

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1913/11-12(02)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

Panel on Home Affairs

Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 11 May 2012

Infrastructure works for West Kowloon Cultural District Phase 1 – design and site investigation

Purpose

This paper summarizes the concerns of members of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project formed under the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development ("the Joint Subcommittee") on issues relating to the infrastructure works for the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD").

Background

2. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved in June 2008 a one-off upfront endowment of HK\$21.6 billion for the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") to cover the capital costs for implementing the WKCD project. This sum of HK\$21.6 billion did not include the funding for communal and government facilities and related engineering works undertaken by the Government to support the whole WKCD. According to the Administration, a proposal for a project on the design and site investigation for the public infrastructure works essential for the Phase 1 facilities of WKCD would be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration with a view to seeking the Finance Committee's approval in the current legislative session. The scope of this proposed project would cover the design and site investigation of underground and at-grade roads, highway structures, drainage and sewage systems, fresh and salt water supply systems and other associated works. The design and site investigation are tentatively scheduled to

commence in the second quarter of 2012 for completion in the second quarter in 2014. The indicative cost of the proposed project is around \$200 million to \$500 million.

Deliberations of the Joint Subcommittee

3. The issue of supporting public infrastructure works for WKCD has not been discussed by the Joint Subcommittee. The ensuing paragraphs summarize the concerns raised by members of the Joint Subcommittee relating to the infrastructure works in relation to the connectivity and the underground traffic network of WKCD.

Accessibility and connectivity of WKCD

4. Members expressed concern about the pedestrian and vehicular accessibility to WKCD and the connectivity of WKCD with its surrounding areas. In their view, visitors should be encouraged to use public transport to visit WKCD to avoid adding pressure on the already heavy traffic in areas such as Tsim Sha Tsui and Yau Ma Tei. Consideration should also be given to integrating the development of the park areas of WKCD with the waterfront planning of the Victoria Harbour to enhance the connectivity of the pedestrian access to WKCD. There was also a suggestion of providing a water taxi service to enhance the connectivity of WKCD.

5. WKCDA advised that roads and vehicles would be put underneath the WKCD site to facilitate easy accessibility to the site. There would also be efficient vehicular and pedestrian links within WKCD, and between WKCD and its neighbouring areas (such as Jordon and Tsim Sha Tsui). WKCDA would continue to discuss with relevant government departments, including the Transport Department, how to improve the external connections with the site.

Underground traffic network

6. Noting that part of the underground space of WKCD was occupied by the works of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, members expressed concern about whether WKCD would have sufficient underground space for underground traffic. Concern was also raised on the underground air quality in WKCD. WKCDA advised that visitors would be encouraged to use public transport and/or electric and eco-friendly cars to visit WKCD. To provide a green environment in WKCD, consideration would also be given to sharing the parking facilities with users in the nearby residential and commercial areas.

Relevant papers

7. A list of the relevant papers on the Legislative Council website is in the **Appendix**.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
9 May 2012

**Relevant papers on the implementation of Phase 1 facilities
of the WKCD Project**

Committee	Date of meeting	Paper
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	11.7.2011 (Item I)	Agenda Minutes
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	26.8.2011 (Item I)	Agenda Minutes
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	29.11.2011 (Item IV)	Agenda Minutes