Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of <u>the District Facilities and Works Committee of</u> <u>the Kowloon City District Council</u>

Date:	5 March 2024 (Tuesday)
Time:	2:30 p.m.
Venue:	Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP	
Mr LAM Pok	
Mr LAM Tak-shing, MH	
Mr WONG Man-kong	
Mr TING Kin-wa	
Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH	
Mr LEE Chiu-yu	
Mr NG Fan-kam, MH	
Mr NG Po-keung, MH	
Mr HE Huahan	
Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting	
Mr CHAN Chi-wah	
Mr CHEUNG King-fan	
Mr WONG Chi	
Ms FUNG Mo-kwan	
Ms LAU Yuen-yin	
Mr LAI Yin-chung	
Mr KWAN Ho-yeung	
Mr NG Yue-hin, Brian	Assistant Executive Manager (District Council) (4), Kowloon City District Office
Mr LEE Chi-leung,	Senior Executive Officer (District
Humphrey	Management), Kowloon City District Office
Mr LI Chi-him, Samson	Executive Officer I (District
	Management), Kowloon City
	District Office
	Mr LAM Pok Mr LAM Tak-shing, MH Mr WONG Man-kong Mr TING Kin-wa Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH Mr LEE Chiu-yu Mr NG Fan-kam, MH Mr NG Po-keung, MH Mr NG Po-keung, MH Mr HE Huahan Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting Mr CHAN Chi-wah Mr CHEUNG King-fan Mr WONG Chi Ms FUNG Mo-kwan Ms LAU Yuen-yin Mr LAI Yin-chung Mr KWAN Ho-yeung Mr NG Yue-hin, Brian

	Ms CHEUNG Yee-mei, May	Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon),		
		Leisure and Cultural Services		
		Department		
	Ms CHIU Shui-man, Tabitha	District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City), Leisure and Cultural Services Department		
	Ms WONG Chung-tai, Ann	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kowloon City, Leisure and Cultural Services		
	Ms TSE Shuk-fan, Fanny	Department Senior Librarian (Kowloon City), Leisure and Cultural Services		
		Department		
	Miss FOK Ching-man, Ann	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)12, Leisure and Cultural Services		
		Department		
	Mr LEE Kit-wai	Senior Inspector of Works		
		(Kowloon), Home Affairs		
		Department		
	Ms LAI Wai-ching, Jenny	Town Planner / Kowloon 10,		
		Planning Department		
	Mr LAM Hon-wa	Senior Engineer / 14 (East), Civil		
		Engineering and Development Department		
	Mr HUNG Chan-coung	Engineer / Kowloon 9, Drainage Services Department		
	Mr HO Chung-hong,	Engineer / Kowloon (Customer		
	Alfonso	Services) Inspection, Water Supplies		
		Department		
	Miss LI Hok-yee, Jenny	District Engineer / Hung Hom,		
		Highways Department		
Attendance by Invitation:				
Items 1 to 2	Ms LO Chau-ling, Yvonne	Senior Engineer / Project Management 2, Drainage Services		
	Mr. III.N.C. Chault lam	Department		
	Mr HUNG Cheuk-lam, Chiron	Engineer / Project Management 3, Drainage Services Department		
	Ms CHAN Sze-fung, Sylvia	Representative of Consultancy		
	Mr LAM Wang-tat, Taco	Representative of Consultancy		
Item 3	Mr MA Chun-hang, Dennis	Engineer / Kowloon (Distribution 3), Water Supplies Department		

Items 4 to 5	Mr TSANG Kwok-leung, Anthony	Principal Project Coordinator / Universal Accessibility, Highways Department
	Mr LI Kin-tung	Senior Project Coordinator 1 /
		Universal Accessibility, Highways
		Department
	Mr HO Bun, Ben	Engineer 3 / Universal
		Accessibility, Highways Department
Item 8	Mr TANG King-yip	Property Services Manager / Special
		Duties 313, Architectural Services
		Department
Item 14	Mr YE Ching, James	Senior Planning Executive
		(Planning) 13, Leisure and
		Cultural Services Department
	Mr HUNG Ho-man, Mason	Executive Officer (Planning) 13,
		Leisure and Cultural Services
		Department
	Ms CHOW Wan-king,	Senior Project Manager 334,
	Janice	Architectural Services Department
	Ms YIP Lum-lum, Tina	Project Manager 319, Architectural Services Department
	Mr Nelson CHOW	Architectural Services Department Representative of Consultancy
	Mr Tom CHAN	Representative of Consultancy
	WI TOIL CHAN	Representative of Consultancy
Item 16	Mr CHAN Wai-man	Structural Engineer (Leisure
		Services), Leisure and Cultural
		Services Department

