

立法會
Legislative Council

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(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

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Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 32nd meeting
held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex
on Saturday, 30 June 2018, at 9:00 am

Members present:

Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon IP Kin-yuen
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
Hon CHAN Chun-ying
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon KWONG Chun-yu
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon AU Nok-hin
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members absent:

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yea, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Public officers attending:

Ms Alice LAU Yim, JP	Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)
Ms Carol YUEN, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) 1
Mr Mike CHENG Wai-man	Principal Executive Officer (General), Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)
Ms Rebecca PUN Ting-ting, JP	Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 1
Ms Judy CHUNG Sui-kei	Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 5
Mr Daniel CHUNG Kum-wah, JP	Director of Highways
Mr Albert LIU Ho-hoi	Assistant Director of Highways (Development)
Mr WONG Siu-kwong	Senior Engineer (Kowloon) 2, Highways Department
Mr CHOW Bing-kay	Acting Chief Engineer (New Territories West), Transport Department
Mr LIU Chun-san, JP	Under Secretary for Development
Miss Joey LAM Kam-ping, JP	Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1
Ms Vina WONG	Head of Greening and Landscape Office, Development Bureau
Mr CHUI Wing-wah	Deputy Director of Highways
Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP	Under Secretary for Home Affairs
Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP	Commissioner for Sports, Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Simon LIU Wai-shing	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Leisure Services) 3
Ms Linda CHEUNG Yuk-shan	Chief Executive Officer (Planning) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mrs Sylvia LAM YU Ka-wai, JP	Director of Architectural Services
Mr Edward TSE Cheong-wo	Project Director 3, Architectural Services Department
Mr Anthony YOW Kin-fai	Senior Project Manager 328, Architectural Services Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT

Assistant Secretary General 1

Staff in attendance:

Ms Ada LAU

Senior Council Secretary (1)7

Mr Raymond SZETO

Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Frankie WOO

Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Miss Yannes HO

Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

The Chairman reminded members of the requirements under Rules 83A and 84 of the Rules of Procedure.

Item 3 — FCR(2018-19)31

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 26 AND 28 MAY 2018**

PWSC(2018-19)18

HEAD 706 — HIGHWAYS

Transport — Traffic Control

**29TC — Installation of Additional Traffic Detectors, Speed Map
Panel and Journey Time Indication Systems**

2. The Chairman advised that the item being dealt with by the Finance Committee ("FC") was related to PWSC(2018-19)18 regarding the upgrading of 29TC to Category A at an estimated cost of \$262.7 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices for the installation of additional traffic detectors, Speed Map Panel and Journey Time Indication Systems.

3. There being no questions from members, the Chairman put item PWSC(2018-19)18 to vote. At the request of members, the Chairman ordered a division. The Chairman declared that 20 members voted in favour of and no member voted against the item, and 6 members abstained from voting. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan

Mr WONG Ting-kwong

Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun

Mr WONG Kwok-kin

Mr Steven HO Chun-yin

Mr WU Chi-wai

Mr YIU Si-wing	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Mr CHAN Han-pan	Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Mr POON Siu-ping	Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok
Mr Andrew WAN Siu-kin	Mr Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Mr Wilson OR Chong-shing	Ms YUNG Hoi-yan
Mr CHAN Chun-ying	Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Mr Vincent CHENG Wing-shun	Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen

(20 members)

Abstained:

Mr Alvin YEUNG	Mr CHU Hoi-dick
Mr SHIU Ka-chun	Ms Tanya CHAN
Mr Jeremy TAM Man-ho	Mr AU Nok-hin

(6 members)

4. The Chairman declared that the item was approved by FC.

PWSC(2018-19)21

HEAD 706 — HIGHWAYS

Transport — Footbridges/pedestrian tunnels

178TB — Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street, Kwai Chung

5. The Chairman advised that the item being dealt with by FC was related to PWSC(2018-19)21 regarding the upgrading of 178TB to Category A at estimated cost of \$584.4 million in MOD prices to construct a lift and pedestrian walkway system in Kwai Chung between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street. The Chairman declared that he was an independent non-executive director of The Bank of East Asia.

Project works

6. Mr AU Nok-hin enquired about the level difference between the two ends of the proposed works and whether the proposed project as it was designed now would provide totally barrier-free access ("BFA").

