: to final confirm the polling stations and overall arrangement
March 21	3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project: polling stations in primary and secondary schools only
March 22	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong releases the integrated results of the 3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project
March 23	3.23 Civil Referendum Project: results to be announced on the same night
April 23	Financial report to be released

Civic Participation

A lot of citizens and students have expressed their support towards the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" since its announcement. The present number of volunteers has reached 200 people and there have been enthusiastic citizens willing to provide vehicles for transportation use on that day. POP now calls for interested citizens who are willing to volunteer to sign up as soon as possible. If you cannot participate as volunteer, please help to promote this project by telling your family and friends.

If you would like to support this project, or have other suggestions, please log onto the "Support Us" page on the "PopVote" website (http://popvote.hk) and leave your information. The "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" will follow up promptly.

The difference between "Civil Referendum" and public opinion survey is that the former encourages public active participation in expressing their views, the focus is on civic participation rather than scientific analysis.

<div align="center">-End-</div>

Media enquiry：
Samuel Chan XXXX-XXXX
Frank Lee   XXXX-XXXX
Karie Pang   XXXX-XXXX

March 20

Latest update on HKUPOP "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project"

and "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

| **Press Release** | 20 March, 2012 |

Latest update on HKUPOP "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" and "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Website: http://popvote.hk

"3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project"

Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong will co-host the "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" with The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (BGCA) tomorrow. Paper and pen voting will be responsible by BGCA and the electronic voting will be responsible by POP. Results of the 3.21 voting in schools will be aggregated with those of BGCA's "Youngsters vote for the next CE" activity and released by BGCA on 22 March.

Polling stations arrangement of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

POP decides to set up 3 formal polling stations, 5 mobile polling stations and 7 subsidiary polling stations on the day of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" as follows:

Formal Polling stations	Mobile Polling stations	Subsidiary polling stations
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University The exhibition gallery of the Tuen Mun Town Hall Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan	West Kowloon (Sham Shui Po) New Territories East (Shatin) New Territories East (Sheung Shui) New Territories West (Yuen Long) New Territories West (Tsuen Wan)	Assembly Hall at Sassoon Road, HKU Ho Tim Hall of HKU Main Campus of HKU City University of Hong Kong Hong Kong Federation of the Blind (Shun Chi Street, Kwun Tong) Silence Association (Pak Tin Estate, Shek Kip Mei) Hong Kong Association of the Deaf (Ap Lei Chau Estate, Aberdeen)

Because of the limited number of polling stations, POP encourages all Hong Kong citizens to cast their votes using personal computers or smartphones as far as possible on 3.23, so as to allow polling stations to be used by citizens in need.

"3.23 Civil Referendum Project" online voting system for public testing

The online voting system of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" has been launched for public trial and the first phase of testing will be opened until 20:00 on 20 March. The public can log onto http://popvote.hk for trial voting, results of the trial voting will be erased and will not be used in the final analysis of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project". The second phase of testing will start from 00:00 till 20:00 of 21 March to imitate the voting process of 23 March, each voter can cast one vote during this period but no overseas voting will be allowed, results of the trial voting will be destroyed after the testing period, and will not be used in the final analysis of "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

Starting from the second phase of trial voting, for security reasons, PopVote website (http://popvote.hk) will not be opened to overseas individuals to browse until the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" ends.

Starting from today, iPhone users can download the "PopVote 323" application by searching "PopVote" in the App Store, while Android users can search and download the app via Google Play. Both iPhone and Android users can also use the QR Code below to enter the interface directly.

Other Matters

POP welcomes local organizations to set up polling stations of their own on 23 March to help citizens vote online. POP has no connections with polling stations of this kind but hopes these organizations will follow the guidelines laid down by POP, including no campaigning for votes near the polling station and allow voters inside the polling station to have enough room for thinking so as to guarantee the voting is conducted with high privacy.

Final results are anticipated to be released at 22:00 on the same day after the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" ends.

If the Chief Executive Election on 25 March voids, POP will hold a "Civil Referendum Project" one more time to gauge public opinions before the re-election.

-End-

Media enquiry：	Samuel Chan	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Frank Lee	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Karie Pang	Tel: XXXX-XXXX

March 22

Last press release before the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

Please support us as the voting will begin soon

Press Release   22 March, 2012

Last press release before the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Please support us as the voting will begin soon
Website http://popvote.hk

Summary of the 3.23 voting methods

(1) Online voting
Voting time: 23 March 0000 till 2000
Website: "PopVote" (http://popvote.hk)
Verification information: the HKID number of the voter in full, and a cell phone number for sending SMS
(2) Smartphone Application voting
Voting time: 23 March 0000 till 2000
iOS users: please search for "PopVote" in the App Store and download the "PopVote 323" application   Android users: please download the "PopVote 323" application in GoolgePlay
Verification information: the HKID number of the voter in full, and a cell phone number for sending SMS
(3) Polling stations
Voting time：23 March 0900 till 2100
Number of polling stations and venues：Please see the following table
Verification information: HKID card

Location of the polling stations

(1) Formal polling stations
■ The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (GH201)   ■ Tuen Mun Town Hall (The exhibition gallery)   ■ Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan (Near Chai Wan MTR station Exit A, the connecting bridge of New Jade Shopping Arcade)
(2) Subsidiary polling stations
■ HKU: Assembly Hall at Sassoon Road, Ho Tim Hall, Main Campus [(A) Room G-01, Chong Yuet Ming Amenities Centre, (B) Podium, Kadoorie Biological Sciences Building]   ■ City University of Hong Kong (Blue Zone)   ■ Hong Kong Federation of the Blind (G/F Community centre, Shun Chi Street, Kwun Tong)   ■ Silence Association (G/F, Pak Tin Estate, Shek Kip Mei)   ■ Hong Kong Association of the Deaf (Opposite to Community Centre, Ap Lei Chau, Aberdeen)

(3) <u>Mobile polling stations</u> (Note: Due to possible restrictions, the places might be changed, please refer to our website for the latest updates

- West Kowloon (Near Golden Computer Arcade at Sham Shui Po)
- New Territories East (Near Tai Wai station)
- New Territories East (Near Sheung Shui station)
- New Territories West (Near Yuen Long Pau Cheung Square)
- New Territories West (Near CitiStore Shiu Wo Street and Lo Tak Court, Tsuen Wan)

Because of the limited number of polling stations, POP encourages all Hong Kong citizens to cast their votes using personal computers or smartphones as far as possible on 3.23, so as to allow polling stations to be used by citizens in need. Also, please be aware that due to security reasons, voting outside Hong Kong will not be allowed.

We welcome media to interview the voting process, especially the three formal polling stations wholly responsible by POP, there will be polling station officers providing support and arranging the interview.

Fund Raising Progress updates

The latest **fund raising progress** is as follows (as of March 22 noon):

Pledged donors（Including 146 "anonymous"）	384
Initial confirmed amount of donations	HK$884,623
Mean of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$2,303
Median of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$300
Mode of donations（In terms of initial confirmed amount of donations）	HK$100

Completion of the public testing, please vote again on 3.23

The online voting system for testing of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" has completed at 2000 last night, all results during the testing phase have been erased and will not be included into the final results of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project".

POP *reminds those who have voted in the testing phases to vote again on the actual voting day (23 March 0000-2000)*

Guidelines to local polling stations

POP welcomes local organizations to set up polling stations of their own on 23 March to help citizens vote online. POP has no connections with polling stations of this kind but hopes these organizations will follow the guidelines laid down by POP (please see the appendix), including no campaigning for votes near the polling station and allow voters inside the polling station to have enough room for thinking so as to guarantee the voting is conducted with high privacy.

Arrangement on the release of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" results

POP will release the real time number of voters every 15 minutes via PopVote website http://popvote.hk after the actual voting begins to let the public make reference. The final results will be released at POP office at 10pm that night.

We now invite media to attend the press conference, details are as follows:

    Date: 23 March, 2012 (Friday)
    Time: 10:00 pm
    Venue: 5/F Kennedy Town Centre, 23 Belcher's Street, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong
（Please enter through Belcher's Street）

<u>Other matters</u>

If you have any queries on the day of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project", please call the hotline XXXX-XXXX, there will be 10 staff answering the calls and provide assistance. If you would like to know more about how to vote and the process, please view the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" video clip at http://youtu.be/7yXlmkMUCww or visit PopVote website http://popvote.hk .