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Opening Remarks

1. The Chairman of the District Facilities and Works Committee (DFWC) welcomed all Members and representatives of government departments to the second meeting of the DFWC.

2. **The Chairman** stated that in accordance with Order 32 of the Kowloon City District Council Standing Orders (the Standing Orders), the quorum at any meeting of a committee shall be half of the total number of members of the committee. If the

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quorum was not present at the commencement of the meeting or in the course of the meeting, he would direct the Secretary to summon the absentees. If the quorum was still not present 15 minutes thereafter, he would adjourn the meeting. According to Order 13 of the Standing Orders, he then set out that each attendee was allowed to make a maximum of three speeches during a discussion or debate on an agenda item and the time limit for each speech was two minutes. He also reminded the attendees to turn off the ringers on their mobile phones or to switch the phones to vibration mode to avoid causing disturbances.

3. **The Chairman** reminded Members that if the matters to be discussed had any connection or potential conflict of interests with their personal interests such as property rights, profession or investment, they should make a declaration at the meeting so that he could make a decision in accordance with the Standing Orders.

<u>Item 1</u>

Drainage Improvement Works in Kowloon City

(DFWC Paper No. 1/2024)

4. The representative of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) introduced the Paper.

- 5. **Members**' views were consolidated as follows:
 - the DSD should take into consideration the ancillary transport facilities of Argyle Street Playground during the works. In particular, there was always traffic congestion in the vicinity of Kowloon City Roundabout. Large vehicles during the works would increase traffic burden there;
 - (ii) how would the DSD and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) handle the trees such as Chinese Banyan and Tree Cotton in Argyle Street Playground;
 - (iii) Argyle Street Playground was one of the few recreation grounds in the district which had always attracted a lot of members of the public to use. Members requested the Department to expedite the works progress and open the playground in phases so as to minimise the impacts on playground users as far as possible;

- Members suggested the Department to set up a one-stop enquiry hotline for the public to express their views and enquire about the latest progress of works;
- (v) there were relatively more elders in Kowloon City District. Members suggested the Department to arrange fitness equipment at the nearby open space for the use of elders in the vicinity during the works; and
- (vi) Members enquired about how many millimetres of rainfall could the stormwater storage tank withstand upon the completion of works.

6. **The representative of the DSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department had commissioned a consultancy to conduct a detailed assessment of traffic impacts, including the vehicular flow during the works and the impacts of the temporary traffic arrangements on the nearby road traffic. The Department would prevent works vehicles from using the roundabout at Ma Tau Chung Road and Olympic Garden during peak hours so as to reduce the traffic burden there as far as possible;
- (ii) this drainage improvement works was a large-scale and complex project and was subject to factors such as nearby traffic, environment, geological conditions and depth of excavation. Therefore, the construction period was longer than works in general. Moreover, in view of the limited area of Argyle Street Playground at present, the whole area was required for the construction of underground stormwater storage tank. In addition, taking into account the construction constraints and safety, the provision of a temporary children playground and elderly fitness equipment for public use at the nearby open space could not be ensured at this stage. Meanwhile, temporary toilets would be offered for public use during the works;
- (iii) the capacity of the proposed underground stormwater storage tank reached 75 000 cubic metres. The works extent required was almost the entire area of Argyle Street Playground. The works period would be extended if the works were conducted in phases. After

considering a series of factors, the Department believed that enclosing the entire Argyle Street Playground to conduct the works would overall have less impact on the public. Besides, the Department planned to partially open the playground for public use upon the partial completion of works;

