

**Brief Summary of the 56th Meeting of the
Yau Tsim Mong District Management Committee on 18 August 2004**

The Yau Tsim Mong District Management Committee (YTMDMC) held its 56th meeting on 18 August 2004. Members noted the contents of the committee papers presented at the meeting. Key issues discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

(I) Matters Arising

Clearance of the Illegal Structures in Arthur Street and Hei Lung Lane

2. The meeting noted and agreed a joint clearance operation of 13 illegal structures and 3 shop front extensions would be conducted on the morning of 9.11.2004. Yau Tsim Mong District Office would convene a meeting on 27 September 2004 among representatives from District Lands Office/Kowloon West [DLO/KW], Housing Department [HD], Buildings Department [BD], Food and Environmental Hygiene Department [FEHD], the Police and Home Affairs Department [HAD] Press Office to set out details of the clearance operation.
3. The Yau Tsim Mong District Council Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee [YTM DC FEHC] would be informed of the clearance details after the aforesaid meeting.
4. Members agreed that the clearance operation should be publicized widely to prevent those illegal structures from being sold out to innocent buyers in the interim. The Police would help collect feedback to assess the extent of resistance to the clearance, if any.
5. FEHD would continue to prosecute the illegal cooked food business in this area.

(II) **Items which the government departments anticipate to consult the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC) and its Committees in the coming 3 months**

Construction of a Public Transport Terminal Building in Water Supplies Department site in Sai Yee Street

6. Members noted that a District Councilor would raise an agenda item-'Construction of a Public Transport Terminal Building in Water Supplies Department site in Sai Yee Street' in the YTMDC meeting on 26 August 2004.
7. Members were advised that amendment to the existing outline zoning plan would not be required if the site including the adjacent temporary carpark was to be developed for transport-related project, e.g. the proposed public transport terminal.
8. Members noted that the future development of the WSD site, which would be vacated in 2007, and the adjacent temporary carpark site would need to be agreed among government departments and different land development options incorporating a public transport terminal could be considered. Depending on the eventual land use mix of the site, amendment to the existing outline zoning plan might be required.
9. No development proposal of this site was in hand and the YTMDC or its Traffic and Transport Committee would certainly be consulted if there was a more concrete proposal.

Facility and Programme Donation Scheme

10. Members noted that HAB would consult YTMDC on the "Facility and Programme Donation Scheme" in which HAB would raise donation from the community for the naming right to the community and cultural facilities. The Scheme also aimed to foster a stronger sense of belongings in the community.

Air-conditioning for Fa Yuen Street Market and Cooked Food Centre

11. Members noted that the FEHD would resubmit a proposal to the YTMDC FEHC in its meeting in September 2004 on the air-conditioning for the Fa Yuen Street Market and Cooked Food Centre.

Prevention of Avian Influenza: Consultation Paper on long-term direction to minimize the risk of human infection

12. FEHD representative was advised to consider reporting to YTM DC on the outcome of their previous consultation exercise and follow up action.

(III) Team Clean Initiatives and Progress Report on Clean Hong Kong District Action Plan for YTM District from June to July 2004

13. Members noted the contents of the Progress Report on Clean Hong Kong District Action Plan for Yau Tsim Mong District from June to July 2004.

14. Members were informed of the Phase III program of the anti-mosquito campaign in Yau Tsim Mong district by FEHD, and the updated grass-cutting schedule of the unleased government land in the district by the DLO/KW.

15. Members noted that the Provisional Area Ovitrap Index for Ho Man Tin, which covered part of the Yau Tsim Mong boundary, had risen to 32.7% in August. Anti-mosquito action would need to be reinforced in the King's Park area.

16. The Provisional Ovitrap Index for Yau Ma Tei and Tsim Sha Tsui in August had been lowered owing to the support of the community and the members of YTMDC FEHC and YTM Clean HK District Committee.

