# ITEM FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

# **HEAD 705 – CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Civil Engineering – Land development

758CL – Site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of columbarium, crematorium and related facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery

Members are invited to recommend to Finance

Committee –

- (a) the upgrading of part of 758CL, entitled "Site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of columbarium, crematorium related facilities and at Sandy Ridge Cemetery – detailed design and site investigation", to Category A at an estimated cost of \$66.4 million in money-of-the-day prices; and
- (b) the retention of the remainder of **758CL** in Category B.

# **PROBLEM**

We need to take forward the proposed development of columbarium, crematorium and related facilities (C&C facilities) at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery in the North New Territories.

# **PROPOSAL**

2. The Director of Civil Engineering and Development, with the support of the Secretary for Food and Health, proposes to upgrade part of **758CL** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$66.4 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices to engage consultants to undertake detailed design and site investigation works of the site formation and associated infrastructural works for the proposed development of C&C facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery.

# PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

- 3. The part of **758CL** that we propose to upgrade to Category A comprises
  - (a) detailed design of the works described in (i) to (iii) below, including review of the impact assessments on traffic, drainage, sewerage and geotechnical aspects
    - (i) site formation of about 10 hectares of land for development of C&C facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery;
    - (ii) associated environmental mitigation measures, landscaping works, geotechnical works, drainage and sewerage works, waterworks, roadworks including tunnel, viaducts and ancillary works to existing road network in North District, and other utility services, etc.; and
    - (iii) a pedestrian walkway between Lo Wu Mass Transit Railway Station and the columbarium facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery and associated works;
  - (b) environmental impact assessment (EIA);
  - (c) associated site investigation works including supervision; and
  - (d) preparation of tender documents and assessment of tenders for the works described in item (a)(i) to (iii) above.

A layout plan of the proposed site formation and associated infrastructural works for the development of C&C facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery is at Enclosure 1.

- 4. We will retain the remaining part of **758CL** in Category B, which covers mainly construction of the site formation and associated infrastructural works described in item (a)(i) to (iii) of paragraph 3 above. Funding for these works will be sought in phases to dovetail with the implementation programme of the project.
- 5. Subject to approval of the Finance Committee (FC), we plan to engage consultants in July 2013 to carry out the proposed detailed design and to supervise site investigation works for completion by September 2016.

# **JUSTIFICATION**

- 6. To increase the supply of public niches, the Government has been promoting the district-based columbarium development scheme. We have identified 24 potential sites in 18 districts for columbarium development. Providing at least 200 000 niches, the Sandy Ridge Cemetery is the largest among the 24 potential sites.
- 7. In March 2011, we engaged consultants to conduct a feasibility study on the site formation and associated infrastructural works for the development of columbarium facilities, a crematorium, a funeral parlour and a visitor service centre at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery. The study was completed in September 2012. The consultants recommended to commence the site formation works by phases with the handover of the formed land in 2019 at the earliest to suit the construction of building works of the C&C facilities for completion in 2022. We have formulated the layout plan of the site formation and associated infrastructural works for the C&C development. The next step is to carry out the detailed design and site investigation works based on the layout plan.

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. We estimate the cost of the proposed detailed design and site investigation works to be \$66.4 million in MOD prices (please see paragraph 9 below), broken down as follows –

/(a) .....

		9	\$ million	
(a)	Consultants' fees		46.2	
	(i) detailed design	34.0		
	(ii) environmental impact assessment	8.0		
	(iii) supervision of site investigation works	0.8		
	(iv) preparation of tender documents and assessment of tenders	3.4		
(b)	Site investigation works		5.0	
(c)	Contingencies		5.1	
	Sub-total	_	56.3	(in September 2012 prices)
(d)	Provision for price adjustment		10.1	
	Total	_	66.4	(in MOD prices)

Taking into account the multi-disciplinary nature of the project and competing demands for in-house resources, we propose to employ consultants to undertake the proposed detailed design and supervise site investigation works. A breakdown of the estimate for consultants' fees by man-months is at Enclosure 2.