7. Assistant Director/Development ("AD/D") of Highways Department ("HyD") stated that the level difference was about 60 metres ("m") in total as Kung Yip Street and Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung were separated with a level difference of about 30 m, while that of Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung and Shek Lei (I) Estate was about 20 m. Director of Highways ("DHy") supplemented that BFA would be provided upon completion of the proposed project. At Mr AU Nok-hin's request,

Action

Admin the Administration undertook to provide after the meeting a cross-section of the lift and pedestrian walkway system in Kwai Chung between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street.

8. Mr Andrew WAN expressed support for the item. Mr WAN and Mr SHIU Ka-chun were concerned whether the canopies on the front side of lift towers could provide adequate shelter for waiting lift users. Mr WAN suggested that consideration be given by the Administration to widening the canopy on the front side of the lift tower at Kung Yip Street and enquired about the impact of such a change on project costs. Mr SHIU enquired about the respective area of the proposed canopies on the front side of the lift towers.

Admin

9. AD/D stated that HyD would proactively consider and undertook to widen the canopy on the front side of the lift tower at Kung Yip Street. As he envisaged, the impact of such a change on project costs would only be minimal. Separately, he provided information at the meeting on the respective size of lift waiting areas as follows:

<i>Lift waiting areas</i>	<i>Size (approximate)</i>
Waiting area at the lower end of the lift tower linking Kung Yip Street to Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung	11.5 square m ("sq m")
Waiting area at the upper end of the lift tower linking Kung Yip Street to Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung	13 sq m
Waiting area at the lower end of the lift tower linking Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung to Shek Lei (I) Estate	20 sq m
Waiting area at the upper end of the lift tower linking Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung to Shek Lei (I) Estate	15.5 sq m

AD/D advised that the aforesaid areas of the waiting area, calculated on the basis of 0.6 sq m for each pedestrian on average, should be adequate for the purpose.

10. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung remarked that he had earlier conducted a site visit with the Administration, and he requested the Administration to

hold further discussion with him over the details of works before the proposed project was finalized. DHy said that HyD would contact Mr LEUNG after the meeting.

11. Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed support for the item. He suggested that signs should be installed at suitable locations to encourage pedestrians, particularly non-elderly persons, to take the stairs when going downhill so that the waiting time of lift users could be reduced. DHy noted the suggestion.

Further linkage between the lift tower at Kung Yip Street and Kwai Hing MTR Station

12. Mr Andrew WAN and Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether the Administration would plan to further construct a footbridge in the district linking the lift tower at Kung Yip Street to Kwai Hing MTR Station. Mr WAN further enquired about the cost estimates for further extension of the project. Dr KWOK also asked if the Administration would link up the lift tower at Kung Yip Street to commercial buildings in the district and what measures the Administration would take to avoid causing obstruction to road-crossing pedestrians as a result of the closure of existing pedestrian walkways due to redevelopment of commercial buildings in the district.

13. Acting Chief Engineer (New Territories West) of Transport Department ("TD") said that according to the assessment, the 2.5m wide existing pedestrian walkway at Kung Yip Street could cope with the additional pedestrian flow caused by the commissioning of the proposed works. Moreover, barrier-free road crossing facilities between Kung Yip Street and Kwai Hing MTR Station were also available for use by the pedestrians. While TD did not have any plan for further extension at this stage, it would keep the matter closely in view.

14. DHy supplemented that prior to the redevelopment of buildings, private land owners must submit the relevant plans to the Buildings Department ("BD") for vetting and approval. In the vetting and approval process, BD would collect and collate views from the departments concerned on the plans. Hence, a mechanism was available for TD and HyD to express views on the redevelopment projects to ensure that no obstruction would be caused to any possible future extension of the pedestrian walkway system.

15. Mr CHAN Han-pan expressed support for the item. He pointed out that Wah Sing Street and Kung Yip Street (Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung bound) in the vicinity of the proposed project were also located in

hillside areas. He suggested that the Administration should include land lease conditions under future development or redevelopment projects in the district so that space could be reserved to further improve hillside pedestrian facilities in the area.

Ventilation facilities in lifts

16. In reply to Mr Jeremy TAM's enquiry, AD/D said that for the sake of protecting the environment and conserving energy, HyD had adopted mechanical ventilation in lieu of air-conditioning for new lift installations about three to four years ago. The mechanical ventilation system was intended to maintain a difference of not more than 2°C between the temperature inside the lifts and outdoor temperature.

