

26 April 2021
For Discussion

Proposed Reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier

PURPOSE

This Paper aims to present the Proposed Reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier and seek members' opinions on the project. In the next stage, we will proceed with the investigation, design and relevant processes for the project.

BACKGROUND

2. Ferry is the only public transport means to and from Cheung Chau. Cheung Chau Ferry Pier is currently handling about 20,000 passenger trips daily to and from Cheung Chau and the urban area or other outlying islands (such as Peng Chau and Mui Wo). Besides, Cheung Chau is well known for its historical relics and the annual traditional festivities, which attracts numerous visitors to the island. Usage of the pier at peak hours during holidays can reach 5,000 passenger trips per hour and is near saturation level. Meanwhile, there has also been an aging problem of pier structures. Hence, there have been requests from the public urging for reconstruction of the pier to cope with the increasing demand.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

3. We have appointed Consultants to conduct a feasibility study on the reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier in late 2019. The scope of the study comprises engineering studies, site investigation, preliminary environmental review, and consultation with relevant stakeholders. The study also examines options for reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier. Through the reconstruction project, we aim to enhance ferry berthing and centralise ferry services; enhance passenger handling capacity and pier facilities; and strengthen structural integrity and durability of the ferry pier. To meet the above objectives, we preliminarily plan that the area of the proposed pier will be larger than the existing pier to increase the number of berths from two to four, to provide larger queuing and waiting spaces with enhanced facilities for the passengers to wait for ferries in a more comfortable environment inside the pier.

4. According to the above principles, the Consultants evaluated four locations, including (1) in-situ reconstruction, (2) near Water Supplies Department Cheung Chau Depot, (3) loading and unloading area in front of Cheung Chau Municipal Services Building, and (4) near Buddhist Wai Yan Memorial College, and consulted stakeholders for their opinions.

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

5. Starting from January 2020, we have consulted different stakeholders for their opinions regarding the pier reconstruction project via various focus group meetings, including District Council members, Cheung Chau Rural Committee, Cheung Chau resident organisations, trade organisations, relevant committees of the Marine Department, ferry operator, motor boat and tugboat association, users of typhoon shelter such as fisheries associations and barrier-free facilities concern groups. Besides, to help Cheung Chau residents and the public understand more about the proposed project, we have posted promotion leaflets and opinion forms to all Cheung Chau households, set up display panels at Central and Cheung Chau Ferry Piers, broadcast video on ferries and set up webpages to introduce the proposed project, and to widely collect opinions from Cheung Chau residents and the public.

6. Stakeholders showed general support to the reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier. During the consultation, we have also learnt the concerns of the stakeholders related to the project, including convenience of the site location, pedestrian flow management, maritime arrangement and navigation safety, construction period and cost, whether appropriate facilities could be provided (such as sufficient queuing and waiting spaces and public spaces), as well as whether more bicycle parking spaces can be provided.

PRELIMINARY SUGGESTION

7. After consolidating the stakeholders' opinions and results of technical assessments, we preliminarily consider the location near Water Supplies Department Cheung Chau Depot as the most appropriate location for reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier, which will also best meet the stakeholders' expectations. This location is close to the existing Cheung Chau Ferry Pier, with only a 1-to-2-minute walking distance. During construction, the daily operation of the existing pier and the ferry services will not be affected. Hence, construction of a temporary pier will not be required, and this scheme will be implemented in the shortest construction duration, at the lowest cost and in the highest efficiency. This scheme will also help increase the clearance between the proposed ferry pier and the existing public pier, such that vessels will have more sufficient space to operate and navigation safety can be enhanced.

8. Besides, we suggest constructing deck(s) for bicycle parking spaces on the two sides of the proposed pier for addressing the demand from Cheung Chau residents for bicycle parking near the pier before interchanging to ferries. By centralising bicycles parking on the deck next to the proposed pier, the current congested situation on streets associated with bicycle parking on part of the streets can be improved. Meanwhile, by providing more spacious queuing and waiting spaces inside the proposed pier than the existing one, the current situation of passengers waiting for ferries on praya streets during peak hours can further be relieved.

9. The preliminarily suggested location for reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier is shown in the **Annex**.

PIER FACILITIES

10. We will consider providing more enhanced facilities at the proposed Cheung Chau Ferry Pier, including barrier-free facilities such as lifts and passenger information facilities. To promote environmental friendliness, we will consider providing smart and environmentally friendly equipment (such as renewable energy equipment and charging facilities for vessels). In addition to the abovementioned bicycle parking spaces near the proposed pier, we will also make good use of the floor space in the design of the proposed pier for provision of open space.

