

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. PWSC37/19-20  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

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**Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee  
of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting  
held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex  
on Wednesday, 30 October 2019, at 8:30 am**

**Members present:**

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon Alvin YEUNG  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick

Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon HO Kai-ming  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH  
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP  
Hon Tanya CHAN  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP  
Hon HUI Chi-fung  
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai  
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho  
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Hon AU Nok-hin  
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS  
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

**Members absent:**

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Hon KWONG Chun-yu

**Public officers attending:**

Mr Howard LEE Man-sing	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) <sup>3</sup>
Mr LAM Sai-hung, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Ms Bernadette LINN, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)
Mr Elvis AU Wai-kwong, JP	Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (1)

Ms Margaret HSIA Mai-chi	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Ms Brenda AU Kit-ying, JP	Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office Development Bureau
Mr Edwin WONG Kuo-yang	Deputy Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office Development Bureau
Mr Kelvin LO Kwok-wah, JP	Director of Drainage Services
Mr Thomas WONG Hip-lik	Chief Engineer (Drainage Projects) Drainage Services Department
Mr Edward TSE Cheong-wo, JP	Project Director (3) Architectural Services Department
Ms Wendy KWOK Wing-yin	Senior Project Manager 328 Architectural Services Department
Mrs Doris FOK LEE Sheung-ling	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Leisure Services)1

**Clerk in attendance:**

Ms Doris LO	Chief Council Secretary (1)2
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**Staff in attendance:**

Mr Keith WONG	Council Secretary (1)2
Ms Christina SHIU	Legislative Assistant (1)2
Ms Christy YAU	Legislative Assistant (1)8
Ms Clara LO	Legislative Assistant (1)9

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Action

The Chairman advised that there were five papers for discussion on the agenda for the meeting. All of them were funding proposals carried over from the last meeting in the previous legislative session (i.e. the meeting on 19 June 2019). The five funding proposals involved a total funding allocation of \$19,103 million.

2. The Chairman pointed out that the Subcommittee had commenced deliberation on the agenda item on "823TH — Tseung Kwan O—Lam Tin Tunnel — remaining works" (i.e. PWSC(2019-20)18) at the meeting on 19 June 2019. He invited members to note that the Administration had decided to withdraw the agenda item pursuant to paragraph 24(a) of the Public Works Subcommittee Procedure. The Administration's letter regarding the withdrawal of the agenda item was issued to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC6/19-20](#) on 25 October 2019.

3. The Chairman reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the proposals. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

**Head 704 — Drainage**

**PWSC(2019-20)9 171CD Revitalization of Tsui Ping River**

**Head 703 — Buildings**

**468RO Improvement of Lam Wah Street  
Playground and adjacent area**

4. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. [PWSC\(2019-20\)9](#), sought to upgrade 171CD and 468RO to Category A at the respective estimated costs of \$1,762.7 million and \$145.5 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices, in order to revitalize the King Yip Street Nullah into Tsui Ping River as a green river corridor that would enhance connectivity as well as flood conveyance capability, and improve Lam Wah Street Playground and its adjacent area to enhance the provision of recreational facilities and the streetscape in the area. The Government had consulted the Panel on Development on 171CD and 468RO on 26 February and 22 January 2019 respectively. Panel members had no objection to the submission of the two funding proposals to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion was tabled at the meeting.

171CD — Revitalization of Tsui Ping River

*Cost estimate*

5. Mr Gary FAN and Ms Claudia MO pointed out that the cost breakdown of the proposed works provided in paragraph 10 of Enclosure 1 to the Government's submission did not further break down the cost of constructing the smart water gate, dry weather flow interceptors, cross-river

walkways and landscaped decks. In this connection, they requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the estimated cost breakdown in respect of those works items. In addition, Ms MO enquired why the item of "construction of riverside/cross-river walkways and landscaped decks" cost as much as nearly \$360 million.

*(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)*

6. Director of Drainage Services ("DDS") advised that the revitalization of Tsui Ping River involved the construction of six cross-river walkways and six landscaped decks with a total length of 240 metres and a total construction area of 3 000 square metres. In addition to the pile foundation works similar to those required in bridge construction projects, the proposed works also involved strengthening the existing nullah structures. Given the scale of works and the works constraints, such as the fact that works could not be carried out during rainy seasons in order to retain the flood conveyance capacity of Tsui Ping River and the limited space available in the river channel for works implementation, the current cost estimate was considered reasonable.

