

(Translation)

Progress Report of the 3rd Meeting
Development, Planning and Transport Committee
4th Wan Chai District Council

The Development, Planning and Transport Committee (DPTC) held its 3rd meeting on 24 April 2012 and discussed the following issues:

1. Summary of Major Temporary Traffic Arrangement in Wan Chai District – Transport Department (TD)

Representative of TD reported that local major events and related traffic arrangements in March 2012 had been successfully accomplished.

2. Summary of Works in Wan Chai District – Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)

The submitted summary of works covered the works progresses of transport, land development, water supply, land-slip prevention, environmental protection and public health in the district. All works were in good progress. Members reflected the noise problem generated by the works and enquired about the handling of water logging problems by CEDD.

3. Major Traffic Improvement Works and the Schedules – Transport Department/Highways Department (TD/HyD)

The paper listed the minor traffic improvements that had been completed, were being carried out or under planning in the past few months in the district as well as their schedules. Traffic improvements on Spring Garden Street were also listed as requested by Members. Members enquired about the detailed progress of individual works for relieving traffic congestion in Causeway Bay.

4. Progress Report - Flood Storage Project at Happy Valley

Representative of Drainage Services Department (DSD) attended the meeting and reported on the progress of the "Flood Storage Project at Happy Valley". The drainage works at Happy Valley Recreation Ground Pitch No. 8 had commenced in September 2011. The pitch was expected to open to the public in early 2013 upon completion of the works and establishment of the turfgrass. In March this year, the open-air public car park adjacent to St. Paul's Primary Catholic School was closed by the contractor for the construction of the receiving pit, which was expected to be completed by the middle of this year. Invitation for tenders for the construction of

the flood storage tank was underway, with the whole project expected to be completed before the rainy season of 2018. Before commencement of the works, DSD had taken a series of mitigation measures to meet the operational needs of the works. Members were concerned about the impacts on the trees imposed by the works and the transport diversion arrangements. They also hoped that DSD would maintain close communication with the schools being affected.

5. Traffic and Street-landscape Improvement Works at the Junction of Queen's Road East and Hennessy Road

Representatives of Swire Properties Limited, Wong & Ouyang (HK) Ltd. and MVA Hong Kong Limited attended the meeting and reported on the revised design and latest progress of the traffic and street-landscape improvement works at the junction of Queen's Road East and Hennessy Road. The improvements included in the revised design were similar to those proposed in 2009 and recommendations on tree regeneration had already been agreed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Members supported the amendments to the design and hoped that the improvement works could be commenced as soon as possible by the consultant company.

6. Community Participation of Environmental Protection Activities - Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

Representatives of EPD attended the meeting and reported on EPD's efforts on promoting waste reduction and recycling. Members were as briefed on the Community Participation of Environmental Protection Activities (CPEPA). EPD had invited all 18 Districts to participate in the CPEPA, with an allocation of \$15,000 to each District Council for implementing the scheme. The theme of this year's activities was "GO GREEN on Waste Management –Reduce, Reuse, Recycle", aiming at garnering community support to implement waste reduction at source, recovery and recycling in districts. Members unanimously agreed to participate in these activities.

7. Proposed Additional Tram Stop at the Interchange between Hennessy Road and East of Percival Street

Representatives of Hong Kong Tramways Limited (HKTL) attended the meeting and briefed on the proposal for adding a tram stop at the interchange between Hennessy Road and East of Percival Street. In view of the long distance between the westbound tram stop on Paterson Street and the tram stop on Canal Road West, HKTL proposed adding a tram stop. Reasons for choosing the above site included:

(a) tram passengers could make use of the existing footbridge to access the new

tram stop so that vehicle-pedestrian conflicts could be reduced; (b) underground public facilities at this location needed not be transferred so that both project time and cost could be reduced. Members unanimously supported the proposal for adding a tram stop at the interchange between Hennessy Road and East of Percival Street.

8. Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link - Tunnel (Slip Road 8 Section)

Representatives of HyD and AECOM Asia Company Limited attended the meeting and briefed on the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link - Tunnel (Slip Road 8 Section) project. The works area indicated in the works contract included the Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter, Victoria Park Road and Tsing Fung Street as well as part of the Victoria Park. HyD said that the existing number of driving lanes and speed limits during temporary traffic arrangements would remain unchanged. It was anticipated that the temporary traffic measures would have little impact on the traffic in the Wan Chai District. Members supported the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link - Tunnel (Slip Road 8 Section) project and hoped that good consultation and communication work would be undertaken by HyD.

9. Operation of the Cross Harbour Taxi Stand on Russell Street, Causeway Bay

Representatives of Transport Department (TD) briefed on the operation of the cross harbour taxi stand on Russell Street in Causeway Bay. In response to the taxi trade's proposal for further relaxation of the operation time of the cross harbour taxi stand on Russell Street, TD proposed extending its operation hours from "4 pm daily to 6 am the following day" to "3 pm daily to 6 am the following day" on a pilot basis. Members supported in principle the further relaxation of the operation time of the cross harbour taxi stand on Russell Street, while suggesting more coordination work among TD and the taxi trade to prevent cross harbour taxis from illegal parking and waiting for customers.

10. Wan Chai District Bus Routes Development Plan 2012-2013

Representatives of TD and the bus company attended the meeting again regarding the Wan Chai District Bus Routes Development Plan 2012-2013. Members reiterated their concerns and express their views on individual items. In addition, Members hoped that TD and the bus company would enhance communication with the WCDC and provide sufficient consultation time for collecting views.

11. Written Question: Concerns about the Congested Carriageway outside

Silverwood (at the Junction of Link Road and Caroline Hill Road)

A Member raised a written question expressing concerns about the congested carriageway outside Silverwood (at the junction of Link Road and Caroline Hill Road). A consultation on improving the junction arrangements at Caroline Hill Road and Link Road was being held by TD, with improvements including: (a) extending the existing prohibited zone to reduce blockage of vehicles entering Caroline Hill Road from Link Road by illegally parked vehicles; (b) moving the pedestrian crossing on Caroline Hill Road and adding a traffic island to enhance pedestrian safety; (c) moving the traffic island on Link Road slightly northward to shorten the crossing distance and time for pedestrians.

Wan Chai District Council Secretariat

April 2012