

HONG KONG AIR CADET CORPS

**A Submission to the Panel of Planning, Lands and Works
for its special meeting of 14 November 2006**

**Kai Tak Planning Review – Revised Preliminary Outline Development Plan
Headquarters of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps**

The Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) is a uniformed group with 3,900 cadet and 800 adult members under the policy aegis of the Home Affairs Bureau. A registered charitable body and a member organization of the Community Chest, we offer quality leadership and education programmes to transform young people into effective leaders and responsible citizens. We organize a progressive leadership training programme mainly through our 39 squadrons located throughout the territory, but also complemented by such activities organized by the Corps Headquarters as ceremonial guard service for the Government and community, crowd management duties at major public events, adventure training, sports shooting (in conjunction with the Hong Kong Rifle Association), and annual exchange programmes with the Mainland (as a major player of the Uniformed Group 10,000 miles Friendship Trek www.rthk.org.hk/special/10000miles06 and with the PLA Air Force Beijing Garrison) and overseas countries .

As the Council may be aware, the Corps also offers quality pre-vocational aviation education programmes to local young people to prepare them for possible service in the Aviation Industry, thereby contributing to the economic well being of Hong Kong. Our aviation education programme features weekly helicopter flying experience for members; Private Pilot License (Aeroplane) and Private Pilot License (Pilot) ground school courses; aeromodelling activities; Aviation Merit Certificate and Mentorship Programme jointly offered with a major local airline; and up to 17 powered flying and gliding scholarships offered each year to promising candidates.

As regards proven track records - Air Cadets in the 1980's are now Captains and First Officers of wide bodied jets of local airlines, as well as Senior Pilots of the Government Flying Service (GFS). A full one third of the GFS aircrew officers are present and former air cadets.

With the generous support from our own adult members who are also owners of private helicopters, the Corps proudly offers 90 x twenty-minutes helicopter air experience flights each month (to be increased to 163 slots per month in 2007 provided that the former West Kowloon heliport can be used by HKACC – that will bring the total number of twenty minutes flying slots to nearly 2,000 each year).

In tandem with air experience flying, the following scholarship/mentorship/training programmes are organized on an annual basis:

- (i) Three full Private Pilot License scholarships with free passage, room and board. Flight training is conducted at the Australian Aviation College (offered by the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators [GAPAN]);

- (ii) Six 10 hours Advanced Aviation Education Programme (AAEP) fixed wing flying scholarships with flight training conducted at the General Flying Service, Melbourne. Free passage provided by the Cathay Pacific Airways (jointly offered with the Cathay Pacific Airways, the Polytechnic University, and the General Flying Service);
- (iii) One 10 hours Advanced Aviation Education Programme (Helicopter) (AAEP[H]) scholarships with flight training conducted at the Beckers Helicopter Flight Training School, Australia. Free passage provided by the Cathay Pacific Airways (jointly offered with the Becker Helicopters Flight Training School and the Cathay Pacific Airways);
- (iv) Three 5 hours Advanced Aviation Education Programme (Helicopter) (AAEP[H]) scholarships with flying training conducted by the Hong Kong Aviation Club (jointly offered with the Hong Kong Aviation Club);
- (v) Four \$12,000 *Operation Swift* glider aviator scholarships with training conducted at the Auckland Gliding Club, New Zealand;
- (vi) Two glider aviator scholarships up to solo standard conducted at the Air Cadet Central Gliding School, UK, with free passage (jointly offered with the UK Air Cadet Organization);
- (vii) The Dragonair Aviation Certificate of Merit/Aviation Mentorship programme for 15 members (jointly organized with the Hong Kong Dragon Airlines www.aircadets.org.hk/kacert/content.htm);
- (viii) One Commercial Pilot (Helicopter) Training Course (face-to-face or on-line) donated by Beckers Helicopter Flight Training School; and
- (ix) Aeromodelling Training Programme for 250 members conducted at our HQ Technical Workshop and the Tseung Kwan O Aeromodelling Base.

