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28 April 2006

Mr Stephen LAM Sui-lung
Secretary for Constitutional Affairs
Constitutional Affairs Bureau
3rd floor Main and East Wings
Central Government Offices
Hong Kong

Dear Mr LAM,

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Meeting on 15 May 2006 at 2:30 pm

At the special meeting on 27 April 2006, the Administration briefed the Panel on the Consultation Document on “Review of the Role, Functions and Composition of District Councils”. Members agreed that that the matter should be further discussed at the next regular meeting of the Panel which will be held at **2:30 pm on 15 May 2006 in the Chamber**. Members of the Panel on Home Affairs will also be invited to the meeting. A revised agenda for the meeting is attached.

I should be grateful if you could co-ordinate the attendance of the Administration’s representatives and let me have a bilingual attendance list **by 8 May 2006**.

During the discussion of the Panel at the special meeting on 27 April 2006, members raised the following issues –

- (a) a member expressed concern about the adequacy of, and the basis for arriving at, the proposed annual provision of \$300 million for the dedicated capital works block vote. He requested the Administration to provide a breakdown of the existing number of outstanding minor works and facility improvement projects in each district and the capital costs involved; and

- (b) at present, minor works and facility improvements in districts are undertaken by the Government, i.e. either by works departments or contractors entrusted by the Home Affairs Department. With the enhanced role of District Councils in initiating and implementing minor works in the districts, a member expressed concern whether individual District Councils are provided with adequate technical and professional support for the design, tender and supervision of the works projects. He requested the Administration to provide a written response to explain the proposed new arrangements.

I should be grateful if you could provide your bilingual response in the form of a paper, in Adobe Acrobat (i.e. xxx.pdf) format, via e-mail (ftsang@legco.gov.hk) **by 8 May 2006**. Please note that unless you raise objection, the paper will be distributed to the media and the public, and made available on the website of LegCo on the Internet.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs Percy MA)
Clerk to Panel

Encl.