7. Ms Claudia MO noted from paragraph 29 of Enclosure 1 to the Government's submission that the cost of some pre-construction works carried out for the proposed works by the Administration in 2017 was only about \$14.6 million and was funded under the block allocation subhead of "drainage works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme". She enquired about the process of upgrading the proposed works from Category D to Category A and the reasons why the cost of works had increased to more than \$1,700 million. She questioned whether it was proper use of public money for the Administration to spend lavishly on works aimed at beautifying the King Yip Street Nullah.

8. DDS pointed out that as explained in paragraph 28 of Enclosure 1 to the Government's submission, the Administration upgraded 171CD to Category B in September 2014. In line with the practice adopted for public works projects in general, some pre-construction works (i.e. feasibility studies and design work) for the proposed works were normally funded under Category D projects. Approval would be sought from LegCo in accordance with the established mechanism for upgrading these projects to Category A only after completion of the relevant studies and design. Regarding the cost of works, he pointed out that in addition to revitalizing the nullah (which cost about \$432 million), the proposed works also included dredging at the channel of the King Yip Street Nullah for 200 to 700 millimetres and

reconstructing and strengthening of the existing nullah structures at an approximate cost of \$457 million, as well as other items. He highlighted that the King Yip Street Nullah was a major flood conveyance channel, with a catchment area measured 520 hectares. In addition, according to the flood conveyance standards which had been updated in the light of climate change, a drainage channel should have the capability to convey stormwater at the rate of 150 cubic metres per second. After completion of works, the flood conveyance capability of the King Yip Street Nullah would be enhanced.

9. Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr Alvin YEUNG enquired about the reasons for the high annual recurrent expenditure (up to \$7.5 million) arising from the proposed works.

10. DDS said that the area surrounding the revitalized Tsui Ping River would be under the management of the Drainage Services Department ("DSD"). The estimated recurrent expenditure would be used by DSD to carry out the desilting works at the river channel once or twice a year and for the day-to-day repair and maintenance of public facilities (e.g. the cross-river walkways and landscaped decks) and drainage facilities (e.g. the smart water gate).

#### *Habitat of Tsui Ping River*

11. Ms Tanya CHAN and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen pointed out that the engineered wetland proposed to be constructed in the upstream area of Tsui Ping River was relatively small and would not help much in improving the habitat of Tsui Ping River. Ms Tanya CHAN also enquired about the purposes of modifying the underground stormwater storage tanks at On Sau Road and Anderson Road. Mr AU Nok-hin considered the location of the proposed engineered wetland undesirable and not easily accessible by the visiting public and visitors from schools/organizations.

12. DDS said that the King Yip Street Nullah was a drainage channel, but not a sewage channel. Therefore, the proposed engineered wetland was provided for public education purpose instead of purifying the river. The engineered wetland, located next to Kwun Tong Swimming Pool, would be joined to the leisure space of Tsui Ping Estate to form a new public space to attract more users. Besides, DSD would introduce in-stream plantation to Tsui Ping River. The underground stormwater storage tanks could provide water for the in-stream plantation when the water level of the river channel sank during dry weather.

13. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the in-stream plantation to be introduced to

Tsui Ping River, including the species of aquatic plants that would be selected for planting.

(*Post-meeting note:* The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)

14. Mr WU Chi-wai was concerned that the in-stream plantation might be destroyed by the rapid flow of Tsui Ping River if the river channel was used for flood conveyance. DDS said that the nullah bed at the upstream section of Tsui Ping River would be resurfaced with natural materials. This would help slow down the stream velocity and was favourable to fish and plant growth. Moreover, DSD would select the aquatic plants with strong ground grip for Tsui Ping River.

15. Mr AU Nok-hin was concerned that the revitalization of Tsui Ping River might destroy the ecological environment of the river, and the ecosystem could hardly be rebuilt even after completion of the works.