WAY FORWARD

11. The abovementioned feasibility study is anticipated to be completed in 2021. In the next stage, we will commence the investigation and design for the proposed reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier, as well as statutory procedures, with a view to commencing the works as early as possible.

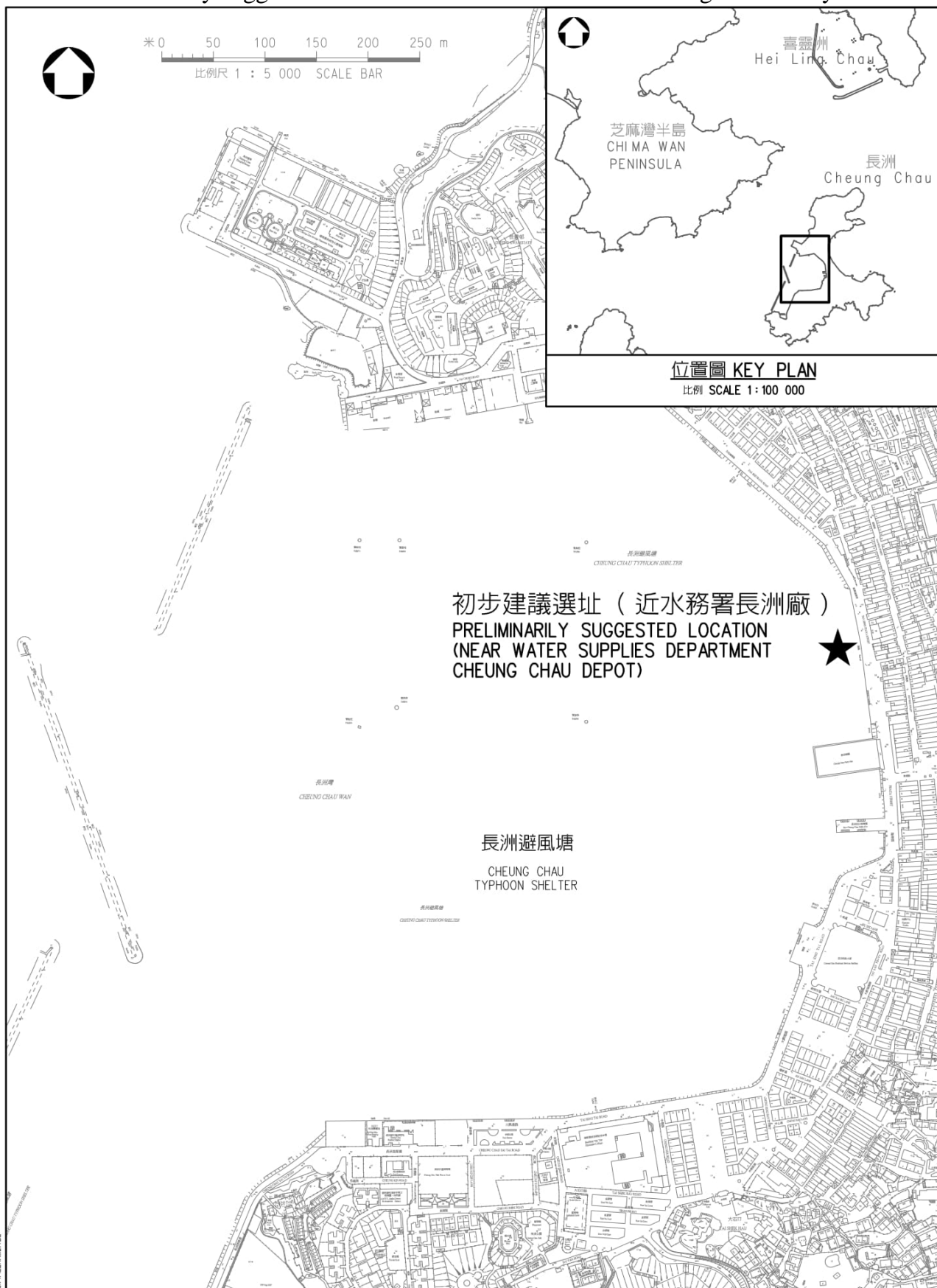
ADVICE SOUGHT

12. Members are invited to offer their opinions on the project and support the preliminary suggestion of the feasibility study. In the next stage, we will proceed with the investigation, design and relevant processes for the project.

Transport Department
Civil Engineering and Development Department
April 2021

附件：初步建議重建長洲渡輪碼頭選址的位置圖

Annex : Preliminarily suggested location for reconstruction of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier



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圖則名稱 drawing title

擬議重建長洲渡輪碼頭
PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF
CHEUNG CHAU FERRY PIER

圖則編號 drawing no.

PW-SK21-032

比例
scale

1 : 5000