If the Chief Executive Election on 25 March voids, POP will hold a "Civil Referendum Project" one more time to gauge public opinions before the re-election.

<div align="center">-End-</div>

Media enquiry：	Samuel Chan	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Frank Lee	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Karie Pang	Tel: XXXX-XXXX

March 23
"3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Voting will CONTINUE on March 24

| **Press Release** | 23 March, 2012 |

"3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
Voting will CONTINUE on March 24
Website http://popvote.hk

3.23 Part II - Voting Methods at a Glance

(1) Online Voting
Voting time: 23 March 20:00 till 24 March 16:00
Website: "PopVote" (http://popvote.hk)
Verification information: voter's HKID number in full and a cell phone number that can send SMS
(2) Smartphone App Voting
Voting time: 23 March 20:00 till 24 March 16:00
iOS users: search for "PopVote" in App Store and download the "PopVote 323" application Android users: download the "PopVote 323" application in Goolge Play
Verification information: voter's HKID number in full and a cell phone number that can send SMS
(3) Polling Stations
Voting time: 24 March 09:00 till 16:00
Number of polling stations and venues: Please see the table below
Verification information: HKID card

3.23 Part II - Locations of Polling Stations
*New station

(1) Formal Polling Stations
■ The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (GH201) ■ Tuen Mun Town Hall (The exhibition gallery, 1/F) ■ Y-Square (Y2) in Chai Wan (Near Chai Wan MTR station Exit A, the connecting bridge of New Jade Shopping Arcade)
(2) Subsidiary Polling Stations
■ Assembly Hall at Sassoon Road, HKU ■ Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union Causeway Bay Service Centre* (M/F, Wing Tak Mansion, 15 Canal Rd West, Causeway Bay) ■ Gallery Exit, Central* (1 Shin Hing Street, Central) ■ Rat's Cave, Sheung Wan* (G/F 18A-B Tai Ping Shan Street, Sheung Wan) ■ HKICC Lee Shau Kee School of Creativity* (135 Junction Road, Kowloon) ■ Shanghai Street Artspace* (at junction of Shanghai Street and Hamilton Street) ■ Community Second Hand Store* (1/F B, Cheong Fat Industrial Builldling, 267 Un Chau Street, Cheung Sha Wan) ■ Mapopo Community Farm* (Tai Po Ma Shi Po Village)

> **(3) Mobile Polling Stations (Note: in case of on-site restrictions, the exact location might be changed, please refer to our website for the latest updates)**
>
> - Kowloon West (Near Golden Computer Arcade, Sham Shui Po)
> - New Territories East (Near Tai Wai MTR station)
> - New Territories East (Near Sheung Shui MTR station)
> - New Territories West (Near Yuen Long Pau Cheung Fong Square)
> - New Territories West* (Near Kam Sheung Road MTR station)
> - New Territories West (Near CitiStore, Shiu Wo Street and Lo Tak Court, Tsuen Wan)

Because of the limited number of polling stations, POP encourages all Hong Kong citizens to cast their votes using personal computers or smartphones as far as possible, so as to allow polling stations to be used by citizens in need. Also, please be aware that due to security reasons, voting outside Hong Kong will not be allowed.

We welcome media to cover the voting process, especially the three formal polling stations wholly responsible by POP, there will be polling station officers providing support and arranging the interviews.

Arrangement on the Release of "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Results

POP will release the latest number of votes on a real time basis every 15 minutes via PopVote website http://popvote.hk after the actual voting begins for public reference. The final results will be released at POP office at 10pm that night. We now invite media to attend the press conference, details are as follows:

    Date: 24 March, 2012 (Saturday)
    Time: 22:00 (10:00 pm)
    Venue: 5/F Kennedy Town Centre, 23 Belcher's Street, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong
（Please enter through Belcher's Street）

Other Matters

If citizens have any queries on the day of "3.23 Civil Referendum Project", please call the hotline XXXX-XXXX, staff on duty will be answering the calls and provide assistance at their best effort.

-End-

Media enquiry：	Samuel Chan	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Frank Lee	Tel: XXXX-XXXX
	Karie Pang	Tel: XXXX-XXXX

March 24
Results of "3.23 Civil Referendum"

「**3.23 民間全民投票**」結果 **Results of "3.23 Civil Referendum"**

基本資料 **Basic Information**

實際投票時間（42 小時）Actual polling time (42 hrs): 00:00, 2012.3.23 – 18:00, 2012.3.24

票站投票人數 Onsite voters:	85,154
網上投票人數 Online voters:	66,005
流動應用程式投票人數 Mobile application voters:	71,831
總投票人數 Total number of voters:	222,990

	梁振英 CY Leung	何俊仁 Albert Ho	唐英年 Henry Tang	棄權 Abstention
手機 Mobile	14,156	6,610	9,644	41,421
網上 Online	12,116	7,261	9,197	37,431
票站 Onsite	13,352	11,591	17,402	42,809
總數 Total	39,614	25,452	36,226	121,580

	梁振英 CY Leung	何俊仁 Albert Ho	唐英年 Henry Tang	棄權 Abstention
手機 Mobile	35.7%	26.0%	26.6%	34.1%
網上 Online	30.6%	28.5%	25.4%	30.8%
票站 Onsite	33.7%	45.5%	48.0%	35.2%
總數 Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

	梁振英 CY Leung	何俊仁 Albert Ho	唐英年 Henry Tang	棄權 Abstention	合計 Total
手機 Mobile	19.7%	9.2%	13.4%	57.7%	100%
網上 Online	18.4%	11.0%	13.9%	56.8%	100%
票站 Onsite	15.7%	13.6%	20.4%	50.3%	100%
總數 Total	17.8%	11.4%	16.3%	54.6%	100%

其他資料 **Other Information**

到站投票廢票數目（未列於數表）Invalid onsite votes (not listed in the tables): 125
離站投票廢票數目（未列於數表）Invalid offsite votes (not listed in the tables): 118
已知重複到站投票但無法剔除（已包於數表）Repeated votes not isolatable (counted in the tables): 3,622
到站投票而無法測試有否重複投票（已包於數表）Onsite votes without ID screening (counted in the tables): 5,377
手機及網上重覆登入被拒次數　Denials of offsite voting due to repeated logon: 15,111
票站重覆登入被拒次數　Denials of onsite voting due to repeated logon:　104
曾參與「學界 3.21 影子民間全民投票」的 18 歲以下用戶　Overlaps with "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" participants under 18 years old:　28

April 3
"3.23 Civil Referendum" Project
All personal information destroyed

| Press Release | 3 April, 2012 |

"3.23 Civil Referendum" Project
All personal information destroyed

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong has recently destroyed all personal information collected during the "3.23 Civil Referendum" project, including all HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers, in electronic and paper format. Details as follows:

Electronic Ballots

POP has completely destroyed all personal data collected in electronic format from all the polling stations, internet platform and mobile applications which included citizens' HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers on 28 March. Meanwhile, POP has also ensured that no electronic copies of these personal data were saved or retained in any desktops, tablets, servers and related systems in our office.

Before the data destruction, only two IT staff of POP had the authority to gain access to the database of the relevant system but they were prohibited from entering the system by administrative means and all data have not been interrupted by other means.

Moreover, since the system has converted all HKID card numbers and mobile phone numbers upon registration into a chain of irreversible Hash Codes for storage and such information has been completely destroyed, hence, the privacy of all registered citizens has been well protected.

Paper Ballots

POP has entrusted the "Secure Information Disposal Services Limited" on 30 March to completely destroy all personal data collected from the polling stations during the event which included all envelops with HKID card numbers as well as the paper ballots casted. The whole transfer and destruction process was closely monitored by POP staff ensuring all information was completely destroyed.

Other Matters

During 23-24 March, many citizens, when trying to cast their votes online, had received the message "failure to send SMS" and hence could not complete the voting procedure. We would like to clarify that because voters had not yet entered the voting interface to make their choices, the system had not recorded those cases as successful and certainly did not count them as "abstention".

