

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of
the District Facilities Management Committee (2018-2019) of
the Tuen Mun District Council

Date: 10 April 2018 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:31 a.m.

Venue: Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Mr TO Sheck-yuen, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr MO Shing-fung (Vice-chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:32 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, BBS, MH	TMDC Vice-chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:38 a.m.	11:19 a.m.
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	11:22 a.m.
Mr NG Koon-hung	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Yau-hoi, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr AU Chi-yuen	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:38 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LUNG Shui-hing, MH	TMDC Member	9:33 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
The Hon HO Kwan-yiu, JP	TMDC Member	10:44 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KAM Man-fung	TMDC Member	9:33 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YIP Man-pan	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YEUNG Chi-hang	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YAN Siu-nam	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TAM Chun-yin	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LEE Yan-chi, Blair (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council) ³ , Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

Absent with Apologies

Mr SO Shiu-shing TMDC Member
Mr CHEUNG Hang-fai TMDC Member

By Invitation

Ms CHEUNG Yuk-shan, Linda Chief Executive Officer(Panning)2,
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Ken Tong Senior Project Manager, Spence Robinson Ltd.

In Attendance

Ms Fung Ngar-wai, Aubrey District Officer (Tuen Mun), Home Affairs Department
Miss TSUI Man-ye, Joanna Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)1,
Home Affairs Department
Ms YAN Yuet-han, Fion Senior Liaison Officer (1), Tuen Mun District Office,
Home Affairs Department
Mr CHEUNG Chi-keung, Endy Senior Executive Officer (District Management),
Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Ms SIU Wai-mei, Minnie Liaison Officer i/c (District Facilities), Tuen Mun District
Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai Senior Inspector of Works, Tuen Mun District Office,
Home Affairs Department
Mr LEE Wang-yui, Eddie Architect (Works)7, Home Affairs Department
Mr WONG Shu-yan, Francis Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories North),
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TAM Yin-ting, Pat District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun),
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEE Lai-fan, Jenny Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun),
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine Senior Manager (New Territories West) Promotion,
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TONG Tung-kit, Terry Senior Librarian (Tuen Mun),
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAW Lai-chun, Gladys Senior Executive Officer(Panning)2,
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TAM Kwok-leung Administrative Assistant/ Lands (Atg.)(District Lands
Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department

Mr Yu Yun-sang

Police Community Relations Officer (Tuen Mun District),
Hong Kong Police Force

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives from different government departments to the 3rd meeting of the District Facilities Management Committee (“DFMC”).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared an interest might speak or vote on the matter, might remain in the meeting as an observer, or should withdraw from the meeting. All cases of declaration of interests would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

II. Absence from Meeting

3. The Secretariat received a sick leave notification from Mr SO Shiu-shing.

[Post-meeting note: Mr SO had submitted a medical certificate within the prescribed time. In accordance with Order 42(1) of the TMDC Standing Orders, his application for leave of absence was approved by the DFMC.]

III. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of DFMC (2018-2019)

4. The above minutes were unanimously confirmed by the DFMC.

IV. Matters Arising

(A) Request for Strengthening the Management of the Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade to Ensure Environmental Hygiene and the Provision of Drinking Fountains and Toilets

(DFMC Paper No. 8/2018)

Improvement Proposal for the Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade

(DFMC Paper No. 15/2018)

(Paragraphs 29-43 of the Minutes of the 2nd DFMC Meeting (2018-2019))

5. The Chairman said Members paid a site visit at the Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade on 5 March 2018 and agreed (a) to install a sign board at the entrance of the promenade; (b) to install a drinking fountain, rain shelter, and recreational facilities at the U turn location at the middle of the promenade; and (c) to install a rain shelter and recreational facilities near the end of the promenade. If the drinking fountain at the U turn location at the middle of the promenade proved to be efficacious upon installation; then in the future, the relevant department might consider installing drinking fountains at the other

locations of the promenade, such as at the entrance. He said further that concerning the proposal of constructing toilets, according to the work report “District Open Space in Area 27, Tuen Mun” submitted by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) (discussion item (D) of this meeting), its amendment proposal had included the provision of an accessible toilet near the entrance of the promenade to provide convenience for the citizens using the Open Space in Area 27 and the Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade. Should Members supported the amendment proposal, he believed that the toilet could satisfy the needs of the citizens upon completion.