16. DDS explained that based on the experience gained from the Kai Tak River project, the ecological environment of the river could be maintained by keeping the river flowing during construction. In this connection, effort would be made to ensure smooth river flow during implementation of the revitalization works of Tsui Ping River, so that the existing ecological environment could be maintained. The biodiversity of Tsui Ping River would also be enhanced by the ecological upgrading measures under the revitalization works.

#### *Water-friendly features of Tsui Ping River*

17. Mr Tony TSE expressed support for revitalizing the King Yip Street Nullah into Tsui Ping River and considered it conducive to promoting a water-friendly culture. On the other hand, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr HUI Chi-fung opined that the design of the revitalized Tsui Ping River failed to embody a water-friendly culture as it did not incorporate any facilities which allowed visitors to have contact with the water bodies.

18. DDS said that in view of the large catchment area and high flood conveyance capacity of the King Yip Street Nullah, the Administration had no plans for the time being to allow the public to have contact with the water bodies after the revitalization. In order to promote a water-friendly culture, DSD would build a number of cross-river walkways, landscaped decks and a

floating pontoon for the public to enjoy the river landscape up close. He added that DSD would continue to explore suitable measures to enable the public to have closer contact with the water bodies during dry weather. This included setting up a warning mechanism and providing more accesses, so as to ensure that people in the channel area could leave safely and expeditiously before the water level rose under severe weather conditions.

19. Mr CHU Hoi-dick pointed out that in the nullah revitalization programme for Tai Wai, DSD had incorporated the design of allowing the public to engage in water-friendly activities at the river channel. He opined that the revitalization of Tsui Ping River should make reference to this design. In addition, he suggested that DSD should expedite the improvement of the Tuen Mun Nullah. Moreover, as the specific arrangement for implementing the elevated pedestrian corridor along the Yuen Long Town Nullah (a project undertaken by the Highways Department ("HyD")) was not yet available, Mr CHU suggested that the Development Bureau and DSD could take forward the improvement works of the Yuen Long Town Nullah along the direction of nullah revitalization.

20. DDS said that there was enough space on both sides of the Tai Wai Nullah for construction of walkways leading to the channel, making it possible to allow the public to enter the revitalized channel for water-friendly activities. For the Tuen Mun Nullah, DSD did not have any specific revitalization plans for the time being as the water quality problem of the nullah was yet to be addressed. As for the Yuen Long Town Nullah, DSD had coordinated with HyD in respect of the nullah improvement works and the elevated pedestrian corridor project to be carried out above the nullah.

21. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was concerned about the measures in place to ensure the safety of visitors using the water-friendly facilities, especially the floating pontoon.

22. DDS said that the floating pontoon would rise and fall with the water level of Tsui Ping River. To ensure visitor safety, DSD would close the floating pontoon to public access temporarily in the event of possible stormwater surge under heavy rain. At the request of Ms Tanya CHAN, the Administration would provide supplementary information on the design of the floating pontoon and its connecting gangways, including the area and carrying capacity of the floating pontoon, and measures to ensure the safety of visiting users.

*(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)*



*Enhancing connectivity*

23. Mr Wilson OR, Mr HO Kai-ming and Mr Tony TSE were concerned how the revitalization of Tsui Ping River could enhance the connectivity of the areas on both sides of Tsui Ping River and the vicinity. Mr HO and Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether members of the public could access the Kwun Tong harbourfront directly by walking along Tsui Ping River from the vicinity of Tsui Ping South Estate after completion of the Tsui Ping River project.

24. DDS said that the revitalization of Tsui Ping River included the construction of riverside pedestrian walkways with a total length of 600 metres, as well as six walkways and six landscaped decks spanning across the river. These facilities could enhance the connectivity along the river and with the surrounding areas (including Tsui Ping River Garden). After completion of the works, the riverside of Tsui Ping River would become a green river corridor, along which members of the public could access the Kwun Tong harbourfront all the way from the vicinity of Tsui Ping South Estate.

25. Mr AU Nok-hin and Mr WU Chi-wai noted from Enclosure 1 to the Government's submission that the revitalization of Tsui Ping River included the modification of an existing footbridge lying along the King Yip Street Nullah and across Lei Yue Mun Road. They enquired why the footbridge required structural modification. Mr AU requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the modification works to the footbridge, including why modification was needed and the works details.

