

For discussion
on 3 November 2009

Legislative Council
Panel on Security
The Development of Aberdeen Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on our proposal to demolish the existing Aberdeen Fire Station and to construct a new fire station-cum-ambulance depot at Nam Fung Road, Aberdeen.

BACKGROUND

2. Commissioned in 1961, the existing Aberdeen Fire Station is a three-bay fire station designed to accommodate only three fire appliances, namely a Hydraulic Platform, a Major Pump and a Light Rescue Unit. With the development of multi-storey residential and commercial buildings in the area, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has deployed an additional 37-metre Turntable Ladder, and a command car to the Station. Besides, as there is no dedicated ambulance depot in Aberdeen and Apleichau, four ambulances are also parked at the Station. Sheds are built at the drill yard to accommodate the ambulances and the additional fire appliances.

PROPOSAL

3. We propose to demolish the existing Aberdeen Fire Station, and construct a fire station-cum-ambulance depot with five larger bays to accommodate the existing fire appliances and ambulances. This will help relieve the overcrowding situation at the Aberdeen Fire Station, improve the existing service and meet the long term operational needs in the area.

JUSTIFICATION

4. As far as fire services are concerned, the overcrowding situation together with the traffic congestion in the vicinity of existing Aberdeen Fire Station have affected the turnout efficiency of fire appliances when responding to incidents. In 2008, FSD was only able to meet 92.3% of building fire calls from the Aberdeen area within the graded response time, against the service

pledge of 92.5%. To ensure effective fire services coverage for the area, we need to re-provision the existing Station to a larger site with better traffic condition to improve the operational efficiency and to cope with the development in the area.

5. With respect to the provision of emergency ambulance services, at present FSD was able to meet the performance pledge of handling 92.5% of emergency ambulance calls within the 12-minute response time target. However, we see the need to construct a dedicated ambulance depot with larger parking bays to accommodate the existing ambulances and provide room for possible expansion. According to the population projection by the Census and Statistics Department, the population of the Southern District with age exceeding 60 will drastically increase by 28% from 2009 to 2016. Also, with the expansion of the Ocean Park and the development of the Wong Chuk Hang area, the demand for both fire and ambulance services will likely increase in future years.

6. A new fire station-cum-ambulance depot is therefore necessary to enhance the existing services and to meet future demand. Upon completion of the new fire station-cum-ambulance depot, the existing Aberdeen Fire Station will be demolished and the site will be returned to the Lands Department.

PROJECT SCOPE

7. The new five-storey Aberdeen fire station-cum-ambulance depot will comprise a five-bay appliance room, and other standard facilities including watch rooms, offices, an exercise room, stores, barracks, a drying room, toilets and ablutions, kitchens and canteens, a disinfection room, an open drill yard and fuel filling facilities, etc. A site plan and a perspective drawing for the project are at **Enclosure 1** and **Enclosure 2** respectively.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. We estimate the capital cost of the project (including the demolition of the existing Aberdeen Fire Station) to be about \$176.3 million in money-of-the-day prices. The additional annual recurrent expenditure arising from this project is estimated to be \$4.025 million.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

9. We consulted the District Development and Environment Committee of the Southern District Council (SDC) on the proposed project on 28 April 2008. Members supported the project, and suggested to introduce measures to minimize noise impact to the residents in the vicinity. FSD reported the progress of the project to SDC on 25 June 2009, and provided SDC with further information on the 13 trees to be removed from the new site for the development of the project on 17 July 2009. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department confirmed that the 13 trees had little amenity value. Members noted the information and raised no objection to the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The project is not a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). We completed a Preliminary Environmental Review (PER) for the project in December 2008. The PER concluded that subject to the provision of suitable mitigation measures such as appropriate call-out system locations and directions to mitigate noise impact to the surrounding areas, the project would have no long term adverse environmental impact.

11. During construction, we will control noise, dust and site runoff nuisances to within established standards and guidelines through the implementation of mitigation measures in the relevant contracts. These include the use of silencers, mufflers, acoustic lining or shields, and the building of barrier walls for noisy construction activities, frequent cleaning and watering of the site, and the provision of wheel-washing facilities.

12. We have also considered measures in the planning and design stages to reduce the generation of construction waste where possible. In addition, we will require the contractor to reuse inert construction waste on site or in other suitable construction sites as far as possible, in order to minimise the disposal of inert construction waste to public fill reception facilities. We will encourage the contractor to maximise the use of recycled or recyclable inert construction waste, and the use of non-timber formwork to minimise the generation of construction waste.