6. A Member enquired about the commencement date and the anticipated completion date of the abovementioned facilities at the promenade.

7. Mr CHEUNG Chi-keung, Endy, of Tuen Mun District Office (“TMDO”) responded that the TMDO was currently studying the details with the relevant departments and preparing for the tender procedure; if all went well, the relevant works could be completed within the current financial year.

8. As Members did not show any objection, the DFMC endorsed the above proposals of installing facilities at the promenade.

V. Discussion Items

(A) Follow-up on Outstanding Items under District Minor Works Programme

(DFMC Paper No. 19/2018)

9. The Chairman asked Members to give comments on the 12 proposed works projects listed in paragraph 9 (a) and (b) of the captioned paper.

- (i) “Provision of fitness facilities for the elderly”
- (ii) “Provision of recreational facilities beside the pavement at Tuen Mun Lung Mun Road”;
- (iii) “Provision of a rain shelter and chairs at the open space outside the Lee Tsuen Village Office at So Kwun Wat Tsuen Road”;
- (iv) “Provision of chairs and railings at the section of Tuen Mun Trail above Tuen Mun Fu Tei Barbecue Area”;
- (v) “Provision of leisure facilities at King Sau Lane”;

Working
Group on
Facilities
and Works

Action

- (vi) “Provision of rain shelter facilities”;
- (vii) “Provision of recreational facilities such as basketball courts”;
- (viii) “Provision of leisure benches”;
- (ix) “Construction of cover for the pedestrian walkway connecting Siu Hong Court Phases 1 and 2 with Exit C2 of the Siu Hong West Rail Station”;
- (x) “Provision of community facilities at the open space near Fu Tai Estate”; and
- (xi) “Improvement works at Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade”.

The projects would be followed up by the Working Group on Facilities and Works, whereas the proposed project “Construction of cover for the pedestrian walkway at Siu Hong Road” would be followed up by the Steering Committee on Construction of Covered Walkway.

Steering
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10. The Chairman then sought comments from Members regarding the proposed works project listed in paragraph 9(c) the captioned paper. Regarding the proposal “Provision of Book Sanitisers in Tuen Mun Public Library”, the Chairman said in the last meeting, it was agreed that upon completion of the pilot scheme carried out at Shek Tong Tsui Public Library in Central and Western District, the LCSD would report to the DFMC about the efficacy of the scheme to help the DFMC decide whether to proceed with the said proposal.

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11. The Chairman said further that regarding the proposal “Request for Provision of Drinking Fountains at Lower Deck of Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (Tuen Mun Bound)”; after the last meeting, the TD indicated that the bus-bus interchange was set up to make it convenient for passengers to change buses and go to more destinations, and that generally passengers did not stay too long at the bus-bus interchange. Subject to such factors as the location, size, environment and usage of the bus-bus interchange and technical feasibility, the bus-bus interchange might provide facilities that could bring convenience to passengers who awaited and changed buses, such as barrier-free access, real-time information systems, customer service centres and Octopus add value machines. As drinking fountains was not classified as a standard facility at a bus-bus interchange, the TD had no plan to provide it at the bus-bus interchange at the moment. In light of that, the DFMC had to consider whether to proceed with the said proposal through the “District Minor Works Programme”.

12. In response, a Member said different departments had different duties; as TD mainly considered the proposal from the point of view of transport facility management, it naturally thought it unnecessary to install drinking fountains. However, since she reckoned that one of the main objectives of the proposal was to provide water and convenience for the citizens jogging and cycling in the vicinity of the bus-bus interchange, she opined that the DFMC should pursue this proposal.

