

For Information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs Conversion of Secondary Pool of Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into Indoor Heated Pool Sham Shui Po

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to seek Members' support for the proposed project to convert the Secondary Pool of Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into an Indoor Heated Pool (the project) in Sham Shui Po District (SSP District).

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 now accommodates an existing swimming pool in Lai Chi Kok Park adjacent to Mei Foo Sun Chuen. A plan showing the project site is at **Enclosure 1**.

Project Scope

4. The proposed scope of the project comprises –
- (a) provision of a light-weight cover and retractable sidewalls for the secondary pool, with suitable modification to ancillary facilities;
 - (b) provision of a new heating system to the secondary pool;
 - (c) provision of a covered walkway with heating from the exits of the changing rooms to the secondary pool which can be enclosed during winter months;

- (d) demolition of the existing children's fun pool adjacent to the secondary pool; and
- (e) associated improvement to the ventilation/heating systems and the hot water system in the changing rooms.

Justifications

5. Currently, there are three swimming pools in SSP District. They are Lei Cheng Uk Swimming Pool, Sham Shui Po Park Swimming Pool and Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool, the latter two being provided with outdoor heated main pools. These pools are heavily patronized by the local residents in SSP District which has a population of about 375 900 in 2009. Lei Cheng Uk Swimming Pool, Sham Shui Po Park Swimming Pool and Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool recorded an average monthly attendance rate of about 41,580, 37,510 and 39,740 respectively in 2008, which was an increase by about 36% compared with the average monthly attendance rate in 2007. The average monthly attendance at Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool is also the third highest amongst the eight outdoor heated public swimming pools in Hong Kong. This shows that swimming facilities are in great demand and the project will help to meet the demand in SSP District.

6. Swimming has become an increasingly popular leisure activity in Hong Kong. As people become more health conscious, there is an increasing demand for year-round swimming facilities, and indoor heated swimming pools, in particular, are becoming more popular. This is evidenced by the higher average monthly attendance of over 355,000 visits for indoor heated pools during the winter months (i.e. from November 2008 to December 2008), as compared with around 276,000 visits for outdoor heated swimming pools for the same period. However, both Sham Shui Po Swimming Pool and Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool are only provided with public outdoor heated main pool in each complex and there is currently no public indoor heated swimming pool in SSP District. The proposed provision of indoor heated swimming facilities in this project will help to meet the demand for indoor heated swimming pool in SSP District. We believe that the proposed indoor heated swimming pool will be well patronized by local residents.

7. The project would have the effect of promoting winter swimming and better health amongst the local population, and thus enhancing the overall usage of the swimming pool.

Project Estimate and Implementation Plan

8. The project is now in Category B of the Public Works Programme. The estimated cost of the project is about \$155 million at September 2008 price level.

9. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, the construction is expected to commence in February 2010 for completion in June 2012.

Public Consultation

10. We consulted the Community Affairs Committee of the SSP District Council on the proposed scope and the proposed design layout of the project on 31 May 2007 and 19 March 2009 respectively. Members strongly supported the project and urged for its early implementation.

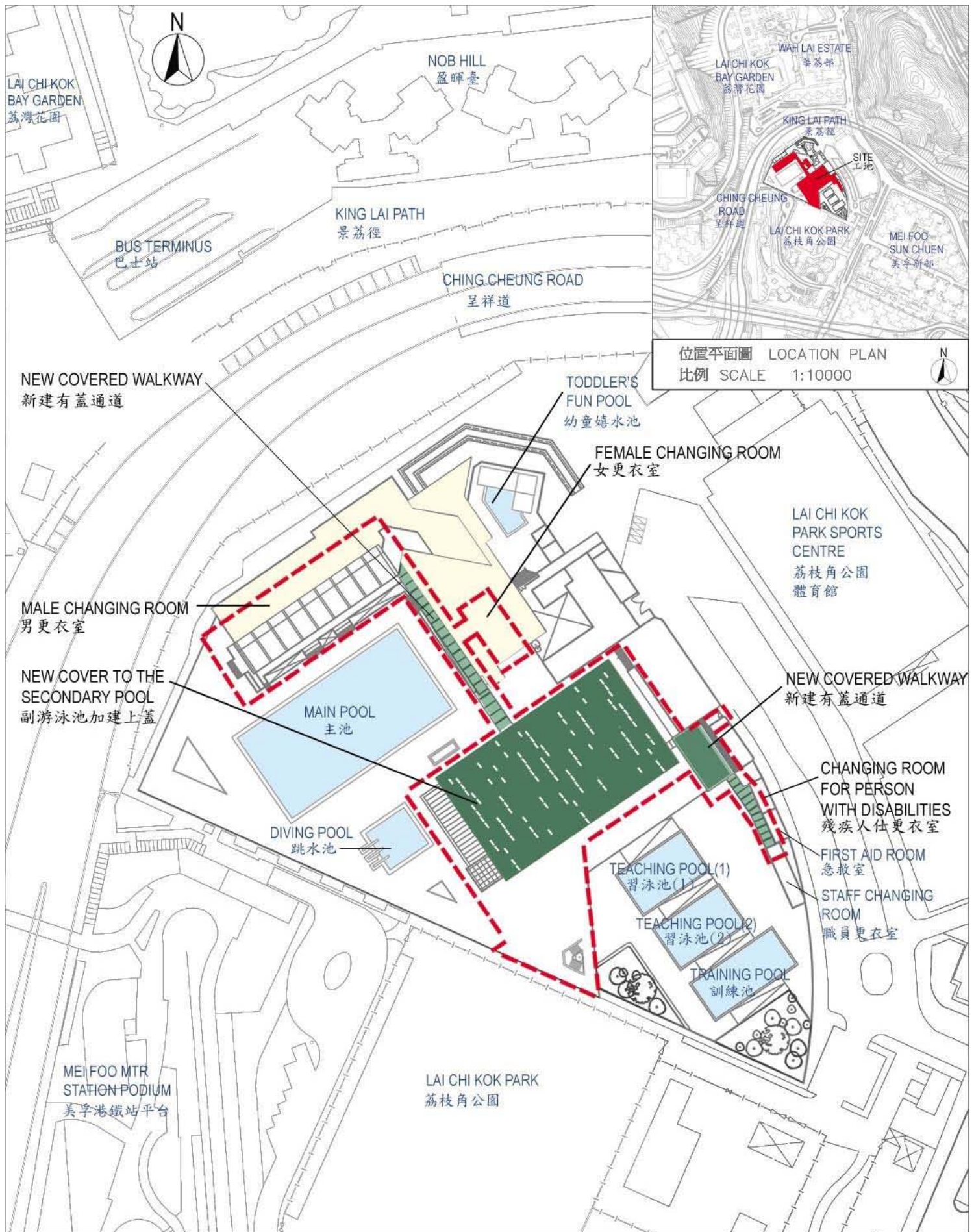
Way Forward

11. To take the project forward, we intend to submit the project to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee at its meeting on 20 May 2009.

Advice Sought

12. Members are invited to support the implementation of the project.

Home Affairs Bureau
April 2009



位置平面圖 LOCATION PLAN
比例 SCALE 1:10000

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| title 245RS Conversion of Secondary Pool of Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool Into indoor heated pool 把荔枝角公園游泳池的副池 改建為室內暖水池 | drawn by 繪圖 BONG LEUNG | date 日期 03/09 | drawing no. 編號 PMB/6822/XA00 | scale 比例 1:1250 |
| | approved 覆核 VETUS LAU | date 日期 03/09 |  ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT | |
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