For discussion on 25 June 2019

Legislative Council Panel on Development 43CG – Greening Master Plans for the New Territories

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on the proposal to upgrade part of **43CG "Greening Master Plans for the New Territories**" to Category A at an estimated cost of \$367.6 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices to carry out priority greening works in Southwest and Northeast New Territories.

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

- 2. The scope of **43CG** comprises the implementation of greening works as recommended in the Greening Master Plans (GMPs) for the New Territories.
- 3. The part of **43CG** proposed to be upgraded to Category A comprises
 - (a) planting and establishment of about 1 850 trees and 830 000 shrubs including:
 - (i) about 500 trees and 250 000 shrubs in Kwai Tsing;
 - (ii) about 400 trees and 200 000 shrubs in Tsuen Wan;
 - (iii) about 250 trees and 100 000 shrubs in Islands District;

- (iv) about 300 trees and 80 000 shrubs in North District; and
- (v) about 400 trees and 200 000 shrubs in Tai Po;
- (b) ground preparation, soil improvement and installation of tree support systems;
- (c) construction of associated planters and other landscape works; and
- (d) ancillary works including irrigation facilities.
- 4. A plan showing the coverage of the proposed works is at **Enclosure 1**.
- 5. Subject to the Finance Committee (FC)'s funding approval, we plan to commence the priority greening works in Southwest and Northeast New Territories in the first quarter of 2020 for completion in the first quarter of 2023, followed by a one-year establishment period.
- 6. The remainder of **43CG** will be retained in Category B, which covers the implementation of the remaining greening works recommended in the GMPs for the New Territories. Funding for these works will be sought separately when they are ready for upgrading to Category A.

JUSTIFICATION

7. The Government has been actively promoting greening to improve our living environment, in particular air quality. Our proposal to develop and implement district-based GMPs will complement existing vegetation in local areas, and help enhance liveability and the public's enjoyment of the open environment.

- 8. GMP seeks to define the overall greening framework of a district, and serves as a guide for all parties involved in planning, design and implementation of greening works. In addition to identifying planting locations, GMP establishes the greening themes and proposes suitable planting species for each district.
- 9. In accordance with the GMPs for the urban areas, the greening works in the Central and Tsim Sha Tsui were completed in early 2007, those in Mong Kok, Yau Ma Tei, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai and Causeway Bay in end 2009, and those in the remaining urban areas in June 2011. The public has been supportive of the GMP projects and there is a strong demand to extend the GMPs to the New Territories. We have commenced the formulation of GMPs for the New Territories progressively from May 2011.
- 10. Upon completion of the GMPs for Southeast and Northwest New Territories in January 2014, we implemented the priority greening measures in Sha Tin, Sai Kung, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long in October 2017.
- 11. With the development of the GMPs for Southwest and Northeast New Territories, we propose to implement the priority greening works in Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Islands District, North District and Tai Po as a continuation of the GMPs for New Territories.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. The cost of the proposed works is estimated to be about \$367.6 million in MOD prices. Due to insufficient in-house resources, we propose to engage consultants to undertake the contract administration and site supervision of the proposed works.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

13. In developing the GMPs for Southwest and Northeast New Territories, we have followed the Enhanced Partnering Approach whereby the District Councils (DCs), Rural Committees (RCs) and the local communities were closely involved. In gist, the relevant DCs and RCs formed a District Participation Group (DPG) to work with the Civil

Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) to formulate the GMPs from inception to finalisation. Community forums were organised jointly by the DPGs and CEDD to collect views from the public and major stakeholders such as the Hong Kong Housing Society, the Link Management Limited and professional bodies.

- 14. In consultation with the relevant District Councils in 2013 and 2019, the following greening themes have been adopted
 - (a) Kwai Tsing Blue Breeze and Green Vista (嵐海菁喬);
 - (b) Tsuen Wan Green Vibrance (翠錦悅灣);
 - (c) Islands District Tranquil Seascape, Flourishing Isles (躍蓉恬翠);
 - (d) North District A Landscape Born of River and Mountain (錦繡山河); and
 - (e) Tai Po History and Harmony in the Urban Landscape (綠意盎然).
- 15. Details of greening themes as described in paragraph 14 above are at **Enclosure 2**. With reference to relevant guidelines issued by the Development Bureau, including the latest "Street Tree Selection Guide", we have formulated planting proposals with theme tree species and native species to balance the requirements of thematic planting and plant diversity.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 16. This is not a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). It will not cause any long-term adverse environmental impact.
- 17. During the construction stage, we will control noise, dust and site run-off nuisances to within established standards and guidelines through implementation of mitigation measures in works contracts.