9. Subject to funding approval, we will phase the expenditure as follows –

Year	\$ million (Sept 2012)	Price adjustment factor	\$ million (MOD)
2013 – 2014	7.5	1.06250	8.0
2014 – 2015	20.5	1.12625	23.1
2015 – 2016	16.0	1.19383	19.1
2016 – 2017	6.0	1.26545	7.6
2017 – 2018	3.8	1.34138	5.1
2018 – 2019	2.5	1.41180	3.5
	56.3		66.4
			/10

- 10. We have derived the MOD estimate on the basis of the Government's latest set of assumptions on the trend rate of change in the prices of public sector building and construction output for the period from 2013 to 2019. We will engage consultants to undertake the proposed detailed design on a lump-sum basis with provision for price adjustment as the duration of the consultancy will exceed 12 months. We will deliver the site investigation works under a standard re-measurement contract because the quantity of works involved may vary depending on actual ground conditions. The contract for site investigation works will also provide for price adjustment.
- 11. The proposed detailed design and site investigation works will not give rise to any recurrent consequences.

# **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

- 12. We consulted the Ta Kwu Ling District Rural Committee on 4 October 2012. There was concern about possible impact on the existing graves at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery and the traffic impact on the existing roads near the Cemetery. We consulted the North District Council on 11 October 2012. Whilst members raised no objection to proceeding with the proposed detailed design and site investigation works, they registered concerns about the traffic impact on the existing roads in the North District. We will review the traffic impact assessment and propose mitigation measures in the detailed design to alleviate the impact on the traffic. We will also consult the relevant stakeholders at the detailed design stage.
- 13. We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on the proposed detailed design and site investigation works on 11 December 2012. Members supported the proposal.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

14. The proposed detailed design and site investigation works are not a designated project under the EIAO. The proposed site investigation works will only generate very little construction waste.

The site formation and associated infrastructural works will include designated projects under Schedule 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) (Cap. 499), such as road bridges and widening of a district distributor road, etc. which require environmental permits prior to construction and operation. We will conduct an EIA to address the environmental impact and propose mitigation measures if necessary. We have included \$8.0 million (in September 2012 prices) in the cost estimate for conducting the EIA. We will require the consultants to fully consider measures to minimise the generation of construction waste and to reuse/recycle construction waste as much as possible in implementing the construction works in future.

# **HERITAGE IMPLICATIONS**

16. The proposed detailed design and site investigation works will not affect any heritage site, i.e. declared monuments, proposed monuments, graded historic sites/buildings, sites of archaeological interest and Government historic sites identified by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

