Written Submission on Proposed Lantau Development Strategy For Presentation in Panel on Development Special Meeting on 16 April

TSANG Kin-Hung

I would like to see the Government implement the development as early as possible, instead of just doing endless consultations.

Subsidized Housing

In developing Lantau, there should be a balance, around 50/50, between private and subsidized housing. Land should be developed in stages, first to facilitate early construction of subsidized housing estates, together with the needed infrastructure, such as water and utility supplies, sewage treatment and transport link. Shopping malls built for subsidized housing should not be sold to the Link. This is irresponsible for Government to do so. Government should give small local entrepreneurs space to survive.

Private Housing and Industrial

Land should then be developed concurrently, and in stages, for private housing, G/IC and commercial and industrial usage. The Government should encourage retention of some industry here. Not heavy industry, but those involving more sophisticated and high value-added technique, for example, high end fashion clothing, IT graphic design, laboratory testing services, etc. Private housing lots should be released in stages, and in smaller packages.

Efficient Transportation

An efficient transportation network is essential because Lantau is perceived as remote from the urban districts. Effective public transport is of particular importance. Trunk roads connected to Tuen Mun and to the North Lantau Expressway should be built early to integrate Lantau with NT West and Kowloon. A rail link to be connected to the Tung Chung Railway Station should also be built early, preferably to be concurrent with the public housing population intake.

Cultural and Leisure

For areas planned for cultural and leisure development, the Government's role should be confined to the provision of transport link to facilitate convenient access. It is better that the Government does not impact the original features too much. Otherwise, more likely than not, Government participation will disturb the existing heritage or destroy the local characteristics or natural sceneries there.