

Legislative Council Panel on Development

**Initiatives of Development Bureau
in the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address and Policy Address Supplement**

INTRODUCTION

The Chief Executive delivered her Policy Address entitled “Striving Ahead with Renewed Perseverance” on 25 November 2020. This is complemented by the Policy Address Supplement (PA Supplement). Relevant extracts from the two documents covering initiatives under Development Bureau (DEVB) are set out at **Annex**. This paper highlights the major initiatives therein.

POLICY ADDRESS AND PA SUPPLEMENT INITIATIVES

I. Initiatives related to increasing land supply

2. Land Supply tops the policy agenda of the current-term Government. Under the policy direction of Government-led land use planning and co-ordination of infrastructure development, we have made bold decisions to develop land for housing construction and economic development. The Government announced its full acceptance early last year of the recommendations submitted by the Task Force on Land Supply and is taking forward the eight land supply options recommended for priority studies and implementation in full swing. Under the Government's multi-pronged land supply strategy, we have identified 330 hectares of land to provide 316 000 public housing units to meet the housing demand in the coming ten years (i.e. 2021/22 to 2030/31) based on the Long Term Housing Strategy. Such land supply mainly comes from reclamation in Tung Chung, the agricultural land and brownfield sites in New Development Areas (NDAs) such as Kwu Tung North (KTN)/Fanling North (FLN) and Hung Shui Kiu (HSK)/Ha Tsuen (HT), a number of sites which have been rezoned for public housing development, re-allocation of nine sites at Kai Tak and Anderson Road Quarry for public housing development, partial development of the Fanling Golf Course and a number of brownfield clusters with housing development potential, the review of which has already been completed.

3. In addition, the Northwest New Territories and New Territories North (NTN) have huge development potential. As transport infrastructure plays an important role in unleashing the development potential of land and increasing land and housing supply, the Government will step up efforts to implement the Northern Link railway project to tie in with the population intake of the public housing development in KTN NDA, and also to provide impetus for the growth of the area covering San Tin, Ngau Tam Mei and Au Tau. So far, the Government has identified housing sites with a total area of about 90 hectares (the area equal to four Taikoo Shings) along the Northern Link alignment, including the San Tin/Lok Ma Chau Development Node (STLMC DN), and related studies are being conducted progressively. With the implementation of the Northern Link project, it is anticipated that over 70 000 housing units can be built on these sites.

4. In May 2019, we received the support of the Public Works Subcommittee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) for the studies related to artificial islands in the Central Water and are awaiting LegCo Finance Committee's approval to the funding application. In respect of the suggestion on partial resumption of the Fanling Golf Course site mainly for public housing development, we have commenced the study to ascertain the highest flat yield attainable in the short to medium term and the relevant supporting infrastructure, as well as to conduct technical assessments on traffic and environmental impact, etc. To expedite the implementation of the NTN NDA, we have carried out the study on the first phase development covering the STLMC DN, which is almost completed. The Government will consult the relevant stakeholders on the preliminary land uses in early 2021, then submit funding application to the LegCo. If funding is approved, we would commence the remaining study and detailed design for the STLMC DN in the latter half of 2021 and strive to commence early the planning and engineering study for the remaining two zones in the NTN NDA (i.e. the NTN New Town and Man Kam To Logistics Corridor) in 2021.

5. We will intensify the Government-led planning efforts, including invoking the Lands Resumption Ordinance (Cap. 124) and other applicable ordinances¹ to resume the private land involved for development of public housing and related facilities and compress the time needed for taking forward the studies and other subsequent processes -

(a) About 800 hectares of brownfield sites in the New Territories, i.e. more

¹ Such as the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370)

than half of such sites, are included in development projects. For the other 450 hectares with possible development potential, we completed examining 160 hectares and identified eight brownfield clusters and have commenced most of the engineering feasibility studies with a view to transforming the sites into “spade-ready” sites within six years to supply over 20 000 public housing units in future. Meanwhile, the Planning Department (PlanD) will finish the examination of the remaining 290 hectares by the end of this year.

- (b) DEVB is reviewing ten private land parcels zoned as “Comprehensive Development Area” or “Residential (Group A)”. These land parcels are of higher plot ratio (generally speaking, at 7.5 or above in the urban area, and at 5 or above in the New Territories), with relatively low-rise existing structures (say, only a few storeys) and without any specific development plan. We expect that the related work under this initiative will be completed by the end of this year.
- (c) The engineering feasibility studies on redeveloping three urban squatter areas at Cha Kwo Ling, Ngau Chi Wan and Chuk Yuen United Villages into high-density public housing have made good progress, with the one covering Cha Kwo Ling Village (commenced in late 2019) and the one covering Ngau Chi Wan and Chuk Yuen United Village (commenced in early 2020) both aiming for completion within 2021. In view of the experience of the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) in housing production, rehousing of residents and integrated community planning, we will invite the HKHS to undertake the implementation of the three redevelopment projects, with due consideration on compensation and rehousing issues of the residents affected as well as comprehensive planning of “Government, Institution or Community” (GIC) facilities at the future development. We are striving to commence the rezoning procedures for the respective sites progressively in the first half of 2021. If things go well, it is expected that site formation and infrastructure works will start in phases in 2025. These three projects are expected to provide a total of 6 300 public housing units.

Unleashing the Development Potential of Private Land

6. Following the Government's launch of the three-year Land Sharing Pilot Scheme in May this year, the Land Sharing Office (LSO) set up under DEVB has received quite a number of enquiries involving some ten development projects mainly located in the New Territories. The LSO has embarked on initial discussions with relevant interested land owners to deliberate technical issues pertinent to readying the formal submissions. Announcement would be made upon receipt of formal applications.

Expediting the revitalisation of old industrial areas

7. The 2018 Policy Address announced a number of initiatives to revitalise industrial buildings (IBs). Among them, the increase of the maximum permissible plot ratio by 20% for redevelopment of old IBs (i.e. pre-1987 IBs) was well received. As of end-September, the Town Planning Board has approved more than 30 applications for redevelopment of IBs, the completion of which may supply approximately 600 000 square metres of new floor space for commercial or industrial use. These land owners have been approaching the Lands Department (LandsD) for lease modification.

8. The negotiation of land premium payable for lease modifications generally takes time, which may not be conducive to the Government's policy objective of encouraging revitalisation of old IBs. To expedite the work, we will introduce a pilot scheme for charging land premium at "standard rates" for lease modification applications for redevelopment of the aforementioned pre-1987 IBs. Through formulating and promulgating in advance "standard rates" for premium assessment, the scheme will allow the industry to have a better grasp of the cost of lease modification and expedite the completion of lease modification procedures. We hope that the scheme will incentivise the redevelopment of more IBs into appropriate and safe commercial and residential floor space. Details of the new scheme are being worked out. We plan to introduce it in early 2021.

Cavern Development

9. Regarding cavern development, the investigation and design study for relocating Diamond Hill Fresh Water and Salt Water Service Reservoirs to caverns is actively underway. Construction of the stage 1 works for the relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to caverns is in progress. At the

same time, we will prepare for commencing its stage 2 works in this LegCo session. Besides that, we have established the feasibility of relocating the Public Works Central Laboratory in Kowloon Bay to caverns and will kick off the next stage of investigation and design by the middle of next year. We will also substantially complete the feasibility studies on relocation of several fresh water/salt water service reservoirs located in Tsuen Wan and Yau Tong to caverns soon, and are taking forward the pilot planning and engineering feasibility study on development of selected strategic cavern areas at Lantau, Tsing Yi and other suitable locations.

