

For discussion
On 13 July 2005

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON PLANNING, LANDS AND WORKS**

DEVELOPMENT OF GREENING MASTER PLANS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to brief Members on progress of development of Greening Master Plans (GMPs) for selected urban districts and implementation of the related planting programmes.

BACKGROUND

2. In pursuance of a general direction announced by the Chief Executive in his 2000 Policy Address to green up Hong Kong by planting more trees and flowers in the urban areas, the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau has established the Steering Committee on Greening (SCG) in December 2002 to formulate related strategies and supervise implementation of major programmes. This committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works), comprising members drawn from 16 bureaux and departments.

3. In order to provide a better focus of efforts, the Greening Master Plan Committee (GMPC) was set up in August 2004 under the auspices of SCG to develop blueprints of greening work in selected urban districts. The GMPC is led by the Director of Civil Engineering and Development and supported by representatives of 16 bureaux/departments as well as advisers from professional bodies and academia. Its terms of reference and membership are at **Annex A**.

GREENING MASTER PLAN

4. A GMP seeks to define the overall greening framework of an area by identifying suitable locations for planting together with desirable themes and species, thus serving as a guide to the planning, design and implementation of greening works for continuous and consistent results.

5. The GMP will fulfil broadly similar functions as the master landscape plans normally prepared in conjunction with development plans for New Towns by recommending greening initiatives at public places and, where applicable, at private premises. One major obstacle hitherto hampering the enhancement of urban greenery is lack of planting space. Although GMPs are drawn up based on the existing layout of each selected urban area, scope for cooperation with relevant bureaux/departments, quasi-government bodies and private property developers will be fully exploited in order to speed up the pace of implementation.

6. In recognition of the fact that greening opportunities arise under different timeframes, GMPs will embody a full spectrum of short, medium and long-term measures. Short-term measures are those conforming to the district layout, posing no conflict with land use and/or traffic arrangements.

7. The urban areas in Hong Kong are subject to incessant upgrading, renewal and redevelopment. It is hence important for GMPs to interface with other on-going studies or planned redevelopments. Greening opportunities associated with these studies or redevelopments are classified as medium-term measures for monitoring and follow-up.

8. Finally, long-term measures depict the ultimate greening vision setting aside constraints such as land availability, congested underground installations and overhanging signboards, deploying ambitious and innovative methods or techniques like tree corridors alongside highways, roof/podium gardens and vertical greening. Realization of this vision will have implications on planning and land administration policies.

9. Maintenance of greening measures under GMPs will be shouldered by the respective agencies, such as Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Highways Department, in accordance with the established practice. Proactive attempts will be made to enlist support from private developers.

GREENING MASTER PLAN FOR TSIM SHA TSUI

10. Taking advantage of the Area Improvement Study being conducted jointly by Planning Department and Transport Department, Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) commissioned a consultancy study in September 2004 to develop the GMP for Tsim Sha Tsui, whose boundaries are shown at **Annex B**.

11. Detailed survey and analysis were conducted to identify existing land use, level/themes of greening, relevant on-going studies and planned development projects. Having regard to all prevailing constraints, opportunities, characteristics and public feedback, a GMP for Tsim Sha Tsui is set out at **Annex C**.

12. In essence, the GMP for Tsim Sha Tsui proposes an overarching theme of “Jade Necklace” by linking up major greened areas including the Kowloon Park, ex-Marine Police Headquarters, open space surrounding the Cultural Centre, Middle Road Children’s Playground, Tsim Sha Tsui East Promenade and the Centenary Garden. This green route as illustrated at **Annex D** seeks to provide pedestrians and visitors with a relaxing and comfortable traveling experience. At locations falling outside this route, greening measures are suggested to amplify local characteristics.

13. In a bid to uplift the greenery of Tsim Sha Tsui, six pilot schemes will take place at Middle Road, Austin Road, Hillwood Road, Science Museum Path, Chatham Road South and Kowloon Park Drive as outlined in **Annex E**.