POP plans to release our financial report on 23 April in account of all expenses of this project.

-End-

April 23

HKUPOP releases the

"3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Financial Report

| Press Release | **April 23, 2012** |

HKUPOP releases the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Financial Report

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong today released on schedule the financial report of the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project". POP plans to compile and release an activity report on May 23, 2012.

The "3.23 Civil Referendum Project (PopVote)" was conducted during March 23-24, 2012. The total number of votes collected was 222,990 and the voting result was released to public at the midnight of March 25, 2012.

As of April 19, 2012, the amount of confirmed donations was $897,019.80 and the total expenses for the project was $831,974.40, giving a balance of $ 65,045.40. The full financial report is now released online at http://popvote.hk and http://hkupop.hku.hk for public consumption.

The "Alliance of 3.23 Civil Referendum Support Groups" has decided to publish a book to record and commemorate the civil referendum. It is expected to be completed within the next two months.

POP welcomes more donations from the general public to further develop various online platforms, but all donors cannot affect the independence of POP.

Appendix 2
Invitation letters

Invitation to"3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in Schools

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
PUBLIC OPINION PROGRAMME
香港大學 民意研究計劃

To: All primary and secondary schools principals

Invitation to"3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in Schools

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong will conduct a "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" on 21 March, 2012. The target respondents of this project would be primary and secondary school students. This project aims at letting students experience mock voting, POP suggests integrating this "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" project with the schools' liberal arts curriculum in introducing the Chief Executive election in hopes of constructing a civil society by promoting civil participation. Hence, your participation will be of great importance to this project and the construction of a civil society.

POP will open up the PopVote website for voting from 0900 to 2100 on 21 March, 2012. It will only take students around 3 minutes to complete the voting. Please rest assured that all information collected will be analysed independently by POP. The data will be kept strictly confidential and no matching of personal identity will be made under any circumstances. Please find the attached suggested floor plan for "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in schools for your reference. You can also log onto the PopVote website (http://popvote.hk) for online registration and further details of the project.

POP plans to hold a briefing session on March 19 evening, introducing how to log onto the PopVote website and to demonstrate the verification of HKID and the voting process. We welcome all primary and secondary school teachers and volunteers who have signed up for this project to join this briefing session. Details will be announced later.
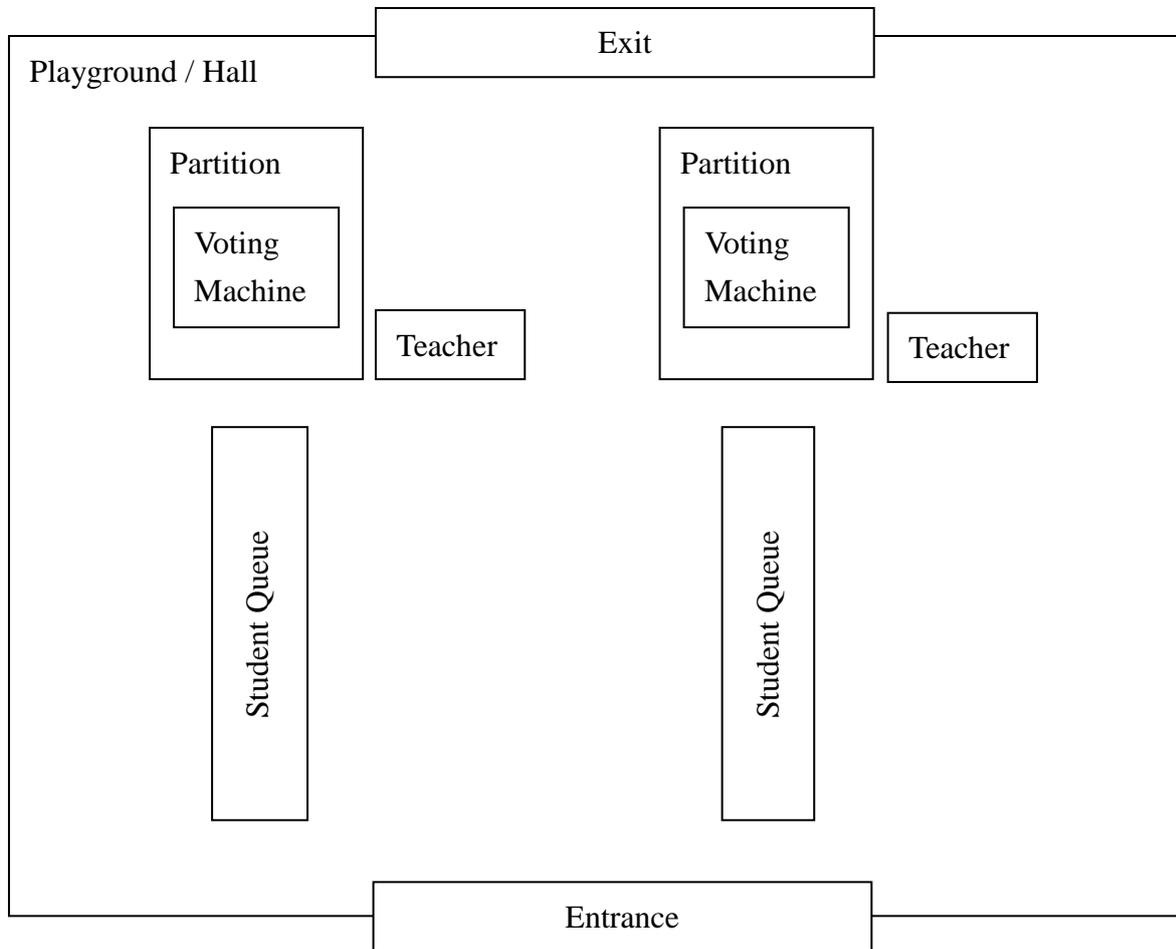
For any enquiry regarding this project, please feel free to contact Mr. Samuel Chan of POP at XXXX-XXXX. Thank you for your attention and participation in this project in advance.

Dr Robert Chung Ting-yiu
Director of Public Opinion Programme
The University of Hong Kong

March 2, 2012

Annex 1

Suggested floor plan for "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in schools

Guidelines for polling stations of "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum" in schools

Date: 21 March, 2012

PopVote Website opening hours: 0900-2100

Basic requirements for the polling station

The polling station must be a flat and quiet space able to accommodate one or more individual voting areas. The station must have access to wifi or fixed line signal to connect to the internet as well as having electricity supply. Apart from having individual voting areas, it would be best if the station can provide some area for students waiting to line up. Students can wait outside the polling station if the station is not big enough. Please make sure that voters will not be affected by any person or noise while voting no matter the polling station is indoors or outdoors.

Basic requirements of the voting area

Each voting area must at least be 1.5 metres width X 1 metre depth. Please place the computer for voting on a desk of 60-80 cm tall inside the voting area. The voting area should at least have 3 boards of 1.5 metres tall covering three sides of it. If the voting area has enough depth, it is recommended to have a curtain covering one side of the area to strengthen the privacy level. The distance between two voting areas should have 80 cm or above.

Basic setting of the polling station

Computer setup: The same waiting line can be used even if there are one or more voting areas. There is no need to set up computers for the waiting lines, the computer in the voting area can be used to complete both the HKID verification and voting process. POP **will not** provide any computers, therefore, it is recommended the person in charge of the station to test whether the computer to be used can log onto PopVote website. (POP will hold a briefing session, details to be announced later)

Number of helpers: There should be at least one technician for every two voting areas. If there are any problems during the HKID verification and voting, they can enter the area to help (If there are no technical problems, technicians **must not** enter the area). There should be helpers in each station to help maintain discipline of the polling station, the number of staff will depend on the size of the station. Each station should have one station manager to deal with any matters and to keep in touch with POP.

Voting procedures

1. Students enter the voting area and show their HKID/Student handbook to station helpers.
2. Helpers enter HKID card number to log onto the voting website after confirming student's identity.
3. The student will not be able to vote again if the system shows that he/she has voted.
4. The computer will automatically show the ballot once their identity is verified and let students vote. Meanwhile, helpers should keep a distance from the voting area in order to let students vote under no disruption and their privacy being kept.
5. Helpers should make sure the voting website has returned to its homepage after a student has made his/her vote and let the next student register and vote.

