

For information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

**Modification of Implementation Mode for
Leisure and Cultural Facilities in Kwun Tong and Tseung Kwan O**

Purpose

At the meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs on 10 November 2006, Members discussed the proposal on the modification of implementation mode for leisure and cultural facilities in Kwun Tong and Sai Kung as stated in LC Paper No. CB(2)257/06-07(03) and agreed that the projects should be implemented as early as possible. This paper seeks to inform Members of the result of the Administration's consultation with the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) and the Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) in respect of the modification of implementation mode for the leisure and cultural facilities and brief Members on the latest progress of the projects.

Consultation with the District Councils

2. After the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs on 10 November 2006, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) informed the KTDC of the proposal on the modification of implementation mode for leisure and cultural facilities on 16 November 2006 and listened to the District Council's views on the proposal. During the meeting, members of the KTDC generally supported the modification proposal put forward by the Administration and hoped that the projects could be commenced under the Public Works Programme as early as possible.

3. Subsequently on 5 December 2006, the LCSD consulted the SKDC in respect of the modification proposal and obtained the District Council's support. Members of the SKDC generally hoped that the Government could carry out the construction works for the relevant leisure and cultural facilities under the Public Works Programme as early as possible.

Latest Progress of the Projects in Kwun Tong

Redevelopment Works for Kwun Tong Swimming Pool

4. The redevelopment of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool will be carried out under the Public Works Programme. The proposed project will re-provision the existing facilities in Kwun Tong Swimming Pool, and provide better swimming pool facilities which meet the latest requirements. The proposed new facilities will include indoor heated swimming pools and the seating capacity of the spectator stand will also be increased from the present 800 seats to 1,500 seats. The redeveloped Kwun Tong Swimming Pool will be able to meet local community's recreation needs which will mainly cater for casual swimming, swimming classes and organising of local swimming competitions such as school swimming gala. The Administration will first build a new swimming pool complex on the site of the football pitches presently adjacent to Kwun Tong Swimming Pool. When the new pool is ready, the existing pool will be demolished and the vacated site will be used for re-provisioning the football pitches. By taking this opportunity, Kwun Tong Recreation Ground will also be renovated.

5. We have consulted the KTDC on the proposed development scope and obtained the District Council's support. Details of the development scope are as follows:

- (i) Redevelopment of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool on the existing site of the football pitches at Kwun Tong Recreation Ground. The facilities will include:
 - a 50-metre indoor heated main pool
 - a 25-metre indoor heated training pool
 - a 50-metre outdoor secondary pool
 - two 25-metre outdoor training pools
 - a leisure pool
 - a spectator stand which can accommodate about 1 500 people
 - other ancillary facilities

- (ii) Re-provisioning of the leisure facilities of Kwun Tong Recreation Ground at the present location of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool and the north-eastern corner of Kwun Tong Recreation Ground, including:
 - a 7-a-side artificial turf football pitch
 - three basketball courts
 - two 7-a-side hard-surface football pitches
 - a roller-skating rink, which can also be used as two volleyball courts
 - two children's play areas
 - a jogging track

- a fitness corner for the elderly
- a garden
- other ancillary facilities

(iii) Setting up of the Kwun Tong District Leisure Services Office in the redeveloped Kwun Tong Swimming Pool complex.

6. According to the preliminary estimate of the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), the works can commence in mid-2009 the earliest and the redevelopment of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool and Kwun Tong Recreation Ground will be completed at the end of 2011 and in 2014 respectively. After the completion of a technical feasibility study by the ArchSD, the works progress will be reviewed accordingly.

Kwun Tong Cross District Community Cultural Centre

7. The Government will construct a Cross District Community Cultural Centre (CDC) under the Public Works Programme on a site covering an area of about 1.88 hectares included in the project of redeveloping the Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate. We have consulted the KTDC on the development scope of the CDC and have obtained its support. Details of the development scope are as follows:

- an auditorium with about 1 200 seats
- a theatre with about 550 seats
- three drama/dance/music studios cum rehearsal areas, with about 100 to 250 seats each
- a large rehearsal room and two rehearsal rooms that can be combined
- a western restaurant / Chinese restaurant and a cafeteria
- a foyer area with box office, an enquiry / reception counter and a cloakroom
- working space for arts organisations
- about 200 fee-charging parking spaces
- an outdoor piazza
- other ancillary facilities, including offices, storerooms and toilets, etc

8. According to the Housing Department's implementation schedule for the redevelopment of the Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, the site will be available for development in early 2011. According to the Government's preliminary estimate, the works of the CDC project will be completed in mid-2014.