13. Miss Joanna TSUI, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun) 1, said the above bus-bus interchange was not managed by the TMDO; so, if the TMDO took charge of the installation of the drinking fountains, the subsequent facility management and maintenance of the fountains would not be smooth. Therefore, the TMDO suggested to pass Members' comments once again to the TD, hoping that the TD would look into the feasibility of installing drinking fountains there in the future.

TMDO
TD

14. As Members had no other comments, the Chairman announced that the proposed project "Request for Provision of Drinking Fountains at Lower Deck of Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (Tuen Mun Bound)" and Members' comments would be passed to the TD for its consideration.

15. The Chairman also invited comments from Members for the proposed works projects listed in paragraph 9(d) of the captioned paper. The Chairman said 6 of the proposed works projects were not suitable to be followed up by the DFMC, among them 5 could actually be taken care of under the Tuen Mun Rural Public Works Programme. The proposer of the works and the TMDO had both agreed to incorporate all those works projects into the aforesaid Programme. Concerning the proposal of constructing cycle tracks in the existing villages in Area 54, as the project involved the overall development of Area 54, he suggested to pass it to the Civil Engineering Development Department ("CEDD") for consideration.

16. As Members had no other comments, the DFMC confirmed that the proposed works projects listed in paragraph 9(d) of the paper would not be followed up any further by the DFMC.

[Post-meeting note: The CEDD said the major planned roads in Tuen Mun Area 54 had already reserved 3.5-4 metres for constructing a cycle track.]

(B) Improvement Works to Lighting Systems at Recreation and Leisure Venues in District

(DFMC Paper No. 20/2018)

17. Ms Pat TAM of the LCSD said in order to reduce carbon dioxide emission and increase energy efficiency, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (“EMSD”) had suggested LCSD to replace the lighting system in the 11 recreational venues in the district (“the existing system”) with LED lighting system (“the new system”). She appealed for Members’ support to this project, which would cost around \$970,000.

18. Members’ comments and enquiries on the captioned works are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member enquired whether the only works to be done in the captioned project was replacing the existing system with the new system. He also enquired whether it was necessary to replace the whole lighting system while it had not suffered damage or deterioration at the moment;
- (ii) A Member opined that under the major trend of environmental protection, the existing system would gradually be eliminated. Nevertheless, as the existing system had not suffered damage or deterioration, it would be a further waste of resources if we blindly followed the suggestion of the EMSD;
- (iii) A Member said the two factors of cost effectiveness and environmental protection determined whether to replace the existing system or not, and hoped that the EMSD would provide detailed data and information for the DFMC to consider the cost-effective factor.
- (iv) A Member did not endorse the replacement of the whole lighting system and suggested to replace it with the new system in step with its normal wear and tear; and
- (v) A Member said apart from the cost for the system replacement and the benefits brought by the replacement, other factors should also be considered, including the cost of maintenance or other expenses for the existing system, and whether the new system had more functions than the existing one (such as battery charging and air pollution index monitoring).

19. Ms TAM of the LCSD said the project would replace the whole set of lighting system, including light bulbs, light tubes and light holes. She said the EMSD had

indicated that the light bulbs in the existing system had a life span of only 24,000 hours, whereas the LED light bulbs in the new system would have a life span of 50,000 hours. As the new system would have a warranty period as long as 5 to 8 years, the EMSD reckoned that the new system would be more effective in saving energy and it had a longer life span.

20. Mr Francis WONG of the LCSD supplemented that the LCSD was aware that the EMSD was gradually replacing the public lighting systems in the whole of Hong Kong. The LCSD had sought information on the cost effectiveness of the system from the EMSD. Generally speaking, the “payback period” for installing the new system was around 3 to 5 years and the life span of the LED light bulbs could be as long as 5 to 8 years. Therefore, in the long run, the new system could save more energy and be more cost effective than the existing system. The LCSD could request the EMSD to provide supplementary information for Members’ reference.

21. The Chairman requested the LCSD to take into consideration Members’ comments and provide more data on the cost effectiveness of the replacement of the lighting system, and then report back to Members in the next meeting for their further discussion.

