

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Term of Wan Chai District Council**  
**Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**

Date: 16 January 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Venue: District Council Conference Room, Wan Chai District Office,  
21/F Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong

**Present**

**Arrival**

**Departure**

**Chairperson**

Ms LAU Pui-shan, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

**Vice-Chairperson**

Mr LEE Man-lung, Joey, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

**Members**

Mr NG Chak-sum, Sam

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Ms LEE Pik-yee, Peggy, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Mr CHOW Kam-wai, BBS, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Mr LAM Wai-kong, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Mr SUN Tao-hung, Stanley, JP

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Ms MOK Ruby

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

Mr MUK Ka-chun

3:00 p.m.

3:35 p.m.

**Representatives of Core Government Departments**

Mr CHEUNG Ho-yat, Steven

Assistant District Officer (Wan Chai),  
Home Affairs Department

Miss CHAN Sum-yee, Rita

Senior Liaison Officer (Community Affairs) /Wan Chai,  
Home Affairs Department

Mr CHAN Siu-wai, William	Senior Executive Officer (District Management) /Wan Chai, Home Affairs Department
Mr LAU Wai-choi	Senior Inspector of Works (Hong Kong), Home Affairs Department
Mr WONG Bun	Inspector of Works (Hong Kong) 1, Home Affairs Department
Mr MA Che-kong, Edwin	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Wan Chai, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHEUNG Pui-yee	Senior Librarian (Wan Chai), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Chi-keung, Kaizer	Executive Officer (Planning) 11A, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LEUNG Ho-san, Tony	Senior Engineer /9 (South), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim	District Engineer /Peak, Highways Department
Mr LO Kin-on, Calvin	Engineer /Eastern 1, Drainage Services Department

**Representatives of Other Government Departments**

Mr LAU Tak-yin, Philip	Senior District Engineer /Northwestern Hong Kong Island, Highways Department
Mr CHAN Chi-cheung	Senior Engineer /Eastern, Highways Department
Mr NG Chi-fung, Charles	Chief Health Inspector (Wan Chai)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LAI Yiu-hon	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Wan Chai 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr LO Chun-man, Jonathan

Executive Officer (District Management) /Wan Chai,  
Home Affairs Department

**Absent with Apology**

Mr WONG Man-wong

Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East),  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr LEE Pao-wan, Ken

District Leisure Manager (Wan Chai),  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

**Secretary**

Miss LO Lok-man, Daisy

Executive Officer I (District Council) /Wan Chai,  
Home Affairs Department

**Opening Remarks**

The Chairperson welcomed all Members and representatives of government departments to the 1st meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) of the 7th Wan Chai District Council (“WCDC”).

2. The Chairperson told the meeting that Mr WONG Man-wong, Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East) and Mr LEE Pao-wan, Ken, District Leisure Manager (Wan Chai) of Leisure and Cultural Services Department had informed the Secretariat before the meeting that they could not attend the meeting because of official business.

**Item 1: Improvement of Storm-water Drainage System in Wan Chai District  
(DFWC Paper No. 1/2024)**

3. The Chairperson asked the representative of Drainage Services Department (“DSD”) to introduce the TTC Paper No. 1/2024.

4. Mr LO Kin-on, Calvin, Engineer/Eastern 1 of DSD briefed Members on the paper.

5. Members had the following opinions/questions:

(i) Regarding the replacement of new model of gratings, Members requested the

department to provide photographs of new model of gratings and explain how it would choose the priority locations for the replacement, e.g. whether it would first choose those locations where blockage occurred more frequently or it would conduct other assessments. Members suggested that priority should be given to replacing the gratings outside the Southorn Centre; and

- (ii) Having regard to the floods in the district during the rainstorm last year, Members wanted to have a further understanding of the function of the Happy Valley Underground Storm-water Storage Tank, the locations in the district which would be easily flooded, the measures to be taken by the department to deal with the situation in the next rainy season, and the feasibility of setting up an early notification mechanism with the Hong Kong Observatory.

6. Mr CHAN Chi-cheung, Senior Engineer/Eastern of DSD responded as follows:

- (i) The department could provide photographs of the new model of gratings later. Regarding the grating replacement programme, it would be carried out at the gullies near the markets and hawker stalls where blockage would often occur. The effectiveness of the programme would then be examined together with the department concerned;

**(Post-meeting note:** photographs of the new model of gratings were set out in the supplementary information.)

- (ii) The Happy Valley Underground Storm-water Storage Tank operated normally and functioned as intended during the rainstorms on 7 and 8 September last year. The movable weirs of the storm-water storage tank were started at 9:30 p.m. on 7 September last year to prepare for the upcoming rainstorm. As the rainstorm continued, the storage of the tank reached its designed capacity in the early hours of 8 September. As the rain began to weaken in Wan Chai District in the early morning, the floods in some areas of Wan Chai District gradually subsided. The storm-water storage tanks collected a large amount of rainwater during rainstorms and fulfilled a protective function; and
- (iii) The improvement measures currently planned by the department were mainly to enhance the functions of the system to reduce the risk of floods in the district, e.g. by clearing gullies more frequently and increasing the water entry points of gullies in the streets so that the drainage system would be able to collect

rainwater more effectively during rainstorms.

