

For information

## **Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs**

### **Swimming Pool Complex in Area 1 (San Wai Court), Tuen Mun**

#### **Purpose**

This paper informs Members of a proposed capital works project (the Project) to construct a Swimming Pool Complex in Area 1 (San Wai Court), Tuen Mun that we plan to submit to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) for consideration at its meeting on 7 January 2009. If Members of the Panel on Home Affairs would like to discuss the Project, we would make arrangement with the Secretariat for it to be discussed at a meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs before it is submitted to the PWSC.

#### **Background**

2. The Project is an ex-Municipal Council project and is one of the 25 priority projects announced in the January 2005 Policy Address.

#### **Location of the Project Site**

3. The project site, with a total area of about 15 472 square meters, is located at Ming Kum Road near Leung King Estate in Area 1, Tuen Mun. The project site is now vacant and is available for development. A site plan is at the **Enclosure**.

## **Project Scope**

4. The proposed scope of the project comprises –
- (a) an outdoor main pool (50m x 25m) with a spectator stand with seating capacity of 1 200 seats (including 800 permanent and 400 retractable seats);
  - (b) an indoor heated pool (25m x 25m);
  - (c) an indoor heated leisure pool with water play equipment and Jacuzzi facility;
  - (d) an outdoor training pool (25m x 15m);
  - (e) an outdoor teaching pool (25m x 12m); and
  - (f) ancillary and supporting facilities, including baby care room, first-aid room, toilets and changing rooms, management office and carparking areas.

## **Justifications**

5. Tuen Mun is a densely populated district. Currently, there are two public swimming pool facilities in Tuen Mun, namely, the Tuen Mun Swimming Pool and the Tuen Mun Jockey Club Yan Oi Tong Swimming Pool. The Tuen Mun Swimming Pool has one main pool, one secondary pool, one training pool, two teaching pools, one diving pool and one leisure pool. The Tuen Mun Jockey Club Yan Oi Tong Swimming Pool has two leisure pool units.

6. The current population of the Tuen Mun District is about 508 600 and is expected to increase to 538 200 in 2016. As a reference, the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines suggests the provision of a swimming pool complex for a population of 287 000, and therefore Tuen Mun District can be provided with two swimming pool complexes. Given that Tuen Mun Jockey Club Yan Oi Tong Swimming Pool has only two leisure pool units and is not a complex which comprises swimming pools of 50m and / or 25m long, there is justification to provide an additional swimming pool complex in the Tuen Mun District. The Tuen Mun District Council and the local residents in north Tuen Mun have strongly requested for early implementation of the project.

7. Swimming has become an increasing popular activity in Hong Kong. The total attendance of public swimming pools is over 9.2 million in 2007. As people are becoming more health conscious, there is an increasing demand for year round swimming facilities, and indoor heated swimming pools, in particular, are becoming more popular. The attendance of the Tuen Mun Swimming Pool has increased by about 27% from 310 147 in 2005 to 392 198 in 2007. Similarly, the attendance of Tuen Mun Jockey Club Yan Oi Swimming Pool has also increased by about 20% from 32 713 in 2005 to 39 013 in 2007. The only public heated pool in the district is at Tuen Mun Swimming Pool which is an outdoor one.

8. There are 152 schools with about 74 000 students in the district. The provision of a new public swimming pool complex will help alleviate the keen demand of swimming and training facilities in the district.

### **Project Estimate and Implementation Plan**

9. The estimated cost of the project is \$760 million in September 2008 prices.

10. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, the construction is expected to commence in mid 2009 for completion in early 2012.

### **Public Consultation**

11. We consulted the Leisure and Culture Committee (LCC) of Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) on the scope of the project on 21 June 2005. Members supported the project.

12. We consulted the LCC of TMDC on the conceptual layout of the project on 12 June 2007, and we further consulted the District Facilities Management Committee of TMDC on the design of the project on 8 April 2008. Members strongly supported the project and urged for early implementation.