LCSD

(C) Progress of Works Project on "Open Space in Area 6, Tuen Mun"

(DFMC Paper No. 21/2018)

22. The Chairman welcomed Ms. Linda CHEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of the LCSD to the meeting.

23. Ms Gladys LAW of the LCSD gave a brief introduction on the background of the captioned project and the updated construction proposals listed in paragraph 6 of the paper, and invited Members to give their comments and support.

24. Members’ comments and enquiries on the captioned project are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member supported the proposals in the paper. As the captioned Area 6 was situated in the vicinity of schools and residential buildings, he/she hoped that the LCSD would listen to the opinions of the various stakeholders of Area 6 concerning the design and consultation of the project, and would strengthen publicity in the schools of the area and the Area Committee;
- (ii) A Member said since the proposed facilities were constructed near schools, he/she was worried that when the public used the hard-surface soccer pitches, they would create a lot of noise. Thus, he/she requested the LCSD to thoroughly consult and ponder over the opinions of the nearby schools on the

proposed facilities;

- (iii) A Member supported the captioned project and pointed out that the LCSD had already carried out consultations with the relevant schools and local organisations, in which a stakeholder hoped that the LCSD would also build a handball pitch in addition to the soccer pitch. On the other hand, to avoid creating noise nuisance to the nearby residents, he/she hoped that the LCSD would mind about the management of the facilities (including the opening hours) and would listen to the residents' opinions.
- (iv) A Member supported the captioned project as it would benefit the residents living in the vicinity; and
- (v) A Member said as the captioned open space was near Kin Sang and Tin King, he/she hoped that the LCSD would provide the planning or design of the open space to Members of the DFMC for their perusal and discussion.

25. Ms. LAW of the LCSD thanked Members for their comments. She said the LCSD would consult and consider various stakeholders' opinions on the design of the venue, as well as strengthening the management of the venue to avoid causing nuisance to the citizens. Upon completion of the preliminary design of the venue, the LCSD would consult the DFMC again.

26. The DFMC supported the above amended works project proposals. The Chairman thus requested the LCSD to ask the Architectural Services Department to appoint a consultant, to draw the design and to take care of the planning matters as soon as possible.

LCSD

(D) Progress of Works Project on "Open Space in Area 27, Tuen Mun"

(DFMC Paper No. 22/2018)

27. Ms LAW of the LCSD gave a brief introduction of the background and the updated progress of the captioned project, and the proposed facilities listed in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the paper, and invited Members to give their comments and support on the updated facilities proposals.

28. Members' comments and enquiries on the captioned project are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member opined that the proposal in the paper could not enhance or improve the original proposed facilities; on the opposite, the Development Bureau

indicated that it would cut the works budget since it was too high. On the whole, the updated facilities proposals were not as good as the original ones. She also said although CEDD's project of constructing a cycling entry/exit hub in Tuen Mun already included the building of a public toilet, the commencement date of the works was still uncertain; so, she believed that the LCSD should first confirm with the CEDD about all the proposed facilities and their locations. Furthermore, she said the LCSD should construct public male and female toilets in the site B2, instead of just building an accessible toilet;

- (ii) A Member said the relevant works had been discussed for over 10 years and urged the LCSD to implement them as soon as possible;
- (iii) A Member said the land used in the captioned works involved converting a temporary carpark into a park, which might worsen the problems of insufficient parking spaces and traffic congestion in the area; so, the Member suggested to build an underground carpark at the park;
- (iv) A Member requested the LCSD to consider the above factors and have a good planning to alleviate the problem of insufficient parking spaces in the area; and
- (v) A Member said the LCSD should ensure that the captioned land would not be used for reclamation in the future. He also said the LCSD should consider the design of the captioned open space from the point of view of cost effectiveness, so that the community could benefit from the above facilities in the long term.

29. Ms LAW of the LCSD responded that the LCSD was aware of the strong demand for the captioned works project in the area and had tried its best to fight for the required resources; but at that time many major infrastructure projects were being implemented, so after this project was classified as a category B works project in 2008, it had not been implemented due to the lack of resources. Nonetheless, the Government had reserved funds in 2017 to launch 26 projects to develop new or improve existing sports and recreation facilities, including the captioned project; so, if Members supported the updated facilities proposals described in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this paper, the relevant works might be carried out within 5 years.

