

For information

**Legislative Council
Panel on Development and Panel on Home Affairs
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the
West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

Follow-up to meeting on 1 April 2019

Following the meeting of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project on 1 April 2019, the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority provides supplementary information as requested below –

Update on the development of the Art Park and Freespace

- (a) the criteria for the selection of suitable tree species for and planting locations in the Art Park, including whether due regard had been given to its windy and exposed location and the impact of strong typhoons like typhoon Mangkhut**

The planting scheme was designed by park consultants and tree specialists in the team, while native (around 50%) and naturalized (over 20%) tree species that fit with the local climate were selected to plant in the Art Park, limiting the exotic species to below 30%.

To balance and promote the variety of plant species as urban green park, over 25% of total tree number are *Ficus spp.* as a robust tree species to shape the backbone of the planting scheme. These species have shown their resilience against wind, local soil condition and exposure to salt spray in Hong Kong.

Around 20% of trees are relocated from the Nursery Park that have been established to suit with the similar condition as exposed site.

Palms (*Wodyetia spp.*) and tree species, such as Sea Hibiscus and Wild Bean, which are relatively high resistant to wind and

salty condition, were planted along the harbourside to protect the inner part of the Art Park.

All trees within the Park have generous planting area to allow supporting root growth. It aims to provide better development of tree growth and future resilience to extreme weather.

Trees were all staked and supported to resist weather impact; being monitored and exercised with precaution measures before and after strong typhoon impact.

(b) the latest implementation details of SmartBike, including the opening days and hours, the utilization rate and the number of cycling accidents, if any, in the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") recorded so far

SmartBike is operated from 2pm to 7pm from Tuesday to Friday. On Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays, the operating hours are from 10am to 7pm. Except for Public Holidays, the rental service will be suspended on Monday. The total number of bikes available for rental is around 60. The average usage for weekday and weekend is about 10% and 80% respectively. No cycling accident was reported since the launch of the SmartBike service.

(c) the type (standard, medium or quick) of the 20 electric vehicle charging stations to be provided at the B2 level of WKCD

A total 20 nos. of electric vehicle medium chargers (32A, single-phase power supply) were installed at B2 level of the underground car park at the Art Park.