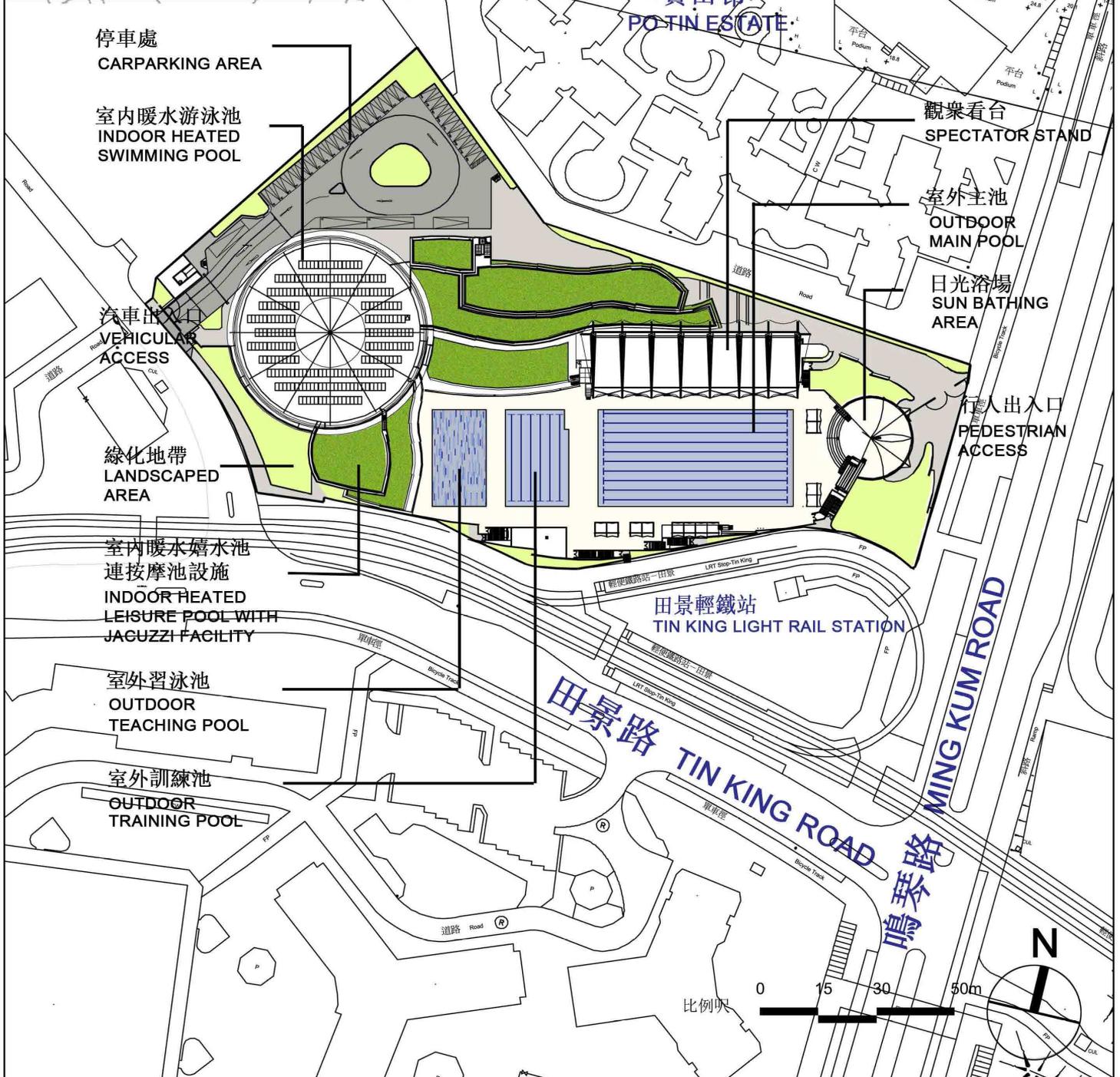
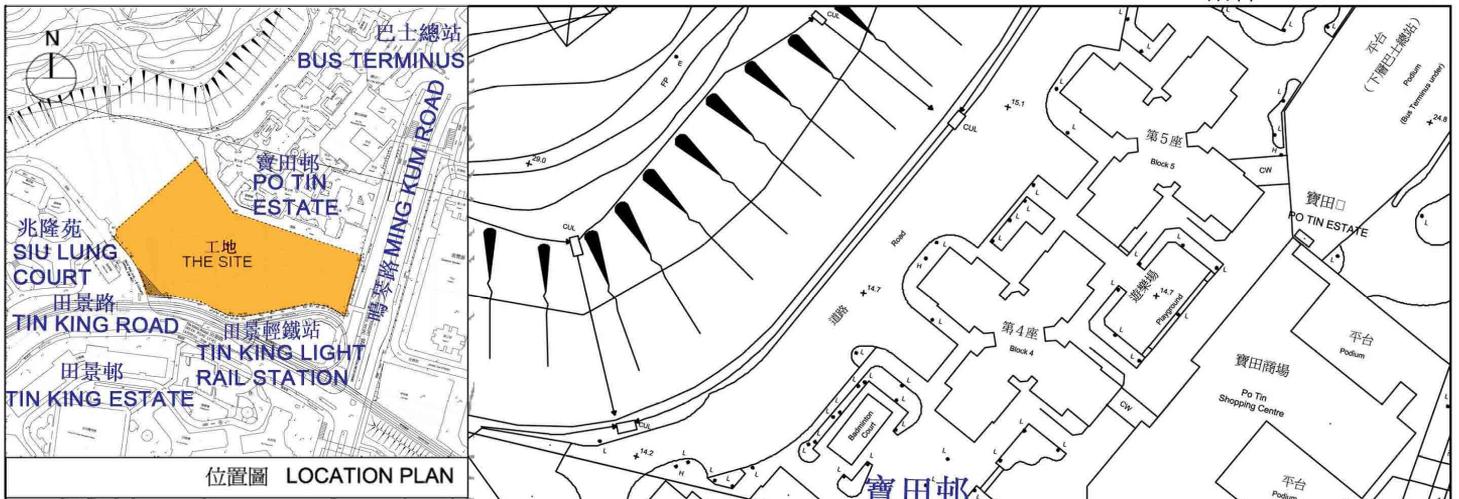
### **Way Forward**

13. We intend to submit the Project to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee for consideration at its meeting on 7 January 2009.

### **Advice Sought**

14. Members are invited to support the implementation of the Project.

Home Affairs Bureau  
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