Development and Conservation of Lantau

10. We are progressively taking forward various short and medium-to-long term initiatives about development and conservation of Lantau. While increasing land supply for housing and economic development, we in parallel strengthen conservation efforts and enhance the leisure and recreational facilities of Lantau.

11. For short-term measures, we will continue to implement the Tung Chung New Town Extension (TCNTE) project on North Lantau. The relevant reclamation works are being carried out as scheduled and the first parcel of land formed by reclamation was delivered to the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) for public housing development in March this year. Besides, we will adopt city concepts that are smart, green and resilient to environment and climate in the TCNTE for their first trial. The relevant initiatives will be implemented in tandem with the infrastructure works of the project.

12. The implementation of the TCNTE project is in good progress. The relevant reclamation works are being carried out as scheduled and the first two batches of reclaimed land were handed over to HKHA in March and October 2020 respectively for public housing development, and a total of 10 000 public housing units are expected to be provided in 2024. We will also introduce a number of city facilities in the TCNTE Project, including electric vehicle charging facilities, water intelligent network and automatic meter reading system for water consumption, and construct common utility tunnels under the major roads to minimise inconvenience caused by excavation of the major roads due to maintenance of public utilities.

13. The Siu Ho Wan Depot Site is around 30-hectare large, currently held by MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) for use as a railway workshop and

maintenance depot. DEVB has been exploring with MTRCL to unlock the development potential of the Site. We have formulated the Outline Zoning Plan for the development of the Site. Based on the latest assessment, the Site may provide about 20 000 residential units in the medium to long term, of which around 50% will be public housing (the current plan is mainly subsidised sale flats), forming a new community with public and private housing, various kinds of community facilities, and also a new railway station on the Tung Chung Line. This is the second project providing public housing on railway facilities since the Kornhill development on the Island Line four decades ago in the 1980s, demonstrating the current-term Government's determination in increasing public housing supply.

14. The implementation of property development at such a large scale railway facility involves in-situ reconfiguration of the existing facilities and construction of housing blocks, while maintaining the operation of the depot and railway unaffected. The works are technically challenging, and takes time. The whole development is preliminarily estimated to span across 15 to 20 years, to be completed by phase. The target is that the first some 6 000 public and private housing units may start to take in residents gradually beginning from 2030.

15. On the conservation as well as leisure and recreation fronts, an ecological study that involves Pui O, Shui Hau, Tai O and the neighbouring areas is anticipated to be completed by the first quarter of next year. There are two cultural and historical studies with focus on rural villages at Lantau, commenced in November last year and October this year respectively. Furthermore, the Lantau Conservation Fund has been established and planned to receive applications this December. The Fund covers a wide variety of conservation initiatives, including nature and cultural conservation, village revitalisation, research, environmental education and community engagement. Besides, we commissioned a study in July this year to investigate the enhancements to trails and connectivity in Lantau with an aim to improve the current and construct new trails in a sustainable manner as well as to develop a round-the-Lantau trail linking up various attractive points in Lantau. Furthermore, we will consult the LegCo Panel on Development in the coming year on proposal to amend the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to better protect rural areas of high ecological values that are subject to development pressure.

16. In terms of medium-to-long term measures, the development of the artificial islands in the Central Waters can bring enormous social benefits to the future of Hong Kong, which include increasing the supply of public housing,

easing traffic congestion and providing more job opportunities, etc. We will continue to strive for the early commencement of the studies related to the artificial islands in the Central Waters with a view to meeting the needs for the sustainable development of Hong Kong. In parallel, we will continue our efforts in explaining the project objectives and direction of the technical studies to the general public. We will also communicate with various professionals and youths through diverse channels to exchange views on the opportunities regarding the development of artificial islands plus the formulation of measures for the artificial islands in the areas of urban design, land use as well as smart, environment-friendly and sustainable development. Besides, we will continue to prepare for conducting the planning and engineering study on the development potential of 220 hectares of reclaimed land at Lung Kwu Tan and about 220 hectares of coastal area at Tuen Mun West as well as the engineering study on Road P1 (Tai Ho – Sunny Bay Section).

Redevelopment of Buildings under the Civil Servants’ Co-operative Building Society Scheme

17. To fully utilise the permissible plot ratios of land and to increase housing supply, the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) commenced two pilot projects on 22 May 2020 to redevelop two clusters of Civil Servants’ Co-operative Building Society Scheme lots in Kowloon City. After redevelopment, the total number of flats is estimated to be about five times the existing number (from about 600 to 3 000), with about one-third (1 000 units) for subsidised housing.

Starter Homes

18. In 2019, the Government entrusted URA with a new mission to provide more Starter Homes or other types of Subsidised Sale Flats in its redevelopment projects. URA has proactively embarked on its new mission and opened application for the remaining 43 units from eResidence at Ma Tau Wai Road, URA’s Starter Homes pilot project², in November 2020. It has also decided to assign the redevelopment project adjacent to the eResidence as another Starter Homes project, which is expected to provide about 260 units for sale in 2024.

² URA first launched the sale of 450 units of eResidence in January 2019.

Yau Mong District Study

19. The Yau Mong District Study, which commenced in 2017, is a strategic planning study aiming at a district-based renewal approach. The study comprises baseline reviews, examination of opportunities and constraints, formulation of Urban Renewal Opportunity Areas as well as the institutional and implementation strategy. New planning tools and development nodes are being explored. Apart from redevelopment, the unique characteristics and vibrancy of character streets in Yau Mong District will be preserved, revitalised and sustained through appropriate place-making strategy. URA is devising different scenarios under the draft Master Renewal Concept Plans and identifying early projects for piloting new planning tools. URA will consult stakeholders on their findings and recommendations after concluding the study in early 2021.

Increase the supply of social welfare facilities

20. The Government will invite the HKHA and the HKHS to explore providing about 5% of the total gross floor area in future public housing projects for the provision of social welfare facilities. If this proposal is implemented, appropriate welfare facilities can be provided sustainably to meet the needs of society. We will discuss the implementation details together with Transport and Housing Bureau and Labour and Welfare Bureau as soon as possible with a view to ensuring that the measure will not impact on the public housing supply and other supporting facilities.

Streamlining Development Control

21. The Steering Group on Streamlining Development Control set up under DEVB continued our efforts on streamlining development control exercised by the three departments under the Planning and Lands Branch of DEVB (namely Buildings Department (BD), LandsD and PlanD). In the past two years, we have already promulgated streamlining measures covering seven control parameters, including the building height restriction, landscape requirement and design and height clause under lease. Land development does not only involve the approval process of these three departments. We will expand the composition and remit of the Steering Group, so as to engage vetting departments other than those under DEVB, with a view to reviewing more comprehensively the development approval process in every aspect, and to rationalise the development-related requirements imposed by various bureaux, such as reviewing whether the technical assessment requirements are clear and suitable.

Development Projects Facilitation Office

22. Development projects of the private sector play a considerable role in meeting housing needs of the society. To this end, DEVB will set up a Development Projects Facilitation Office (DPFO) to facilitate the processing of planning, lease modification and building plan applications, etc. for larger-scale private residential development projects (providing a flat yield of over 500) leading up to the commencement of works. The purpose is to ensure smooth processing of development applications in order to avoid delays and expedite housing supply. Specifically, the work of DPFO include:

- (a) tracking and monitoring the processing of cases, and identifying issues at an early stage;
- (b) coordinating with bureaux and departments involved to ensure smooth processing of development applications and help resolve issues;
- (c) when necessary, seeking steer from the Committee on Planning and Land Development chaired by the Secretary for Development on issues affecting approval of development applications; and
- (d) if policy or systematic issues with wider implications are identified during the processing of cases, referring such issues to the Steering Group on Streamlining Development Control for further review and consideration.