30. A Member urged the LCSD to thoroughly listen to the comments given by Members regarding the updated facilities proposals of the captioned site. He also urged the departments to coordinate closely with one another so that the relevant works could

be implemented as soon as possible.

31. The Chairman requested the LCSD to consider the comments of Members and review the relevant proposals, and report back to Members in the next meeting for their discussion.

LCSD

(E) Minor Maintenance and Improvement Works to District Facilities under the Management of Tuen Mun District Office

(DFMC Paper No. 23/2018)

32. Mr LEUNG Kam-wai of the TMDO said the purpose of this fund application was to carry out urgent repairs and minor improvements for about 100 district facilities under the management of the Works Section of the TMDO, he appealed to Members' support.

33. Members had no objection. The Chairman announced that the works project costing about \$1 million was endorsed.

(F) Request for Provision of Drinking Fountains along Cycle Track next to Tuen Mun River

(DFMC Paper No. 24/2018)

34. The proposer of the paper said the section of cycle track beside the Tuen Mun River, from Siu Hong to Yau Oi, was used by many citizens for cycling or jogging. In response to the call for reduction in plastic bottles, it was suggested to install drinking fountains along the cycle track beside the Tuen Mun River, at locations like Choi Yee Bridge interchange, sky garden at Siu Hong Court and Tin Hau Bridge. The fountains would provide water for citizens who had finished their physical exercises. He also suggested the DFMC or the government departments to consider requesting the drinking water-related manufacturers of the district to sponsor drinking water facilities at the above locations.

35. Ms. TAM of the LCSD responded that the LCSD was considering installing drinking fountains at the recreational venues (managed by the LCSD) along the Tuen Mun Cycle Track. The LCSD had already installed a drinking fountain beside the toilet in Tuen Mun Riverside Park near Affluence Garden; meanwhile, it was awaiting inspection and acceptance by the relevant departments. It was expected to be ready for use in April. Furthermore, the LCSD would study the feasibility of installing a drinking fountain at Pui To Road (South) Rest Garden, this installation would not require funding from the District Minor Works Programme. The LCSD noted Members' comments and would study the feasibility of installing drinking fountains along the cycle track next to the Tuen Mun River.

36. A Member supported the captioned proposal. He said drinking machines in Tuen Mun District was relatively few and requested the relevant government departments to actively consider the captioned proposal.

37. Members had no objection. The Chairman requested the LCSD to continue to attend to the captioned matter.

VI. Reporting Items

(A) Report of the Working Group on Community Involvement

(DFMC Paper No. 25/2018)

38. The DFMC endorsed the captioned report.

(B) Report of the Working Group on Facilities and Works

(DFMC Paper No. 26/2018)

39. The DFMC endorsed the captioned report.

(C) Report on LCSD's Cultural Activities in Tuen Mun District and Usage of Tuen Mun Town Hall

(DFMC Paper No. 27/2018)

40. Members noted the captioned paper.

(D) Work Report on Management of Recreation, Sports and Passive Facilities in Tuen Mun District by Leisure and Cultural Services Department

(DFMC Paper No. 28/2018)

41. Members noted the captioned paper.

(E) Report on Usage and Extension Activities of LCSD's Public Libraries in Tuen Mun District

(DFMC Paper No. 29/2018)

42. Members noted the captioned paper.

VII. Any Other Business

43. A Member enquired about the progress of the relocation or installation of the television panel in the Tseng Choi Street Community Hall.

44. Mr CHEUNG of the TMDO replied that the TMDO had already settled the new location of the television panel and would make appointment with the project proponent to have a site visit at the settled location.

TMDO

45. The Chairman requested the TMDO to make the arrangement as soon as possible.

(A) The arrangements relating to district facilities in the 2018-19 budget

46. The Chairman said according to the 2018-19 budget, the Government would set aside \$8 billion to respond to proposals for improving district facilities in 18 districts to develop new or improve the existing district facilities. He requested the District Officer (Tuen Mun) to introduce the part of the 2018-19 budget that covered the arrangements for district facilities.

