(Translation)

Islands District Council Paper IDC 84/2016

Question on provision of mountain bike trails on northern Lantau

Ms. Amy YUNG notified this Council that she would raise the following enquiry at the Islands District Council meeting to be held on 27 June this year:

According to Section 4(1) of Country Parks and Special Areas Regulation (Cap. 208A, Laws of Hong Kong), "Subject to subregulation (2), no person shall, except with the consent of the Authority, bring into a country park or special area any vehicle or bicycle, or drive, use or be in possession of any vehicle or bicycle within a country park or special area." In other words, residents living in Discovery Bay (DB), Nim Shue Wan and Cheung Sha Lan surrounded by Lantau North (Extension) Country Park are not allowed to bring bicycles into or ride on bicycles in the nearby country park area.

At the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee meeting on 23 March last year, representatives of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) said that, to improve the existing mountain bike trail networks, they were working on the provision of new facilities on southern Lantau in accordance with the development options put forward by the "Mountain Bike Trail Networks in South Lantau – Feasibility Study" (FS) completed in 2011. The scope of the FS did not cover DB, Lo Fu Tau and Pak Mong of Lantau Island mentioned by Members.

Many DB residents recently expressed hope that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and CEDD would develop mountain bike trails on northern Lantau to allow them to ride on mountain bikes lawfully. As such, I request the two Departments to arrange representatives to attend the meeting and explain the following:

- (1) What criteria do the departments adopt in considering and deciding on the construction of new mountain bike trails?
- (2) Are there any existing mountain bike trails on northern Lantau?
- (3) Is there any plan to build mountain bike trails in the above-mentioned areas?
- (4) Will AFCD issue permits where the ecological environment is not affected to allow residents to ride on mountain bikes in DB and Lo Fu Tau?

Islands District Council Secretariat

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