Discipline within the polling station

No one should put up banners or show election campaign advertisements inside the station. Photography, video shooting or recording is allowed under the circumstance that it will not disrupt the voting process.

All helpers should not be involved in any electioneering or promoting campaign except giving out election information.

Restricted area

There should be a designated place near the entrance of the station to be the restricted area and the size should be clearly indicated. No political campaign or persuasion is allowed within this area in order to let voters have some time to calm down before entering the station and to vote under no disruption.

Entrance/Exit

If possible, the entrance and exit should be separated and to avoid being on the same side of the station. This can help with the logistics of the voting line.

Briefing session

POP plans to hold a briefing session on 19 March evening, introducing how to log onto the PopVote website and to demonstrate the verification of HKID and the voting process. We welcome all primary and secondary school teachers and volunteers who have signed up for the "3.21 Civil Referendum in schools" and "3.23 Civil Referendum" project to join this briefing session.

Invitation for the civil society

to support the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
PUBLIC OPINION PROGRAMME
香港大學 民意研究計劃

To: Head of Organization,

Invitation for the civil society to support the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"

The Public Opinion Programme (POP) will implement the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project", in order to let people express their overall support towards different candidates of the fourth Chief Executive election, by means of onsite and offsite electronic voting. As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum.

POP considers "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" as an important activity to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation. Therefore, POP strongly encourages your organization to provide support to the project in the following ways:

- Provide free venues for setting up polling stations on March 23, including halls, empty stores, public areas in shopping malls, and so on.
- Organize publicity teams on March 23 to encourage and assist people voting.

The details and operation plan of the project are shown on our PopVote website (http://popvote.hk). If your organization would like to support the activity, or has other ideas, please also visit the "tangible support" section of our PopVote website and then leave your information. POP will follow up in due course. If you have any enquiry, please feel free to contact Mr. Samuel Chan of POP at XXXX-XXXX during office hours. Thank you for your attention and we are looking forward to your support to the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project."

POP plans to hold a briefing session on March 19 evening, introducing how to log onto the PopVote website and to demonstrate the verification of HKID cards and the voting process. We welcome organization representatives and volunteers to join this briefing session. Details will be announced later.

Dr Robert Chung Ting-yiu
Director of Public Opinion Programme
The University of Hong Kong

March 2, 2012

Guidelines for "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" polling station

Background

As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum. POP plans to hold a "civil referendum" on March 23, 2012 to echo with the fourth Chief Executive election to be held on March 25. POP hopes to let the general public vote via the civil referendum in order to express their support towards different candidates. The "civil referendum" has three objectives, namely: 1) to integrate with the results of public opinion surveys to form a comprehensive reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system.

Date: 23 March, 2012
Opening hours of stations
Sub-ordinate stations: 0900-2100
Local-based stations: To be decided by person in charge and ends latest by 2100

Basic requirements for the polling station

The polling station must be a flat and quiet space able to accommodate one or more individual voting areas. The station must have access to wifi or fixed line signal to connect to the internet as well as having electricity supply. Apart from having individual voting areas, it would be best if the station can provide some area for people waiting to line up. People can wait outside the polling station if the station is not big enough. Please make sure that voters will not be affected by any person or noise while voting no matter the polling station is indoors or outdoors.

Basic requirements of the voting area

Each voting area must at least be 1.5 metres width X 1 metre depth. Please place the computer for voting on a desk of 80-100 cm tall inside the voting area. The voting area should at least have 3 boards of 1.5 metres tall covering three sides of it. If the voting area has enough depth, it is recommended to have a curtain covering one side of the area to strengthen the privacy level. The distance between two voting areas should have 80 cm or above.

Basic setting of the polling station

Sub-ordinate station
Number of computers: Each voting area should have an individual waiting line for voting. Apart from the computer inside the voting area, there should be another computer in front of the waiting line to let the first person in line to undergo the HKID card verification process. In other words, each individual voting area/waiting line should have two computers.

Number of helpers: Each "registration machine" should have one helper to help with the verification. There should one technician in every three individual voting areas.

If there are any technical problems, they can enter the area to help (If there are no technical problems, technicians **must not** enter the area). There should be helpers in each station to help maintain discipline of the polling station, the number of staff will depend on the size of the station. Each station should have one station manager to deal with any matters and to keep in touch with POP.

Local-based polling stations

Computer set up: The same waiting line can be used even if there are one or more voting areas. There is no need to set up computers for the waiting lines, the computer in the voting area can be used to complete both the HKID verification and voting process. POP **will not** provide any computers, therefore, it is recommended the person in charge of the station to test whether the computer to be used can log onto PopVote website. (POP will hold a briefing session, details to be announced later)

Number of helpers: There should be at least one technician for every two voting areas. If there are any problems during the HKID verification and voting, they can enter the area to help (If there are no technical problems, technicians **must not** enter the area). There should be helpers in each station to help maintain discipline of the polling station, the number of staff will depend on the size of the station. Each station should have one station manager to deal with any matters and to keep in touch with POP.

Voting Procedures

Sub-ordinate polling stations

1. Citizens show their HKID card to station helpers.
2. Helpers enter the HKID card number to log onto the voting website after confirming citizen's identity to be aged 18 or above and is a Hong Kong permanent resident. (HKID card number starting with A)
3. A person can still vote in the polling station even if the system indicates he/she has voted offsite (i.e. on the website) but helpers must notify him/her this situation and state that **the voting in the polling station will be the latest results** and the previous offsite voting will be invalid.
4. A person will not be able to vote again if the system indicates he/she has already voted in a polling station. The computer will not show the ballot even if he/she enters the voting area. Helpers please notify him/her politely and ask them to leave.
5. Helpers should guide the voter into the voting area after their identity is verified.
6. Helpers should make sure voters can vote without disruption and their privacy protected while voting.

7. Helpers should make sure the voting website has returned to its homepage after a voter has made his/her vote and let the next voter register and vote.

Local based polling stations

1. Citizens enter the voting area and show their HKID card to station helpers

2. Helpers enter the HKID card number to log onto the voting website after confirming citizen's identity to be aged 18 or above and is a Hong Kong permanent resident. (HKID card number starting with A)

3. A person can still vote in the polling station even if the system indicates he/she has voted offsite (i.e. on the website) but helpers must notify him/her this situation and state that **the voting in the polling station will be the latest results** and the previous offsite voting will be invalid.

4. A person will not be able to vote again if the system indicates he/she has already voted in a polling station. The computer will not show the ballot even if he/she enters the voting area. Helpers please notify him/her politely and ask them to leave.

5. The computer will automatically show the ballot once their identity is verified and let them vote. Meanwhile, helpers should keep a distance from the voting area in order to let students vote under no disruption and their privacy being kept.

6. Helpers should make sure the voting website has returned to its homepage after a voter has made his/her vote and let the next citizen register and vote.

Discipline within the polling station

No one should put up banners or show election campaign advertisements inside the station.

Photography, video shooting or recording is allowed under the circumstance that it will not disrupt the voting process.

All helpers should not be involved in any electioneering or promoting campaign except giving out election information.

Restricted area

There should be a designated place near the entrance of the station to be the restricted area and the size should be clearly indicated. No political campaign or persuasion is allowed within this area in order to let voters have some time to calm down before entering the station and to vote under no disruption.

Entrance/Exit

If possible, the entrance and exit should be separated and to avoid being on the same side of the station. This can help with the logistics of the voting line.

Difference between sub-ordinate polling stations and local-based polling stations

Sub-ordinate polling stations: POP will provide material support to these stations as well as showing their location via the PopVote website and deploy staff to these places. Both the HKID verification process and voting process will be separated using two different computers. The experience will be close to real voting. If you are interested in providing places for sub-ordinate polling stations, please **contact POP on or before 7 March**.

Local-based polling stations: POP will provide guidelines to the person in charge, hoping that he/she can follow these guidelines to set up and operate the station. POP will not deploy any helpers or material support to the station, meanwhile, it is not guaranteed that the voting process will be close to the real voting. If there are enough resources, POP will provide few promoting materials and information handouts.