47. The District Officer (Tuen Mun) said in the 2018-19 budget, the Government would set aside \$8 billion for the districts to speed up the implementation of some long-awaited new facilities or to improve some of the existing district facilities. This policy would be led by the relevant bureaux and departments, not by the District Offices. After consolidating the past comments given by the District Councils and the community, the Government identified the district facilities in strong demand in each district and was able to calculate the money to be reserved for launching one project for one District. This policy was different from the “Signature Project Scheme”.

- (i) Construction of cover for the pedestrian walkway from Kin Sang Estate Tai Sang House to the bus stop;
- (i) Construction of covered walkway at the Ming Kum Road Bus Terminus; and
- (ii) Construction of cover for the pedestrian walkway outside Yuet Wu Villa.

48. The District Officer (Tuen Mun) said the proposal to construct covered walkways had been discussed in the DFMC meetings for over 10 years. The District Minor Works Programme had limited resources whereas in general, the implementation of a covered walkway proposal usually took a long time. For example, phase 1 of the proposed covered walkways was not completed until 2016. The result of the feasibility study for phase 2 of the proposed covered walkways would arrive in May this year and if it was positive, it could obtain extra resources and commence works in 2019 and would become the district facility project that was most ready for implementation. Phase 3 of the proposed covered walkways would be followed up according to the “District Minor Works Programme” procedures.

49. Members’ comments and enquiries on the above project are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member supported the above arrangement and viewed that since the

construction of covered walkways had been discussed for a long time, it was great to have extra resources now for execution and hoped that it could be implemented as soon as possible;

- (ii) A Member expressed support for the above arrangement and hoped that the many other covered walkway proposals of the district could also be gradually implemented;
- (iii) A Member expressed support for the above arrangement. He/she also said a lot of citizens used the footbridge at the Light Rail Pui To Stop (near Jockey Club) to go in and out of the Tuen Mun Town Plaza; however, the footbridge had no elevator and hence was not convenient for senior citizens. As that footbridge was not managed by the Highways Department, the Member suggested to fight for extra resources to retrofit an elevator there;
- (iv) A Member concurred with the speeding up of the construction of covered walkways but reckoned that the extra resources granted to Tuen Mun District was too little, and hoped to fight for more resources to speed up the other proposed covered walkways listed in the “District Minor Works Programme” or to retrofit elevators;
- (v) A Member enquired on the criteria of allocating the abovementioned \$8 billion to the 18 districts in Hong Kong. It was understandable that the situation and the resources required for each district were different; nonetheless, if the said \$8 billion was equally divided, each district should have around \$440 million. The resources for speeding up the proposed phase 2 covered walkways project in Tuen Mun was around 20 million dollars. If the resource allocation was made in proportion to population, then the extra resources granted to Tuen Mun District was too small indeed and the Member hoped to fight for more extra resources to implement other works projects;
- (vi) A Member suggested to group the covered walkways, footbridge elevators and footbridges under the item of pedestrian amenities and use all of the allocated resources in the improvement of such amenities;
- (vii) A Member said besides reflecting all opinions to the TMDO, the TMDC should also urge the authority to give extra resources for implementing more district works projects or completing all the existing works projects listed in the District

Minor Works Programme, hence reducing their queuing time. In addition, the Member suggested to use the extra resources in increasing fitness facilities for the elderly.

- (viii) A Member said the Steering Group on Construction of Covered Walkway in Tuen Mun had been set up for over 10 years, but due to the limitation of resources, work progress was slow; so far, only phase 1 of the construction of covered walkways in Tuen Mun District had been completed. The Member supported the use of the allocated resources to speed up phase 2 of the construction of covered walkways in Tuen Mun District and hoped to fight for more extra resources for other works projects;
- (ix) A Member said in choosing which footbridges to retrofit elevators, besides looking at the pedestrian flow, other special factors should also be considered, such as the proportion of elderly persons, wheel-chair users and disabled persons using the footbridges; and
- (x) A Member supported the relevant arrangement and suggested the TMDC to relay those works project which had urgency in implementation to the TMDO for its District Officer to reflect the urgency to the authority.

