

立法會
Legislative Council

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(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

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**Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee
of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 7th meeting
held in Conference Room A of Legislative Council Building
on Thursday, 6 April 2006, at 10:45 am**

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, S.B.St.J., JP (Chairman)
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon LI Kwok-ying, MH
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, SBS, JP
Hon TAM Heung-man

Members absent:

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, JP
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, BBS, JP
Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP

Public officers attending:

Mr Joe CC WONG	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ³
Mr C K MAK, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) (Acting)
Mrs Rita LAU, JP	Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)
Dr Mike CHIU, JP	Deputy Director of Environmental Protection
Mr Davey CHUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Mr CHAN Chi-chiu, JP	Director of Water Supplies
Mr LEUNG Mang-chiu, JP	Assistant Director of Water Supplies/New Works
Mr John S V CHAI, JP	Director of Civil Engineering and Development
Mr Patrick KWONG	Assistant Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Administration)
Ms Bernadette LINN	Deputy Secretary for Education and Manpower (2)
Mr C H YUE, JP	Director of Architectural Services

Clerk in attendance:

Mr Paul WOO	Senior Council Secretary (1) ³
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Staff in attendance:

Ms Pauline NG	Assistant Secretary General 1
Ms Guy YIP	Council Secretary (1) ¹
Ms Alice CHEUNG	Senior Legislative Assistant (1) ¹
Mr Frankie WOO	Legislative Assistant (1) ²

Action

HEAD 709 – WATERWORKS

PWSC(2006-07)1

174WC

Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 2

The Chairman advised members that the Panel on Planning, Lands and Works (PLW Panel) was consulted on the proposal at its meeting on 28 February 2006. While Panel members were generally in support of the proposal, they had made the following recommendations –

- (a) the works project should be completed as early as possible; and
- (b) better materials should be used for the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains so as to lengthen their service life.

2. The item was voted on and endorsed.

HEAD 705 – CIVIL ENGINEERING

**PWSC(2006-07)2 35CG & 36CG Greening master plan for Kowloon West – studies and works
Greening master plan for Hong Kong Island – studies and works**

3. The Chairman advised members that the proposals to implement measures recommended in the greening master plans (GMPs) for Tsim Sha Tsui and Central and to proceed with development of GMPs for other selected areas in Kowloon West and Hong Kong Island (PWSC(2005-06)34 and PWSC(2005-06)35) were submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) at its meeting on 21 December 2005. In view of members' views expressed at the PWSC meeting, the two items were withdrawn by the Administration. He told members that the Administration had proposed to proceed at this stage with the proposed greening works for Tsim Sha Tsui and Central, followed by a separate submission on development of GMPs later on. The PLW Panel was consulted on the present proposal at its meeting on 28 February 2006.

4. Appreciating the Administration's effort in improving the aesthetic appeal of the greening plans, Mr LAU Kong-wah gave his support to the proposal to implement greening works in Tsim Sha Tsui and Central. He remarked that in rolling out GMPs, emphasis should be put on ensuring continuity and consistency of the greening projects and providing different greening themes for different districts to project the unique characteristics of the district concerned. For the latter, views from District Councils should be solicited and reported to the relevant Panel of the Legislative Council. Referring to the present proposal, he noted that the greening projects would be confined to government lands such as road curbs and central reserves. In this connection, he sought information from the Administration on whether and how the business sector, property developers and local building management committees etc. would be encouraged to join hands with the Administration in promoting and implementing greening initiatives such that resources invested in GMPs would be maximized.

5. In reply, the Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Administration) (DCED) said that the greening plans depicted in the GMPs were for selected urban areas with a view to attracting public participation. A multi-pronged approach encompassing civic education on the protection of plants and report of illegal tree felling activities, publicity, planting activities and consultation with key stakeholders, had been adopted to encourage citizens and private developers to promote greening. For example, in the re-development of

the Landmark in Central, greening works were implemented by the private developer to produce a synergy effect to the GMP. The Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands) added that under the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131), private developers were required to submit landscape plans to support their planning applications for the approval by the Town Planning Board. For development of land zoned Comprehensive Development Areas, master layout plan showing details of landscape and tree planting plans were required to be submitted for approval. Moreover, the Administration together with professionals such as architects and landscape architects made concerted efforts in promoting good building designs, including the setting back of buildings to allow tree planting and walking space for pedestrians.

6. Mr LAU Kong-wah opined that to improve the air quality of Hong Kong, consideration should be given to planting species which were capable not only of creating a beautifying effect but also reducing pollutants in the environment. He asked if the Administration had conducted any studies in this regard. The Assistant Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Administration) replied that the objective of GMPs was to define an overall greening framework by identifying suitable locations for planting together with desirable themes and species so as to achieve continuity and sustainability. In so doing, professional views on the selection of tree species had been sought.

7. Expressing support for the Administration's proposal, Ms Miriam LAU appreciated that the greening themes now proposed for Tsim Sha Tsui and Central had improved. She nevertheless expressed concern about the adaptability of the trees to the planters and the surrounding environment as well as the supporting soil and asked if measures would be adopted to ensure the durability of the greening projects. DCED replied in the affirmative. He said that the Administration had sought professional advice on the technical aspects of the proposed greening projects. Provisions had been set aside for ground preparation and tree mounting.

8. Ms Miriam LAU said that sustained maintenance and improvement measures were essential to ensure durability of the greening works. Pointing out that some plant species, in particular the shrubs, required regular upkeep, she sought information from the Administration on the long-term maintenance plan of the proposed greening works. DCED replied that the Civil Engineering and Development Department would be responsible for maintaining the proposed greening works for the first 12 months by means of out-sourced contracts. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department would take over the maintenance work thereafter.

9. The Chairman pointed out that there was a requirement specifying that pedestrian walkways and pavements should be at least 3.5 metres in width. However, this requirement had not always been met, hence limiting the space available for carrying out high standard greening works. He opined that this factor should be taken into account in planning and implementing new works projects. The Administration noted the Chairman's comment.

Admin 10. To conclude, the Chairman requested the Administration to take forward the various views expressed by members at the meeting and report to the relevant Panel on the progress of development of the GMPs in due course.

11. The item was voted on and endorsed.

HEAD 703– BUILDINGS

**PWSC(2006-07)3 324EP Primary school at Hiu Kwong Street,
Sau Mau Ping, Kwun Tong**

12. The Chairman advised members that an information paper on the project had been circulated to the Panel on Education on 12 December 2005.

13. The item was voted on and endorsed.

14. The meeting ended at 11:25 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
26 April 2006