These include use of silencers, mufflers, acoustic lining or shields for noisy construction activities, frequent cleaning and watering of the site, and provision of wheel-washing facilities to prevent dust nuisance.

HERITAGE IMPLICATIONS

18. The project will not affect any heritage sites, i.e. all declared monuments, proposed monuments, graded historic sites and buildings, sites of archaeological interest and government historic sites identified by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

LAND ACQUISITION

19. The proposed works do not require any land acquisition.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 20. **43CG** was upgraded to Category B in January 2008. In view of the large area of the New Territories, the development was divided into four parcels according to geographical division. Following the consideration by the Public Works Sub-Committee (PWSC) and the FC in May 2014 and July 2014 respectively, **43CG** was partly upgraded to Category A as **47CG** to carry out priority greening works in Southeast and Northwest New Territories.
- 21. For the development of GMPs for Southwest and Northeast New Territories, site investigation works were carried out in stages to facilitate the design of greening works. The costs involved, \$16.8 million and \$11.6 million for Southwest and Northeast New Territories respectively, were charged under block allocation **Subhead 5101CX** "Civil engineering works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme".

WAY FORWARD

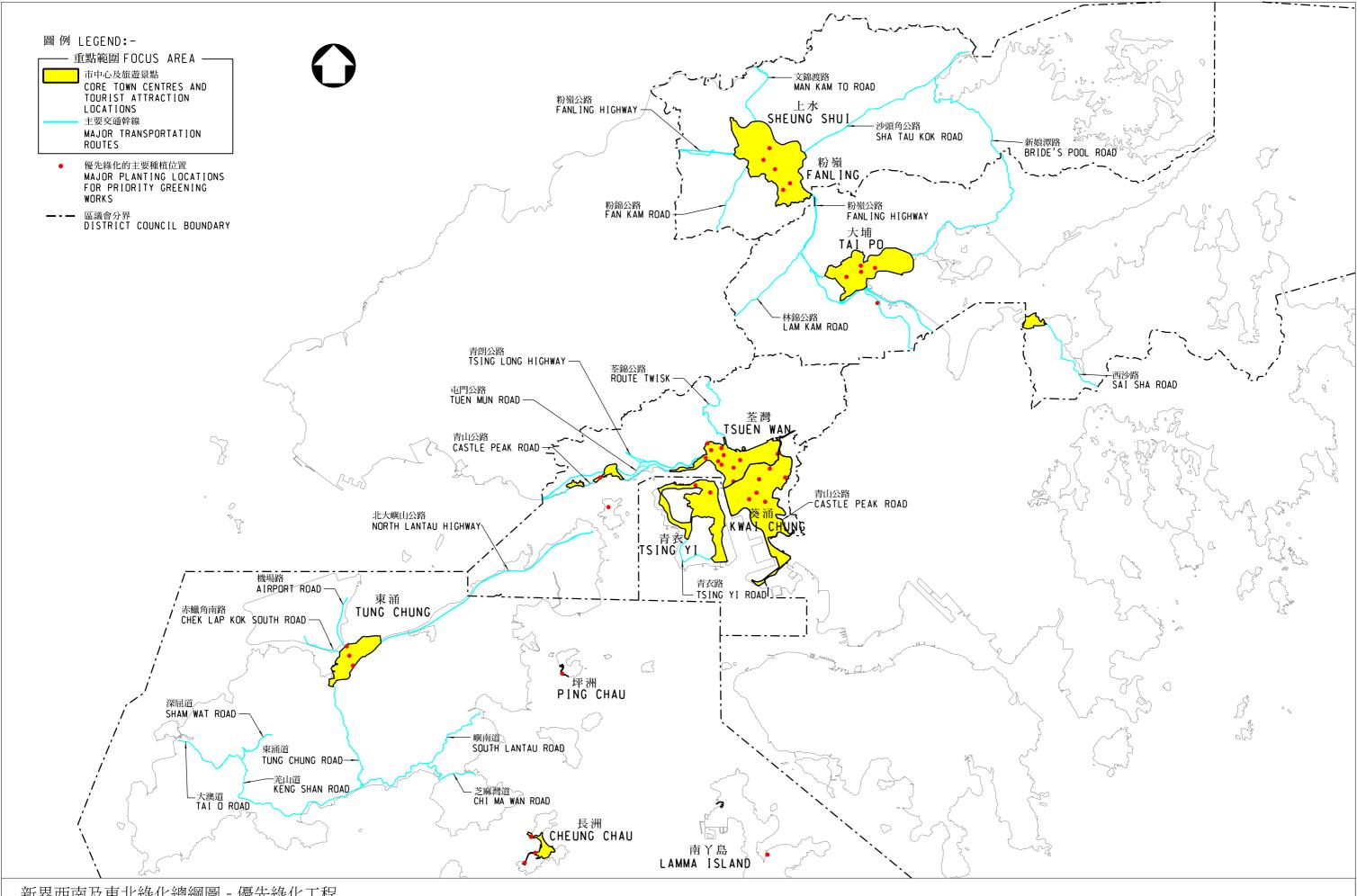
22. We plan to seek the PWSC's endorsement for upgrading part of **43CG** to Category A with a view to seeking funding approval from the FC in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Development Bureau Civil Engineering and Development Department June 2019

