For information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Tuen Mun River Beautification – Tin Hau Temple Plaza

Purpose

This paper informs Members of a proposal to upgrade the Tin Hau Temple Plaza in Tuen Mun. We plan to submit a funding proposal for this project to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) and Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council for consideration on 20 April and 13 May 2011 respectively.

Proposal

2. We propose to upgrade the Tin Hau Temple Plaza in Tuen Mun. The Plaza is about 10 218 square metres in size and located at the junction of Tin Hau Road and Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun, which is zoned "Open Space" (O) and partially as "Green Belt" (GB) on the Tuen Mun Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/TM/24. The site plan is at **Enclosure 1**.

Project Scope

- 3. The scope of the proposed project comprises
 - (a) Construction of a covered performance stage, a Pai Lau and a Fa Pau Exhibition Hall for display of the history of Tin Hau Festival and exhibition of Fa Paus;
 - (b) Renovation of the existing public toilet and provision of additional toilet facilities; and

(c) Ancillary and supporting facilities, such as a transformer room, chessboard tables and seats etc.

Justifications

- 4. In his 2007 2008 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced that the Government would give priority to beautification works along the Tuen Mun River. To follow up on this commitment, the Home Affairs Department set up a Task Force on Tuen Mun River Beautification Scheme to steer and monitor project planning and implementation by government and non-government parties. In collaboration with the Government, the Hong Kong Housing Society undertook a planning study and a public engagement programme for the beautification projects. During the public engagement process, the Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) and local residents unanimously called for, among other proposals, improvement of the Tin Hau Temple Area which they considered should be accorded with priority.
- 5. The Tin Hau Temple Plaza is the most popular open space available for large scale outdoor activities in Tuen Mun. Major annual functions held at the Plaza include the Tin Hau Festival Parade cum Fa Pau Lots Drawing Ceremony, the Chinese New Year Fair and the Free Meal for the Elderly. The proposed project will make the Plaza a focal point where large-scale outdoor civic activities for active participation and enjoyment by the local residents and visitors can be held. The newly established Fa Pau Exhibition Hall will offer visitors a cultural experience on Tin Hau Festival through the display of Fa Paus.

Project Estimate and Implementation Plan

- 6. The estimated cost of the proposed project is about \$134.5 million in money-of-the-day prices.
- 7. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, construction is

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expected to commence in September 2011 for completion in May 2013.

Public Consultation

8. We consulted TMDC on the scope of the proposed project on 4

November 2008. Members supported the project and requested its early

implementation. We conducted further consultation on the preliminary design

with the TMDC and its Working Group on Development and Planning of Tuen

Mun District on 2 and 29 November 2010 respectively. Feedback was positive.

9. We conducted further public consultation in January 2011 with the

community in the vicinity of the Project site, including the DC member and the

Area Committee concerned and the adjacent industrial buildings. The

feedback was also positive.

Way Forward

10. We intend to submit the Project to the PWSC of the Finance Committee

for consideration at its meeting on 20 April 2011.

Advice Sought

11. Members are invited to note the proposed Project.

Home Affairs Bureau

March 2011

