

立法會

Legislative Council

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Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

**Minutes of the 76th meeting
held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex
on Friday, 17 June 2016, at 7:35 pm**

Members present:

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members absent:

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon Dennis KWOK
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon IP Kin-yuen

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

Public officers attending:

Ms Elizabeth TSE Man-ye, JP	Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)
Ms Esther LEUNG, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ¹
Mr Alfred ZHI Jian-hong	Principal Executive Officer (General), Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)
Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun	Project Director (3), Architectural Services Department
Mr LO Kwok-kong	Chief Civil Engineer (Public Works Programme), Transport and Housing Bureau
Mr Max WONG Chi-chung	Acting Chief Architect (3), Housing Department
Mr Benjamin MOK Kwan-yu, JP	District Officer (Sham Shui Po)
Mrs Doris FOK LEE Sheung-ling	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Leisure Services) 1
Miss Rochelle LAU Shuk-fan	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Libraries and Development)
Mr YAU Shing-mu, JP	Under Secretary for Transport and Housing
Ms Cordelia LAM	Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 2
Mr LEUNG Tak-fai, JP	Assistant Commissioner for Transport (Technical Services)
Mr Peter WONG	Chief Engineer (Traffic and Transport Survey), Transport Department
Mr LI Chi-chiu	Chief Engineer (Traffic Control), Transport Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT

Assistant Secretary General 1

Staff in attendance:

Mr Derek LO

Chief Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Keith WONG

Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Frankie WOO

Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Miss Yannes HO

Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

Item No. 5 - FCR(2016-17)46

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE
MADE ON 23 APRIL 2016**

PWSC(2016-17)7

Head 711 - HOUSING

Recreation, Culture and Amenities - Mixed amenity packages

**62RG - Sports centre, 5-a-side soccer pitch and public library facilities at
Northwest Kowloon Reclamation Site 6, Sham Shui Po**

The Finance Committee ("FC") continued the deliberation on the item.

Area of the reserve stack

2. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen noted that, in line with the views expressed by the Public Works Subcommittee on the proposed reserve stack, the Administration released some area of the reserve stack for use as public service space, but he considered such adjustments were only minor amendments. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the percentage of actual reduction in the area of the reserve stack and the reasons why the area could not be significantly adjusted; he was also concerned whether such area would be required to return for use by the reserve stack after the storage capacity of the stack became saturated in the future. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mr Albert CHAN suggested the authorities to release more space, originally designated for use by the reserve stack, to be used by the public. Mr IP Kwok-him enquired, since the area in the reserve stack would not be open to the public, why it had to take up such a large area.

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3. Acting Chief Architect (3), Housing Department ("Acting CA(3)/HD") replied that, after adjustment, the area of the reserve stack was reduced by about 750 square meters as compared with the original design. He advised that the proposed reserve stack would provide storage space for the stock currently stored in individual stacks of district libraries in the 18 districts of the territory, so that some area in each district library could be released so as to enhance the provision of services to the public.

4. Chief Civil Engineer (Public Works Programme), Transport and Housing Bureau ("CCE(PWP)") advised that in general the reserve stack was only used by library staff to handle the retrieval and storage of library materials and was not open to the public. However, after having considered the views of the Subcommittee, the Administration revised the design, including releasing part of the reserve stack area on the first floor to be used for storing and displaying books and materials on Hong Kong's history and culture as well as providing reading facilities and activity spaces for use by the public, so as to provide more area for public use. He advised that, after revising the design, the additional areas now proposed to be open to the public would not be reduced even after the reserve stack had become saturated with its storage of library materials.

5. Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Libraries and Development) ("ADLCS(L&D)") advised that, apart from the provision of services to the public, public libraries also required some space to properly maintain their stock so as to tie in with the development of their services; as such, the reserve stack was one of the public libraries' facilities. The Administration considered that if the reserve stack was centrally located in Sham Shui Po district, the larger stock maintained could offer the greatest convenience to the public, schools and groups using the public library stock service across the territory. In order to save more space and slow down the reserve stack's process of becoming fully saturated as far as possible, the digitization of the library stock would continue.

