Panel on Development

List of outstanding items for discussion

(Position as at 26 March 2012)

Proposed timing for discussion/ Remarks

1. Creation of two judicial posts to cope with the increase in workload at the Lands Tribunal

The Administration intends to seek the Panel's views 17 April 2012 on the proposed creation of one Judge of the District Court (JSPS13) and one Member of the Lands Tribunal (JSPS12) to cope with the increase in workload at the Lands Tribunal. The relevant funding proposal will be submitted to the Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee ("FC") for approval in June 2012. The Administration will also update the Panel on the progress of the two pilot schemes in support of minority owners affected by compulsory sale or voluntary acquisition before compulsory sale.

2. Kai Tak Development -- Environmentally Friendly Linkage System

The Administration will brief the Panel on the 17 April 2012 findings of the feasibility study on the above system.

3. PWP Item No. 9345WF -- Planning and investigation study of desalination plant at Tseung Kwan O

The Administration intends to seek the Panel's support for upgrading to Category A the above study (including environmental impact assessment and site investigation works) to establish the feasibility for the construction of a desalination plant at Tseung Kwan O. The relevant funding proposal will be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") and FC for approval in May and June 2012 respectively.

Proposed timing for discussion/ Remarks

4. Proposal to increase the financial ceiling of delegated authority for Category D items in the Capital Works Programme

The Administration will seek the Panel's support for 24 April 2012 the above proposal, which aims to maintain the real value of the delegation.

5. PWP Item No. 5013GB - Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point and associated works

The Administration intends to seek the Panel's support 24 April 2012 for upgrading part of the above project to Category A for site formation and construction of a connecting road and associated infrastructure works. The relevant funding proposal will be submitted to PWSC and FC for approval in May and June 2012 respectively.

6. Seismic effects on buildings in Hong Kong

The Administration intends to introduce to members First half of 2012 the recommendations of the Buildings Department's consultancy study on seismic effects on buildings in Hong Kong and the proposed way forward. The Administration intends to submit the subsidiary legislation in due course.

7. North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning and Engineering Study

The subject was proposed by Hon LEE Wing-tat. He Mid-2012 expressed concern about the proposed comprehensive development and nature conservation enhancement area in the Kwu Tung North New Development Area Preliminary Outline Development Plan.

The Panel discussed the subject of "Planning and Engineering Study on North East New Territories New Development Areas (NENT NDAs) (Stage One Public Engagement)" at the meeting on 25 November 2008. The Administration briefed the Panel on the Preliminary Outline Development Plans in the Stage Two Public Engagement at the meeting on 24 November 2009.

The Administration provided an update on the NENT NDAs Planning and Engineering Study in its supplementary note on the Planning and Engineering Study on Development of Lok Ma Chau Loop --Investigation -- Stage One Public Engagement (LC Paper No. CB(1)735/10-11(04)) in December 2010.

8. Review of the functions of the Town Planning Board and related issues

At the meeting with Legislative Council Members on 29 November 2005, Heung Yee Kuk Councillors raised concern about the mechanism to check and balance the powers of the Town Planning Board. The relevant extract from the minutes of the meeting was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)700/05-06 on 13 January 2006.

the Panel meeting on 14 October 2008. At Hon Tanya CHAN, Hon Cyd HO and Hon Abraham SHEK expressed views that issues related to the review of the functions of the Town Planning Board, town planning procedures, and secretariat support for the Town Planning Board should be discussed.

Note: The Administration has advised that review of the Town Planning Ordinance is not a priority of the Development Bureau and thus has not been factored into its current work plan. To be decided (Note)

9. Small house policy and rural planning strategy

The subject was proposed by Hon CHAN Kam-lam at the meeting on 11 October 2007. A letter from the Chief Secretary for Administration in reply to the Public Accounts Committee (LC Paper No. CB(1)130/07-08(01)) providing information about the progress of the Small House Policy review was circulated to members on 25 October 2007.

At the meeting with Legislative Council Members on 8 January 2009, Heung Yee Kuk Councillors raised concern about the arrangements regarding Small House applications by descendents of indigenous villagers after village removal. The relevant documents (LC Paper No. CB(1)935/08-09(02)) were circulated to members on 2 March 2009.

At the meeting of the Panel on 13 October 2011, Hon CHAN Kam-lam urged that the Administration should update the Panel on the subject. Hon Albert CHAN proposed that the discussion should also cover the Government's rural planning strategy.

Note: The Administration has advised that more time is required for its internal deliberation on the subject and thus it would not be ready to discuss the subject in the near future.

10. Incorporation of 54 sites in the New Territories into country parks

The above subject was referred to the Panel for To be decided follow-up by LegCo Members attending the meeting with Heung Yee Kuk members on 12 January 2012. Heung Yee Kuk members were concerned that the Administration's incorporation of the 54 sites into country parks had unduly restricted the rights of

To be decided (Note)

concerned land owners in developing the sites. At the Panel meeting on 28 February 2012, members agreed that the Panel should discuss the subject with the Administration. The relevant documents (LC Paper Nos. CB(1)1057/11-12(01) and CB(1)1230/11-12(01)) were circulated to members on 13 February and 6 March 2012 respectively.

11. Definition under the Block Government Lease and deprivation of the right of use of agricultural land in the New Territories

The above subject was referred to the Panel for To be decided follow-up by LegCo Members attending the meeting with Heung Yee Kuk members on 12 January 2012. Heung Yee Kuk members considered that the definition of "agricultural land" under the Town Planning Ordinance had unreasonably restricted the use of agricultural land in the New Territories. The Panel agreed at the meeting on 28 February 2012 that the subject be discussed with the Administration. The documents relevant (LC Paper No. CB(1)1057/11-12(02)) were circulated to members on 13 February 2012.

12. Review of the policy in drawing up Village Environs and Village-type Development Areas to resolve the difficulty of small house applications

The above subject was referred to the Panel for To be decided follow-up by LegCo Members attending the meeting with Heung Yee Kuk members on 12 January 2012. Heung Yee Kuk members held the view that the policy in drawing up Village Environs and Village-type Development Areas should be reviewed so as to increase land for village-type development. The Panel agreed at the meeting on 28 February 2012 that subject the above be discussed with the Administration. The relevant documents (LC Paper

Proposed timing for discussion/ Remarks

No. CB(1)1057/11-12(03)) were circulated to members on 13 February 2012.

Council Business Division 1 Legislative Council Secretariat 26 March 2012