- (iv) since the works extent was nearly the entire area of Argyle Street Playground, the existing trees would unavoidably be affected. Yet, the Department would transplant the affected trees as far as possible. However, individual trees, such as Chinese Banyan and Tree Cotton, had taller tree trunks and wider canopies, making it impractical to transplant them to other places due to the height limitations of nearby roads and flyovers. Nevertheless, the Department would carry out tree planting and relevant greening work there upon the completion of works;
- (v) the Department would establish a community liaison group to regularly report the works progress to Members and the public, as well as collect residents' views; and
- (vi) the design of the storage capacity of the proposed stormwater storage tank had taken into consideration the rainfall of the severe rainstorm in September 2023. Its drainage capacity could withstand the rainfall of similar rainstorm.
- 7. **The Chairman** raised the following opinions and made a conclusion:
 - the DSD had to ensure that the rainwater would not be hindered from entering the stormwater storage tank because of the blocked drains. Otherwise, flooding would still occur even with a stormwater storage tank;
 - (ii) the Department could refer to the Central Kowloon Route's practice of establishing a community liaison centre and build temporary fitness facilities and a children playground for the use of residents; and
 - (iii) he said that Members supported the proposed works of the Department and would like the Department to complete the works as

scheduled.

Item 2

Strengthening the Kowloon City Community's Capability in Coping with Extreme Weather Conditions and Starting Drainage Enhancement Works at the Soonest (DFWC Paper No. 2/2024)

- 8. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 9. **The representative of the DSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
 - the DSD would expedite the implementation of the Drainage Improvement Works in Kowloon City and arrange the "just-in-time clearance" work. When the onset of a rainstorm was forecasted, the Department would deploy staff in advance to inspect locations susceptible to flooding in the district and immediately clear blocked drains;
 - (ii) the Department, together with the Highways Department (HyD) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), would step up routine inspections and clear road gullies and drainage systems susceptible to blockage by litter or fallen leaves with a view to lowering the risk of flooding; and
 - (iii) the Department would review and optimise the operation of the Emergency Control Centre and emergency response teams. The Department would like to utilise resources more efficiently under extreme weather conditions, enhance response capability and optimise information dissemination channels.
- 10. **Members** raised the following opinions and enquiries:
 - the Department could strengthen collaboration with the FEHD to step up the clearing of drains in old streets in the district to prevent flooding;
 - (ii) increased manpower to inspect the situation of drains blockage in the district, particularly locations packed with restaurants and flower shops; and

- (iii) the Department paid close attention to the changes in weather and took preventive measures, including cleaning and clearing the blocked drains in the district, before the onset of a rainstorm.
- 11. **The representative of the DSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
 - (i) the DSD would maintain close liaison with the FEHD to review the cleanliness of streets and conduct the clearing of drains; and
 - (ii) the Department would carry out preventive work before the rainy season, clear the blocked drains at blackspots in advance and deploy staff to inspect the conditions of drains after typhoons.

12. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

Item 3

Concern about Frequent Bursts of Underground Water Pipes Owing to Aging and Call for Expediting Replacement and Enhancing Monitoring

(DFWC Paper No. 3/2024)

13. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

14. The representative of the Water Supplies Department (WSD) gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the territory-wide water mains replacement and rehabilitation programme by the WSD had replaced and rehabilitated about 3 000 km long aged water mains from 2000 to 2015. Over 220 km of aged water mains in Kowloon City District had been replaced or rehabilitated. The annual number of water mains bursts cases had significantly dropped from the peak of about 130 cases in 2000 to about 1-2 cases in recent years;
- (ii) as of the end of 2023, about 14 km of water mains in Kowloon City District had been replaced or rehabilitated under the above programme. Improvement works for about 23 km of water mains were currently in progress or planned to commence gradually from this year onwards; and

