

Islands District Council
Traffic and Transport Committee
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Improvement Works at Ma Wan Chung Pier

PURPOSE

This Paper aims to present the improvement works at Ma Wan Chung Pier and seek members' comments on the project. Upon gaining members' support, we will continue to proceed the detailed design for the pier and the statutory gazettal under Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance.

BACKGROUND

2. The Chief Executive featured the new initiative of Pier Improvement Programme (PIP) in the Policy Address on 18 January 2017, aiming to enhance the structural safety of a number of existing public piers at the New Territories and remote areas, and to improve the accessibility to some scenic spots and natural heritage as well as meeting the basic needs of local villagers who rely on boats as their main form of transportation and fishermen's operation. The Committee was consulted on the PIP on 22 May 2017 and the members supported the implementation of PIP. The first phase of PIP covering ten public piers is being implemented in full swing.

3. In view that the public welcome and support the implementation of the PIP, in August 2019, the Government announced to advance the implementation of PIP Phase 2. Ma Wan Chung Pier in Tung Chung is selected as one of the study piers under PIP Phase 2.

4. Existing Ma Wan Chung Pier is located at Ma Wan Chung Village in Tung Chung and mainly serves as the landing point for local villagers and fishermen. The pier was neither constructed nor maintained by the Government. The primitive design cannot meet the current design standards for piers in Hong Kong. The water depth around the pier is inadequate to berth and some mooring facilities are found damaged, that leading to potential safety concerns for berthing. Therefore, there is a need to improve the Ma Wan Chung Pier to provide the passengers safe and convenient boarding environment.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PIER IMPROVEMENT WORKS

5. We have appointed the Consultants to conduct an investigation study for the improvement works at Ma Wan Chung Pier. The study comprises technical assessment, preliminary environmental review and consultation with related stakeholders, in order to establish the proposed extent of the improvement works. The study was completed in early this year.

6. The proposed pier improvement works includes (i) alteration and modification of the existing pier and (ii) implementation of environmental monitoring and mitigation measures to minimize any environmental impact.

7. The preliminary pier layout plan for Ma Wan Chung Pier is enclosed in **Annex 1**. The preliminary pier design (refer to **Annex 2**) is for reference only and will be finalized upon detailed design.

8. During the construction, temporary berthing facilities and a temporary walkway will be provided at Ma Wan Chung Pier to maintain normal operation.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The proposed pier improvement works at Ma Wan Chung Pier is not classified as a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. During the construction stage, the contractor will implement environmental monitoring, including water quality monitoring, based on the findings and recommendations from the preliminary environmental review. Appropriate environmental mitigation measures such as the use of quality powered mechanical equipment and deployment of silt curtains will be implemented. We will carry out regular site inspections to ensure effective implementation of the mitigation measures and site management.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

10. We would commence the detailed design and ground investigation works for the pier improvement works at Ma Wan Chung Pier, as well as proceeding with statutory gazettal under Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Cap 127) with a view to commencing the pier improvement works in 2022.

ADVICE SOUGHT

11. Members are invited to offer their comments and support the project.

Civil Engineering and Development Department
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