

(Translation)

Summary of the 20th Meeting of the 3rd Wan Chai District Council
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

The 3rd Wan Chai District Council (WCDC) held its 20th meeting on 18 January 2011 and discussed the following issues:

1. Visit by Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Civil Engineering and Development visited the Council and briefed Councillors on the organization and work scope of the department, including provision of land and infrastructure, port and marine services, slope safety, environmental and sustainability services. The department is now working on two works projects on the waterfront of Wan Chai. One of which is relocating the government helipad to the spot near the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) as a permanent helipad. The other project is reclamation at ends of HKCEC and near the ferry pier for providing land for the Central-Wan Chai Bypass works. Meanwhile, the department also carries out anti-land-slip works and landslip prevention and mitigation programme in the district. Councillors then expressed their views on landslip prevention, waterfront promenade, cycling track, pet garden and greening work.

2. Visit by Director of Social Welfare

Director of Social Welfare visited the Council and briefed Councillors on the major work of the department, including family and child welfare services, social security, elderly services, rehabilitation and medical social services, services for young people, services for offenders and community development. Councillors then expressed views on mental health services, District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities, elderly services, old age allowance, dementia, regulating charity bodies, increasing the number of school social workers and enhancing district collaboration.

3. Public Consultation on Putting in Place a Regulatory Framework for Property Management Industry

Deputy Director of Home Affairs briefed the Council on the highlights, parameters, contents and suggestions of the consultation paper and wished to get more views in the remaining two months of consultation so as to enhance the building management standard of Hong Kong hand in hand with the public. Councillors generally agreed

to the multi-tiered licensing regime and considered that property managers also need to be licensed. Whereas, there should be a lenient grace period for gradual transition. Councillors mostly opposed to the idea whether the government should mandatorily require flat owners to engage property management companies for their flats. Meanwhile, some Councillors suggested that the future regulating body could take reference from the operating mode of the Estate Agents Authority.

4. Progress Report of Shatin to Central Link (SCL) Project

Representatives of Highways Department and MTR Corporation introduced to the Council the routing of the SCL, design of Exhibition Station, construction arrangement, construction methods and proposed temporary traffic diversion measures. Chairman requested MTR to provide a written reply on the length of Exhibition Station. In the meantime, representative of MTR explained at the meeting the siting and function of Exhibition Station, rationale of 9-compartment operation and improvement measures. Chairman proposed to put the SCL project to the progress report of Planning, Development and Transport Committee for following-up and monitoring.

5. Flood Storage Project at Happy Valley

Representative of Drainage Services Department (DSD) briefed the Council on the proposed flood storage project at Happy Valley. He further consulted Councillors on the construction arrangements and sought Councillors' support for the proposed project. DSD had also engaged consultancy firm to optimize the design of the flood storage tank and stipulate effective measures to minimize as far as possible the inconvenience caused to the public. Councillors then expressed their views on whether there was a need to construct a flood storage tank in Happy Valley, the traffic/environmental impacts that may be brought by the project as well as construction arrangements and etc.

After discussion, the Council passed with 9 supported, 3 opposed and 2 abstained for the motion raised by Councillor Jacqueline CHUNG:

“Support the flood storage project at Happy Valley and request the DSD to actualize the project as soon as possible to mitigate the flood impact caused to residents.”

6. District Environmental Hygiene Problem Caused by Wild Doves and Birds

Representatives of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department responded to the above written question and said that the Administration would enforce tighter prosecution, bird trapping and implement frequent street cleansing in bird-feeding black-spots. Meanwhile, the departments would enhance the education of asking the public not to feed birds. It is hoped that the number of wild doves and birds could be contained with the adoption of multi-pronged approach (i.e. prosecution, trapping and education) to tackle the problem.

Wan Chai District Council Secretariat

February 2011