For information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs Aldrich Bay Park

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' support for the proposed development of the Aldrich Bay Park (the Project).

Background

2. The Project is one of the 21 projects of the ex-Municipal Councils recommended for further planning.

Location of the Project Site

3. The Project site with a total area of 2.2 hectares is situated at the junction of Oi Tak Street and Oi Shun Road in Sai Wan Ho. Currently, the site is leased out by Lands Department under a short-term tenancy to a private company as a golf driving range. The tenancy agreement will expire on 31 December 2008. A site plan is at **Enclosure**.

Project Scope

4. The proposed scope of the Project comprises –

- (a) a leisure park with the theme on traditional fishing village,
 vantage points for appreciation of the original fishing-junks
 and lifestyle of the fishing community;
- (b) a scented garden and other soft landscaped and sitting-out areas;
- (c) a children's play area for children of different age groups and those with a disability;
- (d) an open plaza area to facilitate group activities such as TaiChi classes;
- (e) a jogging trail equipped with fitness stations;
- (f) an elderly fitness corner with rain shelters;
- (g) rain shelters cum pavilions with garden benches; and
- (h) ancillary facilities including a toilet block, a storeroom cum staff roll call point, a meter room, a horticultural store, a garden waste chamber and a loading/unloading area.

Justifications

- The Eastern District is a densely populated district with a 5. As a reference, the Hong Kong Planning population of 581 500. Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) suggest a provision 116.3 hectares of public open space for the current population in the district. At present, the open space provision in the district is about 132.7 hectares, which includes 33.5 hectares of local open space provided by the Housing Department. However, only about 5.4 hectares of public open space are provided by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in the vicinity of the site which is surrounded by a number of residential developments (such as Lei King Wan, Felicity Garden, Grand Promenade, Les Saisons, Hong Tung Estate, Tung To Court, Tung Yuk Court, Oi Tung Estate and Aldrich Garden) with a local population of around 59 000. The nearest district park, Quarry Bay Park, is about a 20 to 30 minute walk away from these residential areas. The proposed development will provide more leisure facilities to cater for the needs of the local community.
- 6. The proposed Aldrich Bay Park will also serve as a green barrier to screen off the Island Eastern Corridor and enhance the living environment of the residents in the surrounding area.
- 7. Apart from making reference to the HKPSG, we also take into account a host of other factors including views of the Eastern District Council, local area committees and local residents as well as the utilisation rate of the existing facilities in considering the development of new leisure and cultural services projects.

Project Estimate and Implementation Plan

8. The Project is now in Category B. The estimated cost of the Project is \$102 million at September 2007 price level. Subject to funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC), construction is expected to commence in early 2009 for completion in late 2010.

Public Consultation

9. We consulted the Leisure and Culture Committee of the Eastern District Council on 23 March 2006 and 6 September 2007 on the scope and design of the Project respectively. Members expressed strong support for the Project and urged for its early implementation.

Way Forward

10. To take the Project forward, we intend to submit the Project to the Public Works Subcommittee of the FC for consideration for upgrading it to Category A at its meeting on 21 May 2008.

Advice Sought

11. Members are invited to support the implementation of the proposed Project.

Home Affairs Bureau April 2008