The relevant bureaux and departments will each nominate a dedicated officer at Assistant Director level or above who shall work closely with DPFO with the common objective of expediting the processing of development applications and increasing housing supply.

II. Initiatives related to building safety and maintenance

23. While owners are primarily responsible for the timely and proper maintenance of their buildings, this term of the Government has spared no efforts in providing financial and technical assistance to needy owners in undertaking requisite maintenance to ensure building safety and improve living environment. Progress of the various subsidy schemes is highlighted below -

- (a) Operation Building Bright 2.0 (OBB 2.0): Two funding injections with a total commitment of \$6 billion have been approved with a view to assisting needy owners of 5 000 buildings to undertake maintenance works. As of October 2020, around 1 060 buildings are participating in OBB 2.0. Second round of applications was closed on 30 October 2020. We may accept further rounds of application depending on availability of funds.
- (b) Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Needy Owners: With a funding injection of \$2 billion, an enhanced scheme with an expanded scope of beneficiaries (to cover also needy owner-occupiers on top of elderly owners) was launched on 2 July 2020. Welcomed by the public, some 2 500 applications have been received in four months' time.
- (c) On the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme, the Government injected an additional \$2 billion earlier to expand the coverage to about 8 000 lifts. The second round application commenced on 6 January and closed on 30 September this year. About 850 valid applications involving about 3 300 lifts were received. The results would be announced early next year; and
- (d) On the Water Safety Plan Subsidy Scheme (WSPSS), the Government allocated \$440 million this year to subsidise around 5 000 private buildings for implementing Water Safety Plan for Buildings. Application for the WSPSS commenced in July this year and will last for five years.

Enforcement against dangerous and abandoned signboards

24. The Government announced in the 2019 Policy Address that BD would step up the use of new technologies on a pilot basis to enhance the efficiency of enforcement actions against dangerous and abandoned signboards. Major progress is set out below -

- (a) **Defective Signboards Diagnostic System:** BD plans to deploy vehicles equipped with photogrammetry and/or 3D scanning equipment to patrol areas with a high density of dangerous and abandoned signboards and are busy. The captured digital information would

subsequently be analysed through artificial intelligence (AI) trained to identify automatically defective signboards. Pilot run of the system would commence in November 2021.

- (b) **Database of Legal Signboard:** BD plans to establish a database of legal signboards to facilitate its enforcement actions and the public, including businesses, to identify legal signboards (including those with approved plans or validated under the Signboard Validation Scheme). Information on the first batch of legal signboards would be uploaded to Geoinfo Map around September 2021.
- (c) **Use of big data for identifying potential new signboards:** BD plans to analyse big data in the public realm (such as property transactions and lease records on commercial premises) to identify businesses that may erect signboards so that BD could provide targeted publicity and disseminate information on relevant regulations. The system would start operating around December 2020.

Updates on progress of development of Common Spatial Data Infrastructure, Geospatial Lab and 3D digital map

25. In 2020, the development of the Common Spatial Data Infrastructure (CSDI) is taking forward in full swing and progressing satisfactorily with an aim to have the CSDI portal for government use by end 2021 and the public before end-2022, with a wide range of at least 320 standardised spatial datasets from bureaux and departments provided for the public to free download and use.

26. With rolling out the first phase of Map API and the Interactive Map Dashboard of COVID-19 as two quick wins projects showcasing the applications of spatial data in October 2019 and Feb 2020 respectively, launching of other quick-wins projects is scheduled between end 2020 and 2021.

27. In October 2020, a Common Spatial Data Advisory Committee comprising different external stakeholders aiming to advise the Government on how best to develop the CSDI to meet the needs of our society and economy was formed. The major engagement projects “Call for CSDI Initiatives” and “Establishment of Geospatial Lab” both aiming to engage the stakeholders to make use of spatial data for developing applications are scheduled to be launched by end 2020 and mid-2021 respectively.

28. Our target is to produce the 3D digital maps covering the whole territory, including publishing of the 3D pedestrian network data covering built up areas by end 2020 and progressively launching the full-fledged 3D visualisation map and 3D indoor map for 1 250 buildings both by end 2023. A pilot project for full-fledged 3D digital map and 3D indoor map in East Kowloon was commenced in October 2020.

III. Other Initiatives

Investing in Capital Works

29. HKSAR Government has been continuously investing in capital works to enhance living environment and maintain Hong Kong's long-term competitiveness. In 2019-20 LegCo session, funding approval of more than \$170 billion works related items, including \$144 billion new works projects, was obtained from the Finance Committee. Of the 86 major public works projects, works contracts for 58 projects have been awarded, and contracts for the other 28 projects are in the process of tendering as at mid-November this year. With a view to speeding up infrastructure development, we will adopt parallel tendering and shorten tender evaluation to expedite tendering process of works project, where appropriate. In addition, we will collaborate with works departments to explore the possibility of fast tracking the project schedule for early delivery of land supply, transportation, hospital and social infrastructure projects.

30. Since the COVID-19 outbreak early this year, our economy has been affected. To support economic development, create job opportunities and instil public confidence, the Government will keep on investing in infrastructure development and implement various new projects. These projects will cover land and housing supply, healthcare facilities, education, culture and recreation, water supply, drainage and sewerage aspects etc., including the TCNTE, New Acute Hospital at Kai Tak, special school with boarding facilities, pier improvement programme, Tin Shui Wai New Public Market, and other projects that are closely related to people's livelihood.

31. We also propose increasing the cost ceiling for minor works projects funded under the block vote from the current \$30 million to \$50 million, with an aim of expediting the implementation of more district-based livelihood projects, such as renovation works of schools and leisure facilities, as well as minor works to improve environmental hygiene and on roads, drainage and water supply, which

to create more job opportunities.

32. The annual capital works expenditures have been maintained at a level of \$70 billion since 2017. We expect the annual capital works expenditure will continue to grow from 2021-22 onwards and exceed \$100 billion in coming years. Under the principle of “stimulate the economy, safeguard jobs”, we believe that the increasing investment in capital works can effectively support the economy, accelerate social revival, and create significant number of job opportunities, so as to benefit different sectors of the society.

Energizing Kowloon East

33. Since the announcement of the Energizing Kowloon East initiative in 2011, the supply of commercial floor space in Kowloon East has increased by 70% to about 2.9 million square metres at present. The supply has potential to reach about 7 million square metres in the future. The planning and engineering studies on the Kowloon Bay Action Area (KBAA) and Kwun Tong Action Area (KTAA) have basically been completed with a view to releasing land for commercial development by consolidating existing government facilities. Demolition of the former Kowloon Bay Waste Recycling Centre in KBAA commenced in January this year, and the engineering investigation and design for the infrastructural facilities in KTAA commenced in March this year. These two action areas can provide about 560 000 square metres of commercial floor space.

34. The Government is actively promoting walkability in Kowloon East. We have formulated an overall pedestrian environment improvement framework for the Kowloon Bay and Kwun Tong Business Areas, with measures including addition and upgrading of pedestrian facilities, integration with open space and other works projects to enhance connectivity and greenery, and beautification of streetscape. The short-term improvement measures have largely been implemented. Whereas, the medium to long-term improvement schemes, which include several footbridges and subway facilities, have also been gradually implemented. In addition, we also propose a set of elevated landscaped travelators at Wai Yip Street to improve the linkage between the KBAA and KTAA.

35. The Energizing Kowloon East initiative was extended to San Po Kong in October 2017. We will adopt the principle of “single site, multiple use” to provide underground public car park under the redevelopment plan of the public open space site at Sze Mei Street. Tender requirements for detailed design and construction of the project are being formulated. We will further adopt the same principle to commence studying the overall planning and long-term development of the Choi Hung Road Playground and Sports Centre (including Choi Hung Road Market which will be closed in 2022) site this year.