14. Drawing from the successful experience of other cities notably Singapore, a few parking spaces at the section of Carnarvon Road between Bristol Avenue and Hart Avenue will be deleted to make way for tree planting. This idea is a viable means to improve greenery of congested areas without creating public inconvenience. A development project being carried out by the Urban Renewal Authority on Carnarvon Road will bring about additional indoor parking spaces in 2007.

15. The GMP for Tsim Sha Tsui was first presented to the Yau Tsim Mong District Council on 20 December 2004 and again on 28 April 2005 with details for the six pilot greening schemes as well as proposed conversion of roadside parking spaces on Carnarvon Road into planting areas. The Yau Tsim Mong South Area Committee was also consulted on 17 May 2005. During all these occasions, there was unequivocal support and strong demand for improved urban greeneries. Nonetheless, parties likely to be affected, such as nearby shop-owners, will be approached before commencement of planting works on site.

16. The Harbour-front Enhancement Committee welcomed the GMP for Tsim Sha Tsui as a worthwhile initiative at its meeting on 3 March 2005 and urged for more greening initiatives at the harbour-front area.

OTHER GMP STUDIES

17. In December 2004, a second consultancy study was commissioned by CEDD to develop the GMP for Central using similar methodologies for completion in July 2005 whose coverage is at Annex B. The draft preliminary GMP proposes 'Heart of Gold' as an overarching theme manifested by plants blooming flowers and foliages in gold, yellow, orange and red complemented by trees with large crown forming a green backdrop.

18. The draft preliminary GMP for Central was supported by the Working Group on Greening and Beautification Works of the Central and Western District Council on 10 June 2005. The District Council will be presented with a draft recommended GMP on 21 July 2005.

19. Development of GMPs will be rolled out to Sheung Wan, Wan Chai, Causeway Bay and Mongkok in 2006. We also plan to develop GMPs for other selected districts in the urban areas in phases pending availability of resources. The phase development approach will allow implementation of the recommended greening measures upon completion of the GMP for each area.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

20. The six pilot greening schemes in Tsim Sha Tsui will commence in mid-2005 for completion by end of 2005. Meanwhile, CEDD is taking charge of detailed design for those short-term greening measures ready to start in early-2006 for completion within the same year subject to availability of funds. Similarly, pilot schemes and short-term greening measures for Central will be implemented by CEDD by end-2005 and in 2006 respectively.

WAY FORWARD

21. We will monitor on-going studies and planned re-developments with a view to bringing up the medium-term measures for implementation. Issues associated with the long-term measures will be tackled by SCG.

ATTACHMENTS

- Annex A – Terms of Reference and membership of the Greening Master Plan Committee
- Annex B – Boundary of the Greening Master Plan for Tsim Sha Tsui area and Central
- Annex C – Greening Master Plan for Tsim Sha Tsui area – recommended short, medium and long-term plan
- Annex D – The “Jade Necklace” greening theme for Tsim Sha Tsui Area
- Annex E – Location plan of six pilot greening schemes

Environmental, Transport and Works Bureau
June 2005

GREENING MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

- (i) To formulate and review Greening Master Plans to guide the implementation of greening work in selected urban areas;
- (ii) To identify new opportunities to enhance the greening environment;
- (iii) To report to the Steering Committee on Greening on the formulation and implementation of Greening Master Plans;
- (iv) To oversee and monitor the planning and implementation of greening, and thematic planting arising from the Greening Master Plans as endorsed by the Steering Committee on Greening;
- (v) To secure support for the Greening Master Plans through consultations, externally and internally, including the Town Planning Board and Committee on Planning and Land Development as required;
- (vi) To incorporate other concurrent studies or implementation schemes on greening undertaken by other government departments;
- (vii) To resolve inter-departmental conflicts and interface issues arising from the formulation and implementation of the Greening Master Plans; and
- (viii) To liaise with developers to formulate proposals for enhanced cityscape in the vicinity of developments.