When the Government requires smart looking ceremonial guards for public duties, or a rapidly deployable reserve of manpower for crowd management, they call on the HKACC. Our smart looking and highly disciplined honour guards are professionally trained (there are now annual standardization visits by Royal Air Force Queen's Colour Squadron), and are frequently tasked by the HKSAR Government for important ceremonial duties such as:

- (i) Mounting an honour guard at the gate of the Government House to greet Colonel Yang Liwei, China's first astronaut;
- (ii) Mounting an honour guard at the gate the Government House to greet the National Olympic Team Gold Medallists, and to providing manpower for crowd management duty within the Government House compound;

- (iii) Our honour guards are selected by the Police College to be the overall Parade Commander and two of the four flag raisers at the May Fourth Flag Raising Ceremony 2006 at the Golden Bauhinia Square – a truly historical moment in the sense that it was the first flag raising ceremony at the Golden Bauhinia Square which was performed by a unit *other than* the Hong Kong Police Force

We are grateful that the Kai Tak Preliminary Outline Development Plan has proposed to reserve the Sung Wong Toi Road site to accommodate our headquarters as well as the Hong Kong Aviation Club. The site area has, however, been reduced to accommodate the planned Sung Wong Toi Road Park.

HKACC invites the Council, the Panel and the related Bureaux and Departments to reconsider the case and drop the notion of reducing in size of the Sung Wong Toi Road complex in view of the following:

- (a) The social-economical impact of compromising the services delivered by HKACC (non-formal education and aviation education) not only to the 4,000+ air cadets but also to the local aviation industry and the community-at-large, for sake of the relatively few anticipated users of the portion of the planned Park to be ‘craved out’ of the present Sung Wong Toi Road site. The location of the gateway to the Park could be flexibly planned and need not be in conflict with the interests of existing users.
- (b) The HKACC is currently allocated only a very small area (about 2,000 sq ft) within the current Sung Wong Toi Road site for use as headquarters. To enable us to sustain our normal growth and satisfactorily discharge our diversified portfolio in the future the Corps deserves better accommodations. Appendix A represents the low-end “Scenario One” which should cover the basic necessities and bare essentials to allow us do to our job in the future – one which involves only slightly more office/classroom/equipment stowage space and a reasonably sufficient sports ground/parade group to support our services.

Zone One: two-storey office/workshops/equipment storage occupying the existing building

Zone Two: Nissen Hut rebuilt and refurbished as multi-functional Lecture Theatre

Zone Three: Multi-purpose sports/parade ground

Zone Four: Parking space to support both HKACC and Hong Kong Aviation Club

- (c) The mid-range scenario (“Scenario Two”) calls for a complete move out from the Sung Wong Toi Road site to an alternative, convenient and readily available location to provide for a sufficiently sized headquarters befitting HKACC and its diversified portfolio of services. One such readily available premises is the former Civil Aid Service (CAS) Cadets Headquarters in the Hunghom district. With the HKACC closely comparable in strength and services with the CAS Cadets Corps, the case is also readily justified, with all existing facilities superbly fit for use by HKACC. The down side of this scenario is a withdrawal from the Sung Wong Toi Road site and its rich aviation heritage, which may not be compatible with the wish to preserve as much as possible the aviation favour of Kai Tak
- (d) The high-end scenario (“Scenario Three”) calls for either the allocation of roughly a hectare of land to the East of the current Sung Wong Toi Road site (Appendix B), or elsewhere within the Kai Tak area, for development into full-fledged HKACC Headquarters/Aviation Development Centre. This scenario will not only preserve but will indeed enrich the aviation heritage of Kai Tak by putting *in-situ* a highly visible landmark to be seen by the world as a cradle of manpower for future service in the aviation industry, owned and run and by Hong Kong, a key global aviation centre.

The Council, the Panel and the relevant relevant Bureaux and Departments are hereby kindly invited to favourably consider HKACC’s case for the provision of an adequate headquarters accommodation to enable us to provide continued, uninterrupted and quality service to Hong Kong, either from among the three scenarios listed, or in any other ways which may satisfy our requirements. The Corps is always ready and willing to engage in discussions with the Government as well as other stakeholders with a view to addressing our needs.