Admin

17. Mr Jeremy TAM suggested that the Administration should consider the height of lift towers when applying the above policy to ensure that lift users would not feel stuffy during the longer rides required for travelling between places with a greater level difference. He requested the Administration to provide a paper setting out in tabular form details of lifts commissioned after the new policy of not installing air-conditioning was implemented, including their location (and specifying whether air-conditioning had been installed) and the height of lift towers. He also requested the Administration to further clarify in the supplementary paper whether the policy of not installing air-conditioning for lifts would remain unchanged even with increasing height of lift towers. The Administration undertook to provide the relevant information after the meeting.

Admin

18. Mr Andrew WAN requested the Administration to provide a paper setting out a comparison between lifts installed and not installed with air-conditioning as regards their construction costs and electricity consumption. The Administration undertook to provide the relevant information after the meeting.

19. Dr KWOK Ka-ki suggested that in the long run, all lifts installed with air-conditioning in different districts should be retrofitted with mechanical ventilation systems for the sake of conserving energy and fairness. The Chairman advised that the policy of not installing air-conditioning for lifts was only applicable to new lift installations. Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 1 ("DS(T)") supplemented that the above policy applied to new lift installations in all districts across the territory.

Design of mechanical ventilation system

20. Referring to the consideration of energy conservation, Mr Jeremy TAM asked whether the mechanical ventilation system in lifts would operate around-the-clock or only when there were passengers inside.

21. Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Mr Andrew WAN were worried that it would feel more stuffy inside the lift than outside, particularly during the summer or peak periods. Mr SHIU asked how the Administration would improve the stuffiness inside the lifts. Mr WAN enquired about the feasibility of using other cooling technologies (such as water-cooled air-conditioning systems).

22. Regarding the design of mechanical ventilation system, Mr Andrew WAN suggested that the Administration should make reference to the estate management experience of the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HKHA") with regard to improving the design of car top ventilation fan. Instead of extracting air from the lift car under the current mode, the ventilation fan would move in higher speed to draw fresh air into the lift car. Additional ventilation outlets would also be suitably installed in the lift car to promote air circulation.

23. In reply, AD/D said that the mechanical ventilation system in lifts would operate around-the-clock through automatic sensors so that when the temperature in the lift car was higher than outside temperature, ventilation would be increased to lower the temperature inside. He also said that many similar projects had been completed by HyD. With the experience gained therefrom, HyD could hopefully control the temperature in the lift car at more or less the same level as outside temperature.

Project costs

24. Noting that the cost of foundation works accounted for 25% of the total project costs, Mr AU Nok-hin sought details about such works. He also enquired about the implementation schedule of the proposed works.

25. AD/D stated that under the proposed project, two lift towers respectively at a height of approximately 40 m would be constructed. As the height of the lift towers was about that of a 13-storey building, heavy loading would be created. Separately, to avoid adverse traffic impact to Castle Peak Road—Kwai Chung and Kung Yip Street during the construction period, the lift towers would be built on the hillside of existing slopes. Thus the proposed works would include slope cutting and

Action

construction of temporary retaining walls. Upon completion of the project, the lift towers would eventually function as retaining walls as well. In view of the above, the proposed works must build a foundation strong enough to carry the relevant loading.

Admin

26. Mr CHU Hoi-dick requested the Administration to provide a breakdown of the cost of foundation works and to specify whether each item was related to construction of foundation works or building the foundation on slopes. Mr CHAN Han-pan was also concerned about the specific items of works covered by the cost of foundation works.

27. Mr Gary FAN was concerned that under the proposed project, the costs of foundation works and geotechnical works accounted for 33% of the total project costs, which was even higher than the ratio of corresponding estimated costs (about 28% of the total project costs) for constructing the elevated pedestrian corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station over underground cavities. He enquired about the reasons for that. Mr CHU Hoi-dick asked whether geotechnical works under the proposed project would cover the necessary slope cutting and temporary retaining wall construction works for building the lift towers and what the specific details were.

28. DHy stated that on average, foundation works would account for 20% to 30% of the total costs for provision of hillside escalator links and elevator systems ("HEL") projects. He considered the cost ratio of foundation works under the proposed project reasonable. In reply to Mr Gary FAN's further enquiry, DHy believed that the said ratio would broadly apply to other HEL projects set out in Annex 3 to Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21.

29. AD/D supplemented that the costs of necessary slope cutting and temporary retaining wall construction works for building the lift towers had already been included under "Foundation works". "Geotechnical works" mainly covered works carried out on the slopes, as well as soil excavation and site formation works in the proposed project site.

