(Translation)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee 7th Term of Wan Chai District Council Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Date: 14 May 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

<u>Present</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	Departure
<u>Vice-Chairperson</u> Mr LEE Man-lung, Joey, MH	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Members		
Mr NG Chak-sum, Sam	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Ms LEE Pik-yee, Peggy, MH	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Mr CHOW Kam-wai, BBS, MH	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Mr SUN Tao-hung, Stanley, JP	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Ms MOK Ruby	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.
Mr MUK Ka-chun	3:00 p.m.	3:31 p.m.

Representatives of Core Government Departments

Mr CHEUNG Ho-yat, Steven	Assistant District Officer (Wan Chai), Home Affairs Department
Mr CHAN Siu-wai, William	Senior Executive Officer (District Management)/ Wan Chai, Home Affairs Department
Mr LO Chun-man, Jonathan	Executive Officer (District Management)/ Wan Chai, Home Affairs Department
Ms WAN Chi-ying, Jenny	Architect (Works) 6, 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 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

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

Miss LEE Wing-chee, Joyce Senior Engineer 11/ Works, Highways Department

Mr YUNG Chi-on Engineer 11-2/ Works, Highways Department

Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim District Engineer/ Wan Chai, Highways Department

Mr MA Kin-yee, Kent Senior Engineer/ Eastern, Drainage Services Department

Mr LO Kin-on, Calvin Engineer/ Eastern 1, Drainage Services Department

Representatives of Other Government Departments

Ms YIP Wai-yee, Janie Director, WCWP International Limited

Ms TANG Suet-fun, Joy Senior Project Manager, WCWP International Limited

Mr FAN Wai-fung, Fanson Architectural Assistant, WCWP International Limited

Mr LEUNG Shu-wing, Daniel Deputy Project Manager, Meinhardt Infrastructure and

Environment Limited

Ms LI Chui-yin, Alice Project Engineer, Meinhardt Infrastructure and

Environment Limited

Mr WONG Cheng-fung, Chris Project Engineer, Meinhardt Infrastructure and

Environment Limited

Absent with Apology

Ms LAU Pui-shan, MH Mr LAM Wai-kong, MH

Secretary

Miss LO Lok-man, Daisy Executive Officer I (District Council)/ Wan Chai, Home

Affairs Department

Opening Remarks

<u>The Vice-chairperson</u> welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the 3rd meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee ("DFWC") of the 7th Wan Chai District Council ("WCDC").

2. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> told the meeting that the Chairperson of the Committee, Ms LAU Pui-shan, and a member, Mr LAM Wai-kong, were unable to attend the meeting due to sickness and had given consent to their applications for absence in accordance with the Wan Chai District Council Standing Orders.

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee

- 3. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> said that the Secretariat had not received Members' proposed amendments to the minutes of the 2nd meeting.
- 4. With a motion moved by $\underline{\text{Mr SUN Tao-hung}}$ and seconded by $\underline{\text{Mr MUK Ka-chun}}$, the minutes of the 2^{nd} meeting were confirmed.

Item 2: Management and Works Progress of Recreation and Sports Facilities in Wan Chai District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (DFWC Paper No. 4/2024)

- 5. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> invited representatives of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") to introduce Paper No. 4/2024.
- 6. <u>Mr LEE Pao-wan, Ken</u>, District Leisure Manager (Wan Chai) of LCSD, introduced the paper.
- 7. There being no questions from members, the Vice-chairperson invited members to note the above papers.

Item 3: Feasibility Study for the Provision of Barrier-Free Access Facilities at Eastern Hospital Road Temporary Rest Garden (DFWC Paper No. 5/2024)

- 8. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> invited the representatives concerned to introduce Paper No. 5/2024.
- 9. <u>Ms WAN Chi-ying, Jenny</u>, Architect (Works) 6 of the Home Affairs Department ("HAD"), said that HAD had earlier consulted LCSD and Health Authority on the captioned project, and a feasibility study had been initiated by WCWP International Limited.
- 10. <u>Ms TANG Suet-fun, Joy</u>, Senior Project Manager of WCWP International Limited, introduced the feasibility study proposal.
- 11. Members were concerned that the specific design of the barrier-free access, including how the access would connect with the staircase at existing road junctions and whether there would be a difference in height of the access floor, might cause inconvenience to patients entering and leaving the Ophthalmic Centre.
- 12. <u>Ms TANG Suet-fun, Joy</u>, Senior Project Manager of WCWP International Limited, responded that the barrier-free access would be extended to the location of the original staircase, and the original staircase would be relocated to an inner location of the park area. A softer and more subdued color would be chosen for the surface of the access to avoid irritation to the eyes of pedestrians. At the same time, the works would ensure that the height of the access floor would be maintained at an even level for the convenience of pedestrians.

13. Members noted the above paper.

Item 4: <u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u>

- 14. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> asked if there was any other business to be raised by Members present.
- 15. Members were concerned about the latest progress of the works of the lift and pedestrian walkway system connecting Lau Sin Street and Tin Hau Temple Road, and had the following comments and questions:
 - (i) Members had visited the locations of the works with representatives of the relevant departments three years ago and understood the details. In this connection, members asked the Highway Department ("HyD") why no progress had been made so far, and requested the Department to provide a definite timetable for the works;
 - (ii) After obtaining the District Council (DC)'s support for the project, the Department should commence the exploration as soon as possible and resolve any construction difficulties that might arise. It was unsatisfactory that the construction difficulties at the location in question were raised three years after obtaining the support of the DC; and
 - (iii) Dissatisfied that the Department had not provided any written document on the progress of the project and the DC could only record the Department's report at the meeting through the minutes of the meeting, members requested the Department to provide a progress report on the project in writing after the meeting.
- 16. Ms LEE Wing-chee, Joyce, Senior Engineer 11/ Works of HyD, responded as follows:
 - (i) The Department was now conducting an exploration study and preliminary design of the lift and pedestrian walkway system connecting Lau Sin Street and Tin Hau Temple Road. Given the narrow location of Lau Sin Street, a number of factors had to be taken into account in the design, such as the arrangement for delivery of materials and the closure of Tin Hau Temple Road during the construction period;