36. We will continue our work to improve the environment in Kowloon East. Works on the Tsui Ping River project as well as Lam Wah Street Playground and its adjacent area commenced in July this year. The improvement works at Hoi Bun Road Park and its adjacent area are expected to complete next year.

37. We will also continue to use Kowloon East as a pilot area for smart city development and share the knowledge and experiences gained in carrying out the proof-of-concept trials with relevant government departments and stakeholders to facilitate wider application.

Environmentally Friendly Linkage System for Kowloon East

38. As regards the proposed environmentally friendly linkage system (EFLS) for Kowloon East, the Government has substantially completed its detailed feasibility study (the Study). The Study reveals that technically, provisioning of a single elevated system in Kowloon East is severely constrained by the adjacent congested developments, very costly and not financially viable, thus not a sustainable and pursuable option for EFLS. The Study suggests that it would be more effective and recommendable to shape Kai Tak Development (KTD) Area into a green community and enhance its connectivity with neighbouring areas through implementing a “multi-modal” EFLS. The multi-modal EFLS includes deployment of electric buses/mini-buses to run new routes in the area, a travelers network, a GreenWay network for shared use of pedestrian and cycling, enhanced connections to MTR Kwun Tong Station and a water-taxi service point in KTD. We plan to announce the results of the Study in the end of this year, and gather the views of public on the proposed multi-modal EFLS scheme.

Invigorating Island South

39. In the past, owing to road and transport infrastructure constraints, there was not a clearer development positioning for the Southern District on Hong Kong Island. With the commissioning of the MTR South Island Line (East) in 2016, the connectivity of Wong Chuk Hang, Aberdeen and Ap Lei Chau with other districts has been enhanced. The beautiful natural landscapes, pleasant scenery from both land and sea, the presence of well-known scenic spots such as Ocean Park, four country parks, a number of beaches and a marine reserve, as well as rich historical and cultural resources, all contribute to the great potential of the Southern District.

40. Accordingly, the Government will introduce the Invigorating Island South project to develop the Southern District into a spot full of vibrancy, vigour and velocity, making it the right place for people to work, live, explore new ideas and have fun. The relevant bureaux and departments will study and take forward the following key projects under the Invigorating Island South initiative:

- (a) formulating a proposal for the rebirth of Ocean Park, with emphasis on enhancing and leveraging its strengths in education and conservation, making use of its natural landscape, strategic seaside location and the Water World which will open next summer to offer diversified entertainment, leisure and travel experiences;
- (b) revitalising the Jumbo Floating Restaurant, which is a historic landmark in Hong Kong. The owner of the floating restaurant has recently agreed to donate it to Ocean Park at no cost. The Government will facilitate the collaboration between Ocean Park and non-government organisations (NGOs) for the rebirth of the floating restaurant in the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter on a non-profit-making basis, so that it will become a distinctive cultural heritage and tourist attraction in the Southern District;
- (c) enhancing the cultural and leisure facilities in the vicinity of Aberdeen and Wong Chuk Hang, including the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter, Aberdeen Promenade and Ap Lei Chau Main Street to enable members of the public and visitors to immerse in the atmosphere, history and culture of a fishing village and enjoy eco-tourism in the area;
- (d) exploring new marine tourism routes by taking advantage of the

district's seaside location with Ocean Park as the core to link up with other districts and islands, as well as exploring the expansion of the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter area and the vessel berthing area as well as providing more landing facilities along the coastal area;

- (e) exploring the development of a water sports centre at the rehabilitated Shek O Quarry site under public-private partnership to provide advanced training facilities for athletes and water sports enthusiasts;
- (f) expediting the redevelopment or conversion of old IBs in Wong Chuk Hang through the Government's policy of revitalising IBs, so as to provide more operating space for emerging industries and the arts and culture sector;
- (g) exploring room for redevelopment or consolidation of the existing GIC sites or facilities in the district so as to pursue the "single site, multiple use" principle; and
- (h) taking the opportunity brought by the large-scale topside development project at the Wong Chuk Hang Station, which will commence population intake two years later, to beautify public space and cityscape through place making; as well as enhancing pedestrian connectivity of the Wong Chuk Hang Business Area and the waterfront area nearby while improving the pedestrian environment along Shum Wan Road and Po Chong Wan through minor works.

41. We will set up a multi-disciplinary professional team under DEVB to form the Invigorating Island South Office, which will interact and collaborate with relevant bureaux and departments and other stakeholders, to co-ordinate and implement the various projects under the Invigorating Island South initiative.

Harbourfront Development and Walkability

42. We have been actively connecting the promenade on both sides of the Victoria Harbour and creating more spectacular harbourfront environment for public enjoyment. In the past three years, 5 kilometres of harbourfront promenade has been opened for public use. Looking ahead, our target is to further extend the promenade from the existing 23 kilometres to 34 kilometres by 2028, providing quality open spaces amounting to about 35 hectares.

43. To realise the aforementioned vision, the Government has earmarked a total of \$6.5 billion of dedicated funding for implementing 13 harbourfront enhancement projects. Amongst them, we will seek funding approvals of the LegCo on the Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor and the harbourfront park at Eastern Street North in Sai Ying Pun in 2021, before commencement of the works right after. The latter project will feature creative elements including large-scale play facility, a sizeable water-fun area and an all-weather observation deck overlooking the sea. Both projects are targeted for phased completion starting from 2024. We will also incorporate cycle track designs in these harbourfront projects so as to enable cycling along the harbourfront areas in the longer-term.

44. Besides, the Harbour Office under DEVB will continue to work hand-in-hand with the Harbourfront Commission to promote active community engagement, including curating artworks in collaboration with local creative talent and display winning entries of the public furniture competitions, as well as inviting professional input to turn the design concepts for the two harbourfront projects at Golden Bauhinia Square and Wan Chai Ferry Pier respectively into concrete proposals. Under the administration of NGOs, the open community garden at Belcher Bay promenade in Sai Wan has commenced operation in October 2020, while the community living room at Quarry Bay harbourfront will be open in late-2021, with a view to further enhancing the vibrancy and diversity of the harbourfront.

45. We will also continue to improve the existing pedestrian linkage systems in various districts such as Admiralty and Wan Chai North, including enhancing the system in the vicinity of Admiralty through the redevelopment of the Hutchison House and Queensway Plaza, a government project to connect the Admiralty Centre with the Tamar Footbridge, as well as the pedestrian connection linking up Pacific Place with the footbridge network at the Harcourt Garden under the “Facilitation Scheme for Provision of Pedestrian Links by the Private Sector”.

Rivers in the City

46. We have been actively taking forward the concept of “Rivers in the City”. Revitalisation works at Tsui Ping River and Jordan Valley Nullah have commenced. We will continue formulating revitalisation schemes for other rivers and nullahs with high revitalisation potential, including Tai Wai Nullah, Fo Tan Nullah and Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah. Besides, we will introduce water bodies rejuvenation facilities, such as artificial flood attenuation lakes and

river parks in planning for new development areas.

Urban Forestry

47. We hosted the inaugural International Urban Forestry Conference in January this year, set up the Arboriculture and Horticulture Industry Development Advisory Committee in June this year, and submitted a report on the progress of the registration scheme for tree management personnel to the LegCo Panel on Development in July this year. The Study Sponsorship Scheme and the Trainee Programme under the Urban Forestry Support Fund were rolled out in the third quarter of this year. The Study Sponsorship Scheme would benefit around 300 students per cohort while we are also receiving applications from eligible employers under the Trainee Programme to engage and train arboriculture and tree management graduates to become quality arborists and tree climbers.