List of Enclosures

Enclosure 1 – Greening Master Plans for Southwest and Northeast New Territories – Priority Greening Works

Enclosure 2 – Details of greening themes and theme trees for each district



新界西南及東北綠化總綱圖 - 優先綠化工程

GREENING MASTER PLANS FOR SOUTHWEST AND NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES - PRIORITY GREENING WORKS



主題品種 Theme Species

喬木 Trees

(N): Native Species 本地品種

(E): Exotic Species 外來品種

Elaeocarpus balansae 大葉杜英 (E) Bauhinia variegata 宮粉羊蹄甲 (E) Lagerstroemia speciosa 大花紫薇 (E)









喬木 Trees

(N): Native Species 本地品種 (E): Exotic Species 外來品種

Wodyetia bifurcata 狐尾椰子 (E)

Elaeocarpus balansae 大葉杜英 (E) Bauhinia variegata 宮粉羊蹄甲 (E)









主題品種 Theme Species

喬木 Trees

(N): Native Species 本地品種

(E): Exotic Species 外來品種

Bischofia javanica 秋楓 (N)

Cinnamomum burmanii 陰香 (N)

Terminalia catappa 欖仁樹 (E)







喬木 Trees

Lagerstroemia speciosa 大花紫薇 (E)



Bauhinia x blakeana 洋紫荊 (N)



Melia azedarach 楝 (E)



Tabebuia chrysantha 黄花風鈴木 (E)

(N): Native Species 本地品種 (E): Exotic Species 外來品種

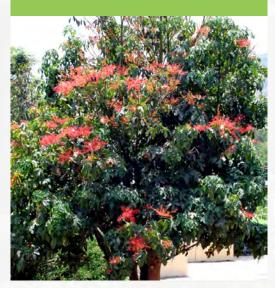


自宋朝起,華南地區的居民南遷,移居大埔,隨著人口增加,商貿日益頻繁,早期居民依靠土產蚌蛛為生,其後更將之發展成一重要經濟事業。"綠意盎然"所描述的是大埔三面環山,位處八仙嶺、九龍坑山、大帽山和草山之間,各個山脈互為裙帶,形成山谷及盆地,山巒起伏。另外林村河由大帽山及觀音山,流經林村谷,貫穿大埔市中心,匯合大埔河流入吐露港。大埔綠化總綱圖以"綠意盎然"為主題,利用色彩鮮艷的植物品種,把綠色郊野帶進市區,加強市中心的繁華與郊區山巒起伏的自然地理環境的和諧關係。建議主題品種包括:紅花風鈴木、槭葉蘋婆、楝及陰香。

Tai Po began to shine as a market town during the Song Dynasty establishing its presence through the hard work of the indigenous people who developed a lucrative business through clamming and pearl making; working in harmony with the natural resources at hand. The Greening Theme for Tai Po District is "History and Harmony in the Urban Landscape"(綠意盘然) reflecting the towns' historic origins and its outstanding natural setting. Recommended theme tree species include *Tabebuia pentaphylla* (紅花風鈴木), *Brachychiton acerifolius* (槭葉蘋婆), *Melia azedarach* (楝) and Cinnamomum burmannii (陰香).

喬木 Trees

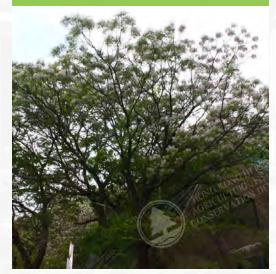
Brachychiton acerifolius 槭葉蘋婆 (E)



Tabebuia pentaphylla 紅花風鈴木 (E)



Melia azedarach 楝 (E)



Cinnamomum burmannii 陰香 (N)

(N): Native Species 本地品種 (E): Exotic Species 外來品種