(IV) Report on measures taken by government departments to prevent flooding in the Yau Tsim Mong District (June and July 2004)

17. Members noted the contents of the report.

(V) Progress Reports on the work of the YTMDC and its Committees

18. Members noted the contents of the reports.

(VI) Yau Tsim Mong District Inter-departmental Action Group on Building Management-Progress Report of Target Buildings (from January to July 2004)

19. Members noted the contents of the report. Members were advised that BD would prosecute the owners of illegal structures if they did not comply with the removal orders within the given timeframe.

20. Members noted that more owners' incorporations were now eager to join the CMBS [Co-ordinated Maintenance of Buildings Scheme] and BD was actively considering the 2004 programme.

21. Members noted that if BD had to remove an illegal structure, it would recover the cost from the owners as far as possible. BD would also make a charge to the title deed of the property in due course in order to safeguard the recovery of the demolition cost.

(VII) New Items

Clearance of Illegal Structures in the rearlane near Prospect Building

22. BD and DLO/KW agreed to expedite their respective enforcement/clearance action on the illegal structures in the rearlane of Prospect Building.

23. Members of YTM District Council and YTM Clean HK District Committee who inspected this lane advised that this rearlane was a hygienic blackspot. Repaving of the private lane should be done as soon as the illegal structures were removed. The repaving cost, if work was not done by the owners, would be advanced by the Government and recovered from the owners.

Clearance of Illegal Structures in Fuk Lee Street

24. Members of the YTMDC in attendance supported the clearance of the illegal structures and shop front extension at one operation in order to restore the footpath for pedestrian safety in Fuk Lee Street.
25. DLO/KW would submit a clearance application to the HD for action. Upon HD's findings, an inter-departmental coordinating meeting would be convened for the clearance.
26. DLO/KW agreed to bear the demolition cost of the illegal structures on unleased land.
27. BD would serve notice as soon as possible to the shop front extension so as to allow time to clear the stocks before clearance. BD would remove and recover the demolition cost of the shop front extension.

Redevelopment of MacPherson Playground

28. Members were informed by the Planning Department that the Transport Department was liaising with the Urban Redevelopment Authority on the redevelopment of the MacPherson Playground to determine on what type of transport facilities could be incorporated into the development project in order to alleviate the on-street parking problem in the area.

Covered Walkway in the Waterfront

29. Members noted that the residents of the Waterfront were still pursuing their request to the MTRC for a cover for the pedestrian walkway in the open space of the Waterfront.

Management Problem of the Part-time Pedestrian Pilot Scheme in Mong Kok

30. The official members shared the view that the pedestrian street scheme implemented by the Transport Department (TD) helped achieve the objective of reducing the air pollution, the pedestrian flow and the vehicle-pedestrian conflict in the pedestrian streets of Mong Kok district so that a better environment for the pedestrians in the district could be provided. However, since there were many pedestrians and shops in Mong Kok district,

hawkers were inevitably attracted to the pedestrian streets for sale of goods/services and the pedestrian streets were encroached for conducting publicity activities.

31. The official members also considered that if the TD extended the pedestrian street scheme to other places with heavy pedestrian flow in Mong Kok district and/or extended the part-time road closure, the crowded condition of the pedestrian streets in Mong Kok district could be further relieved.

32. The official members (including those from the Lands Department, the Hong Kong Police Force, the FEHD and the Transport Department) expressed that so long as the above activities were not in breach of the law, the relevant government departments, by virtue of the authority and responsibility under the existing legislation, would be flexible in their enforcement action. Up to now, no serious complaint or report had been received. If offences/irregularities were found or public complaints received, the relevant government departments would act strictly to crack down on the offences/irregularities in the pedestrian streets.

Temporary Use of Vacant Government Land in Hoi Fai Road

33. An unofficial member conveyed the residents' wish to convert the vacant government site [proposed KIL 11146] to temporary uses such as car park or open space for young people. This could prevent the site from becoming a mosquito-breeding place. DLO/KW advised that an NGO would need to apply to her office for a short-term tenancy for the use of this or other vacant sites for non-profit making social service.