Implementation of Construction 2.0

48. The “Construction 2.0” advocated in the 2018 Policy Address has received wide support from the industry. DEVB has been implementing the “Construction 2.0” progressively and leading the industry to make change by advocating “Innovation”, “Professionalisation” and “Revitalisation”. We actively promote the application of innovation and technology, including Modular Integrated Construction (MiC), digital works supervision systems (DWSS), Building Information Modelling (BIM) and the establishment of Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF) to uplift productivity, strengthen works supervision and quality assurance, and improve site safety.

(a) Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF)

49. We set up the \$1 billion CITF in October 2018 to encourage wider adoption of innovative technologies and provision of cutting-edge solutions in the industry. So far, the Fund has approved more than 1 400 applications from over 700 enterprises with a total commitment of more than \$300 million covering applications of MiC, BIM and other advanced construction technologies, and about 8 000 training places for practitioners for attending technology-related training. We will further study ways to encourage innovation and wider adoption of technologies in the construction industry and provide the related support.

(b) Wider Adoption of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC)

50. We have been actively promoting wider adoption of MiC in construction industry upon the announcement of the MiC policy in 2017 Policy Address. In addition to encouraging private and public organisations to adopt MiC, DEVB issued technical circular in March this year setting out the policy and requirements on the adoption of MiC for designated government buildings such as schools, dormitories and office buildings. The first batch of MiC pilot projects, including InnoCell at Hong Kong Science and Technology Park and Disciplined Services Quarters for the Fire Services Department at Pak Shing Kok in Tseung Kwan O, were topped out in May and August this year respectively. And the first MiC transitional housing project at Nam Cheong Street was completed for intake in August this year.

51. In addition, MiC has played an instrumental role in providing a large number of quarantine facilities and a temporary hospital in a timely manner for tackling the COVID-19 outbreak. The speedy completion of the quarantine centre at the Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village amid the epidemic with the use of the MiC method has been acclaimed by the Institution of Civil Engineers of the United Kingdom.

(c) Adoption of Innovative Technologies

52. We have been pushing forward the application of digital technology to enhance surveillance and management of public works projects. We issued a technical circular in March this year requiring new capital works contracts with pre-tender estimate exceeding \$300 million to adopt DWSS to strengthen project supervision. Moreover, we will implement the integrated capital works platform (iCWP) in phases from next year onwards to enable data integration and analysis of works information collected from different works projects for continuous monitoring and review of various project performance with a view to enhancing the management of the Capital Works Programme. To facilitate project delivery under the new normal post-COVID-19, we will further explore the use of remote monitoring, wireless sensors networks, internet of things and other innovative technologies to push forward digitisation of works supervision system, reduce interpersonal contact and improve occupational safety and health on site.

53. We will continue to promote the adoption of other innovative technologies in the construction industry including the BIM technology, the prefabricated steel reinforcing bar products and other new and proven

technologies examined by the Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre and the CITF to boost construction productivity, uplift built quality, improve site safety and enhance environmental performance.

Strengthening Management of Public Works Projects

54. The implementation of public works projects has all along been facing challenges of high construction costs, rapidly aging workforce, and rising public aspirations for project performance. Riding on the experience of the Project Cost Management Office (PCMO) in project cost management, the PCMO was upgraded to the Project Strategy and Governance Office (PSGO) in April last year to implement measures to optimise the performance of infrastructure projects in multiple aspects.

55. In the aspect of cost management and control, in the past four years, the offices scrutinised more than 280 public works projects of a total estimated cost of \$520 billion and managed to achieve a cost saving of about \$70 billion through optimising the project design based on the “Fitness for Purpose” and “No Frill” principles. PSGO also expanded the scope of cost control to cover project initiation and construction stages for continuous surveillance until project completion.

Uplifting Performance of Public Works Projects

56. In recent years, the public has rising aspirations on the performance of public works projects. We will strengthen the monitoring and management of works through nurturing project management and leadership talents by the Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders and promoting application of digital technology. Besides maintaining close liaisons with local industry stakeholders, we strengthen collaborations and exchange experience with our counterparts in the Mainland, Australia, Singapore and the United Kingdom with an aim to promoting partnerships and enhancing project management and performance. To further promote the digitalisation and innovation of the construction industry as well as enhance project performance, we will host an International Construction Leaders Summit next year to collect views of and formulate strategies with various stakeholders.

Construction Manpower Development

57. The CIC established the Hong Kong Institute of Construction (HKIC) in February 2018, striving to provide clearer career advancement pathways, more systematic and structured programmes for the training of semi-skilled and skilled workers to meet anticipated market demand and raise the skill level of the construction industry. About 70 000 participants on average complete its programmes every year, covering both full-time and part-time training courses. Its Diploma in Construction Programmes have been recognised under the Qualifications Framework by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. The HKIC also aims to make full use of its existing training facilities to enhance training to meet the needs of the industry, especially in the adoption of technologies including BIM, MiC, etc.

58. With the approval of the Finance Committee in May this year, we have allocated \$200 million to implement measures to strengthen construction manpower training in trades of keen demand. These measures include (a) increasing the training allowance for trainees of the HKIC's one-year full-time programmes from \$3,600 to \$4,800 per month to attract more youngsters to undertake structured construction training; (b) increasing the number of trades³ of keen demand under the CIC Approved Technical Talents Training Programme (CICATP) by 7 from 6 to 13; and (c) offering incentives amounting to \$10,000 per trainee in total to encourage in-service general workers to upgrade their skills to semi-skilled workers. So far, about 670 trainees have benefitted from these measures.

Heritage Conservation

59. Various heritage conservation initiatives are progressing on course. Twelve projects under Batches I, II and III of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (Revitalisation Scheme) have commenced operation. With funding approval of the Finance Committee, revitalisation works for the three projects under Batch IV commenced last year and are targeted for completion in the first half of next year. The investigation and design works for the four projects under Batch V are now underway. For the four historic

³ The CICATP originally covers six trades, namely painter & decorator, joiner, carpenter (formwork), bricklayer, plasterer and tiler. As we envisaged that skilled workers including bar bender & fixer, metal worker, general welder, plumber, leveler, electrical fitter and construction plant mechanic will be in keen demand in the coming years, the CICATP has been extended to these trades.

buildings under Batch VI launched in December last year, assessment of the applications is being carried out. An additional historic building was included under Batch VI this August, and the deadline of application is this December. Since the introduction of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation in 2000, a total of 20 heritage projects in Hong Kong have been recognised, of which five are under the Revitalisation Scheme. Separately, on the advice of the Antiquities Advisory Board, the masonry bridge of Pok Fu Lam Reservoir, Tung Wah Coffin Home in Pok Fu Lam, and Tin Hau Temple and the adjoining buildings in Yau Ma Tei were declared monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) in May this year.

CONCLUSION

60. We welcome Members' feedback and undertake to work closely with LegCo in taking forward DEVB's policy initiatives.

Development Bureau
1 December 2020

**List of Development Bureau's Initiatives
in the Policy Address Supplement**

A list of Development Bureau's ongoing and new initiatives stipulated in the Policy Address Supplement is appended below. They are mainly under the Chapters of "Upholding and Improving the 'One Country, Two Systems' Practice", "Together, We Fight the Virus", "Housing and Land Supply", "Unlimited Business Opportunities", "Liveable City" and "Caring Society".

