

Islands District Council

Paper IDC 80/2008

**The Improvement Works to Tai O Public Transport Terminus &
Provision of New Coach Park at Yim Tin**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to (i) brief Members on the projects of the improvement works to Tai O public transport terminus and provision of new coach park at Yim Tin; and (ii) seek Members' support to the projects.

Background

2. The existing public transport terminus at the entrance of Tai O for the use of franchised buses, taxis, private cars, goods vehicles, motorbikes and coaches is very congested during rush hours. There is no appropriate separation for different users (especially for coaches and the waiting, boarding and alighting passengers). That may cause safety problems.

3. We plan to implement the following works to improve the vehicular congestion in the public transport terminus:

- (a) designating a waiting area for coach passengers to enhance the condition of the public transport terminus at the entrance of Tai O; and
- (b) providing a new coach park at Yim Tin for the coaches to park after setting down the passengers in the public transport terminus under the new arrangement.

Please refer to the attached drawings HKI-Z1415 and HKI-Z1416 for the layouts of the proposed projects.

Details of the Improvement Projects

Improvement Works to Tai O Public Transport Terminus

4. We have formulated some improvement measures for the public transport terminus. The new layout is designed to –

- designate a waiting area for coach passengers;

- provide areas separately for coach passengers to board/alight, for private cars and goods vehicles to park and load/unload, for bus stops and taxi stands; and
- provide temporary parking spaces at Yim Tin for the coaches that wait for tour groups to return to the terminus.

Provision of New Coach Park at Yim Tin

5. We intend to provide 10 parking spaces on the vacant government land at Yim Tin for the temporary parking of coaches that pick up and set down passenger under the new arrangement of the public transport terminus. The proposed design of the coach park will avoid removing or transplanting important trees. The simple design of the vehicular entrance will minimize the impact on the traffic. For the convenience of the coach drivers, we plan to provide covered rest areas and the location of the coach park is in the vicinity of the existing public toilet facility.

Timetable

6. Subject to the support of the Members, we will proceed to the necessary statutory procedures and application for funds to carry out the detailed design. The construction works of the improvement project are expected to commence in the first quarter of 2009 at the earliest and are estimated to be completed in 10 months. The construction cost of the whole improvement project is about \$4 million.

7. The works will be implement in two phases to minimize the impact of the works on the operation of the public transport terminus. In the first phase, we will first complete the works for the franchised buses and goods vehicles parking area opposite to Wing Hin House and the provision of a new coach park at Yim Tin for the use of franchised buses, goods vehicles and coaches. Then we will close the existing parking spaces for the coaches and goods vehicles for the implementation of the second phase of works where a boarding/alighting area for the coach passengers and an unloading area for the goods vehicles will be constructed.