*(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)*

26. DDS explained that as part of the existing foundation of the piers of the footbridge was sitting horizontally across the nullah and occupied some channel space, the flood conveyance capability of the channel was reduced. Therefore, DSD planned to relocate the pedestrian ramp of the footbridge and remove the pier foundation from the channel area in order to increase the flood conveyance capability. He added that the Civil Engineering and Development Department had implemented the related coordinating works for relocating the footbridge.

27. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr HUI Chi-fung enquired whether the Administration would allow members of the public to bring along animals when using the facilities (such as the cross-river walkways and landscaped decks) of Tsui Ping River. DDS replied that pets would be allowed to enter the public facilities of Tsui Ping River.

*Surrounding facilities of Tsui Ping River*

28. Mr HO Kai-ming enquired whether the Administration had plans to provide more parking spaces in the vicinity of Tsui Ping River to facilitate public access to the public leisure spaces of Tsui Ping River by car.

29. Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office, Development Bureau ("Head/EKEO/DEVB"), replied that a vacant site near the midstream section of Tsui Ping River would be used for commercial development, in which about 200 public parking spaces for private cars would be provided. In addition, the development of Kwun Tong Action Area near the estuary of Tsui Ping River would also include a car park which was expected to provide 100 to 130 public parking spaces for private cars.

30. Mr AU Nok-hin was concerned that during the implementation of the works of Tsui Ping River, the frequent movement of incoming and outgoing works vehicles would aggravate the traffic congestion in the Kwun Tong Business Area.

31. DDS said that the Government had conducted a traffic impact assessment ("TIA") for the project. The works contractor would be required to make proper plans for the temporary traffic arrangement during works implementation, which were subject to the approval of DSD, the Transport Department and the Police. DSD was confident that the traffic in Kwun Tong District would not be affected by the project. At the request of Mr AU Nok-hin, the Administration would provide supplementary information on the temporary traffic arrangement during implementation of the proposed works and the TIA report for the project.

*(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)*

32. Mr Tony TSE enquired whether the Administration would use the revitalization of Tsui Ping River as an opportunity to turn the central median beneath Kwun Tong Bypass (near Wai Fat Road) into a public open space. Mr Jeremy TAM said that although the Administration had explained why it

was unsuitable to construct balance bike tracks at the said central median in its supplementary information paper to the Panel on Development (i.e. [LC Paper No. CB\(1\)1091/18-19\(01\)](#)), he hoped that the Administration would consider identifying other suitable locations in Kowloon East for provision of balance bike tracks.

33. DDS said that the central median beneath Kwun Tong Bypass was currently occupied by a number of large flyover piers and not much space was available for use. Besides, traffic on Wai Fat Road was quite busy. Provision of open space at the central median would necessitate the construction of pedestrian crossing facilities on Wai Fat Road, which would affect the traffic flow in the area. As such, development of the space beneath the flyover was considered unsuitable. Head/EKEO/DEVB and Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Leisure Services)1 ("AD(LS)1/LCSD") added that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") had now allowed young children to ride balance bikes in Kwun Tong Recreation Ground. Organizations might also apply for using LCSD venues for balance bike activities in accordance with the established booking procedure of recreational facilities. Regarding the space beneath Kwun Tong Bypass, Head/EKEO/DEVB added that apart from traffic considerations, the location was unsuitable for use as open space given the poor air quality.

34. Mr WU Chi-wai noted from Enclosure 1 to the Government's submission that the pedestrian walkways of Tsui Ping River would be connected to the Kwun Tong Sewage Pumping Station ("KTSPS"). In this connection, he suggested that the Administration should make use of the space near KTSPS by building pedestrian crossing facilities connecting to Laguna Park, so that members of the public could access the public open space at the estuary of Tsui Ping River from Laguna Park via KTSPS.

35. DDS said that due to the presence of pumping station facilities, piers of Kwun Tong Bypass, channel structures of Tsui Ping River and public utilities facilities, there was no space left around KTSPS for construction of footbridges or subways. Head/EKEO/DEVB said that currently there were at grade pedestrian crossing facilities connecting Laguna Park and the area adjacent to KTSPS which was under construction. The Government could ascertain the need to build additional pedestrian accesses connecting Tsui Ping River and other leisure facilities in the vicinity after the commissioning of Tsui Ping River's facilities.