Site selection for the reserve stack

6. Mr Albert CHAN, Dr Helena WONG and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen queried whether it was necessary to locate the reserve stack in Sham Shui Po district where the land was precious. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed objection to locating the reserve stack in Sham Shui Po. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Dr Helena WONG were of the view that the site occupied by the reserve stack might be used for the provision of social services with more pressing needs. Mr Albert CHAN urged the Administration to consider releasing the existing location of the reserve stack if a cheaper location could be found for the reserve stack in the future, so as to provide services that were needed more by the residents in Sham Shui Po district. Dr Priscilla LEUNG also said that if the progress of digitization of the stock in the reserve stack was satisfactory, the Administration should make the best use of space that could be released.

7. ADLCS(L&D) advised that the Administration considered that locating the reserve stack in a convenient district to tie in with the development of public library services could further boost the usage of the stock.

District libraries

8. Dr Priscilla LEUNG suggested that more facilities should be furnished in the proposed library to provide greater convenience to members of the public, including facilities that facilitate breast-feeding or women in using the library while taking care of their children, etc. ADLCS(L&D) responded that a family reading corner would be provided in the proposed district library to encourage parent-child reading; the Administration would also conduct reviews in a continuous manner with a view to providing new services required by readers.

Design on the sports centre

9. Dr Priscilla LEUNG enquired whether the committee room located on the second floor would be open for rental by the public and asked about specific design for the multi-purpose arena in the sports centre. Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Leisure Services) 1 replied that the committee room would be open for use by groups that had rented the proposed project's facilities and also for staff of the Administration to hold meetings. CCE(PWP) replied that the proposed multi-purpose arena would be used for conducting sports and large-scale cultural and entertainment activities and, with its flexible design, temporary seats could be set up in the spectator stand when necessary, with a seating capacity of about 1 000 persons.

Child care and pre-primary education services

10. Dr Helena WONG noted that the Administration intended to reserve space under the public housing development project at Site 6 to set up a kindergarten with six classrooms. She was concerned whether the number of half-day and full-day places provided by the kindergarten was adequate. Dr WONG enquired about the planning guidelines for the provision of pre-primary education service. She was of the view that the planning guidelines on the number of full-day and non-full-day places set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG") were no longer able to cope with the needs of society nowadays. Dr Priscilla LEUNG expressed a similar concern. Noting that 100 child care places could be provided in the Joint-user Government Office Building in Cheung Sha Wan adjacent to the project only after 2020, Dr Helena WONG enquired about the planning guidelines for child care service.

11. Acting CA(3)/HD responded that the public housing project at Site 6 could accommodate a population of about 9 600, and among which the estimated number of children aged between three to five would be about 230 as at 2020. In accordance with HKPSG, the number of full-day and half-day places required in the housing estate by then would be about 60 and 174 respectively, requiring a total of five classrooms. As such, the kindergarten with six classrooms set up in the housing estate could meet the need within the housing estate and could also provide service to the community outside. Noting that Dr WONG was concerned about the allocation of places and women joining the workforce, he advised that, apart from the proposed kindergarten with adequate number of places provided, there were about 17 kindergartens in other public housing projects in Sham Shui Po district and full-day places would be provided by all of these kindergartens. In about eight of these kindergartens, all places were full-day places. Meanwhile, public housing projects in the neighbourhood, which would be completed one after the other, would also include kindergartens. He advised that the Social Welfare Department determined the number of child care places to be provided in the district based on demographic characteristics, geographical factors and service demand in Sham Shui Po district. Nevertheless, besides the Joint-user Government Office Building in Cheung Sha Wan, the Administration would also continue to identify appropriate construction sites or premises within Sham Shui Po district to provide the services required.