Briefing session

POP plans to hold a briefing session on 19 March evening, introducing how to log onto the PopVote website and to demonstrate the verification of HKID and the voting process. We welcome all primary and secondary school teachers and volunteers who have signed up for the "3.21 Civil Referendum in schools" and "3.23 Civil Referendum" project to join this briefing session.

Design of the onsite polling station
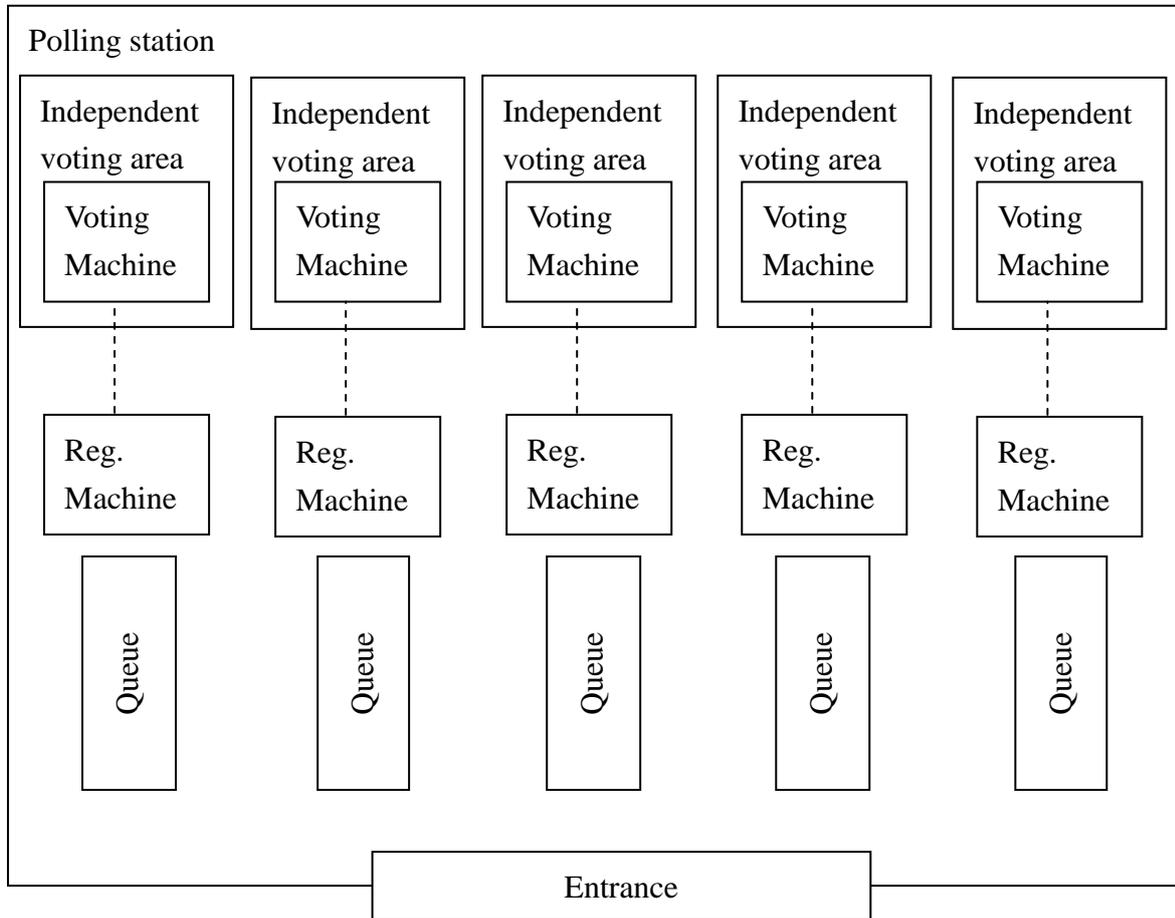
Initial layout of the polling station:

Voting time: 0900 to 2100

Number of computers: Around 10

Polling station staff: Around 12

Number of polling stations and venue: tbc

Information for verification: Identity Card

Appendix 3
Sample of promotion materials

Official logos

Official logo of "3.23 Civil Referendum"

Official logo of "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum"

QR codes of "3.23 Civil Referendum"

Link to the mobile application   **Link to the "PopVote" website**

Flyer (Chinese only)

Flyer (Chinese only)

Front

Back

Poster stand (Chinese only) and banners

Poster stand (Chinese only)

Banner for formal/subsidiary polling stations

Banner for mobile polling stations

Appendix 4
Polling station volunteer guidelines

THE UNIVERSITY OF
HONG KONG
PUBLIC OPINION
PROGRAMME
香港大學 民意研究計劃

"3.23 Civil Referendum Project" Polling station volunteer guidelines

Dear Volunteers,

Thank you for participating in the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project" hosted by the Public Opinion Programme, at the University of Hong Kong (POP). The following is the working guidelines for fixed and mobile polling stations.

Introduction to the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project"
As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum.

POP plans to hold a "civil referendum" on March 23, 2012 to echo with the fourth Chief Executive election to be held on March 25. POP hopes to let the general public vote via the civil referendum in order to express their support towards different candidates. The "civil referendum" has three objectives, namely: 1) to integrate with the results of public opinion surveys to form a comprehensive reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system.

Fixed polling station
Open hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Voting procedures
1. Citizens show their HKID card to station staff；
2. Staff confirms the voting eligibility (the card is held by the person and he/she is a Hong Kong permanent resident aged 18 or above, with the HKID card number starting with A) and inputs the Identity Card Number in full and then arranges the voter to designated voting page；
3. If the system shows that the voter has voted online, he/she can still vote onsite but staff must inform the voter about the situation before he/she casts the vote and states clearly that the vote casted in the polling station will be the final results and the previous online voting record will be failed；

4. If the system shows that the voter has voted onsite, he/she cannot vote again. Even though the voter has entered the voting area, the computer will not show the ballot. Staff should explain to the voter politely and ask him/her to leave.

5. After passing the identity verification, staff should guide the voter into the voting area and to use the tablet inside the voting area to vote;

6. When the voting takes place, staff should make sure that the voter can vote without disturbance and in complete privacy, but at the same time should maintain a certain distance with the voting area；

7. Unless the voter requests assistance, staff should not enter voting area during while the voting takes place；

8. After the voter casts his/her vote, staff should make sure that the identity verification webpage has returned to its initial interface to let the next citizen vote.

