

**Brief Summary of the 59th Meeting of the  
Yau Tsim Mong District Management Committee on 16 February 2005**

The Yau Tsim Mong District Management Committee (YTMDMC) held its 59th meeting on 16 February 2005. 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 Fuk Lee Street, Tai Kok Tsui**

2. Members noted that the tentative clearance date would be 25 May 2005. An inter-departmental meeting would be convened in end-March 2005 to draw up the clearance operations plan. The matter would be reported again to the YTMDMC in its meeting in June 2005.

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

3. Members were briefed of the agenda items of the YTMDC meeting to be held on 24 February 2005.

4. Members knew that the Housing Department would seek the views of the YTMDC Housing and Building Management Committee in the issue of “Divestment of Housing Authority’s retail and car-parking facilities”.

**(III) Team Clean Initiatives and Progress Report on Clean Hong Kong District Action Plan for YTM District from December 2004 to January 2005**

5. Members noted the contents of the Progress Report on Clean Hong Kong District Action Plan for Yau Tsim Mong District from December 2004 to January 2005.

6. The Chairman mentioned that there would be new round of anti-mosquito campaign in end-February 2005. The Yau Tsim Mong District Environmental Improvement Campaign Organizing Committee, the Yau Tsim Mong Clean Hong Kong District Committee and the District Office would be involved in the anti-mosquito campaign. The task force would continue to be convened to step up measures against mosquitoes if the district ovitrap index reached the alarming level.

**(IV) Report on measures taken by government departments to prevent flooding in the Yau Tsim Mong District (December 2004 to January 2005)**

7. Members noted the contents of the report. The Chairman stated that the works for the decking over of the open nullah in Mong Kok Road and Canton Road would be started in 2005, with the estimated completion date in 2006.

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

8. 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 1 July to 31 December 2004 ) (YTM DMC Paper No. 5/2005)**

9. Members noted the contents of the report. Members were advised that the CMBS (Co-ordinated Maintenance of Buildings Scheme) would be reactivated in 2005 and the Housing Society would help in executing the Scheme. The selected buildings under the Scheme would be reported to the YTMDC Housing and Building Management Committee.

## (VII) New Items

### Laundry Drying in Public Place

10. Members noted that after the joint departmental actions against laundry drying on fencing and street furniture on Hoi Ting Road on 2 February 2005, Yau Tsim Mong District Office had affixed notices on Hoi Ting Road to advise people not to dry their laundry in public place. Government departments would continue to monitor the situation and take necessary corrective action. Advisory notices would in future be posted by respective departments at locations under their purview.

### Pedestrian zones in Yau Tsim Mong

11. An unofficial Member brought to attention of Members that there had been unapproved commercial promotional and performance activities obstructing the pavement in the Mong Kok pedestrian zone.

12. Representative from District Lands Office/Kowloon West Office (DLO/KW) advised that applications for holding commercial activities in the pedestrian zones were normally not approved. The DLO/KW would consult other departments on special applications, if necessary. DLO/KW would consider the suggestion that more spot checks should be conducted to find out if those unsuccessful applicants would still conduct their activities in the pedestrian zones. Figures on approved and disapproved cases could then be provided to reflect the workload in processing these applications.

13. Representatives from FEHD stated that reinforced manpower was needed to handle illegal hawking, illegal posting of notices, pavement obstruction and cleansing matters. FEHD could provide manpower figures deployed in the pedestrian zones and non-pedestrian zones to reflect the difference in the service requirements for the pedestrian zones.

14. Representatives from the Police Force raised several points. Management of pedestrian zones required a multi-departmental effort with effective cooperation and delineation of respective responsibilities of

departments essential. In Mong Kok crowd management of commercial promotional events as well as public meetings represented a significant commitment for Police which detracted from the Force's other core anti-crime role. In view of the fact that such commitment was a draw on existing manpower resources, Police could not support proposals for any new pedestrianization schemes or extensions to existing ones. In Yau Tsim District, problems associated with existing pedestrianized areas were different in that the main challenges were posed by illegal activities controlled by triads such as dangerous drugs trafficking and sale of pirated or contraband goods. Regular anti-crime operations were conducted with other government departments to combat these activities.

15. Unofficial Members supported the pedestrian scheme in general. An Unofficial Member suggested that new pedestrian zone should be established along the MTR/railway lines for easy dispersion of crowd in the pedestrian zones.

16. Members considered that government departments should continue to undertake enforcement actions against the irregularities within their purview in a flexible manner. Joint departmental operations could be considered, if necessary.

17. The Chairman suggested Transport Department (TD) to consider requiring shop operators in the pedestrian zones to hire staff at their own cost for cleansing, hawker control, nuisance abatement, crowd management and safety in the zones. This was especially useful for those ad-hoc applications for road closure in festive days. In addition, TD could consider seeking financial resources to provide the aforesaid support services to implement any new pedestrian scheme.