

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Your readers will have failed to notice that recent events in filming movies in the city centre have been in the news lately. However, many people shake their heads to show their opinions towards the issue. In this letter, I am going to express my agreements on taking movies in our city and convince them with different evidence.

Firstly, filming movies in centre is beneficial to Hong Kong through building up a positive image across the globe. Not only do the stunning and unique skyline appear on the scene, but also the local cultures and lifestyle nowadays. It is totally a free promotion of Hong Kong to all around the world by showing on the big screens! When people who are not familiar with Hong Kong watch these films, they will have a better and thorough understanding of the port city. In 2017, the America movie 'Ghost in the Shell' was filmed in the city centre of Hong Kong and released in many places. Seeing the architectures and avenues featuring Hong Kong 's culture in Victoria Harbour and some old streets, the audiences can know more sides about this place simply by watching movies but not only the Chinatown in many countries. Thus, it is a way to promote Hong Kong to all foreigners and build up a good figure.

On the other hand, this helps to boost the development of tourist industry and local economy. As some of the scenes become one of the remarkable places in their own cities, they attract tourists and local people to check in and share their photos on social media such as Instagram, Snapshot and Telegram. People may also consume the shops there for buying souvenirs or eating delicacies. Therefore, more and more people are getting there to leap on the bandwagon. For example, the movie 'Cape No.7' is famous for one of the locations — Kenting in Taiwan. Many foreigners, even the local go to there just to visit the love story of the two main characters. I believe Hong Kong can gain the same profit as Taiwan if filming movies in the city centre is allowed. It strongly helps accelerate local economic growth.

Last but not least, both foreign film industry and the local one will get the invaluable opportunity to learn from each other during the filming process. As many of the foreign film industries have advanced technology and technics, for instance, the Hollywood and Bollywood, the local film makers can imitate the methods of how interesting films are produced. Learning the filming settings, equipment and human resources are important for the improvement of Hong Kong film producers. Also, it is a prime chance for the local to collaborate with prestigious movie makers. By doing so, it can encourage more citizens to support local movie industry and show the world that Hong Kong has the ability to produce Hollywood-like movies. As a result, taking films in city centre can provide good advantages for both foreign and local filmmaking industry.

To conclude, filming movies in our cities helps to build a better image, increase the growth of tourism and gain the valuable learning experiences. The public should agree to the filming issue in order to stop the loss of not doing so.

Yours truly,

Chris Wong