Design of the polling station
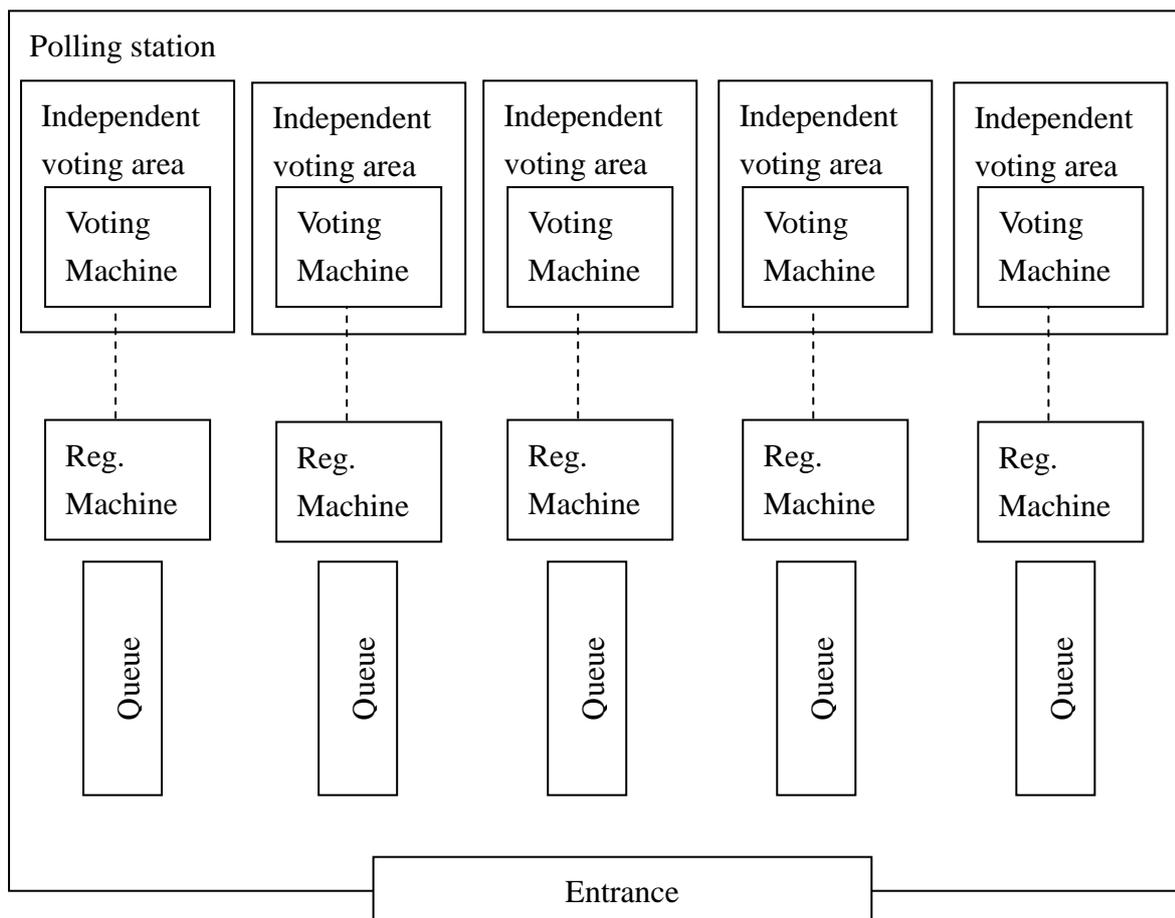
Layout view of the voting area

Order inside the polling station

Silence should be kept inside the polling station to prevent voters from being interrupted.

No canvassing for votes or showing election advertisements are allowed inside the polling station;

Taking photographs, videos and recording are allowed inside the polling station given that it will not interrupt the voting process;

All staff cannot participate in any electioneering or promotion campaign.

Points to note

1. Volunteers cannot mark down any personal data via any means and should not attempt to make known to public these personal data.
2. If facing citizens showing discontent or being agitated, please stay calm and polite and explain in patience.
3. If facing unfriendly organizations showing their discontent at the polling station, please be patient and let them express their concerns outside the polling station.
4. If such organizations over react, for example, attempting to attack the polling station, please stay calm and avoid body contact and call for assistance from security staff onsite to make sure voters will not be affected. Please suspend the operation of the polling station and ask for assistance from the Police if necessary.
5. Volunteers cannot be interviewed by the media. If you receive such invitation, please refer it to the polling station officer.
6. Volunteers must not reveal their own voting intention or attempt to affect voters' voting intention via any means throughout the whole lining up, verification and voting process.

Mobile polling station

1. Each mobile polling station will have a 20 seat van and a street station will be set up near it each day.
2. The van will become the voting area and voters will be required to enter and leave the van via the main entrance before and after casting their votes.

3. Street station will be provided with ready-to-fold tables, posters, banners, flyers, poster stands and loud speakers. Volunteers need to help promoting the project to citizens and guide intending voters to mobile polling stations.

4. Volunteers need to remind citizens to first use personal computers or smart phones to do online voting before introducing them to the mobile polling stations.

5. Each van will be equipped with a tablet used for voting, a banner will be pulled up to the right of the van door.

6. The driver will be sitting at the driver's seat for standby the whole day.

7. There will be one staff guarding the entrance to the van preventing people not following the instructions to enter or leave the van or take away the tablet.

8. Citizens have to present their HKID card before voting and Staff confirms the voting eligibility (the card is held by the person and he/she is a Hong Knog permanent resident aged 18 or above, with the HKID card number starting with A).

9. The opening hours of the mobile polling station will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

10. The other staff and mobile polling station officer will be responsible for maintaining order.

11. Facing critics like "Uncles of the Victoria Park" , please remember "don't fight and don't argue back", if the opposite side starts the fight, please call the police immediately.

12. If there are other organizations demonstrating in front of the mobile polling van, please be patient and let them leave peacefully after expressing their opinions.

13. If there are organizations attacking the voting van, please stop the voting and drive away the voting van.

14. If being driven away by the police, please stop the voting and drive away the voting van.

15. If facing the media, station officer please answer simple questions, for example, the number of voters today but do not accept any interviews.

Appendix 5
Informal polling station guidelines

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

PUBLIC OPINION PROGRAMME

香港大學 民意研究計劃

<u>Guidelines for local-based polling stations</u>

Background of "3.23 Civil Referendum"
As an independent academic institution, POP has worked hard to develop a task-based electronic voting system to facilitate the general public and people from different sectors to express their will through civil referendum. POP plans to hold a "civil referendum" on March 23, 2012 to echo with the fourth Chief Executive election to be held on March 25. POP hopes to let the general public vote via the civil referendum in order to express their support towards different candidates. The "civil referendum" has three objectives, namely: 1) to integrate with the results of public opinion surveys to form a comprehensive reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system.

Date: 23 March, 2012
The opening hours of local-based polling stations is decided by the person in charge and voting ends the latest at 20:00.

Nature of local-based polling stations
Voting in local-based polling stations is of the same nature as citizens voting online or via Smartphone App. POP encourages local organizations to set up polling stations and assist citizens who are unfamiliar with electronic devices in voting.

Basic requirements for the polling station
The polling station must be a flat and quiet space able to accommodate one or more individual voting areas. The station must have access to wifi or fixed line signal to connect to the Internet as well as having electricity supply. Apart from having individual voting areas, it would be best if the station can provide some areas for people waiting in queue. People can wait outside the polling station if the station is not big enough. Please make sure that voters will not be affected by any person or noise while voting no matter the polling station is indoors or outdoors.

Basic requirements for the voting area

Each voting area must at least have 1 metre width X 1 metre depth. Please place the computer for voting on a desk of 80-100 cm tall inside the voting area. The voting area should at least have 3 boards of 1.5 metres tall covering three sides of it. If the voting area has enough depth, it is recommended to have a curtain covering one side of the area to strengthen the privacy level. The distance between two voting areas should have 80 cm or above.

Basic setting of the polling station

Computer set up: The same waiting line can be used even if there are one or more voting areas. There is no need to set up computers for waiting lines, the computer in the voting area can be used to complete both the HKID verification and voting processes. POP **will not** provide any computers, therefore, it is recommended that the person in charge of the station to test whether the computer to be used can log onto the PopVote website.

Number of helpers: There should be at least one technician in every voting area to assist citizens in verifying identities and provide help when voters encounter any difficulties in voting. Unless necessary, technicians **should leave the voting area after the HKID verification**. There should be workers in each station to help maintain discipline of the polling station, the number of staff will depend on the size of the station.

Voting procedures

1. Citizens enter the voting area and show their HKID cards to station helpers.
2. Helpers assist citizens in verifying identities using the system, including to confirm the citizen is the identity card holder and that he/she is a Hong Kong permanent resident (with "A" sign on ID card), then key in the voter's cell phone number so as to enter the voting interface.
3. If the system indicates that the citizen has already voted online or in polling stations recognized by POP, he/she cannot vote again.
4. If the HKID number or cell phone number has not been used for voting, the website will show a telephone number, helpers should assist citizens in sending a SMS to the telephone number shown on the website for verification.
5. The computer will automatically show the ballot once their identities are verified and let them vote. Meanwhile, helpers should leave the voting area or at least **keep a distance** from the voter in order to let him/her vote under no disruption and with high privacy.
6. Helpers should make sure the voting website has returned to its homepage after a voter has made his/her vote and let the next citizen register and vote.

Discipline within the polling station

No one should engage in any campaigning or show election campaign advertisements inside the station.

Photography, video shooting and recording are allowed under the circumstance that the voting process will not be disrupted, yet, voters' privacy should be respected and thus the voting options should not be recorded.

All helpers should not be involved in any campaigning or promoting campaigns except giving out election information.