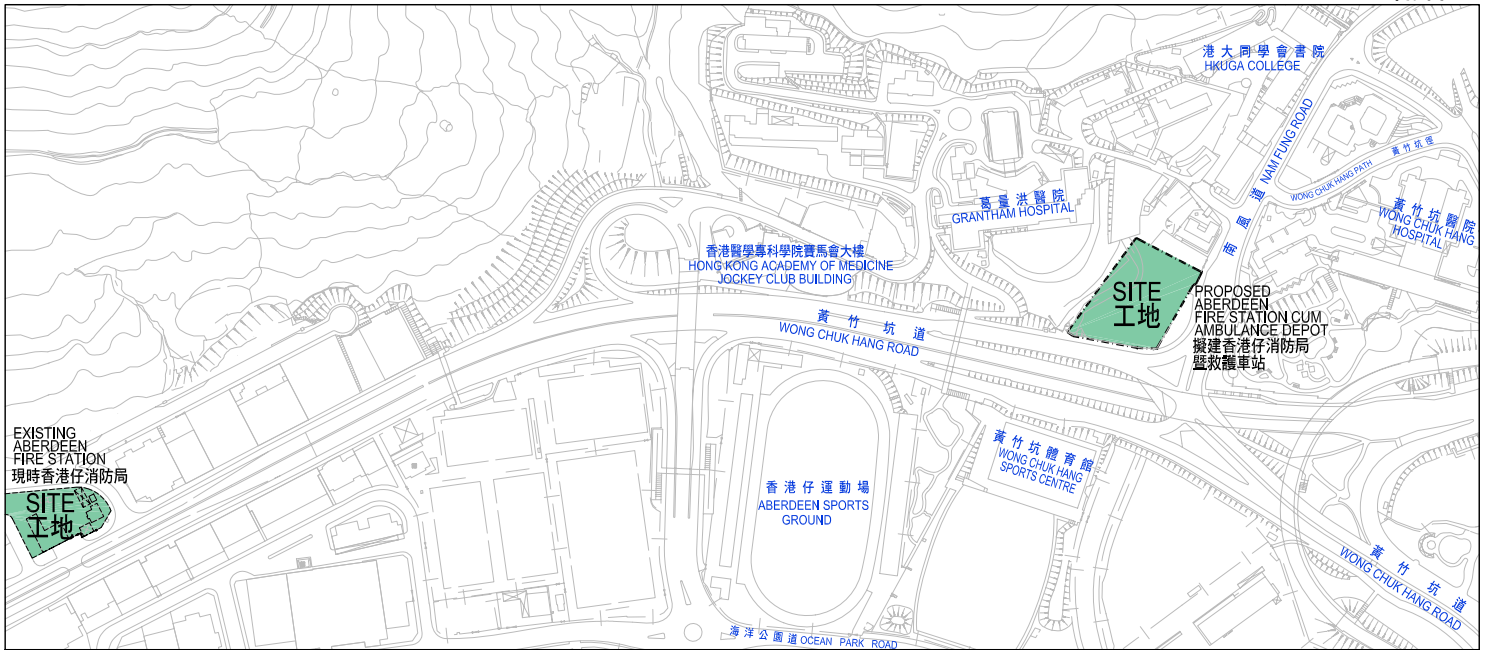
LAND ACQUISITION

13. The project does not require land acquisition.

IMPLEMENTATION

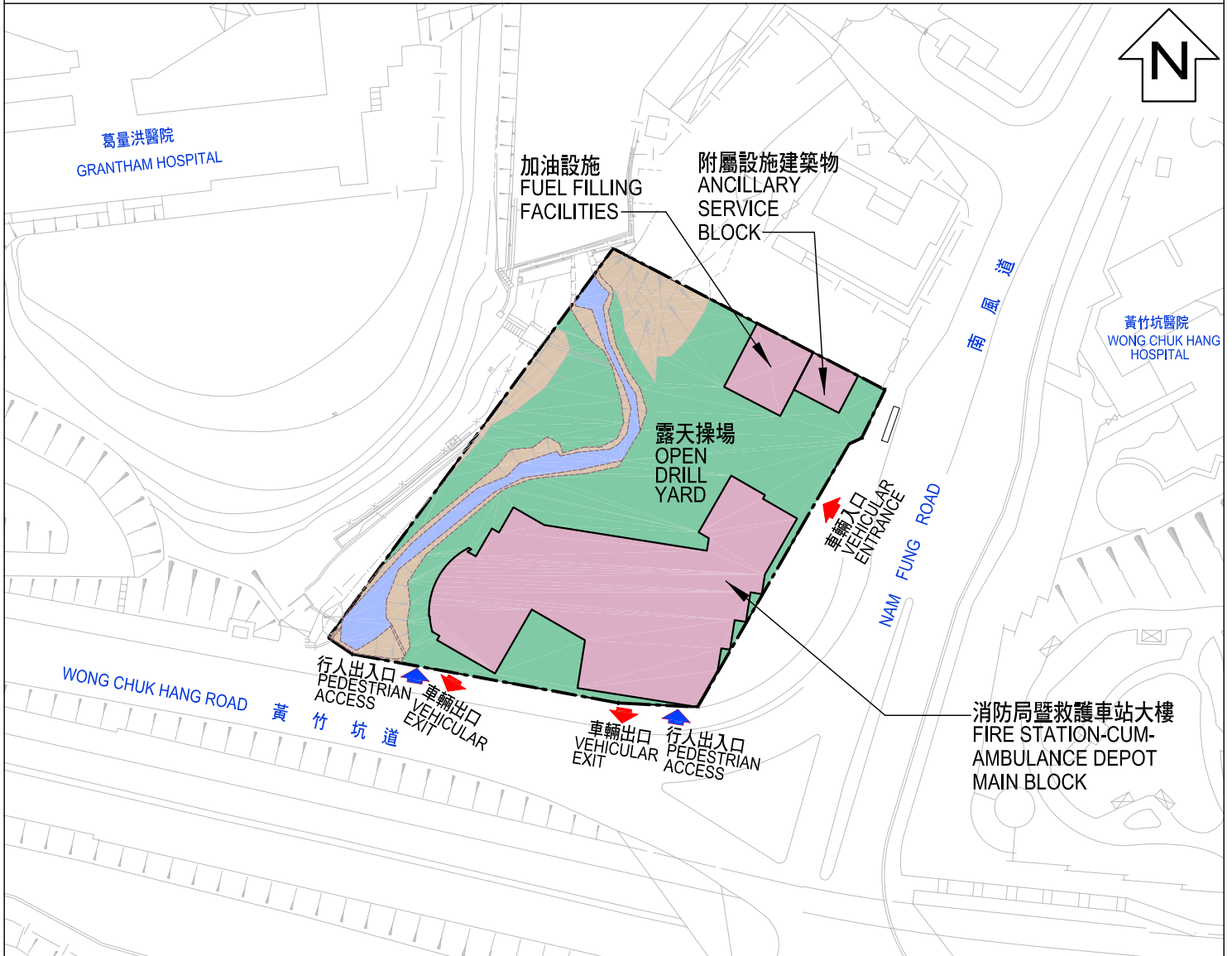
14. We plan to seek funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in December 2009 and early 2010 respectively. Subject to funding approval, we plan to start construction works in early 2010, for completion by mid 2012. Demolition of the existing Aberdeen Fire Station will start afterwards for completion in the first half of 2013.


Security Bureau
October 2009



位置圖 LOCATION PLAN

比例 1:5000
SCALE




title 171BF 在香港仔南風道重建 消防局暨新建救護車站 REPROVISIONING OF ABERDEEN FIRE STATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT AT NAM FUNG ROAD, ABERDEEN	drawn by S.K. Wong	date 09/09	drawing no. AB/7019/XA101	scale 1:1000
	approved Nelson Chow	date 09/09	 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT	
	office ARCHITECTURAL BRANCH			



從南面望向消防局暨救護站的構思圖

VIEW OF THE FIRE STATION CUM AMBULANCE DEPOT FROM SOUTH DIRECTION (ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)

title 171BF 在香港仔南風道重建消防局暨 新建救護車站 REPROVISIONING OF ABERDEEN FIRE STATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AMBULANCE DEPOT AT NAM FUNG ROAD, ABERDEEN	drawn by PC	date 09/09	drawing no. AB/7019/XA102	scale NTS
	approved Nelson Chow	date 09/09	 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT	
	office ARCHITECTURAL BRANCH			