*Existing water quality problem of King Yip Street Nullah*

36. Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr Wilson OR were concerned that expedient connections ("ECs") of sewers to stormwater drains were common in the catchment of the King Yip Street Nullah. As a result, the water quality of the nullah had been poor for a long time and foul odours were emitted occasionally. They were concerned that even if the nullah was revitalized with the provision of public leisure facilities, members of the public would not be attracted to use them should the problem of water quality remain unresolved. They requested the Administration to explain the effectiveness of its follow-up work on the EC problem in the area.

37. DDS said that DSD had been working with the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") to tackle ECs in the catchment of the King Yip Street Nullah. The joint EC investigation carried out between 2014 and 2015 had identified 30 ECs, including 13 cases in the King Yip Street Nullah catchment. All cases were rectified in 2016. Subsequently, EPD further identified 16 ECs in Kwun Tong District between 2016 and 2018, including two connecting to the King Yip Street Nullah. Among them, 14 had been rectified while the remaining two cases were being dealt with. He added that apart from following up on ECs, DSD would also carry out desilting works at Tsui Ping River on a regular basis. This would help improve water quality and address the odour problem.

38. Mr CHU Hoi-dick was concerned whether EPD's efforts to follow up on and take out prosecutions against ECs and illegal discharge were not vigorous enough to achieve a deterrent effect.

39. DDS said that when ECs were identified, the responsible departments (EPD or the Buildings Department ("BD")) would first issue warnings to the owners concerned, advising them to make rectifications. The departments concerned would initiate prosecution procedure only if rectifications had not been made after the grace period.

40. Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Dr Helena WONG and Mr Jeremy TAM opined that the Administration should devise an action strategy to eradicate the problem of ECs in the catchment of the King Yip Street Nullah in the long run. Dr WONG requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on its enforcement actions against ECs to King Yip Street Nullah and the relevant penalties, and the future measures to prevent the recurrence of similar EC cases.

(*Post-meeting note:* The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC18/19-20\(01\)](#) on 5 November 2019.)

41. DDS said that DSD had introduced plans to monitor stormwater drains throughout the territory. Close-circuit television systems were used to check for ECs of sewers to stormwater drains, particularly the drains in the catchment of the King Yip Street Nullah. DSD would immediately refer any ECs identified to EPD or DB for follow up. To step up the monitoring effort, DSD would conduct a thorough inspection of all stormwater drains in the territory about every five years.

42. Dr Helena WONG opined that the drain inspections carried out by DSD once every five years in the catchment of the King Yip Street Nullah were not effective enough to combat the EC problem. She enquired how EPD would follow up on and combat the EC problem.

43. Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (1) said that EPD had carried out publicity and public education work in Kwun Tong District to promote the proper ways to handle wastewater generated from buildings among members of the public/construction contractors/catering establishments/property management companies, reminding them to pay attention to the proper handling of wastewater discharge in order to reduce the possibility of ECs and polluting the stormwater drains. He added that the number of ECs had decreased significantly given the enforcement and education efforts in the past few years.

#### 468RO — Improvement of Lam Wah Street Playground and adjacent area

##### *Facilities of Lam Wah Street Playground*

44. Noting that the proposed works would include the reprovisioning of a 5-a-side soccer pitch at Lam Wah Street Playground, Mr WU Chi-wai enquired about the mode of management for the soccer pitch, including whether the public could use it without booking.

45. AD(LS)1/LCSD advised that the 5-a-side soccer pitch concerned was a hard-surface soccer pitch. Under the general mode of management adopted by LCSD for hard-surface soccer pitches, members of the public might make bookings for using the venue free of charge during specified periods of time, or use the venue freely when there was no booking.

46. Mr CHU Hoi-dick and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen suggested that the Administration should provide horizontal bars and parallel bars at the proposed fitness corner in Lam Wah Street Playground for the public to engage in street workout, a sport that had become more and more popular. AD(LS)1/LCSD said that LCSD would consider members' views when deciding the equipment to be provided at the fitness corner in Lam Wah Street Playground.