Appendix A – HQ HKACC Development Scenario One

Appendix B – HQ HKACC Development Scenario Three

Appendix C – Policy Support Letter from the Home Affairs Bureau

Appendix D – Policy Support Letter from the Economic Development
& Labour Bureau

Appendix E – Policy Support Letter from the Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Appendix F – Policy Support Letter from the Hong Kong Community Chest

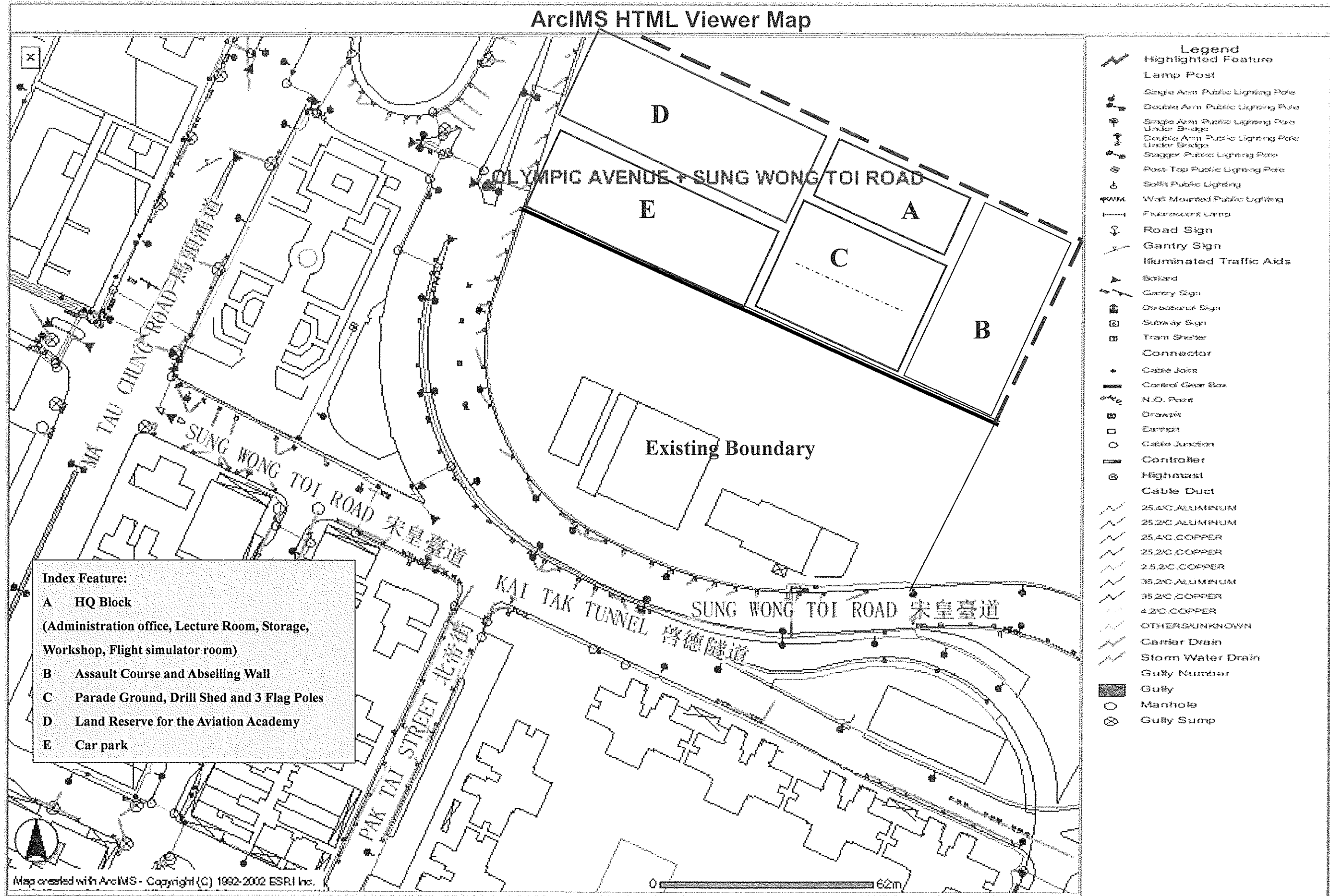
9 November 2006



COLOURED PINK AND PINK HATCHED BLACK AREA 10 300 SQUARE METRES (ABOUT)

SCALE 1 : 1000







政府總部
民政事務局
香港灣仔
軒尼詩道一百三十號
修頓中心三十一樓

Appendix C
**GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU**

31ST FLOOR, SOUTHRN CENTRE,
130 HENNESSY ROAD,
WAN CHAI,
HONG KONG.