Restricted area

In each station, **around 30 metres from the entrance/exit** should be designated as the restricted area and the size should be clearly indicated. No political campaigns, persuasion or attempts to influence voters to support or oppose any candidates is allowed within this area in order to let voters have some time to calm down before entering the station and vote under no disruption.

Entrance/Exit

If possible, the entrance and exit should be separated and not located on the same side of the station. This will ease the flow of the waiting lines.

Assistance from POP

POP will only provide guidelines to the person in charge, hoping that he/she can follow these guidelines to set up and operate the station. POP will not deploy any helpers or material support to the station, and will not be responsible for the operation of the station. If there are technical problems, station workers can call the hotline XXXX-XXXX on the voting day.

Appendix 6
Financial report

1. Project Background

1.1 The Public Opinion Programme (POP) at the University of Hong Kong conducted the "3.23 Civil Referendum Project (PopVote)" on 23-24 March 2012, in order to gauge people's choice of candidates of 2012 Chief Executive election, including the choice of abstention. The project has three objectives, namely: 1) to integrate with the results of public opinion surveys to form a comprehensive reference for the public and the election committee, 2) to construct a civil society by promoting civil participation, and 3) to demonstrate the electronic voting system. The voting result was released to public at the midnight of 25 March 2012.

1.2 This is the financial report which lists all donations received and the project expenditures by broad items as of April 19, 2012. The account is controlled by the Finance & Enterprises Office of the University of Hong Kong. All donations were processed according to the policy and general practices adopted by the Finance & Enterprises Office and the Development & Alumni Affairs Office of the University of Hong Kong. All donors, irrespective the amount of their donations, could neither affect the operation of the project, nor the independence of POP.

2. Donations

2.1   All donations confirmed to have been received by noon of 19 April 2012 are listed as follows:

Confirmed donors (including 178 "anonymous")	406
Confirmed amount of donations	$897,019.80
Mean of donations	$2,209.40
Median of donations	$300.00
Mode of donations	$100.00

Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1.00	9/2	Francis Tse	100.00	11/2	Susan Wong	100.00
9/2	Sean Wong	50.00	9/2	Wong Choi Wan	1000.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	50.00	9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	750.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00
9/2	Ken Lau	100.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	10.00	11/2	Mak Ka Yiu	500.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
9/2	雙貓抓門	144.80	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	11/2	Ming Chuen Hoi	1000.00
9/2	Lui Chi Wai	200.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	11/2	黃國泰	2000.00
9/2	Terence Chan	200.00	10/2	Tsoi Ip Hung	200.00	11/2	Samantha Lam	100.00
9/2	Choy Ming Fai	200.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	250.00	11/2	Fung Kai Kit	200.00
9/2	曾德基	200.00	10/2	Jason Lai	300.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
9/2	Lo Wai Ping	300.00	10/2	Lam Hay Lai	500.00	11/2	Mark Chung	200.00
9/2	Loretta Chik	300.00	10/2	Katherine Ma	500.00	11/2	Tse Lo Shan	100.00
9/2	Fong Ting Wai	500.00	10/2	Lam Man Kit	1000.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
9/2	Lee Pui Shan	500.00	10/2	Hilda Ma	1100.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	12/2	Leung Kim Hang	100.00
9/2	Eddie Leung	500.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	12/2	區珍	100.00
9/2	Chau Tak Wing	500.00	10/2	Edward To	6000.00	12/2	MA Lai Hing, Eliza	200.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	50.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
9/2	Carol Wu	1000.00	10/2	Ken Cheng	300.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
9/2	Audrey Shum	1000.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	12/2	Lam Wai Hung	500.00
9/2	Kan Wing Cheung, Kenneth	1000.00	10/2	Cheung Sai Hei	100.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	12/2	Anonymous 無名氏	5000.00
9/2	Maurice Yiu	1000.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	12/2	Kwan Lok Cheong	500.00
9/2	李銳華	2000.00	10/2	Atlas Yip	500.00	12/2	Gabriel Wu	500.00
9/2	Chan Cheong Wa, Vincent	3000.00	10/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	12/2	陳明朗	100.00
9/2	Lee Ying Chi	5000.00	11/2	Lee Mei Mei	100.00	13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
9/2	Your Boss	10000.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	13/2	葉煒林	100.00
9/2	Maple Tse	100.00	11/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	13/2	梁建成	200.00
9/2	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	11/2	Lee Siu Wang	100.00	13/2	黎名川	200.00

Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount
13/2	Shelley Chan	200.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	16/2	Ho Yuen Fan	200.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
13/2	Chan Mei Yee	300.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	18/2	Mr. Lam	100.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	16/2	Mok Chi Chung	500.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00
13/2	VK	500.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	16/2	Bryony Wong	500.00	18/2	羅錦清	200.00
13/2	Rachel Pang	1000.00	16/2	Chan Wing Sze, Fanny	1000.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	16/2	凝緣	1000.00	19/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	19/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
13/2	Si Yuen Yi	1000.00	16/2	Wong Tak Cheung	1000.00	19/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
13/2	Wu Lan	5000.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	5000.00	19/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
13/2	Wayne Lo	100.00	16/2	陳詠娟	1064.00	20/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	6000.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	20/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
13/2	黎文燕	200.00	16/2	劉卓賢	100.00	20/2	Ho Chi Fai	200.00
13/2	Pansy Chau	200.00	16/2	Pania Ng	300.00	20/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
13/2	Priscilla Wong	100.00	16/2	Yuen Ching Yan	100.00	20/2	Joanne Choi	500.00
13/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	16/2	S Kwok	300.00	21/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
14/2	Edward Tan	100.00	16/2	Terence Lee	1000.00	21/2	Ng Shuk Han	1000.00
14/2	Polly Fung	100.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	21/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1500.00
14/2	Jackie Chow	100.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	21/2	Anonymous 無名氏	20.00
14/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	21/2	Anna Tam	1000.00
14/2	Patrick Che	200.00	16/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	21/2	Scholars	8400.00
14/2	谷文昭	323.00	16/2	Antonio Yu	1000.00	21/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
14/2	Annelise Connell	400.00	17/2	Celina Lin	100.00	21/2	Daniel Lee	1000.00
14/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	17/2	劉振雄	500.00	21/2	Yeung Hoi Ting	200.00
14/2	Tang Fai Yeung	500.00	17/2	Kevin W P Lee	100.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
14/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	17/2	Liu Tsz Ying	200.00	22/2	Benson Wan	100.00
14/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100000.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
14/2	梁惠倫	1000.00	17/2	Teddy Hung	300.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
14/2	Clarence Tam	1000.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
14/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	17/2	Tam KY	800.00	22/2	Henry Cheung	300.00
14/2	Iris Choi	100.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
15/2	Tracy Chan	100.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	22/2	Ms. Cheung	500.00
15/2	Sze Hiu Lan	100.00	17/2	健明	1500.00	22/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
15/2	Tsui Kwok To	100.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	750.00	22/2	Tsang & Lee	200.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	23/2	Leung C	100.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	17/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	23/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
15/2	Ms. Cheung	500.00	18/2	Hercules Cheung	100.00	23/2	Connie Cheung	500.00
15/2	Judy Yu	1000.00	18/2	Cheung Chun Ho	200.00	23/2	Vivian So	1000.00
15/2	張慧芝	200.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	23/2	Gordon Au	2000.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	18/2	張文啟	400.00	24/2	Wong Wai, George	100.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	24/2	Patrick Lau	300.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
15/2	Nia Leung	300.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
15/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	18/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00

Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount
24/2	Ng Chi Hang	1000.00	24/2	Samson Man	100.00	8/3	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00
24/2	Lui Sin Mei, Carol	200.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	8/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	600.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	8/3	Andrew Chan	1000.00
24/2	梁大衛	100.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	8/3	Anonymous 無名氏	50000.00
24/2	Lam Ho Kwan	50.00	24/2	Nicco Tsang C.C.	100.00	8/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	Lam Sau Lai	500.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	8/3	Lelia Sun	150.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	8/3	YF Yue	200.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	8/3	Carmen Tam	500.00
24/2	Lo Mi Ling	100.00	24/2	Chan Ka Lo	100.00	9/3	Au Yeung Ho Pong	100.00
24/2	Billy Ng	100.00	24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	Yuen Man Kit	200.00	25/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1500.00	9/3	Ng Mei Lan	20000.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	25/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	9/3	SCC	500.00
24/2	Jade Lee	300.00	25/2	Lau Kwok Kui	100.00	9/3	Ng Pui Yin	100.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	20.00	25/2	Chan Ka Wan	200.00	9/3	Chan Lung Chak	200.00
24/2	Tiffany Wong	500.00	25/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	9/3	一流鳳	300.00
24/2	Chneg Wai Kwong	100.00	26/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	9/3	王傑	1000.00
24/2	鄧偉棕	500.00	27/2	Anonymous 無名氏	300.00	9/3	Jill Taylor	1000.00
24/2	Cheung Chi Fai	500.00	27/2	Wendy Tang	500.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	27/2	Ng Sui Sum	100.00	9/3	蘇育欣	200.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	50.00	28/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
24/2	May Wong	100.00	28/2	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	9/3	勞偉萬	200.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	29/2	Lau Yiu Fai	1000.00	9/3	Y.M. Ching	5000.00
24/2	Yan Chi Tak	2000.00	29/2	Tsui Chun Kuen, Ken	30.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
24/2	曾名琛	1000.00	1/3	Anonymous 無名氏	10000.00	9/3	Ho Wing Yau	1000.00
24/2	譚耀棠	100.00	2/3	Ming Chuen Hoi	1500.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	2/3	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	9/3	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	2/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	9/3	周美華	2000.00
24/2	Lee Man	500.00	3/3	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	11/3	Janice Lou	500.00
24/2	Wan Wai Yee	2000.00	4/3	Chan Ching Man, Joyce	300.00	11/3	Ng Ka Hang	500.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	5/3	Li Cheuk To	1000.00	14/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	方子華	5000.00	6/3	Wut Kee Hang	500.00	14/3	Merlin Chan	200.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	6/3	Cheung Pui Sze	500.00	15/3	Givy Lee	50.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	6/3	Anonymous 無名氏	112.00	15/3	Y Lai	200.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	50000.00	7/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	15/3	Nigel Huckstep	1000.00
24/2	Chan Hung Mui	500.00	7/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	15/3	Lai Pak Cheong	1000.00
24/2	Lam Tung Fei	200.00	7/3	Chapman Cheng	200.00	15/3	Ling Siu Chi, Tony	6000.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	8/3	Sapphire Li	500.00	15/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	余國傑	200.00	8/3	Anonymous 無名氏	150000.00	15/3	Benny Chuang	500.00
24/2	Mok Yam King	2000.00	8/3	Lo Woon Man	200.00	15/3	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
24/2	Ben Iu	500.00	8/3	YK Leung	500.00	15/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	Vivian Leung	100.00	8/3	Amclai	1000.00	16/3	Anonymous 無名氏	350.00
24/2	Leung Sui Keung	100.00	8/3	Betty Ng	500.00	16/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
24/2	Ms. Wong	100.00	8/3	John Wong	1000.00	16/3	Chan Kok Hon	1000.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	150000.00	8/3	Tsang Wai Sheung, Stephen (曾偉相)	200.00	17/3	Anonymous 無名氏	999.00
24/2	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	8/3	Chan Ka Leung	500.00	17/3	Michael Leung	300.00

Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount	Date	Name of donor	Amount
17/3	朱漢強	500.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	22/3	Cannie	200.00
17/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	1000.00	23/3	Anonymous 無名氏	6400.00
18/3	Choy Ki	2000.00	22/3	Kenny Yu	500.00	23/3	Draco Ng	100.00
18/3	海田	200.00	22/3	Keith Mak	200.00	23/3	蕭亮思	300.00
19/3	Kan Chu Leung	200.00	22/3	Cheng Kwok Hung	300.00	26/3	Yeung Pui Man	200.00
20/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	22/3	Marcus H. Langston	100.00	27/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
20/3	Yu Chun	10000.00	22/3	Wong Kwok Wai	100.00	27/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00
20/3	Yuen Tik Wan	100.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	27/3	Helen Wong	1000.00
21/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	27/3	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00
21/3	Anonymous 無名氏	200.00	22/3	Doreen Chan	100.00	28/3	Bernard Lee	300.00
21/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100000.00	22/3	Li Man Yee	500.00	28/3	Janey Chan	500.00
21/3	Ki Wing Hung	1000.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	2000.00	28/3	Anonymous 無名氏	1500.00
21/3	Lee Wing Sze, Vivian	300.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	30/3	Lily Villa	450.00
21/3	Anonymous 無名氏	100.00	22/3	Skyvan	50.00	2/4	R.C. Lee Hall Students' Association, HKUSU	146.00
21/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	22/3	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00	3/4	Leo Mak	300.00
						3/4	Anonymous 無名氏	500.00

[1] Donors who could not be identified because they did not submit any donation form online or otherwise are labeled "anonymous".

[2] Some donors might have made donations to the general donation account of the University of Hong Kong, but if they did not inform or provide evidence to POP about their donation, they would not be listed as donors of the event. Such donors should contact POP as soon as possible, otherwise their donations would be taken as general donations to the University of Hong Kong.

3. Expenditure

3.1 The details of all expenses of the project are listed below (as of 19 April 2012):

Staff cost	($)	($)
Regular staff (including IT, research, administrative support and data processing staff, but excluding the Director of POP who worked as a volunteer)	293,478.40	
Temporary project staff (including project executive and project assistants)	43,105.00	
Sub-total		336,583.40
IT / hardware expenses		
Cloud servers	45,000.00	
Computer (physical) servers	58,000.00	
Computer accessories	7,984.00	
Domain application (PopVote.hk)	625.00	
System security service & emergency technical support	23,153.10	
Server certificates (popvote.hk & www2.popvote.hk)	5,000.00	
SMS services	600.00	
Tablets	119,369.60	
Sim cards	1,776.00	
Sub-total		261,507.70
Polling stations (see supplementary information)		
Formal polling stations	47,235.80	
Mobile polling stations	72,732.80	
Subsidiary polling stations	4,201.00	
Sub-total		124,169.60
Others		
Publicity and decoration (leaflets, posters, roll up stand banners)	6,271.00	
Destruction of paper ballots and envelopes	500.00	
Equipment repair	366.00	
Material transportation	2,822.10	
"3.23 historical record book" (payable)	50,000.00	
Digital archive of the event (payable)	25,000.00	
Polling station partitions	8,400.00	
Postage	676.00	
Photocopying	11,045.00	
Refreshment at press conferences	270.20	
Refreshment for volunteers	1,257.90	
Stationery	864.00	
Travel expenses	2,241.50	
Sub-total		109,713.70
Total		831,974.40

[3] Expenses spent on "3.21 Mock Civil Referendum Project" are already included.
[4] All contributions made by Dr Robert Chung, Director of POP, are taken as voluntary.

Expenses incurred at polling stations (as of 19 April 2012):

Type of polling stations	Volunteers' honorarium ($)	Photocopy / Stationery ($)	Material transportation/ Travel expenses ($)	Rental fee ($)	Others ($)	Total ($)
Formal	17,290.00	12,579.30	1,363.50	15,398.00	605.00	**47,235.80**
Mobile	16,630.00	9,463.90	N/A	46,155.00	483.90	**72,732.80**
Subsidiary	600.00	779.00	1,665.00	N/A	1,157.00	**4,201.00**
Total	**34,520.00**	**22,822.20**	**3,028.50**	**61,553.00**	**2,245.90**	**124,169.60**

4. Net Balance and Other Issues

4.1 The net balance of the entire project as of 19 April 2012 = total donations − total expenditure = $897,019.80 - $831,974.40 = $65,045.40, with $50,000.00 already set aside for producing the "3.23 historical record book" and $25,000.00 set aside for developing a digital archive of the event. Both are expected to be completed within the next two months, while the activity report of the project would be completed within one month.

4.2 POP has strictly followed all university guidelines and procedures in handling donations and expenses involved in this project. POP welcome more donations from the general public, in order to further develop various online platforms, and to pave the way for more PopVote operations. All donors cannot affect the independence of POP.