Daily shopping facilities

12. Mr Albert CHAN enquired whether any market would be provided under the public housing development project at Site 6. CCE(PWP) replied that the Administration planned to develop a market with 90 stalls under the public housing project at Site 6.

Accessibility of the proposed facilities

13. Dr Priscilla LEUNG enquired about the distribution of associated transport and pedestrian facilities connecting Site 6 and the neighboring communities, as well as the time required for an elderly to reach the proposed sports centre and library using those pedestrian facilities.

14. CCE(PWP) responded that Site 6 was adjacent to the MTR station and the Administration also planned to provide a transport interchange in that area. In addition, the space in front of the ground of the proposed sports centre was also enough for coaches to stop and pick up group users of the proposed facilities. To facilitate pedestrians, the Housing Authority intended to construct a footbridge crossing Sham Mong Road and Fat Tseung Street as well as a long span bridge connecting Site 6 and the public housing development project on Lin Cheung Road. Pedestrians could use the long span bridge to go directly to the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade. Footbridges would also be constructed around crossroads on Hing Wah Road and Tonkin Street respectively to facilitate the public to walk from Sham Shui Po district to the proposed project to use the facilities. He advised that barrier-free facilities would be installed on these bridges. Acting CA(3)/HD advised that after crossing Sham Mong Road by the footbridge, members of the public may access the main stadium of the sports centre with escalators or elevators, which would take about one to two minutes.

Plot ratio of the proposed building

15. Ms Claudia MO enquired whether building of the proposed project had used up the buildable area permitted under the plot ratio for the existing site, and whether the Administration would consider, during the construction of foundation, building a foundation that could support the construction of additional floors when the plot ratio might be relaxed in the future. Ms MO also enquired whether area of the basement could be expanded.

16. In response, CCE(PWP) advised that building under the proposed project had already used up the permitted plot ratio for non-residential site and no additions would be allowed in the future, while area of the proposed basement also had to be calculated in the building area permitted under the plot ratio. Acting CA(3)/HD advised that the cost of expanding the basement would be high as the building was located on reclamation land, and issues of marine mud arising from dredging and noise emitted from water pumping had to be dealt with.

Energy conservation features

17. Mr Albert CHAN considered that the adoption of water cooled chillers operated by evaporative cooling tower using fresh water would consume considerable potable water sources, which was not the optimal way of using resources. He enquired about the feasibility of using seawater chillers. Acting CA(3)/HD responded that it was not suitable to use seawater to operate the chiller plants under the project and, to enhance the overall energy-saving effectiveness of the project, rain water harvesting system would be installed for irrigation.

18. As members raised no further question, the Chairman put item FCR(2016-17)46 to vote. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The Chairman announced that 13 members voted in favour of and two members voted against the item. The voting results of individual members were as follows –

For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam
Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung
Mr IP Kwok-him
Ms Claudia MO
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Miss CHAN Yuen-han
Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen
(13 members)

Mr TAM Yiu-chung
Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun
Mr Paul TSE Wai-chun
Mr NG Leung-sing
Mr YIU Si-wing
Dr Helena WONG Pik-wan

Against:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung
(2 members)

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

19. The Chairman declared that the Committee approved the item.

Item No. 6 - FCR(2016-17)47

CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND

HEAD 710 – COMPUTERISATION

New Subhead - "Upgrading of the Transport Information System of the Transport Department"

CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND

HEAD 708 - CAPITAL SUBVENTIONS AND MAJOR SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

New Subhead - "Installation of Traffic Detectors"

CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND

HEAD 708 - CAPITAL SUBVENTIONS AND MAJOR SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

New Subhead - "Relocation of Transport Department's Operation Centres to the West Kowloon Government Offices"

HEAD 186 - TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Subhead 700 - General non-recurrent

New Item - "Relocation of Transport Department's Operation Centres to the West Kowloon Government Offices"

20. The Chairman advised that this item invited FC to approve four new commitments for Transport Department ("TD"): (a) \$74,000,000 under Capital Works Reserve Fund ("CWRF") Head 710 for the upgrading of the Transport Information System of TD; (b) \$194,000,000 under CWRF Head 708 for the installation of traffic detectors; (c) \$73,254,000 under CWRF Head 708 for the relocation of TD's operation centres to the West Kowloon Government Offices ("WKGO"); and (d) \$56,049,000 under Head 186 TD Subhead 700 of the General Revenue Account for the relocation of TD's operation centres to WKGO. THB had consulted the Panel on Transport on the recommendations on 29 February and 23 May 2016. The Panel supported the Administration to submit the item for FC's deliberation.

