Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs District Open Space in Area 40A, Tseung Kwan O

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' support for the development of the proposed District Open Space in Area 40A, Tseung Kwan O.

Background

2. The proposed District Open Space in Area 40A, Tseung Kwan O is an ex-Provisional Municipal Councils project to meet the demand for public open space in the district. The project has the support of the Home Affairs Bureau.

Location of the Project Site

3. The project covers a site of about 2.2 hectares in Area 40A, Tseung Kwan O. The site has been temporarily provided with some simple landscaping works to beautify the area pending permanent development. A conceptual layout of the project site together with the location plan is at **Enclosure**.

Scope of the Project

- 4. The proposed scope of the project comprises
 - (a) a contemporary design garden, with a large lawn, soft landscaping area, sitting out area and rain shelters/pavilions;
 - (b) three basketball courts, colour-coated and with floodlighting;

- (c) a children's play area;
- (d) a jogging trail, with flowering trees and fitness stations at appropriate locations;
- (e) a fitness corner for elderly, with pebble walking trail; and
- (f) ancillary facilities (including toilets, a small office, store room, meter room and loading area for vehicles).

Justifications

- Tseung Kwan O is a densely populated and fast developing new town with high-rise residential buildings. It has a current population of 341,800, which is expected to increase by about 12% to 383,500 in 2013. In view of the upsurge in population, there is a need to provide more recreation and sports facilities such as basketball courts, children's play areas, sitting out and soft landscaping areas to cope with the increasing demand. As a reference, the Hong Kong Planning Standard and Guidelines suggests a provision of 68 hectares of public open space for the current population in the new town. At present, there are 52.7 hectares of public open space in Tseung Kwan O including Local Open Space provision by the Housing Department. The proposed project will improve the provision of public open space in Tseung Kwan O new town.
- 6. The project site is located in a densely populated residential area surrounded by high-rise public and private residential developments such as On Ning Garden, Nam Fung Plaza, East Point City and Chung Ming Court. With a relatively young population profile and 51 secondary and primary schools in Tseung Kwan O, there will be a high demand for active outdoor recreation and sports facilities. Provision of passive soft landscaping and sitting out facilities for the enjoyment of residents will also be highly welcomed. The utilisation rate of existing leisure facilities in Tseung Kwan O has been very high and the proposed District Open Space will become a popular venue for local residents.

Project Estimate and Implementation Plan

- 7. We have upgraded the Project to Category B. The updated estimated project cost is \$60 million in money-of-the-day prices.
- 8. The Architectural Services Department has engaged consultant to carry out design of the proposed District Open Space. Subject to approval of the funding application from the Finance Committee, the construction works are expected to start in December 2006 for completion in October 2008.

Public Consultation

9. The Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee of the Sai Kung District Council was consulted on 17 January 2006 on the conceptual layout of the proposed District Open Space. Members supported the project and urged for its early implementation.

Way Forward

10. To take the project forward, the Administration intends to submit the project to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee in May 2006 for upgrading to Category A.

Advice Sought

11. Members are invited to support the development of the proposed District Open Space.

Home Affairs Bureau March 2006

附件 ENCLOSURE

