

Background information on O·PARK1, GREEN@TUEN MUN, Y·PARK and T·PARK

O·PARK1

Locating at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau, O·PARK1 is the first phase of the Organic Resources Recovery Centre in Hong Kong which commenced operation in July 2018, with a food waste treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day.¹ O·PARK1 mainly receives and treats food waste generated by the commercial and industrial sector and collected from Lantau, Kowloon and Hong Kong Island.

2. O·PARK1 adopts anaerobic digestion technology to convert food waste into biogas (a source of renewable energy similar to natural gas) for electricity generation whilst the residues from the process can be produced as compost for landscaping and agriculture use. The surplus electricity supplied from O·PARK1 to the power grid each year can satisfy the electricity consumption of some 3 000 households.

3. Since the implementation of the first phase of the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection (up to April 2021), an accumulated total of about 82 000 tonnes of food waste have been delivered to O·PARK1 for recycling, and about 17.3 million kWh of electricity and about 2 300 tonnes of compost have been generated.

GREEN@TUEN MUN

4. To strengthen recycling support at district level, the Environmental Protection Department is continuously expanding the new community recycling network, namely GREEN@COMMUNITY, which currently comprises nine Recycling Stations (formerly known as Community Green Stations) focusing on both environmental protection education and recycling support,² 22 Recycling Stores located in close proximity of residential areas, and more than 100 Recycling Spots operating at fixed locations on weekly schedules.

5. All Recycling Stations, Recycling Stores and Recycling Spots accept at least eight common types of recyclables, including paper, metals, plastics, glass bottles, regulated electrical equipment, small electrical appliances,

¹ The second phase (O·PARK2) in Sha Ling of the North District is under construction and is expected to begin operation in 2022 with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day.

² Since 2015, the Environmental Protection Department has engaged non-profit making organizations to operate Recycling Stations (formerly known as Community Green Stations) through open tenders.

fluorescent lamps and tubes, and rechargeable batteries, etc. The recyclables collected will be sorted and then delivered to the downstream recyclers for subsequent processing. As of October 2020, the nine Recycling Stations have collected over 7 000 tonnes of recyclables.

6. GREEN@TUEN MUN at 9 Tuen Yee Street, Tuen Mun is one of the nine Recycling Stations, which commenced operation in November 2018 and is currently operated by Yan Oi Tong Limited. Smart recycling system and reverse vending machines have been installed in GREEN@TUEN MUN.

Y·PARK

7. Locating at Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun (near the West New Territories Landfill), Y·PARK is a yard waste recycling centre which commenced operation in June 2021.³ The handling capacity of Y·PARK is about 11 000 tonnes (an average of 30 tonnes daily) in the first year,⁴ and will gradually increase to an annual average of around 22 000 tonnes (an average of 60 tonnes daily). The Park is currently operated by Ming Hing-AEL Joint Venture.⁵

8. Y·PARK welcomes government departments, commercial and industrial sector, public and private organizations, related stakeholders and members of the public to deliver sorted and suitable yard waste to the Park for recycling. It has been equipped with various plant and equipment such as wood shredders, wood cutting machine, drying and sterilization units, and thereby be capable of converting sorted and suitable yard waste into various recyclable products including compost and mulch for gardening and planting, bulking agent for composting, biochar feedstock, substrate for mushroom cultivation and wood boards, wood beams and wood logs for making wooden furniture, decoration, artworks and renovating facilities.

³ Since the onslaught of typhoon Mangkhut in 2018, the Environmental Protection Department has set up a temporary facility for recycling yard waste prior to the commissioning of Y·PARK.

⁴ In the past few years, an average of about 170 tonnes of yard waste were generated in Hong Kong every day, among which around 100 tonnes were generated and collected by government departments, mainly from public works and daily vegetation maintenance duties.

⁵ The Environmental Protection Department announced in November 2020 that following an open tendering exercise a 48-month service contract to set up and operate Y · PARK was awarded to Ming Hing-AEL Joint Venture.

T·PARK

9. T·PARK in Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun is Hong Kong's first sludge treatment facility. Commencing operation in 2015, T·PARK adopts advanced incineration technology to treat a maximum of 2 000 tonnes of sewage sludge each day. It also utilizes the heat energy generated from the incineration process to produce electricity which is sufficient to support the daily operation of the entire facility. The surplus electricity is exported to the power grid for meeting the needs of about 4 000 households each year. In addition, T·PARK is an educational and leisure facility, with its green building design awarded the Platinum grade, the highest rating in BEAM Plus.

10. In recent years (2017-2020), the total quantity of sewage sludge treated by T·PARK annually was between 378 428 tonnes and 392 221 tonnes.

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