Chairman

Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Membership

Representatives at D1/D2 level or above from :

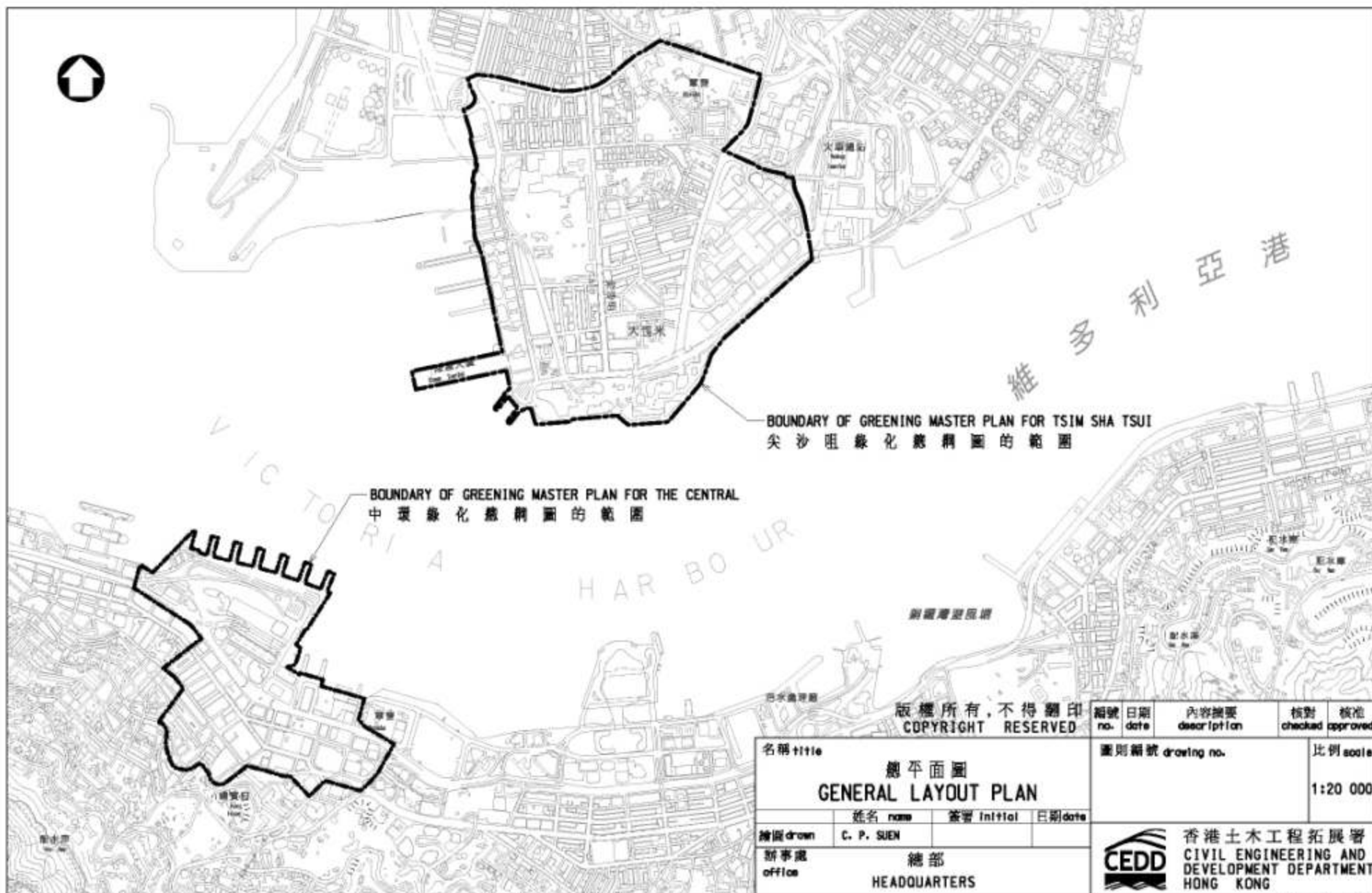
Environment, Transport and Works Bureau
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
Architectural Services Department
Buildings Department
Highways Department
Home Affairs Department
Lands Department
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Planning Department
Tourism Commission
Transport Department