Upholding and Improving the "One Country, Two Systems" Practice

Progress Made

- Upgraded the Project Cost Management Office (PCMO) in April 2019 to the Project Strategy and Governance Office (PSGO) to implement various measures to optimise the performance of infrastructure projects. In the past four years, the PCMO/PSGO scrutinised more than 280 public works projects of a total estimated cost of \$520 billion and achieved cost savings of \$70 billion through optimising project designs.
- Maintained oversight of the implementation of the new High Court and District Court projects by the central steering committee established under the Judiciary. The statutory rezoning procedures for the latter's development site is expected to be completed within 2020.
- Completed the second round consultation with the industry on the extent of adopting IMS as a listing requirement of Government's approved public works contractors by 30 September 2020.
- Continued to invest in infrastructure to meet Hong Kong's needs and create jobs. From 2017-18 to 2020-21, the average capital works expenditure per year amounted to \$75.5 billion.

Together, We Fight the Virus

New Initiatives

- Complete the construction of Penny's Bay Quarantine Centre

Phases III and IV in December 2020 for provision of another 2 000 quarantine units. By then, Hong Kong will have a total of over 4 000 units for dedicated quarantine purpose. In case there is another surge before the additional quarantine units are put into operation, the Government has engaged hotels providing up to 1 000 guestrooms to cater for the needs of close contacts as quarantine hotels.

- Assist HA to establish more community treatment and isolation facilities. With the support of the Central Government, further expand CTF in AWE to provide an extra 1 000 additional beds to a total of around 1 900 beds, some of which are equipped with negative pressure facilities.
- With the Central Government's assistance, construct a temporary hospital on a three-hectare piece of land near AWE to provide negative pressure wards that can accommodate over 800 beds.

Measures Taken

- Completed 118 additional quarantine units at Chai Wan Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village in less than one month using the Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) method. Subsequently, another 1 950 quarantine units were provided at Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, Pat Heung Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre and a site at Penny's Bay also using MiC method.

Housing and Land Supply

New Initiatives

- Expand the remit of the Steering Group on Streamlining Development Control to streamline approval processes and rationalise requirements not only in respect of those under the planning, lands and buildings regimes but also those involving departments outside of DEVB (e.g. Transport Department and Environmental Protection Department), with the overriding policy objective of increasing and expediting the housing and land supply. The expanded mandate will cover both public and private sector development projects.
- Establish a new Development Projects Facilitation Office in DEVB

to facilitate the processing of development approval applications for large-scale private residential development projects leading up to commencement of works, by coordinating with the bureaux and departments involved to expedite the approval process and help resolve issues including escalation to higher level set up such as the Committee on Planning and Land Development chaired by the Secretary for Development for steer if necessary.

- Invest substantially in new infrastructure development projects, including the Tung Chung New Town Extension.
- Collect stakeholders' views on the preliminary outline development plan of the San Tin/Lok Ma Chau Development Node from December 2020 to January 2021 and complete by early 2021 the first-stage study of phase one development of New Territories North.
- Consult the relevant panel of the Legislative Council in the coming year on practicable proposal to amend the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to better protect areas of high ecological values in the rural parts of the New Territories that are subject to development pressure.
- Commence studying the overall planning and long-term development of the Choi Hung Road Playground and Sports Centre (including Choi Hung Road Market) site to improve recreational and sports facilities and integrate other uses under the principle of "single site, multiple use" to make better use of land resources and meeting societal needs at the same time.

Progress Made

- Entrusted the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) with a new mission to actively provide more SH or other types of subsidised sale flats (SSFs) in its redevelopment projects. The URA sold 450 units at its first SH pilot project eResidence at Ma Tau Wai Road in mid-2019, and plans to sell the remaining 43 units in early 2021. The URA has also decided to assign the redevelopment project adjacent to eResidence as another SH project, which is expected to provide about 260 units for sale in 2024.
- URA commenced two pilot Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society Scheme redevelopment projects in Kowloon City in May

2020 to provide about 3 000 flats, of which one-third (around 1 000 flats) will be subsidised housing.

- Accepted in full the multi-pronged land supply strategy and eight land supply options worthy of priority study and implementation as recommended by the Task Force on Land Supply (TFLS) following an extensive public engagement.
- Taking forward the eight land supply options¹ recommended by the TFLS, including:
 - undertaking studies for eight brownfield clusters to provide over 20 000 public housing units;
 - launched in May 2020 the three-year Land Sharing Pilot Scheme;
 - commenced in September 2019 the study for developing 32 hectares of land of Fanling Golf Course into public housing;
 - pressed ahead with the New Development Area (NDA) and other major development projects including Kai Tak Development (12 land parcels sold/delivered for housing development between January 2018 and April 2020); Tung Chung East (reclamation commenced in December 2017, and handed over the first parcel of reclaimed land to the HKHA in March 2020); Kwu Tung North/Fanling North (commenced works in September 2019 and resumed 68 hectares of private land in December 2019); Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen (commenced works in July 2020 and 12 hectares of private lots to be resumed in October 2020); and Yuen Long South (commenced statutory planning procedures);
 - strive for early commencement of the studies related to the artificial islands in the Central Waters, reclamation projects at Lung Kwu Tan and Siu Ho Wan, and re-planning of Tuen Mun West area; and

¹ The eight options are: (i) expediting brownfield development; (ii) drawing up details of the Land Sharing Pilot Scheme to unleash development potential of private agricultural land; (iii) developing 32 hectares of land east of Fan Kam Road of the Fanling Golf Course for housing development and commencing relevant detailed technical study; (iv) expediting studies on the some 1 000-hectare Kau Yi Chau artificial islands; (v) expediting studies on near-shore reclamation projects including Lung Kwu Tan, Sunny Bay and Siu Ho Wan; (vi) continuing cavern and underground space development and studies; (vii) pressing ahead with New Development Area projects; and (viii) commencing studies on the River Trade Terminal site and the coastal areas of Tuen Mun.

- commenced works to relocate the Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to cavern in February 2019.
- Relunched the Re-vitalisation Scheme for Industrial Buildings. As at end August 2020, 31 planning applications for increasing the redevelopment plot ratio were approved, providing a total gross floor area of about 575 000 square metres upon completion of redevelopment.
- Launched a \$1 billion funding scheme to support the use of vacant government sites by NGOs. As at September 2020, 13 applications were approved.
- Pursued more vigorously the “single site, multiple use” model in multi-storey development to facilitate “Government, Institution or Community” projects with cross-department facilities and earmarked \$22 billion for the first batch of projects.
- Promulgated seven streamlining measures relating to development control of the Buildings Department, LandsD and Planning Department in three batches by the Steering Group on Streamlining Development Control.
- Set up a dedicated Land Supply Section in the LandsD in 2019 to expedite land sale and processing of high yield lease modification and land exchange cases.
- Taking forward the studies on three urban squatter areas (Cha Kwo Ling Village, Ngau Chi Wan Village and Chuk Yuen United Village) with a view to completion in 2021, to be followed by rezoning, funding application, land resumption and clearance etc., with a view to commencing works in around 2025.
- Reviewing the suitability of private land zoned for high-density housing development but without any specific development plan for public housing development. The Development Bureau plans to complete the review by end-2020.
- Rezoned 38 sites since July 2017. Rezoning of another 8 sites is in progress and some 25 sites will commence rezoning process.
- Implemented the enhanced compensation and re-housing

arrangements for government development clearance exercises which significantly improve the rehousing prospect of squatter residents and in cash allowances for residents and business operators.

- Established the Sustainable Lantau Office in December 2017 to take forward the co-ordination, planning and implementation of development projects and initiatives in conservation, local improvement and leisure and recreation in Lantau.
- Set up the Lantau Conservation Fund (LCF) to promote and implement conservation of rural Lantau and to pursue minor local improvement works in remote villages and communities. The LCF Advisory Committee was established on 1 October 2020 to vet and monitor projects to be funded by the LCF. Application is planned to commence in December 2020.
- Earmarked funding for environmental education and community action projects on nature conservation in South Lantau under the Environment and Conservation Fund. Eleven projects were approved.
- Commenced investigation and design study with associated site investigation works for the re-location of Diamond Hill Fresh Water and Salt Water Service Reservoirs to caverns in December 2018. Continue the planning and engineering feasibility study on development of selected strategic cavern areas at Lantau, Tsing Yi and other suitable locations, as well as the construction of stage one works for the re-location of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to caverns. Having established the feasibility of relocating the Public Works Central Laboratory in Kowloon Bay to caverns in March 2020, we will kick off the next stage of investigation and design by mid-2021.