30. Mr CHU Hoi-dick suggested that if the cost of foundation works for any future HEL project was abnormally higher than the aforesaid ratio, the Administration should account for the reasons in the relevant discussion paper. DHy replied in the affirmative.

31. Referring to the project for constructing a lift and pedestrian walkway system between Tai Wo Hau Road and Wo Tong Tsui Street, Kwai Chung, Mr CHU Hoi-dick said that an item on "Structure and

foundation" was included in the project estimates, while the proposed project only included the estimated cost of "Foundation works". He enquired about the difference between the two.

32. AD/D said that given the different design and structure of construction projects, the Government would draw up cost estimates on the basis of work items required for individual projects. For the lift and pedestrian walkway system between Tai Wo Hau Road and Wo Tong Tsui Street, Kwai Chung which adopted the inclined lift system, the "structure" meant the steel roof truss, and it was different from the lift tower adopted for the proposed project. That was why the items of works covered under the capital costs of the two projects were not entirely the same. AD/D further advised that generally speaking, the estimated cost of "structural works" would cover structural works for the link bridge, while the estimated cost of "lift towers" would cover structural works for the actual lift towers.

33. Mr AU Nok-hin asked about the cost of the five lifts. AD/D stated that the capital cost of the five lifts and associated electrical and mechanical ("E&M") works, as well as the three lift towers had already been set out in paragraph 6 of Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21.

34. Dr KWOK Ka-ki held that the estimated capital cost of the proposed project was on the high side as it cost a hefty \$584 million to construct just five lifts. He enquired about the role played by the Project Cost Management Office ("PCMO") regarding the present project.

35. DHy clarified that according to paragraph 6(f) of Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21, the estimated cost of the five lifts and associated E&M works was \$25.3 million. The Administration would provide a paper after the meeting setting out the advice made by PCMO on the proposed project, as well as the project cost savings achieved as per such advice.

Admin

Resumption of private land

36. Mr Gary FAN expressed support for the item. Noting that the Administration would need to resume private land and create rights of temporary occupation of private land for the proposed project, he enquired about the locations of the affected private land.

37. DHy replied that part of the slopes in Shek Lei (I) Estate would need to be resumed for the proposed project, and the land in Shek Lei (I) Estate was now jointly owned by HKHA and GAW Capital Partners.

38. Dr CHENG Chung-tai queried why slopes within a public rental housing ("PRH") estate would be acquired by a private real estate investment trust fund, such that the Administration must pay compensation thereto for resuming the land for the proposed project. He was concerned that the trust fund concerned might have acquired the slopes because it was aware of the Administration's intention to implement the works project in the area.

39. DHy stated that as a result of the divestment of commercial facilities by HKHA to the LINK REIT years ago, some PRH estates were now jointly owned by HKHA and private real estate investment trust funds. As the land lease of Shek Lei (I) Estate did not have any terms requiring the land owner to surrender his interests relating to the slopes, the Government would need to pay compensation thereto for resuming the land concerned.

Admin

40. At Dr CHENG Chung-tai's request, the Administration undertook to provide information after the meeting about the owner of the 1 324 sq m of private land stated in paragraph 21 of Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21, as well as details of the land transaction (including the date when the land was acquired by the said owner).

Admin

41. Mr CHU Hoi-dick asked why GAW Capital Partners, as the owner of the commercial portion of Shek Lei (I) Estate, could intervene with matters concerning other public areas of the estate. DHy undertook to liaise with the Lands Department ("LandsD") after the meeting and provide a supplementary paper to explain why the person concerned had the relevant rights and interests.

42. Mr Gary FAN and Mr CHU Hoi-dick asked whether the Administration had already activated the land resumption procedures for the proposed project. Mr FAN and Mr AU Nok-hin further expressed concern as to whether the implementation of the proposed project might be affected or even halted if the private land owner objected to land resumption.

43. Mr CHU Hoi-dick asked whether private real estate investment trust funds who owned the commercial portion of HKHA's PRH estates had the right to object to the implementation of works projects within the estates or the resumption of common parts of the estates and what measures the Administration would take to tackle the problem. Mr CHU further asked if there was any difference should the land to be resumed was the staircases or corridors located in the commercial portion of PRH estates owned by private real estate investment trust funds.