Ad hoc members

Drainage Services Department
Housing Department
Urban Renewal Authority
Water Supplies Department
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
and others as necessary

Advisors

University of Hong Kong (Professor C Y JIM, JP, Chair of Geography)
Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects
and others as necessary



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名稱 title 總平面圖 GENERAL LAYOUT PLAN				圖則編號 drawing no.		比例 scale 1:20 000	
繪圖 drawn		姓名 name C. P. SUEN	簽署 initial	日期 date	 香港土木工程拓展署 CIVIL ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HONG KONG		
辦事處 office		總部 HEADQUARTERS					



香港土木工程拓展署
CIVIL ENGINEERING AND
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HONG KONG



LEGEND

EXISTING GREENING

- Existing Old & Valuable Trees and Champion Trees
- Existing Massed Trees and Shrubbery
- Other Existing Greenery
- Existing Shrubs on Railing-Mounted Containers

PROPOSED GREENING

- T1 & T2* Trees in Existing Planters & Pavement
- T3* Trees in Containers (See Note 2)
- T4* Shrubs in New Planters
- T5* Shrubs in Existing Planters
- T6a* Shrubs in Containers (See Note 2)
- T6b* Shrubs in Railing-Mounted Containers (See Note 2)
- T7* Hanging Baskets (See Note 2)
- T8a* Climbers on Walls, Columns & Slopes (See Note 2)
- T8b* Comprehensive Slope Treatment
- T9* Climbers on Free-Standing Trellis (See Note 2)
- T10a* Pleached Trees
- T10b* Sculptural & Seasonal Festive Installations
- T10c* Movable Green Partitions
- T10d* Integrated Planters at New Structures

* Note 1: "T" refers to the Greening Types described in the Report

Note 2: Size and spacing of all Greening Type symbols is indicative only and does not reflect real dimensions.



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The medium-term plan recognises possible opportunities created by the potential implementation of various studies, proposals and known designs that will be implemented in the future. These include:

- ① Agreement No. CE19/2003(TP) - Feasibility Study on Area Improvement for Tsim Sha Tsui (by PlanD and TD)
- ② Proposed Cultural Square at Salisbury Garden (by Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC))
- ③ N1 Open Plaza Outside TST Star Ferry Pier (formerly known as TST Promenade Beautification Phase II) (by ArchSD for Tourism Commission)
- ④ Development of West Kowloon Cultural District Hong Kong (by Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau, HKSAR)
- ⑤ Agreement No. CE 93/2002 (CE) - Strategic Overview of the Enhancement Works at Government Piers and Landing Facilities within the Limits of Victoria Harbour (by CEDD)
- ⑥ Proposed Hotel and Related Tourism Development Scheme for Former Marine Police Headquarters Site, K/L 1116/1, Tsim Sha Tsui

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Visionary techniques include roof-top gardens and green wall systems (selected examples only)

- A. Visionary green wall on Hong Kong Museum of Art
- B. Visionary green wall on Marco Polo Prince Hotel
- C. Visionary Roof-top garden on Star Ferry Pier
- D. Visionary Roof-top garden of Harbour City
- E. Visionary green wall on Kwun Chung Street Municipality building
- F. Visionary green wall on Hong Kong Cultural Centre
- G. Visionary Roof-top garden & green wall system on Middle Road Multi-storey carpark
- H. Visionary green wall on buildings within the Kowloon Cricket Club grounds

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