For information on 1.3.2000

SUB-COMMITTEE TO FOLLOW UP THE OUTSTANDING CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS OF THE FORMER MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

Progress Report on 368RO - Kowloon Bay Recreation Ground 370RO - Hammer Hill Road District Park 12NM - Stanley Complex

PURPOSE

This paper provides an update on the position regarding the above capital works projects, for which the Administration has undertaken to set aside funding and to enable their direct injection into Category A of the Public Works Programme.

PROGRESS TO DATE

368RO - Kowloon Bay Recreation Ground

- 2. The original proposal for this project involved the permanent closure of a section of Kai Lai Road which falls within the boundary of the project site. When consulted in March 2000, the Traffic & Transport Committee of the Kwun Tong District Council supported the road closure proposal. However, upon gazettal of the proposal by the Secretary for Transport in September 2000, a total of 28 objections were received by the close of the consultation period in mid-November 2000. We were informed of these objections in early December 2000.
- 3. When we interviewed the objectors, they expressed worries about the potential traffic congestion and environmental disturbance to nearby residents if the road section in question were closed. They were particularly concerned

about the safety of students during peak hours as three new schools were under planning for construction in the neighbourhood. The opening of these schools would aggravate traffic congestion in the area.

- 4. We reported the objections to the Traffic & Transport Committee of Kwun Tong District Council in January 2001 and the full District Council in February 2001, and proposed that the project design be revised, thus obviating the need for road closure. The District Council endorsed our proposal at its full meeting on 19 February 2001.
- 5. We are now working with the Architectural Services Department (Arch SD) on the revised design. We plan to propose upgrading this project to Category A of the Public Works Programme before the end of 2001.

370RO - Hammer Hill Road District Park

- 6. We last reported to Members on 10 November 2000 that, in consideration of government's offer to work out an arrangement with Chi Lin Nunnery for the development of this project, the Nunnery has commissioned a preliminary feasibility study at their own expense.
- 7. Chi Lin have completed the feasibility study and forwarded a report to us on 9 February 2001. In conjunction with D Arch S, we are considering the report and have started discussions with Chi Lin. We will report further progress to Members at future meetings.

12NM - Stanley Complex

8. At the meeting on 10 November 2000 Members were informed of the Administration's recommendation not to provide market facilities in the Stanley Complex. We have reviewed the scope of leisure, cultural and community facilities to be included in this project with a view to optimizing the use of the site, and now propose to include the following -

(a) <u>leisure and sports facilities</u>

• an indoor sports centre comprising a main arena and a

secondary hall, which would serve both sports and community functions as described in (c) below;

• a table tennis room, children's playroom and a dance room;

(b) <u>cultural facilities</u>

• a public library comprising an adult library, a junior library, a newspaper-and-periodicals section, an extension activities room and provision of personal computers;

(c) <u>facilities for community uses</u>

- the main arena and the secondary hall of the sports centre, which will be installed with portable stages and movable partitions for easy conversion to cater for community activities when required;
- a conference room;
- (d) a public toilet with direct street access.
- 9. Due to the small size of the site and the stringent height restriction imposed by the Town Planning Board (17-22 metres), Arch SD is currently looking at how best to accommodate all these facilities within the site.
- 10. The Southern District Council will be consulted as soon as we have resolved the relevant technical issues and developed a firm design proposal.

Home Affairs Bureau February 2001