ITEM FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEAD 703 – BUILDINGS Recreation, Culture and Amenities – Open spaces 382RO – District open space in Area 5, Tai Po

Members are invited to recommend to Finance Committee the upgrading of **382RO** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$34.3 million in money-of-the-day prices for the development of a district open space in Area 5, Tai Po.

PROBLEM

We need to provide more public open space in the Tai Po District.

PROPOSAL

2. The Director of Architectural Services (D Arch S), with the support of the Secretary for Home Affairs, proposes to upgrade **382RO** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$34.3 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices for the development of a district open space in Area 5, Tai Po.

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

3. The project site is about 9 875 square metres in size and the scope of **382RO** comprises –

- (a) a flower theme garden with sitting-out area;
- (b) a tai-chi area with exercise equipment designed for the elderly and a pebble foot massage path;
- (c) a children's play area; and
- (d) landscaped area.

A site plan is at the Enclosure. We plan to start the construction works in December 2002 for completion in November 2004. A site adjacent to the project site will be developed into a football pitch under **241RS** to complement the facilities to be provided in the proposed project.

JUSTIFICATION

- 4. Tai Po has a population of about 324 000, the fifth highest amongst the New Territories districts. There is a strong demand for leisure facilities. At present, there are about 620 000 square metres of public open space provided in Tai Po by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, and they are well patronised by the local residents.
- 5. The project site is adjacent to the Kwong Fuk Estate, Wang Fuk Court, Po Nga Court, Tak Nga Court, Yat Nga Court and King Nga Court. The Wan Tau Tong Estate is also in the vicinity. In addition, there are three secondary schools (Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School, Bishop Mok Sau Tseng Secondary School and Madam Fung Leung Kit Memorial Prevocational School) and two primary schools (Sheng Kung Hui Chen Maun Chen Primary School and Tai Po Government Primary School) near the project site. The Yuen Chau Tsai Park, the nearest open space which is located about ten minutes' walk from the project site, is the only open space in the vicinity available to the 50 000 residents and 5 500 students from the adjacent housing estates and schools. The Yuen Chau Tsai Park occupies an area of about 10 000 square metres and mainly provides passive amenities. We expect the proposed open space will become a popular leisure venue for the nearby residents and students.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. We estimate the capital cost of the project to be \$34.3 million in MOD prices (see paragraph 7 below), made up as follows –

	\$ million			
(a)	Site formation		1.0	
(b)	Building services		1.5	
(c)	Drainage and external works		24.0	
(d)	Soft landscaping works		2.7	
(e)	Furniture and equipment ¹		0.1	
(f)	Consultants' fees ² for –		2.2	
	(i) Contract administration	1.1		
	(ii) Site supervision	1.1		
(g)	Contingencies		3.0	
	Sub-total		34.5	(in September
(h)	Provision for price adjustment		(0.2)	2002 prices)
	Total		34.3	(in MOD prices)

Due to inadequate in-house staff resources, D Arch S proposes to engage consultants to undertake contract administration and site supervision of the project.

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

/2002-03

Based on the furniture and equipment provided in existing recreational facility of similar scale (e.g. **324RO** "District open space in Area 40, Tseung Kwan O").

The consultants' fees form an optional part of the lump-sum price quoted by the consultants selected to carry out the detailed design and tender documentation mentioned in paragraph 16 of the paper. Subject to Members' approval to upgrade **382RO** to Category A, D Arch S will direct the necessary works to be carried out.

Year	\$ million (Sept 2002)	Price adjustment factor	\$ million (MOD)
2002 – 03	0.5	1.00000	0.5
2003 – 04	12.0	0.99250	11.9
2004 – 05	13.0	0.99250	12.9
2005 – 06	6.0	0.99250	6.0
2006 – 07	3.0	0.99250	3.0
	34.5		34.3

- 8. We derived the MOD estimates on the basis of the Government's latest forecast of trend labour and construction prices for the period 2002 to 2007. We will deliver the works through a fixed-price lump-sum contract because the contract period will be less than 21 months and we can clearly define the scope of works in advance, leaving little room for uncertainty. D Arch S considers the estimated project cost reasonable as compared with similar parks built by the Government.
- 9. We estimate the annual recurrent expenditure arising from this project to be \$500,000.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 10. We consulted the Tai Po District Council on 13 March 2002. Members supported the proposed project scope and conceptual design.
- 11. We consulted the Legislative Council "Subcommittee to follow up the outstanding capital works projects of the former municipal councils" on the proposed upgrading of this project to Category A on 2 May 2002. Members raised no objection to the proposal.

/ENVIRONMENTAL

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 12. This is a non-designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. The project will have little potential for giving rise to adverse environmental impacts. During construction, we will control noise, dust and site run-off nuisances to within established standards and guidelines through the implementation of mitigation measures in the relevant contracts. These include the use of silencers, mufflers, acoustic lining or shields for noisy construction activities, frequent cleaning and watering of the site, and the provision of wheel-washing facilities.
- 13. At the planning and design stages, we have considered measures to reduce the generation of construction and demolition (C&D) materials. D Arch S has introduced more prefabricated building elements into the project designs to reduce temporary formwork and construction waste. We will use suitable excavated materials for filling within the project site to minimise off-site disposal. In addition, we will require the contractor to use metal site hoardings and signboards so that these materials can be recycled or reused in other projects.
- D Arch S will require the contractor to submit a waste management 14. The WMP will include appropriate mitigation plan (WMP) for approval. measures to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle C&D materials. D Arch S will ensure that the day-to-day operations on site comply with the approved WMP. D Arch S will control the disposal of public fill and C&D waste to designated public filling facilities and landfills respectively through a trip-ticket system. The contractor will be required to separate public fill from C&D waste for disposal at appropriate facilities. We will record the disposal, reuse and recycling of C&D materials for monitoring purposes. We estimate that the project will generate about 1 620 cubic metres (m³) of C&D materials. Of these, we will reuse about 530 m^3 (32.7%) on site, 1.050 m^3 (64.8%) as fill in public filling areas³, and dispose of 40 m³ (2.5%) at landfills. The notional cost of accommodating C&D waste at landfill sites is estimated to be \$5,000 for this project (based on a notional unit cost⁴ of \$125/m³).

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A public filling area is a designated part of a development project that accepts public fill for reclamation purposes. Disposal of public fill in a public filling area requires a licence issued by the Director of Civil Engineering.

This estimate has taken into account the cost for developing, operating and restoring the landfills after they are filled and the aftercare required. It does not include the land opportunity cost for existing landfill sites (which is estimated at \$90/m³), nor the cost to provide new landfills (which are likely to be more expensive) when the existing ones are filled. The notional cost estimate is for reference only and does not form part of this project estimate.

LAND ACQUISITION

15. The project does not require land acquisition.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- We upgraded **382RO** to Category B in March 2002. In September 2002, we engaged term contractors to carry out site investigation and topographical survey, and consultants to carry out detailed design and tender documentation for the project at a total cost of \$1.2 million. We will charge this amount to block allocation **Subhead 3100GX** "Project feasibility studies, minor investigations and consultants' fees for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme". The term contractors are carrying out the site investigation and topographical survey. The consultants are finalising the detailed design and tender documents.
- We estimate that the project will create 37 jobs with a total of 700 man-months comprising two professional staff, three technical staff and 32 labourers.

Home Affairs Bureau October 2002