50. The District Officer (Tuen Mun) thanked Members for their support and comments. Concerning the criteria of allocation of the abovementioned \$8 billion, she said the Home Affairs Bureau had already identified some district facilities with strong demand according to the situation in each district (such as government complex, community hall and covered walkway) and thereby devised the amount of fund to be reserved for each district to implement one project. For Tuen Mun District, as the three phase 2 covered walkways were the readiest for implementation, it was expected that their feasibility study could be completed in May this year and their works could commence simultaneously in 2019 at the earliest. Since extra resources were injected in the phase 2 works, the feasibility study for the phase 3 proposed covered walkways could start soon, with results published in 2019 and commencement of works in 2020 at the earliest. She comprehended Members' desires to fight for more resources to speed up the progress of other works projects in the district and would strive to urge the Home Affairs Department ("HAD") to fight for extra resources for implementing those projects.

51. Members made the following comments and enquiries in the second round of discussion:
- (i) A Member considered it unfair to allocate money from the \$8 billion to just one works project for each district. For instance, building a government complex certainly required and hence be awarded a larger budget (from the said \$8 billion) than constructing covered walkways. She reckoned that even if the said \$8 billion was not allocated in proportion to the population of a district, it should at least be equally divided among the 18 districts.
 - (ii) A Member opined that apart from the phase 2 covered walkways in Tuen Mun District, the other covered walkways and footbridge elevator works for which feasibility studies were ongoing or already completed could be grouped under one project called “pedestrian amenities” and be awarded resources from the \$8 billion for quicker implementation. Furthermore, he believed that the \$100 million originally reserved for “Universal Accessibility” should be open to the district councils to retrofit footbridge elevators, as an additional project resource.
 - (iii) A Member viewed that extra resources should be used in cases in which new works projects could not be set up for some special reasons, but which were in strong demand, such as the abovementioned proposal for retrofitting an elevator at the footbridge at the Light Rail Pui To Stop (near Jockey Club); although he was not the relevant district councillor, he hoped that the TMDO would urge the HAD to allocate resources for implementing such project since it was inconvenient for the many elderly persons going in and out of Tuen Mun Town Plaza without an elevator;
 - (iv) A Member stressed that many works projects of Tuen Mun District were strongly demanded by the public and were queuing for implementation, he/she requested the District Officer (Tuen Mun) to take the initiative to fight for more resources to meet the needs of the citizens in the district;
 - (v) A Member supported the relevant arrangement and looked forward to the successful appeal for more resources for optimising and improving the facilities in the 10 community halls of the district;
 - (vi) A Member said regarding the Government’s decision of setting aside a \$8 billion budget for each of the 18 districts to implement one district facility,

Members would have difficulty in explaining to the citizens of the district how it could be justified if Tuen Mun District only received around \$20 million;

- (vii) A Member requested to speed up all the proposed construction works of covered walkways in Tuen Mun District; and
- (viii) A Member said resource allocation in the past was based on the criteria of population proportion instead of one single works project and was the fair approach. He also said concerning the proposal to construct a covered walkway linking up Parklane Square and New Town Mansion, the Highways Department had indicated that it might not be technically feasible and subsequently no news were heard about it. So, he suggested to implement the three covered walkways first and at the same time requested the District Officer (Tuen Mun) to fight for extra resources while Members were distinguishing which works urgently required such resources.

52. The District Officer (Tuen Mun) responded that for Tuen Mun District, as the three phase 2 covered walkways projects were the most ready ones, it was expected that their feasibility study could be completed in May this year and their works would commence simultaneously in 2019 at the earliest. As for the phase 3 covered walkways and other proposed works projects, they had to wait until their feasibility studies were completed before the department would seek resources for their implementation. She said the department noted Members' comments and would fight for extra resources for the other works projects.

53. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11:26 a.m. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 5 June 2018 (Tuesday).

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

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