Installation of traffic detectors

21. Indicating support for the overall funding proposal, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired about the reasons why the Administration only intended to increase the coverage of traffic detectors along strategic routes to 80% instead of 100%. Mr LEUNG urged THB to collaborate with the Innovation and Technology Bureau ("ITB") or other organizations in studying, developing and applying Big Data collected by the proposed project, taking Hong Kong forward

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to become a smart city. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether the relevant authorities had cooperated with other departments to study the data collected, so as to optimize the development of traffic network.

22. In response, Assistant Commissioner for Transport (Technical Services) ("AC for T(TS)") advised that while their long-term objective was to install traffic detectors along all strategic routes throughout the territory, it would require more time and additional funding as more road sections were involved. Therefore, the Administration proposed that the installation be carried out by phases. In the first phase, coverage would be increased to 80% so that the Administration could review the performance and technology of the newly installed traffic detectors and gain experience, with a view to introducing more advanced technologies and systems when the coverage was to be extended to the remaining 20% in the following phase. He advised that TD currently did not plan to jointly study with other departments the purposes of real-time traffic data, but would consider Members' suggestion and would follow it up with ITB for further study.

23. Dr Helena WONG enquired how real-time data collected by traffic detectors would be disseminated to the public, and whether such information would be used for instituting prosecutions against the persons concerned. She was concerned that a motorist would easily cause traffic accident or commit an offence if he/she used mobile phone to receive such information when driving.

24. AC for T(TS) responded that real-time traffic information collected by traffic detectors, such as traffic speed and traffic accidents, would be disseminated to the public via two existing TD applications, i.e. "Hong Kong eTransport" and "Hong Kong eRouting". Such real-time traffic information would also be uploaded onto the government website DATA.GOV.HK, so that other persons who were interested might use these information to develop mobile applications and vehicle navigation programmes to facilitate the public to learn about the latest traffic conditions through various means. He advised that, under Section 42 of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374G), a motorist should not use a mobile phone with it being held in hand when driving a motor vehicle. To facilitate the public in receiving such traffic information, the Administration would consider introducing a voice function when improving the two TD mobile applications in future, with a view to facilitating the motorists to be aware of the traffic conditions while driving. He also explained that the existing traffic detectors were installed as part of a Traffic Control and Surveillance System ("TCSS"); closed circuit televisions ("CCTV") cameras under TCSS would be used for monitoring traffic, and such information would not be used for prosecution.

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25. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the time of installation of the existing traffic detectors that covered 45% of the strategic routes and the cost involved; whether the current funding application would include the replacement of the old traffic detectors. Mr CHAN said that the traffic detectors to be installed would be used for developing traffic and transport Big Data for dissemination and sharing. He enquired whether the traffic detectors already in use had the same function.

26. AC for T(TS) advised that the existing traffic detectors were installed at the time when surveillance systems were installed to bridges, tunnels or highways when they were constructed, therefore the installation times were different, and the Administration had no information on their installation costs. The current funding application did not include the replacement of any existing traffic detector. He explained that the existing traffic detectors were mainly for the purpose of monitoring traffic. Upon installation of the new traffic detectors, the data collected from both the new and existing traffic detectors would be combined to provide motorists with comprehensive traffic information.

27. As members raised no further question, the Chairman put the item to vote. The Chairman declared that FC approved the item.

28. The meeting ended at 9:35 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat

19 September 2016