- (iii) regarding the water supply emergency incident at South Wall Road on 2 February 2024, the Department immediately deployed staff to conduct a site inspection upon receipt of the public's report. Mud and water stains were found on the pavements at the junction of South Wall Road and Nga Tsin Wai Road. A water pressure test was carried out as well. The Department had implemented various measures in a timely manner to minimise the impacts, such as arranging water wagons to hospitals and provide an alternate water supply. The Department could only disseminate information upon confirming the location of the water main burst and the affected area to avoid causing misunderstanding among the public.
- 15. **Members** raised the following opinions and enquiries:
 - Members requested the Department to contact District Council (DC) members and members of Care Teams immediately upon the receipt of the report on water suspension with a view to speeding up the dissemination of information to the public and carrying out contingency measures;
 - (ii) there were always recurrent incidents of water mains bursts in locations such as Wuhu Street and Man Tai Street in Hung Hom area. Members would like the Department to conduct preventive work by inspecting the aged water mains at locations with frequent water mains bursts to prevent the recurrence of water mains bursts incidents;
 - (iii) Members enquired the number of the Water Intelligent Network
 (WIN) and the reasons of the recurrence of water mains burst incidents of repaired water mains. Members also enquired if the Department would inspect the locations with water mains bursts and its surrounding locations in one go;
 - (iv) the enquiry hotline of the WSD could not be immediately put through after the incident of water mains burst. Officers who answered the call might not be able to provide accurate information. Hence, Members urged the Department to optimise the operation mechanism of information dissemination, such as the enquiry hotline and the website; and

(v) enquired if the water mains burst at South Wall Road on 2 February2024 belonged to water mains that had previously been repaired.

16. **The representative of the WSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- the WSD had an established notification mechanism. If the water supply was affected by an emergent incident, the Department would place a temporary water suspension notice through the Department's website and mobile application to inform users as soon as possible after confirming the relevant causes and the area of affected residents;
- the WSD would optimise the information dissemination channels, such as notifying DC members of the actual situation at the soonest so that DC members could clearly explain the incident to the public and ensure the public could obtain relevant information as soon as possible;
- (iii) under the WIN, 42 District Metering Areas (DMAs) had been completed in Kowloon City District while 43 DMAs were still in progress. All areas were anticipated to be completed in 2025. By that time, leakage in the networks could be monitored to timely carry out maintenance works for damaged mains to prevent water mains bursts; and
- (iv) the water mains bursts at South Wall Road on 2 February 2024 belonged to unrepaired water mains. The traffic was busy near Nga Tsin Long Road in Kowloon City District. Some locations were not supported by other departments. The water mains repair works could only be conducted upon settling the associated traffic issues.

17. **The Chairman**, in conclusion, stated that the District Offices, the DCs, Care Teams and other government departments must collaborate and tackle the problem at the soonest via the notification mechanism.

<u>Item 4</u>

<u>Concern over the Construction Progress of the Lifts Connecting Hung Hom Road</u> <u>and Dyer Avenue</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 4/2024)

Item 5

<u>Concern over the Construction Progress of the Lifts near Dyer Avenue at Hung</u> <u>Hom Road and Request for the Early Completion of Works</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 5/2024)

18. **The Chairman** stated that Items 4 and 5 were all related to the lift works of Dyer Avenue and declared that the two items would be discussed together after consulting Members.

- 19. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 20. **The representative of the HyD** replied with the following main points:
 - (i) the progress of lift works at Dyer Avenue had been significantly delayed due to the poor performance of the works contractor. The HyD had issued multiple warning letters and adverse reports to that contractor but the situation had not improved. To complete the works as soon as possible, the HyD had, after seeking legal advice, taken back the items on lift retrofitting works that were yet to be completed under the relevant works contract, including the lift retrofitting works at Dyer Street (pedestrian walkway no. K64), and had invited tenders on 1 March 2024 for the items taken back together with other works items under the Universal Accessibility Programme, striving to resuming the commencement of relevant works in mid-2024;
 - (ii) the Department would recover from the works contractor the liquidated damages for the delay in accordance with the regulations of the contract and pledge to complete the works at the soonest; and
 - (iii) the Department stated and estimated that the works would take approximately 18 months to complete and be targeted to complete in the first quarter of 2026.