- (ii) After preliminary exploration, a number of underground cables were found at the location. The Department was now studying the relocation arrangements with the relevant stakeholders to facilitate the foundation works and the construction of lift towers, while minimizing the impact of the works on the stakeholders as far as possible; and
- (iii) The Department appreciated the high expectation of the local community for the project and took notes of Members' comments on taking forward the project as soon as possible. The Department would first and foremost address the technical issues and would need to make appropriate adjustments to the progress in the light of the Government's development plan and the prevailing financial situation. The Department would provide a written reply after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: HyD provided a written reply dated 21 June 2024 as detailed in DFWC Paper No. 7/2024 regarding the lift and pedestrian walkway system works at Lau Sin Street and Tin Hau Temple Road.]

- 17. Members were also concerned about the progress made by the HyD in reinstating the uneven surfaces of the streets in the district, and had the following comments and questions:
 - (i) The road surface of the dual two-lane road between Tai Hang Road and Wong Nai Chung Gap Road was uneven, causing ponding of water in heavy rainstorms, which might lead to vehicle breakdown and immobilization. In view of the lack of stormwater drains around the road section concerned, the Department was requested to reinstate the road section concerned to avoid the ponding of water;
 - (ii) The Department had said during other meetings that maintenance contractors had been engaged to inspect and repair the roads in Wan Chai. However, it was unsatisfactory that the Department only followed up the matter after receiving notification from Members; and
 - (iii) Bulging of the road surface was found at the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Lockhart Road and Tonnochy Road. A contractor had earlier reinstated another damaged road section in the vicinity of the location but failed to identify and address the above condition during the maintenance period. Members requested the Department to review the contractor's performance and provide a list of on-going and planned road rehabilitation works after the meeting.

- 18. <u>Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim</u>, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD, responded as follows:
 - (i) The Department was responsible for the maintenance of public roads. It would regularly review the maintenance conditions of footpaths and carriageways and arrange for repairs to be carried out as soon as practicable when defects were identified;
 - (ii) The Department was aware of the situation and had been preparing a rehabilitation plan before Members reflected that there were depressions in some of the streets in the district. As a result, the contractor of the Department was able to complete the repair works within a short period of time. Among them, the contractor of the Department completed the repair of the northbound carriageway of the Canal Road Flyover on 6 May, and completed the repair of the footpath near 63 Blue Pool Road, Happy Valley and the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Lockhart Road and O'Brien Road on 8 May. The long-term maintenance of 63 Blue Pool Road was also expected to be completed within June; a written reply to the above request of the Members would be provided by the Department after the meeting; and

[Post-meeting note: HyD provided a written response dated 24 June 2024 regarding depressions on streets within the Wan Chai area, as detailed in DFWC Paper No. 7/2024.]

- (iii) Regarding Members' concern about the condition of the carriageway from Tai Hang Road to Wong Nai Chung Gap Road, the Department would study the improvement options in detail.
- 19. Concerned about the ageing of the facilities in the Tai Hang Road Children's Playground, Members enquired about the follow-up progress of the refurbishment of the playground as proposed to LCSD earlier in the year and advised that the design options for the refurbishment works could be discussed in the future, and that Members would be able to collect the opinions from the residents on the design options.
- 20. Mr LEE Pao-wan, Ken, District Leisure Manager (Wan Chai) of LCSD, responded that the Department had applied to the Department's Technical Section early this year for funding to replace the children's play equipment in the Tai Hang Road Children's Playground, and approval had been granted, with the target of completing the replacement works within the current

financial year.

- 21. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> requested the Department to provide a paper on the progress of the replacement of the children's playground facilities at Tai Hang Road to the Panel in due course.
- 22. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> invited the Drainage Services Department ("DSD") to report on the progress of the preparatory work for the onset of the rainy season.
- 23. Mr Ma Kin Yee, Senior Engineer/Eastern of DSD, responded as follows:
 - (i) Regarding the extreme rainstorms last year, the Department had completed the relevant improvement works and had arranged for Members to conduct site visits to the additional drainage facilities in the district in April; and
 - (ii) The Department conducted inter-departmental drills and arranged joint operations with relevant departments to enhance the clearance of gullies and drains that were vulnerable to blockage, and had been maintaining close liaison with the Hong Kong Observatory so as to take countermeasures in advance when heavy rainstorms were forecast. The Department would also arrange emergency response teams to carry out inspections during heavy rainstorms and take immediate follow-up action upon receipt of reports of flooding, with a view to minimizing the impact on the public.
- 24. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> then asked the DSD to follow up on Members' concern about the susceptibility of Tai Hang Road to Wong Nai Chung Gap to ponding of water.

[Post-meeting note: After the meeting, the DSD confirmed with the relevant members that the location of the existing ponding site was at the junction of Tai Hang Road and Pak Kin Sze Road, and referred the issue of retrofitting of road gullies to the HyD for follow-up action. The DSD would continue to communicate with the relevant departments to ensure the smooth flow of the drains].

Item 5: Date of Next Meeting

25. <u>The Vice-chairperson</u> announced that the next meeting would be held on 9 July 2024 (Tuesday) at 3:00 pm.

26. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 pm.

Wan Chai District Council Secretariat June 2024