47. Mr AU Nok-hin and Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the facilities in Lam Wah Street Playground (including the multi-purpose lawn, etc.) would be open for public use round the clock after completion of the improvement works of the playground. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen also enquired about the criteria adopted by the Administration in deciding whether recreational facilities should be open for use round the clock.

48. Head/EKEO/DEVB said that the facilities of Lam Wah Street Playground would be open for public use round the clock. AD(LS)1/LCSD supplemented that some facilities at leisure venues under the management of LCSD, such as pools or bird lakes, were generally not open for public use round the clock due to safety concerns. Moreover, in response to the suggestion of local District Councils, LCSD facilities which were in close proximity to dwellings and caused night-time nuisances to residents were usually closed during night-time to avoid causing nuisances to the neighbourhood.

49. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that according to the perspective view of site A (Annex 4 to Enclosure 2 to the funding submission) provided by the Administration, most of the trees at the site were found on one side of the multi-purpose lawn. He suggested that the Administration should plant more trees in a dispersed manner and provide seats beneath the trees, so that the public would have more shaded resting places.

50. Head/EKEO/DEVB said that the cluster of trees to the east of the multi-purpose lawn as shown in the picture comprised existing trees to be kept and new trees to be planted on the slope. Seats would be placed as appropriate having considered the locations of the trees. There would also be seats under the trellises for use by the public.

51. Mr CHU Hoi-dick noted from the perspective view of site C (Annex 6 to Enclosure 2 to the funding submission) provided by the Administration that trees at the site would be planted in planters. He was concerned that such a design would obstruct root growth and affect tree health in the long run.

52. Head/EKEO/DEVB said that the Administration planned to keep five existing trees and plant three new trees at site C. All of them were of species with relatively small canopies. The size of the planters would be designed suitably to make room for tree growth. She added that during implementation of the improvement works at site C, efforts would be made to ensure that the newly-developed facilities would not hinder tree growth.

*Expenditure arising from the works*

53. Mr Alvin YEUNG questioned why the annual recurrent expenditure arising from the proposed project was as high as \$3.6 million.

54. AD(LS)1/LCSD said that the annual recurrent expenditure arising from the proposed project would include electricity expenses, cleaning and security services, and the costs incurred in venue management, such as landscaping work and mosquito control.

55. Ms Claudia MO asked why the total estimated additional cost for adopting energy efficient features and renewable energy technologies was as high as about \$1 million.

56. Project Director (3), Architectural Services Department, advised that a number of energy efficient features and renewable energy technologies would be adopted in the proposed project. Of the total estimated cost of \$1 million, around \$18,000 would be used for acquiring energy efficient features, while the remaining amount would be used on other renewable energy installations, including about eight photovoltaic panels and about 14 solar-powered lamps.

Other comments

57. Mr CHU Hoi-dick and Mr Alvin YEUNG suggested that the Administration should provide more information on project costs with respect to funding proposals for public works projects, such as the cost estimate in constant prices and price adjustment factors, as well as information on the costs of similar projects in recent years, for members' reference.

58. Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)3 advised that the Administration currently provided in its funding submissions the cost breakdown of works projects in MOD prices, which could better reflect the actual expenditures and present a clearer picture of the specific estimates of individual items of expenditure. He added that should members wish to obtain information on the constant price estimate of a project or a comparison with the cost estimates of similar projects, the

Administration was more than willing to provide the relevant supplementary information together with adequate analysis.

59. The Chairman urged the Administration to consider and respond to the above suggestion raised by members.

*(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC22/19-20\(01\)](#) on 11 November 2019.)*

*[At 10:25 am, the Chairman asked members if they agreed to extend the meeting for 15 minutes to 10:45 am. No member raised objection.]*

*[At 10:38 am, the Chairman asked members if they agreed to further extend the meeting until the voting on the agenda item was completed. No member raised objection]*

*[At 10:45 am, the Chairman said that he would allow each of the members who were waiting for their turn to raise questions to do so once. After that, the "question and answer time" would end. As several members were still waiting for their turn to raise questions, the Chairman decided to allow them to raise the last round of questions at the next meeting.]*

60. The meeting ended at 10:46 am.