Latest Progress of the Projects in Tseung Kwan O

9. The Government will construct a town park and an indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre that meets the required standards for international cycling competitions and training purposes on the site in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O under the Public Works Programme.

10. Later we will consult the District Facilities Management Committee under the SKDC in detail on the specific development scope of the town park and the indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre. Afterwards, we will proceed to further planning work for the projects under the Public Works Programme.

Town Park

11. As an initial idea, the proposed facilities of the town park include:

- an artificial lake (an area of which will be designated for launching radio-controlled model boats)
- an amphitheatre with about 500 seats
- an outdoor sport climbing site
- an outdoor extreme games area
- an outdoor cycling track
- a jogging track with fitness training facilities
- a fitness trail for the elderly
- a children's play area
- a landscaped area with sitting-out facilities
- a service building with ancillary facilities including a park office, a first-aid room, toilets, changing rooms, a cafeteria/café, a storeroom and a loading/unloading area

12. According to the preliminary estimate of the ArchSD, the works can commence in 2009 the earliest for completion in 2011. After consultation with the District Council and the completion of a technical feasibility study by the ArchSD, the works progress will be reviewed accordingly.

Indoor Velodrome-cum-Sports Centre

13. Cycling is currently one of the 13 elite sports in Hong Kong, which we have been making untiring efforts to develop. Remarkable results have also been achieved by Hong Kong cycling athletes in international competitions. For track cycling races, Hong Kong cyclists won a bronze medal in the Madison Race of the 2002 Busan Asian Games and a gold

medal in the Men's 40-Kilometre Points Race of the 2006 Doha Asian Games which has just concluded. Therefore, the construction of an indoor velodrome that will meet international standards and provide a modern and safe training and competition venue for cycling athletes and beginners can further boost the development of the sport of cycling in Hong Kong.

14. At present, there is no indoor velodrome in Hong Kong. The outdoor velodrome in the Hong Kong Sports Institute was built in the 1980s and does not meet the current requirements for training of cyclists. Therefore, the Government has proposed that an indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre be constructed in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O. This facility will serve as a training base for elite athletes, and will be open for use by beginners and members of the public. It will also be a suitable venue for staging international indoor cycling races. In addition, to enhance its utilisation, this indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre may be used for other purposes such as ball games, performing arts events, conferences and exhibitions. As an initial idea, the indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre will include the following facilities:

Sports Facilities

- an indoor 250-metre long cycling track which meets the standard of international competitions
- flexible spectator stand facilities, including about 2 000 permanent seats and about 1 000 portable seats
- a multi-purpose track centre area which can be used for organising different activities, e.g., being used as two basketball courts, two volleyball courts, eight badminton courts, and a venue for gymnastics, judo, martial arts, dancing, exhibitions, conferences, concerts, performing arts activities or seminars, etc.
- other sports facilities such as fitness room, multi-purpose activity room, dance room, children's playroom, etc.

Other facilities

- a restaurant, a cafeteria, a café and other catering facilities
- a sports pro shop and other retailing outlets
- office space for hire by national sports associations and other organisations
- conference facilities
- ancillary facilities such as offices, a first aid room, toilets, changing rooms, storerooms, a loading/unloading area, etc.

15. The proposed indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre will become a recreation and sports landmark of Tseung Kwan O district, Sai Kung. According to the preliminary estimate of the ArchSD, the works can commence in 2009 the earliest for completion in 2012. Upon completion of a technical feasibility study by the ArchSD, the works progress will be

reviewed accordingly. The Hong Kong Cycling Association also fully supports this proposed indoor velodrome-cum-sports centre project.

The Way Forward

16. We will implement the projects in accordance with the established procedures of the Public Works Programme. Upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and cost estimation by the ArchSD, we will seek funding approval as soon as possible so as to expedite the implementation of the projects.

Home Affairs Bureau

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