

油尖旺民政事務處

九龍聯運街三十號  
旺角政府合署六樓



YAU TSIM MONG DISTRICT OFFICE  
6/F., MONG KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES,  
30 LUEN WAN STREET, KOWLOON.

*(Total : 6 pages)*

Our Ref. HAD YTMDO/17-35/3/10/1

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30 March 2009

Mr Raymond Lam  
Clerk to Panel on Security  
Legislative Council  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

**Installation of Closed-Circuit Television System in Public Places**

Thank you for your letter of 5 March 2009, relaying the request from Members of the Panel on Security for further information on the installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) system in the Mong Kok Pedestrian Precinct (MKPP).

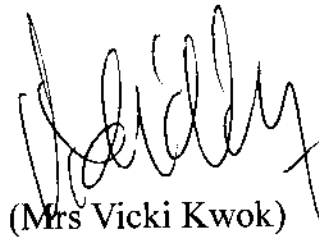
At the meeting of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC) held on 26 February 2009, DC members discussed and endorsed the operational details of the CCTV system to be installed in MKPP, as well as the roles and responsibilities of different parties, including YTMDC, Yau Tsim Mong District Office, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (the works agent for this project) and its contractor, in installing and operating the CCTV system. They also reiterated the urgency of the installation of the CCTV system to deter the act of throwing objects from height and assist police investigation should attacks from height occur. At the meeting of YTMDC's District Facilities Management Committee held on 17 March 2009, members

endorsed the necessary funding for the installation and operation of the CCTV project. The installation work is expected to complete in around mid-2009.

The images to be captured by the CCTV system would be at a resolution level of use to the Police in their investigation into incidents of attack from height in MKPP. A map showing the locations of the cameras, together with some sample images, is at Annex A. Members may also wish to note the measures to address privacy concerns set out in a note on the system at Annex B.

Members of the Panel have also requested information on the effectiveness and impact on privacy of CCTV installations in public rental housing estates. We understand that the Housing Department will provide the relevant information separately.

Yours sincerely,



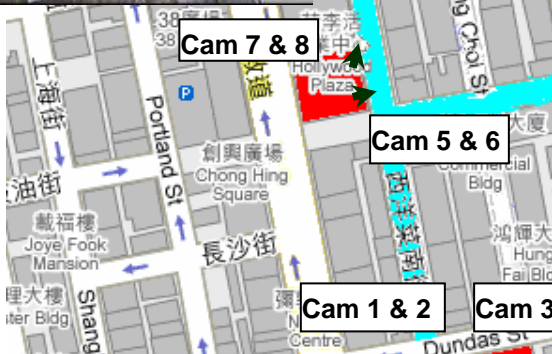
(Mrs Vicki Kwok)

District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong)

- c.c. Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
(Attn: Miss Joanna Choi)  
Secretary for Security (Attn: Mrs Apollonia Liu)  
Commissioner of Police (Attn: Mr Austin Kerrigan)  
Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services  
(Attn: Mr William Wong)  
Director of Housing (Attn: Mr Lau Kai-hung)

w/encls.

Annex A



Key:



Mong Kok Pedestrian Precinct (MKPP)  
(between 4 p.m. and 12 a.m. from Monday to Saturday; between 12 noon and 12 a.m. on Sundays and Public Holidays)



Buildings for the installation of CCTV system



Direction of camera projection

**Mode of Operation of the Closed-Circuit Television System  
in Mong Kok Pedestrian Precinct**

**Purposes**

- The purposes of installing the closed-circuit television (CCTV) system are :
  - (a) to deter the act of throwing objects from height and restore public confidence in walking along the Mong Kok Pedestrian Precinct (MKPP); and
  - (b) to provide information to assist police investigation should attacks from height occur.

**Location of CCTVs**

- One set of CCTV cameras will each be installed on the rooftops of Park-In Commercial Building (56 Dundas Street) and Hollywood Plaza (610 Nathan Road).
- These two installation points give a panoramic view of most of the area of Sai Yeung Choi Street South.

**Measures to address privacy concerns**

- In consultation with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data and the Department of Justice, the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC) has formulated a set of operational guidelines, which should be observed by all relevant parties, including the works agent, namely the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), and its contractor who is tasked with the installation, inspection, repairs and maintenance of the system. The contractor will also be required to take security measures to protect the integrity of the components of the system and prevent leakage of information contained therein. EMSD is responsible for monitoring the performance of the contractor.

- The CCTV cameras will operate automatically round-the-clock without the need for physical monitoring by designated persons. Access to the system and images is limited to persons authorized by YTMDC and Yau Tsim Mong District Office (YTMDO) (e.g. maintenance staff).
- The CCTV cameras will not be directed at the windows of the private residential flats in the area. Their directions and resolution level are pre-set and will remain unaltered unless directed otherwise by YTMDC pursuant to regular reviews of the location and perimeter view of the cameras.
- The recorded images will be stored in a hard disk placed in a locked cabinet and automatically erased after 14 days, unless the images are required for police investigation into incidents of attack from height.
- If the hard disk components containing the recorded images would need to be discarded, all information stored therein will be erased to a non-recoverable state.
- The YTMDC will post sufficient notices along Sai Yeung Choi Street South to inform the public that the area is under the surveillance of the CCTV system.
- Recorded images will only be retrieved for the Police's investigation into incidents of attack from height, under a set of prescribed procedures:
  - (a) The Police may submit an application for retrieving the images only when the department has received a complaint or report on attack from height at Sai Yeung Choi Street South, which is under police investigation.
  - (b) A vetting committee, comprising representatives from YTMDC and YTMDO, will consider the Police's application(s) if the conditions set out in (a) above are met.
  - (c) Upon obtaining the vetting committee's authorization, the Police may retrieve only the images recorded six hours before and after the incident concerned.
  - (d) All movements of the recorded images will be clearly documented in a designated register, which is subject to regular checks by YTMDC.