- 21. **Members** raised the following opinions and enquiries:
 - the works contractor was responsible for a number of lift works projects in the district and its performance was often unsatisfactory. The Department should improve the criteria for monitoring works contractors;
 - (ii) Members stated that the Department had already discovered the performance of the work contractor was unsatisfactory in early 2023 but relevant actions were only taken in early 2024. The excessively long grace period would be unfair to other contractors;
 - (iii) Members asked about the remaining parts of the works and how the Department would ensure that the works would be completed as scheduled after re-tendering;
 - (iv) the Department should maintain close communication with DC members and notify DC members of the works progress as early as possible so that DC members could coordinate and report to the public; and
 - (v) the Department should take deterrent actions to pursue liabilities of the works contractor, such as blacklisting the company or revoking its license.

22. **The representative of the HyD** replied with the following main points:

(i) the Government had a rigorous system and procedures for approving tenders. The performance of the works contractor was acceptable initially. However, the contractor started to perform unsatisfactory since 2023 with a slow works progress. The Department had taken measures in accordance with the established procedures to urge that contractor to complete the remaining works as soon as possible, including issuing warning letters and adverse reports as well as requesting that contractor to temporarily suspend the tendering for road and drainage public works contracts. After seeking legal advice, the Department had taken back the relevant items in 2024;

- (ii) the rock slope formation works, which was the most difficult part of the works, had been completed. The remaining works processes included foundations (including piling) of lift tower, lift tower structures, electrical and mechanical installations of the lifts. The Department believed that the works would be completed as scheduled;
- (iii) the Department would strengthen communication with DC members and report regularly to DC members the latest progress of the works; and
- (iv) that works contractor was currently suspended from tendering for road and drainage public works contracts of the Government. The Government would consider taking further follow-up actions in accordance with the established procedures.

23. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and suggested the Department to set up an enquiry hotline for DC members to enquire about the latest progress of works in the district.

<u>Item 6</u>

<u>Proposals for the Provision of Public Toilets and the Enhancement of the Cultural</u> <u>Art Wall at Sung Wong Toi Park</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 6/2024)

- 24. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 25. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the following main points:
 - the Department inspected relevant venue with Members and the works departments in February 2024. Sung Wong Toi Garden was one of the government historic sites identified by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO). Works in the venue were required to seek the advice from the AMO and obtain its approval;
 - (ii) given the limitations on the location of trees in the venue, the usable space and the environment of Sung Wong Toi Garden, there were no plans at the current stage to provide additional public toilets in the garden; and

- (iii) in addition to the Sung Wong Toi Inscription Rock at Sung Wong Toi Garden at present, stone tablets introducing the Sung Wong Toi site were set up on both sides of the main entrance for the public to appreciate and know more about the relevant history.
- 26. **Members** raised the following opinions and enquiries:
 - (i) whether the LCSD would build toilets for public use at the open space of Sung Wong Toi Park near the MTR station; and
 - (ii) the Department could consider setting up temporary toilets at the nearby open space for public use.

27. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the following main points:

- people in need could walk four to seven minutes to Argyle Street Park Playground nearby to use the toilet facilities. If new toilets were built nearby, part of Ma Tau Chung Road had to be closed for plumbing works, during which would severely disrupt traffic nearby and bring inconvenience to residents; and
- (ii) desludgers would be used for regular cleaning if temporary toilets were set up in the open space. It would generate strong odours and affect nearby residents.

28. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

<u>Item 7</u>

<u>Call for Launching the Enhancement Works of the Play and Fitness Equipment at</u> <u>Fat Kwong Street Garden No.1 at the Soonest</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 7/2024)

29. **A Member** introduced the Paper, stating that Members inspected the relevant venues earlier with the representative of LCSD and supported the future arrangements of the LCSD. The Member requested the LCSD to look for locations for the installation of facilities such as horizontal bars and climbing frames as soon as possible to meet the needs of sports enthusiasts.

30. **The representative of the LCSD** replied that the transformation project on Fat Kwong Street Garden No. 1 were expected to commence in the second quarter of 2024 and be completed in the second quarter of 2025. The LCSD noted the Member's view.

31. **Members** requested the LCSD to commence the works as soon as possible in response to the suggestions for improvement made after the site visit earlier, communicate with the relevant stakeholders and report the works progress during the works.

32. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

Item 8

<u>Concern over the Enclosure Arrangement of the Handball Court on the Slope of</u> <u>Fat Kwong Street Playground</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 8/2024)

33. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

34. The representative of the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) replied with the following main points:

- (i) a landslide occurred on the slope situated at Fat Kwong Street Playground on 10 September 2023. The ArchSD promptly arranged emergency repairs to ensure public safety. As only 6 metres beyond the place where the landslide occurred would be considered as a safe distance, the Department extended the enclosed area to include part of the area of the handball court to safeguard public safety at the request of the LCSD, the venue manager; and
- (ii) the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) would commence the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme (LPMitP) on the above slope in 2025. The ArchSD would reorganise the handball court and reopen it for public use upon completion of the works.

- 35. **Members** raised the following opinions and enquiries:
 - the handball court at Fat Kwong Street was one of the few standard handball courts in Hong Kong. It was hoped that the Department would reopen the handball court at the soonest; and
 - (ii) Members asked why the relevant departments had to postpone the commencement of LPMitP until 2025.

36. **The representative of the ArchSD** replied that the LPMitP was under the purview of the CEDD. The ArchSD could only reopen the handball court until the CEDD had completed the works under the LPMitP.

37. **The Chairman** concluded and suggested that relevant departments should be invited to conduct a site visit in the name of the DFWC of the Kowloon City District Council (KCDC).

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat contacted the ArchSD and relevant departments after the meeting and would arrange Members to conduct a site visit to the relevant venue as soon as possible.)

<u>Item 9</u>

<u>Matters Regarding Lung Cheung Road Playground and the Essex Crescent Rest</u> <u>Garden</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 9/2024)

38. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

39. The representative from the LCSD replied that the maintenance works for the play equipment for children at Lung Cheung Playground were expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2024. The works included additions of play equipment for children and replacement of old safety matting.

40. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and requested the Secretariat to find out the "triangular park" was under the purview of which relevant departments.

(Post-meeting note: According to the District Lands Office, Kowloon East, the "triangle park" referred to the sitting-out area off Crystal Mansion on Eastbourne Road, which was currently a piece of unallocated government land. The FEHD provided daily

cleansing service of the site at present. The LCSD was responsible for the horticultural maintenance. The District Office was responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the arbours and seats.)

<u>Item 10</u>

<u>Matters Regarding the Provision of Barrier-free Access Facilities and Football</u> <u>Pitch in Kowloon Tsai Park</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 10/2024)

- 41. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 42. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
 - (i) the Department made a site visit to the venue concerned with Members in February 2024. The lift construction works were expected to commence in mid-2024 and be completed in 2026; and
 - the Department noted the suggestion of organising soccer matches at Kowloon Tsai Park.

43. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

<u>Item 11</u>

<u>Concern over the Provision of Seats on the Footbridge at Whampoa Street in</u> <u>Hung Hom and the Management of Planters in the District</u>

(DFWC Paper No. 11/2024)

44. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

45. **The representative of the Kowloon City District Office (KCDO)** replied with the following main points:

the KCDO was carrying out relevant preparatory work regarding the addition works of seats on the footbridge at Whampoa Street with the Works Section of the Home Affairs Department (HAD). The works would commence in March 2024 and were expected to be completed in May 2024. Upon completion of the works, there would be six seats on the footbridge for public use; and

(ii) the KCDO noted the management problem of planters in the vicinity of Wuhu Street and would remind the cleansing contractor to step up the cleaning of relevant facilities. The KCDO would pay close attention to the growth of plants and arrange for pruning and replanting once the plants were found to be wilted.

46. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item came be concluded.

<u>Item 12</u>

Proposal for the Installation of Priority Seats on the Pedestrian Walkway at Ho Man Tin Station Connecting Oi Man Estate and Ho Man Tin Estate so as to Enhance its Ancillary Facilities

(DFWC Paper No. 12/2024)

47. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

48. **The representative of the KCDO** replied that the KCDO and the Works Section of the HAD had jointly started planning for the installation of seats on the covered walkway connecting Exit A3 of Ho Man Tin MTR Station and Ho Man Tin Estate in 2023. Relevant works had already commenced in February 2024 and were expected to be completed in April 2024.

49. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

<u>Item 13</u>

Proposal for the Installation of Rain Shelters at Sheung Lok Street in Ho Man Tin (DFWC Paper No. 13/2024)

50. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

51. **The representative of the KCDO** replied that the KCDO and the Works Section of the HAD was currently planning to install a cover for the pedestrian walkway outside Exit D of To Kwa Wan MTR Station. The works was expected to commence by the end of 2024. As the construction of the cover for the pedestrian walkway required substantial resources, the Department did not plan to commence the cover construction works for other pedestrian walkways for the time being given the limited resources. 52. There being no further enquiries from **Members**, the Chairman declared that the item be concluded.

Item 14

Concern over the Closure of the Walkway Leading to Tsim Sha Tsui from Hung Hom Ferry Pier Due to Works and Request for the Early Completion of Works (DFWC Paper No. 14/2024)

- 53. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 54. **The representative of the ArchSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
 - (i) the ArchSD maintained the partial opening of the promenade to ensure the connection between the pedestrian link and promenade. The first phase of the promenade upgrading works had been completed and reopened in the first half of 2023, while the second phase of the promenade upgrading works was currently in progress; and
 - (ii) the second phase of the works involved more procedures and hence required more time. It was expected that the works, including the open space at Kin Wan Street, would be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- 55. **Members**' views were consolidated as follows:
 - the works had so far been going on for two years. Some members of the public reflected that there were often no workers working in the site area. Whether the ArchSD had the capacity to reduce the enclosed area so as to allow more activity space for the public;
 - (ii) enquired the benefits that the upgrading works would bring to residents in the area; and
 - (iii) the Department could post the content and progress of the works outside the site of works so that the public could obtain relevant information. The Department was also required to strengthen communication with DC members and notify DC members the works progress so that DC members could coordinate the report to the

public.

56. **The representative of the ArchSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the works on the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront were implemented in two phases. The first phase on renovation works of paving blocks and guard rails near the harbour area had been reopened so that the public could enjoy the harbour view and it could bring convenience to runners as soon as possible. The second phase was park enhancement work, including tree stability works. Therefore it would take a longer time; and
- (ii) the upgrading works would add covered facilities and new types of fitness equipment for public use. In addition, the Department would beautify the greening areas of the open space so that the public could enjoy the promenade area and admire the harbour view.

57. **The Chairman**, in conclusion, urged the ArchSD to complete the works as soon as possible. Also, he suggested the Department to keep the public and DC members posted on the latest progress of the works through information boards and provide DC members with the site plan of the works for reference.

(Post-meeting note: Please refer to Enclosure 3 of the Discussion Paper PWSC(2021-22)17 of the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council¹ for the site plan of the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront.)

<u>Item 15</u>

Concern over the Construction Progress of Ho Man Tin Government Complex and Call for Addressing Local Residents' Strong Demand for Public Facilities (DFWC Paper No. 15/2024)

58. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

59. **The Chairman** stated that Members were concerned over the works progress and invited the District Office to know more about the latest progress of the Ho Man Tin Government Complex with the ArchSD.

¹ https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr20-21/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p21-17e.pdf

(Post-meeting note: The works project for the Ho Man Tin Government Complex were still at the detailed design stage. The ArchSD and the HAD would discuss with relevant proponent departments of the project on the funding application and tendering arrangements in due course.)

<u>Item 16</u>

Report on the Management of Facilities in Kowloon City District in 2024-25 (DFWC Paper No. 16/2024)

60. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced the Paper.

61. **Members** enquired whether the Department would plan to install new smart fitness equipment at the central lawn of Kowloon Tsai Park or replace the existing fitness equipment.

62. **The representative of the LCSD** replied that the Department would install new smart fitness equipment at the central lawn of Kowloon Tsai Park.

63. **The Chairman**, in conclusion, expressed that Members conducted a site visit earlier to the Kowloon Tsai Park with LCSD staff. Members supported the provision of new smart fitness equipment at the central lawn of Kowloon Tsai Park.

<u>Item 17</u> <u>Any Other Business</u>

64. No further items were raised by **Members**.

<u>Item 18</u> Date of Next Meeting

65. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 9 May 2024 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 23 April 2024.

66. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 9 May 2024.

The Chairman

The Secretary

KCDC Secretariat May 2024