# LAND ACQUISITION

17. The proposed detailed design and site investigation works will not require any land clearance or acquisition.

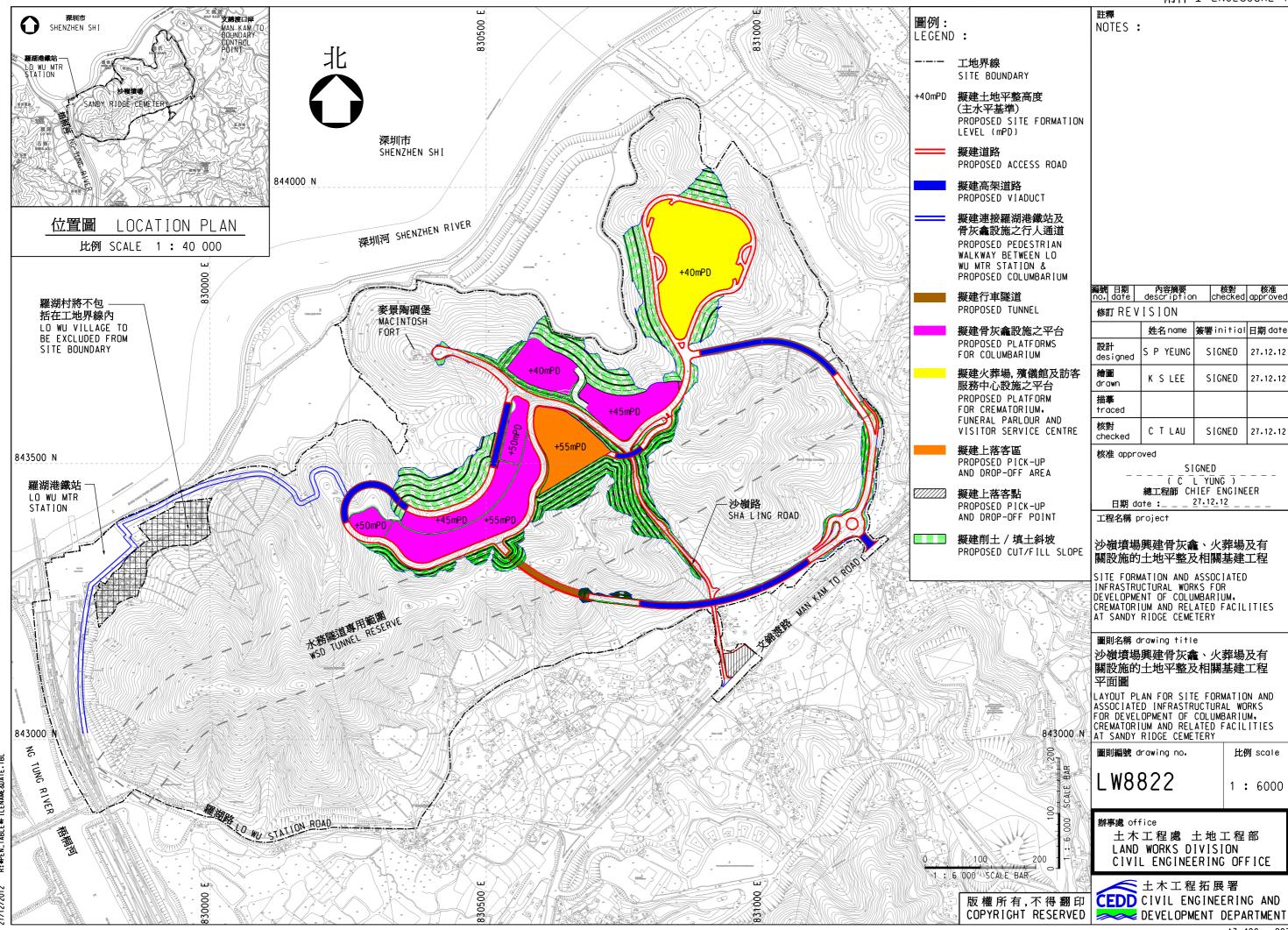
# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- In March 2011, we engaged consultants to undertake the feasibility study on the site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of C&C facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery at an estimated cost of \$8.0 million chargeable to **Head 139** "Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)". We completed the study in September 2012 and upgraded **758CL** to Category B in the same month.
- 19. The proposed detailed design and site investigation works will not directly involve any tree removal or planting proposals. We will require the consultants to take into consideration the need for tree preservation and planting proposal during the detailed design stage.

20.		We es	timate	that	the pr	roposed	deta	iled design	and	site inves	stiga	tion
works	will	create	about	27	jobs	(three	for	labourers	and	another	24	for
profess	sional	/technic	al staff	), pr	ovidin	ig a tota	l em	ployment o	f 840	) man-mo	nths	

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Food and Health Bureau December 2012



# 758CL (Part) – Site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of columbarium, crematorium and related facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery

# Breakdown of the estimate for consultants' fees (in September 2012 prices)

Consultants' staff costs (Note 1)		Estimated man- months	Average MPS* salary point	Multiplier (Note 2)	Estimated fee (\$million)
(i) Detailed design	Professional	168	38	2.0	22.1
	Technical	266	14	2.0	11.9
(ii) Environmental impact	Professional	36	38	2.0	4.7
assessment	Technical	74	14	2.0	3.3
(iii) Supervision of site	Professional	4	38	2.0	0.5
investigation works	Technical	7	14	2.0	0.3
(iv) Preparation of tender	Professional	17	38	2.0	2.2
documents and assessment of tenders	Technical	27	14	2.0	1.2
				Total	46.2

<sup>\*</sup> MPS = Master Pay Scale

#### **Notes**

- 1. The actual man-months and fees will only be known after we have selected the consultants through the usual competitive lump sum fee bidding system.
- 2. A multiplier of 2.0 is applied to the average MPS salary point to estimate the full staff costs including the consultants' overheads and profit as the staff will be employed in the consultants' offices. (As at now, MPS salary point 38 = \$65,695 per month and MPS salary point 14 = \$22,405 per month.)