7. Mr LAO Kin-on, Calvin, Engineer/Eastern 1 of DSD added that the department had closely monitored the floods in the district. For example, floods had occurred in Irving Street, Yee Wo Street, Luard Road, Tai Yuen Street, Hennessy Road, etc., during the rainstorm last year. There were also floods on Wan Chai Road, Morrison Hill Road, Stubbs Road and Hennessy Road in the past. The department would examine the existing drainage system and formulate enhancement plans according to the records concerned, such as retrofitting of gullies and replacement of new model of gratings.

8. Members continued with the following comments/questions:

- (i) Members wanted to have a further understanding as to how the retrofitting of gullies and replacement of new model of gratings could specifically prevent floods, the location, scope and complexity of the works, the time required and the impact of the works on road users and residents nearby during the construction period, and whether the works could be completed in time before the onset of the rainy season;
- (ii) Members asked how the department deployed sufficient manpower to inspect all the gratings in the streets; and whether it would prepare sufficient gratings in purchasing new models of gratings so that immediate arrangements of replacement could be made even if the gratings were stolen; and
- (iii) Members requested the department to arrange for Members to conduct site inspections of the completed works upon completion of the improvement works.

9. Mr CHAN Chi-cheung, Senior Engineer/Eastern of DSD responded as follows:

- (i) Having regard to the floods in the district, the department had earlier arranged the drainage improvement works concerned and strived to complete the works at some locations before the rainy season this year;
- (ii) As the gullies retrofitting works might affect road traffic, the department was now discussing with the department concerned temporary traffic arrangements to reduce the impact on road users as far as possible. The department would strive to complete the improvement works as soon as possible and arrange for

Members to conduct site inspections in due course;

- (iii) The replacement of new model of gratings involved fewer procedures, mainly replacing the existing gratings with the ones of new model, and did not require any temporary traffic diversion measures in the process;
- (iv) The Highways Department was currently responsible for the day-to-day management of gratings. No theft of gratings in the district was noticed for the time being. In deploying manpower for the inspection and clearing of gullies, the department mainly refer to the past records and geographical environment to assess the flooding risk at various locations before arranging the frequency of inspections concerned.

10. Mr LO Kin-on, Calvin, Engineer/Eastern 1 of DSD added that, after reviewing the past records of floods in the district, the department planned to commence the gullies retrofitting works in Shung Tak Street near Morrison Hill Road from late January to early February. Then works would commence at other locations in Wan Chai and Causeway Bay later.

11. Members continued with the following comments/questions:

- (i) Members suggested that the department should use innovative technology in routine monitoring of gullies or collection of flood-related data to have a more flexible grasp of the actual situations. The department was also requested to provide a list of locations in the district which would be flooded easily and to report on the works progress before the rainy season;
- (ii) Members were concerned that grids of the new model of gratings were thinner and longer than the current ones. Although they could block miscellaneous articles from falling into gullies, miscellaneous articles would also be accumulated on the surface of the gratings and might easily lead to floods on the road surface.

12. Mr CHAN Chi-cheung, Senior Engineer/Eastern of DSD responded as follows:

- (i) Areas which had been flooded in the district included Luard Road, Hennessy Road near the Southorn Playground, Tai Yuen Street, Tin Lok Lane, Shung Tak Street, Bowrington Road and Queen's Road East near Wan Chai Market, etc. The department was arranging improvement works concerned and would invite

Members to conduct site inspections in due course;

- (ii) Currently, the department adopted a risk-based strategy in arranging monitoring work such as inspections. As far as technology application was concerned, it had installed monitoring instrument in the gullies on a trial basis to monitor the height of water level, etc. In particular, the department might not be able to arrange manpower for inspections at remote locations frequently. Therefore, the department's work would be assisted by technology application; and
- (iii) The new model of gratings was originally designed to block miscellaneous articles from falling into gullies and causing blockage. The department understood Members' concern and would maintain communication and take joint operations with the department concerned after replacement of the gratings to step up monitoring of the gratings on the road surface and clear the miscellaneous articles in due course.

13. Members noted the above paper.

**Item 2:        Date of Next Meeting**

14. The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on 19 March 2024 (Tuesday) at 3:00 p.m.

15. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Wan Chai District Council Secretariat  
July 2024