Our Ref : HAB/YD/7/70
Tel No : 2835 1585
Faxline : 2591 6002

By Fax
26 September 2006

Mr Leonard K P LEUNG, MH
Commanding Officer
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps
Sung Wong Toi Road
Kowloon
(Fax No.: 2715 6944)

Dear Mr Leung,

Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

Thank you for your e-mail of 21 September.

Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) is a uniformed group that promotes community services and aviation activities among youth. Your work aligns with our objective in promoting youth development. We support that your existing headquarters at Sung Wong Toi Road be maintained so that you could continue to provide services to young people.

Yours sincerely,

(Patrick LEE)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

政府總部
經濟發展及勞工局
香港下亞厘畢道
中區政府合署



Appendix D
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
LABOUR BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**
Central Government Offices
Lower Albert Road
Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref:

Tel No: 2810 3161

來函檔號 Your Ref:

Fax No: 2524 9397

22 September 2006

Mr Leonard K P LEUNG ^{MH},
Commanding Officer,
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps,
Sung Wong Toi Road,
Kowloon

Dear Mr Leung

[Fax: 27156944]

Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps

Thank you for your email message of 21 September 2006.

We support the continue presence of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps at Sung Wong Toi Road to keep on your work in promoting aviation education and activities for the young persons, and helping to prepare those who may eventually join the aviation industry. We are pleased to be kept posted of development of your liaison work regarding the arrangement of your current headquarters.

Yours sincerely,

(Sam Hui)

for Secretary for Economic Development and Labour



香港社會服務聯會
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

26 September 2006

Appendix E

贊助人	行政總裁
行政長官 曾蔭權先生	方敏生女士
PATRON	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
The Chief Executive the Hon. Donald TSANG Yam-kuen	Ms. Christine M. S. FANG

Mr Leonard KP Leung MH
Commanding Officer
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps
Sung Wong Toi Road
Kowloon

Dear Mr Leung

Thank you for informing us that the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) is going to have a meeting with the Planning Department to secure the continued presence of the Headquarters at the Sung Wong Toi Road Site.

As a uniformed youth organization providing aviation education, non-formal education and leadership training to local young people, HKACC is offering quality education aviation programmes to prepare young people for possible future service in the local Aviation Industry. It is evident that in the past thirty-five years, HKACC, being a registered charitable body and a member agency of our Council with funding support from the Home Affairs Bureau, the Community Chest of Hong Kong as well as the public, has been nurturing numerous manpower resources for Hong Kong.

We hope that you would have a fruitful discussion with the Planning Department on Wednesday. We definitely support the objectives of HKACC in providing such a unique service in the community and sincerely hope that the Planning Department would consider allocating ample space for HKACC to pursue such a good cause.

Wish you all the best in your endeavour!

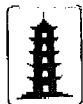
Yours sincerely

Jane Tsuei
Acting Chief Executive



Appendix F

名譽會歷
 香港特別行政區行政長官
 曾鈺成 CBM
 會長
 香港女童軍總會
 Patron
 The Hon. Donald T. King CBM
 Chief Executive
 Hong Kong SAR
 President
 Mr. S. Lee King



香港公益金
 THE COMMUNITY CHEST

27 September 2006

Mr Leonard K P Leung MH
 Commanding Officer
 Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps
 Sung Wong Toi Road
 Kowloon

Dear Mr Leung

With reference to your email of 21 September 2006, we would like to give our support to your continued presence at the Sung Wong Toi Road Site.

Your organization has provided valuable non-formal education and leadership training to local youths for thirty-five years and have partnered with the Chest in meeting community needs since 2001. During the past five years, your organization's contribution in promoting community services and aviation activities among local youths has been witnessed by many. Furthermore, you have also lent us much support in mobilizing your cadet members to join our fund-raising activities.

We hope that the Planning Department would consider allocating sufficient space for your organization to continue valuable services to the local youth community.

Yours sincerely

Cecilia Li
 Chief Executive