

(Translation)

Panel on Development

**Motion on
"Government's response to Report of the Task Force on Land Supply"
passed at the special meeting held on 1 March 2019**

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Development passed the motion moved by Hon CHAN Chi-chuen at the special meeting on 1 March 2019:

“This Panel requests the Administration to shelve the Ma Liu Shui reclamation project and halt the studies concerned, so as to ensure that the quality of life of the nearby communities will not deteriorate due to the Ma Liu Shui reclamation project, and to allay the concerns of the residents in the nearby communities.”

The Administration’s response to the motion is as follows:

2. To meet the needs of Hong Kong’s sustainable development, the Government needs to develop land continuously and maintain a steady supply of land. Reclamation can provide more sizable new land for integrated development through proper planning. Reclamation outside the Victoria Harbour is one of the key measures for the Government to increase land supply under the multi-pronged strategy which can help build up land reserves in response to long-term and rapidly changing land demand.
3. As recommended by the Task Force on Land Supply (TFLS) in his report submitted in December 2018, the Government should continue to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to expand the land resources in Hong Kong, minimize reliance on individual sources and facilitate greater certainty in achieving the land supply strategy. TFLS also recommends that the Government should accord priority to study and implement the eight land supply options, including near-shore reclamation outside Victoria Harbour. Recognising that reclamation can create new land bringing additional land supply, TFLS supports the proposed reclamation at the five near-shore locations, including Lung Kwu Tan, Sunny Bay, Siu Ho Wan, Ma Liu Shui and Tsing Yi Southwest.

4. In the financial year of 2019-20, we will apply for funding to commence the studies on near-shore reclamation, including the Lung Kwu Tan reclamation project for industrial and other uses, the Sunny Bay reclamation project for a leisure and entertainment node, and the small-scale reclamation in Siu Ho Wan to construct a new highway running parallel to the North Lantau Highway. We will also conduct a study on replanning the coastal areas of Tuen Mun including the land uses of Lung Kwu Tan and the River Trade Terminal and another study on Lung Mun Road improvement to improve the traffic conditions in Lung Kwu Tan.

5. In respect of Ma Liu Shui reclamation site, it is in close proximity of transport and railway network and has potential to create a synergy effect with the adjacent Hong Kong Science Park and the Chinese University of Hong Kong and provide opportunities for housing, high technology and knowledge-based industries and other beneficial uses. We had engaged engineering consultants to carry out technical assessments on the potential impacts on different aspects. The assessments preliminarily reveal that no insurmountable problem on the above aspects is expected.

6. We understand the concerns of some residents about the implication of the Ma Liu Shui reclamation project on traffic impact and public/private housing mix. At present, we will put on hold reclamation at Ma Liu Shui subject to review to address concerns over traffic impact and public/private housing mix in slower time.

Development Bureau
Civil Engineering and Development Department

March 2019