44. DS(T) stated that depending on the alignment, design, topographical conditions, etc. of individual projects, not all HEL projects would involve the resumption of private land. HyD would consult public views when drawing up the alignment of the projects. The opportunity would then be taken to assess the difficulties which might arise in the actual implementation of the projects.

45. DHy supplemented that the Administration gazetted the scheme and plan of the proposed project under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) on 25 August and 1 September 2017. During the statutory period, no objection was received. Land resumption procedures would be activated upon funding approval of the item. HyD had previously exchanged views with stakeholders on the proposed project. The relevant private land owner had also given consent in principle to the arrangements set out in the discussion paper. Hence HyD did not envisage any obstruction to the implementation of the proposed project due to difficulties in the land resumption process.

46. DHy further pointed out that as a general rule, any person could raise objection to the scheme and plan of works projects during the statutory period. If any objection was raised and the person concerned did not withdraw his objection after further communication with the department, the Administration would submit the relevant plan and scheme, as well as all objections to the Chief Executive in Council for consideration and decision as to whether approval should be given to proceed with the project and land resumption.

47. Mr Gary FAN asked whether the private land owner affected by land resumption for the proposed project was already aware of the amount of compensation intended to be paid by the Government. Dr CHENG Chung-tai asked whether the said private land owner had already accepted the Government's land resumption compensation offer.

48. DHy advised that LandsD would draw up estimates on the amount of land compensation payment for public works projects and then propose compensation packages to private land owners. The actual amount of land resumption compensation payment would only be finalized upon completion of the relevant procedures. Mr WU Chi-wai requested the Administration to provide information after the meeting on the method of calculating the estimated amount of compensation payment for resuming the aforesaid land.

49. Dr CHENG Chung-tai sought information on the number of projects for construction of similar facilities which involved land resumption compensation payment made to private real estate investment trust funds who owned facilities in PRH estates and the amount of relevant compensation payment.

50. DS(T) said that the Administration would review HEL projects with funding approval already given by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") to ascertain the relevant figures. As for projects still under planning, the Administration could not provide the relevant information as their alignment and hence the need for land resumption had yet to be finalized.

Project supervision

51. Dr KWOK Ka-ki was concerned whether HyD had enough manpower to supervise the implementation of the proposed project as a number of large-scale projects were being taken forward by the department.

52. DHy replied that the proposed project would be implemented by HyD together with the consultants. When taking forward large-scale works projects, the department would also review the requirement for manpower resources and engage consultants to assist implementation when necessary.

"Universal Accessibility" Programme

53. Mr AU Nok-hin pointed out that one of the conditions for implementing retrofitting projects under the "Universal Accessibility" ("UA") Programme was that no land resumption should be involved, which was different from the standard adopted for the provision of HEL. He enquired about the justifications for such a difference and requested the Administration to review the requirements of UA Programme. Mr AU was also concerned whether HyD had enough manpower to implement HEL projects and UA Programme concurrently.

54. DS(T) stated that when UA Programme was introduced in 2012, the aim was to allow the retrofitting of BFA facilities at public footbridges, elevated walkways and subways maintained by HyD, which was different from the construction of HEL to facilitate people's access to uphill areas on foot. DS(T) pointed out that a number of items under UA Programme were underway in various districts. The Government would complete the works expeditiously and review whether there was any scope for improving the implementation details of the programme in due course.

55. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that when considering such proposals to construct BFA facilities, the Administration would invariably reject the same if one of the ending points of the relevant facility was located on private land. He asked whether the Administration would revisit the existing policy and consider joining hands with private land owners for the construction of BFA facilities connecting to private housing estates through support at the policy level. Mr WU also suggested that the Administration could make reference to Operation Building Bright so that financial subsidy (including provision of matching fund) or financial incentive (such as through an undertaking on the maintenance responsibility in the long run) would be provided to eligible private land owners to promote their interest in constructing BFA facilities connecting to government land.

56. DS(T) pointed out that apart from the 18 HEL projects set out in Annex 3 to Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21, more than 110 proposals had been received by the Government over the years. TD had already initiated a consultancy study in December 2017 to review the assessment mechanism for HEL proposals established in 2009, with a view to determining the priorities of the 110-odd proposals. It was expected that the study would take about 30 months to complete. The Administration would brief LegCo in due course upon completion of the review. While taking note of Mr WU Chi-wai's suggestion, DS(T) held that due consideration should be given to the benefits brought by the use of public funds to the community, cost-effectiveness, etc., and such matters would also be taken into account in the aforesaid review.