Unlimited Business Opportunities

New Initiatives

- Implement the integrated capital works platform in phases from 2021 onwards to enable data integration and analysis of works information for continuous monitoring and review of project performance with a view to enhancing the management of the

Capital Works Programme.

- Co-ordinate efforts of works departments for taking forward research and development studies and piloting innovative construction methods, new materials and digital technology, etc., for enhancing the cost-effectiveness, delivery capacity and performance of capital works projects.
- Commence trial operation of an automated system for concrete cube testing in January 2021.
- Explore further the use of remote monitoring, wireless sensors networks, internet of things and other innovative technologies to push forward digitisation of works supervision system, reduce interpersonal contact and improve occupational safety and health on site.
- Continue to invest substantially in infrastructure development and various new projects. These projects cover land and housing supply, healthcare facilities, education, culture and recreation, water supply, drainage and sewerage aspects, etc., including the Tung Chung new town extension, new acute hospital at Kai Tak, special school with boarding facilities, pier improvement programme, redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium, the Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor, Tin Shui Wai New Public Market, and other projects that are closely related to people's livelihood. We expect the annual capital works expenditure will continue to grow from 2021-22 onwards and exceed \$100 billion in coming years.
- Speed up the contract award of capital works projects which have secured funding.
- Adopt parallel tendering and shorten tender evaluation to expedite tendering process of works project, where appropriate, so as to speed up infrastructure development. Of the 86 major public works projects (at a total of \$144 billion) approved by the Finance Committee of the LegCo in 2019-20 session, works contracts for 47 projects have been awarded, and contracts for the other 39 projects are in the process of tendering.
- Collaborate with works departments to explore the possibility of fast tracking the project schedule and shortening the time for completion of specific tasks for early delivery of housing, transportation, hospital and social infrastructure projects.

Progress Made

- Disseminated real-time parking vacancy information of about 73% of the hourly parking spaces in Kowloon East to the public, covering about 6 300 parking spaces.
- Applied smart safety devices in public works contracts by phases to enhance construction safety.
- Took forward the strategic initiatives to implement “Construction 2.0” progressively and led the industry to make changes by advocating “Innovation”, “Professionalisation” and “Revitalisation”. Actively promoted the application of I&T, including digital works supervision systems, building information modelling (BIM) and established the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF).
- Established the Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders by the Project Strategy and Governance Office (PSGO) to provide high-level training programmes for major project leaders. PSGO has been collaborating and exchanging experience with counterparts in the Mainland, Australia, Singapore and the United Kingdom (UK) and entered into Memorandum of Understandings with the Ministry of Finance in Singapore and the Infrastructure and Projects Authority in UK.
- Required capital works contracts with pre-tender estimate exceeding \$300 million to adopt digital works supervision system from April 2020 onwards to strengthen site supervision.
- Opened the Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) Display Centre in November 2018 with the joint efforts of the Development Bureau and the Construction Industry Council (CIC).
- Promoted the use of MiC proactively. Designated government buildings such as schools, dormitories and office buildings, etc., in capital works projects are required to adopt MiC from April 2020 onwards. MiC played an instrumental role in providing quarantine facilities and a temporary hospital in a timely manner for tackling the Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) outbreak.
- Topped out the first batch of MiC pilot projects, including Innocell

at HKSTPC and Disciplined Services Quarters for the Fire Services Department at Pak Shing Kok in Tseung Kwan O in May 2020 and August 2020 respectively.

- Set up a pre-acceptance mechanism for MiC systems and granted a 6% concession of the floor area constructed by MiC for new buildings.
- Required public works projects to adopt BIM technology from January 2018 onwards. As at end August 2020, the estimated total contract value of public works projects which have adopted such technology has exceeded \$147 billion.
- Supplying prefabricated reinforcing bar (rebar) products by the four steel rebar prefabrication yards included in the Civil Engineering and Development Department's List of Approved Steel Reinforcing Bar Prefabrication Yards for local construction projects in 2020. The total production is on the increasing trend.
- Set up the \$1 billion CITF in October 2018 to encourage wider adoption of innovative technologies and stimulate the provision of cutting-edge solutions by local I&T enterprises for industry enhancement. So far, the Fund has approved more than 1 200 applications and subsidised over 700 enterprises for adoption of innovation construction technologies in local building projects such as MiC and BIM, with a total approved funding of more than \$270 million.
- Offering quality training to trainees of the Hong Kong Institute of Construction, which was established in 2018. In particular, its Diploma in Construction Programmes have been accredited under the Qualification Framework by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. About 70 000 participants have completed its programmes every year, covering both full-time and part-time training courses.
- Allocated a funding of \$200 million in May 2020 to strengthen construction manpower training in trades of keen demand with a view to upskilling the workers and attracting more young people to join the construction industry.
- Established a new registration system in collaboration with the Mainland Authorities that enables architectural and engineering

related consultant firms on the HKSAR Government's approved lists and related registered professionals to provide professional services for development projects in the GBA.

- Invited the CIC to extend its waiver of registration and renewal fees for registered workers for a further 12 months to support the construction industry, involving about \$9 million in total.

Liveable City

New Initiatives

- Substantially completed the detailed feasibility study (the Study) for the Environmentally Friendly Linkage System (EFLS) for Kowloon East (KE). The Study suggested implementing a “multi-modal” EFLS, which comprises a package of green initiatives that serve complementarily to enhance connectivity in KE. We plan to announce the results of the Study for the EFLS for KE in the fourth quarter of 2020, and gather the views of public.
- Complete the Proof-of-concept trials on the use of video analytics to detect illegal parking and improper use of loading and unloading bays by December 2020.
- Promote walkability between Admiralty and Wan Chai through improvement of the existing pedestrian walkway systems under the policy of Facilitating Provision of Pedestrian Links by the Private Sector, public works and redevelopment projects, so as to facilitate people to walk from the hinterland to the harbourfront and through the promenade to different places.
- Establish “bicycle-friendly” new towns and NDAs, including the completion of feasibility study on fostering a pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment in Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen NDA and Yuen Long South Development in March 2021.
- Take forward the revitalisation of the Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market for boosting local retail business and economy as well as developing it into a new attraction for tourists taking into account Urban Renewal Authority's ongoing Yau Mong District Study proposing master planning concept for the wider area.
- Commence works on the Boardwalk underneath the Island

Eastern Corridor to connect Causeway Bay and Quarry Bay, and to infuse creative elements into the harbourfront park at Eastern Street in Sai Ying Pun that will feature a large-scale play facility, a sizable water-fun area and an all-weather observation deck overlooking the sea. Both projects are scheduled to commence in 2021 with a view to phased completion in 2024.

