To: panel_dev@legco.gov.hk
From: Norman Ho
Date: 05/21/2013 08:35PM
Subject: Regarding Enhancing Land Supply Strategy
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I am opposed to the government's plan for further reclamation outside Victoria Harbour and for rock cavern development for housing. Both options are costly and will permanently destroy Hong Kong's natural environment and marine ecology. In addition, there is no dire need for housing in Hong Kong, despite the government's assertions to the contrary. The government has provided no evidence that "Hong Kong needs a new town as big as Sha Tin every 10 years to accommodate the growing population," particularly in light of data showing that Hong Kong's population is expected to decline in the future. In addition, the Development Bureau's April 2013 paper on "Enhancing Land Supply Strategy: Reclamation Outside Victoria Harbour and Rock Cavern Development—Stage 2 Public Engagement" contains no discussion of any other options to increase Hong Kong's land supply—namely resumption of existing land.

It is unacceptable for the government to fail to provide details as to all available options to increase Hong Kong's land supply, and this absence of data proves that the government has no desire to truly consult members of the public on this issue. The proposals put forward in the Development Bureau's paper amount to a fait accompli that the government will pursue reclamation and rock cavern development regardless of other viable options and without providing any statistics on Hong Kong's future population estimates, the current housing situation or and existing land availability.

In conclusion, I am opposed to further reclamation and rock cavern development and believe that the government should halt consultation on this issue until detailed data on all available options to increase Hong Kong's land supply are provided to the public for full consideration, including the option of resuming existing land.

Sincerely,

Norman Ho