

Islands District Council
Traffic and Transport Committee
Paper T&TC 33/2022

Improvement Works at Sok Kwu Wan Pier No.2
and Tai O Public Pier

PURPOSE

This Paper aims to present the improvement works at Sok Kwu Wan Pier No. 2 and Tai O Public Pier, and seek members' comments on the projects. Upon gaining members' support, we will continue to proceed to the detailed design of the piers, including statutory gazettal under Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance.

BACKGROUND

2. The Chief Executive featured a new initiative of Pier Improvement Programme (PIP) in the Policy Address on 18 January 2017, aiming to improve a number of remote public piers to facilitate public access to outing destinations and natural heritage. In view that the public welcome and support the implementation of the PIP, the Government has advanced to kick off the second phase of improving another thirteen (13) public piers, including Sok Kwu Wan Pier No. 2 and Tai O Public Pier. Details can be found in the Civil Engineering and Development Department's website¹.

3. Sok Kwu Wan Pier No.2 is located at the east of Lamma Island. Apart from the use by the public for vessel berthing, the pier is also used by a licensed ferry company, providing ferry services between Central and Sok Kwu Wan. The existing facilities cannot meet basic operational needs, including insufficient pier length, insufficient mooring facilities and lack of barrier-free access facilities. Therefore, pier improvement work is required to enhance pier functionality and to meet the needs of ferry operation and the use of the pier by different users. In response to the views collected in the consultation with IsDC's Traffic and Transport Committee on 19 September 2022, we have adopted fixed ramp for barrier-free access facilities. Further consultation with relevant stakeholders was conducted in early October and their support to the revised preliminary design has been obtained.

¹ Topics in Focus - Pier Improvement Programme (PIP)
<https://www.cedd.gov.hk/tc/topics-in-focus/index-id-32.html>

4. Tai O Public Pier is located at the west of Tai O (near Tai O Heritage Hotel). The existing facilities cannot meet basic operational needs, including insufficient pier facilities and lack of barrier-free access facilities. Therefore, pier improvement work is required to meet the use of the pier by different users.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

5. The proposed scope of pier improvement works for the 2 piers includes:

- (i) Modification / extension of the existing pier; and
- (ii) Environmental monitoring and implementation of mitigation measures to minimize any potential environmental impact.

6. The preliminary pier layout plans and the photomontages of preliminary pier designs for Sok Kwu Wan Pier No. 2 and Tai O Public Pier are enclosed in **Annexes 1 to 4** respectively for reference. The designs will be finalized in the detailed design stage.

7. During the construction, normal operation of the exiting piers will be maintained. Temporary berthing facilities will be provided if necessary.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

8. The proposed pier improvement works for the two piers are not classified as a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. In 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 curtain will be implemented. We will carry out regular site inspection to ensure effective implementation of the mitigation measures and site management.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

9. We expect to commence the detailed design and ground investigation works for pier improvement works at Sok Kwu Wan Pier No. 2 and Tai O Public Pier from 2023. We will also proceed with statutory gazettal under Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Cap 127) with a view to commencing pier improvement works in the 4th quarter of 2024.

ADVICE SOUGHT

10. Members are invited to offer their comments and support the projects.

Civil Engineering and Development Department
November 2022