

NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary Information on 225CL - Yuen Long - Tuen Mun corridor - engineering works for commercial/residential areas at Hung Shui Kiu, stage II

INTRODUCTION

When considering PWSC(2000-01)92 on 21 February 2001 on 225CL “Yuen Long - Tuen Mun corridor - engineering works for commercial/residential areas at Hung Shui Kiu, stage II”, Members requested the Administration to provide information on the planned arrangements for the trees which were likely to be affected by the proposed works.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S RESPONSE

2. During the design stage, we have already considered ways of minimizing the impact on the 294 existing trees brought about by the proposed works. As a result, only 138 trees will be affected. Of these, 35 trees are located along Tin Ha Road.

3. We have surveyed and assessed the condition of the 138 affected trees. We will preserve three palm trees by transplanting at new locations. One of these belongs to Madam Ma Yuk-lan, who has written to Members in this regard. The tree, which is located beside Tin Ha Road, is a date palm common in other countries but rarely found in Hong Kong. It thus merits preservation and we are now working out the details of the transplantation in consultation with Madam Ma. The other two palm trees are located near Roads L1 and L2. They also have been selected for transplanting in view of their high amenity value.

/4.

4. The remaining 135 affected trees will be felled because they are either of low amenity value and/or in an unhealthy condition (99 trees) or are common fruit trees (36 trees). It will not be feasible or cost-effective to change the project design in order to preserve these trees or transplant them to other locations.

5. To compensate for the loss of the felled trees and to create a green environment, we will provide roadside landscaped strips by planting 558 new ornamental trees of about three metres high, mostly of flowering species, with shrubs and ground covers. We will also plant about 800 woodland mix whips. The new plantings will fully compensate the number of felled trees and provide a green and pleasant environment to road users and residents living nearby.