- Assist the Harbourfront Commission to continue its active community engagement, including curating artworks in collaboration with local creative talent, holding design competitions on public furniture and inviting professional input to turn the design concepts for the two harbourfront projects at Golden Bauhinia Square and Wan Chai Ferry Pier respectively into concrete proposals.
- Under the administration of NGOs, the open community garden at Belcher Bay promenade in Sai Wan will commence operation in October 2020, while the community living room at Quarry Bay harbourfront will be open in late-2021.
- Open a two-kilometre cycle track from Tsing Tsuen Bridge to Bayview Garden in Tsuen Wan in early 2021, and to continue planning and design of the remaining track of about 20 kilometres of the Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun Section.
- Design and construct a GreenWay of 13 kilometres in total length for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists in the Kai Tak Development Area in two phases. The first phase of 7.5 kilometres is scheduled for completion by 2023, and the remaining phase of 5.5 kilometres will be completed after 2025.
- Incorporate the design of cycle tracks in the harbourfront projects funded by the \$6.5 billion dedicated funding to enable cycling along the harbourfront areas in the longer-term.
- Complete Phase 2 of the QR Code labelling for about 200 000 trees by early 2022 and commence a three-year study to collect and analyse data from tilt sensors to test their effectiveness in identifying trees at risk of collapse.
- Apply smart water supply initiatives, including the launch of automatic water supply suspension notification system in December 2020 to enhance customer services.

- Adopt new technologies for signboard control with a view to protecting public safety, including uploading the first batch of legal signboards' information to Geoinfo Map for public's viewing in September 2021 and commencing the trial run of the Defective Signboard Diagnostic System by end-2021.
- Provide free public WiFi services, and adopt relevant technologies to detect illegal dumping, wild animals and flooding, and strengthen security in rural villages.
- Collaborate with the Hong Kong Green Building Council to explore the development of a sustainability evaluation system to enhance the performance and sustainability of infrastructure projects to reinforce the international status of Hong Kong's infrastructure development.

Progress Made

- Commissioned the Heung Yuen Wai Highway in May 2019 improving traffic in the North District and providing the access road to the new Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point with cargo clearance services opened in August 2020.
- Carried out detailed design for a new footbridge across Kwun Tong Road near MTR Kowloon Bay Station Exit A (in progress) and another footbridge across Wai Yip Street near Siu Yip Street (largely completed).
- Endorsed nine premium waiver applications from landowners for the construction of footbridges and subways at their own cost under the policy of Facilitating Provision of Pedestrian Links by the Private Sector.
- Enhanced the connectivity, improved the environment and released development potential to expedite the transformation of Kowloon East into the second core business district. More than 70 traffic and pedestrian environment improvement works items have been completed. 16 hectares of open spaces and public spaces have been provided or enhanced.
- Implemented a number of water saving measures, including launching the first stage of Mandatory Water Efficiency Labelling

Scheme which requires the use of water efficient products in designated parts of new plumbing works, implementing Automatic Meter Reading in new buildings to provide timely information on water consumption, and publishing sample contract clauses to facilitate engagement of contractors by property owners and management agents to carry out leak investigation and repair works for private water mains. The Hong Kong Institute of Construction has launched a certificate course in leakage detection in underground water pipes to help nurture professionals.

- Completed reviewing the Total Water Management Strategy and updated the strategy in the third quarter of 2019. The updated strategy adopts a two-pronged approach of containing fresh water demand growth and building resilience in water supply with diversified water resources.
- Established the dedicated Tree Risk Inspection Squad to strengthen tree audits and site patrol in 18 districts; provided additional venues for arboricultural field training; and hosted the International Urban Forestry Conference in January 2020.
- Reported the progress of implementation on the Registration Scheme for Tree Management Personnel to the Panel on Development of the LegCo in July 2020 and roll out the Registration Scheme by December 2020.
- Launched the Urban Forestry Support Fund under which the Study Sponsorship Scheme and the Trainee Programme were rolled out in July and August 2020 respectively, and the "People • Trees • Harmony" promotion campaign is in progress.
- Together with the Hong Kong Jockey Club, completed revitalisation of the Central Police Station Compound to become Tai Kwun – Centre for Heritage and Arts. Tai Kwun received the Award of Excellence in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. This is the Awards' highest honour and Tai Kwun is the second Hong Kong project winning this laurel in 2019, following the Blue House Cluster honoured in 2017.
- Launched Batch VI of the Revitalising Historic Buildings

Through Partnership Scheme in end-2019. As of September 2020, a total of 12 projects have been completed under the Scheme receiving in total five UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

- Pressing ahead with the Conserving Central initiative announced in 2009 with the restoration of the Former French Mission Building due to be completed in end-2020 and the first phase opening of the revitalised Central Market Building in the third quarter of 2021.
- Established the Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders (CoE) in July 2019 and delivered the first Major Projects Leadership Programme in August 2019.
- Invited leaders of the construction industry in Hong Kong to participate in the CoE programmes for exchanging expertise and sharing experience with government major project leaders.
- Entered into Memorandum of Understandings with the Infrastructure and Projects Authority of the United Kingdom Government and the Ministry of Finance of the Singapore Government in March 2018 and July 2019 respectively to foster partnership for enhancing cost effectiveness and productivity of the construction industry and uplifting project governance and performance.
- Launched “Operation Building Bright 2.0” in 2018 with two funding injections totalling \$6 billion to assist owner-occupiers of 5 000 eligible old buildings to conduct inspection and repair works over seven years. As of June 2020, around 920 buildings are participating.
- Launched the \$2 billion Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Needy Owners in July 2020 to subsidise around 25 000 owners for maintaining their properties.
- Launched the \$2.5 billion Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme in 2019 to subsidise the modernisation of about 5 000 lifts and expanded the Scheme with additional funding of \$2 billion to cover about 8 000 lifts.
- Implemented the Action Plan for Enhancing Drinking Water

Safety in Hong Kong in September 2017 with the following measures:

- launched the Enhanced Water Quality Monitoring Programme in December 2017, following the establishment of the Hong Kong Drinking Water Standards, to monitor consumers' drinking water quality;
 - strengthened the regulation on plumbing materials and commissioning requirements for new plumbing works;
 - launched Quality Water Supply Scheme for Buildings – Fresh Water (Management System) in November 2017 to encourage property owners and management agents to implement Water Safety Plan (WSP) for their buildings;
 - set up the Drinking Water Safety Advisory Committee which comprises academics and experts of the related fields in January 2018;
 - started to implement WSP by the HKHA in PRH estates in the fourth quarter of 2018 in phases; and
 - launched the \$440 million WSP Subsidy Scheme in July 2020 to subsidise around 5 000 private buildings for implementing WSP for Buildings.
- Reviewed the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102). Legislative amendment will be carried out in order to further safeguard drinking water safety.
 - Commenced improvement works at Hoi Bun Road Park and its adjacent area in December 2018, with the soccer pitch completed in June 2020. The improvement works at Lam Wah Street Playground and its adjacent area commenced in July 2020.
 - Prequalification of tenders and formulation of detailed tender requirements for the District Open Space, Sports Centre cum Public Vehicle Park project at Sze Mei Street, San Po Kong are in progress.
 - Completed detailed design of the distinctive play facilities at Kai Tak Runway Park in August 2020.

- Commenced the Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River project in July 2020.
- Reviewed, evaluated and identified suitable nullahs for revitalization.
- Enhanced the design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah to promote the quality and ecological value of the local environment.
- Allocated a total of \$6.5 billion to connect the harbourfront promenade and optimise the open space. In the past three years, five kilometres of promenade has been opened for public use. The goal is to extend the promenade from the current 23 km to 34 km by 2028 and provide open space amounting to about 35 hectares on both sides of Victoria Harbour.
- Fostered a "bicycle-friendly" environment in new towns and New Development Areas (NDAs) and completed the first phase of improvement to cycle tracks and parking facilities at about 100 sites in new towns in mid-2018.
- Completed and fully opened the 60 km long cycle track network in the New Territories from Tuen Mun to Ma On Shan for public use in September 2020.

Caring Society

Progress Made

- Imposed since 2018-19 the requirement for provision of babycare rooms and lactation rooms in the sale of conditions of all commercial land sale sites.