57. DS(T) added that the Administration did not rule out the possibility that land resumption might be involved in the implementation of some HEL projects set out in Annex 3 to Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21. The Government would consult stakeholders on the projects and proceed with gazettal under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance; if land was to be resumed, discussion would also be held with the relevant parties. If opposing views were expressed by stakeholders on individual projects, the Administration must rationalize different concerns raised by community persons, such as through adjusting the alignment or design of the projects and conducting another round of public consultation, and this might impact on the implementation progress.

Other proposed hillside escalator links and elevator systems

58. Regarding other proposed HEL projects set out in Annex 3 to Enclosure 1 of PWSC(2018-19)21, Mr Gary FAN was concerned about their implementation progress. He enquired about the following:

- (a) regarding the escalator link system between Sha Tin Sui Wo Court and MTR Fo Tan Station, what were the complicated land issues involved;
- (b) given that the escalator link system between Hong Sing Garden and Po Hong Road, and the lift and pedestrian walkway system between Lai King Hill Road and Princess Margaret Hospital were both ranked at 14th, yet the latter project had been completed and the facility opened for public use since January 2017 while the former was still in the stage of preliminary technical feasibility study, why was that so; and
- (c) whether the proposed alignment of any uncompleted projects would involve land owned by HKHA and private real estate investment trust funds.

59. DS(T) replied that:

- (a) the Government established in 2009 a set of objective and transparent scoring criteria for assessing HEL proposals to determine the priority for conducting preliminary technical feasibility studies for the 20 proposals received at that time. The Government would take forward those projects whose preliminary technical feasibility was confirmed by the studies;
- (b) regarding the escalator link system between Sha Tin Sui Wo Court and MTR Fo Tan Station, the currently proposed alignment would mostly fall on private land (including land jointly owned by HKHA and private real estate companies), and the Government was now studying the optimal scope for the project; and
- (c) regarding the escalator link system between Hong Sing Garden and Po Hong Road, and the lift and pedestrian walkway system between Lai King Hill Road and Princess Margaret Hospital, the scope of the former project had been determined in April 2018 and HyD would carry out the preliminary technical feasibility study accordingly, while the latter project was undertaken by the Hospital Authority.

Meeting arrangement

60. At 10:16 am, the Chairman advised that he would end the discussion and put the item to vote after all members currently on the wailing list had spoken.

Voting on PWSC(2018-19)21

61. There being no further questions from members, the Chairman put item PWSC(2018-19)21 to vote. At the request of members, the Chairman ordered a division. The Chairman declared that 38 members voted in favour of and no member voted against the item. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung	Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan
Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Ms Starry LEE Wai-king
Mr WONG Kwok-kin	Mr Steven HO Chun-yin
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming	Mr WU Chi-wai
Mr YIU Si-wing	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Mr CHAN Han-pan	Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Dr KWOK Ka-ki	Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung
Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung	Dr Elizabeth QUAT
Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong	Mr POON Siu-ping
Mr Alvin YEUNG	Mr Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Mr CHU Hoi-dick	Mr HO Kai-ming
Mr LAM Cheuk-ting	Mr Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Mr SHIU Ka-fai	Mr SHIU Ka-chun
Mr Wilson OR Chong-shing	Ms YUNG Hoi-yan
Mr CHAN Chun-ying	Ms Tanya CHAN
Mr HUI Chi-fung	Mr LAU Kwok-fan
Dr CHENG Chung-tai	Mr Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai	Mr AU Nok-hin
Mr Vincent CHENG Wing-shun	Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen

(38 members)

62. The Chairman declared that the item was approved by FC.

**Item 4 — FCR(2018-19)32
RECOMMENDATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 4 JUNE 2018**

**EC(2018-19)6
HEAD 25 — ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Subhead 000 — Operational Expenses**

63. The Chairman advised that the item sought FC's approval of the recommendation of the Establishment Subcommittee ("ESC") made at its meeting held on 4 June 2018 regarding EC(2018-19)6 for the creation of one supernumerary Chief Quantity Surveyor (D1) post in the Architectural Services Department ("ASD") for about nine years with immediate effect upon FC's approval up to 31 March 2027 to strengthen professional support in quantity surveying for the delivery of the projects under the 10-year Hospital Development Plan at strategic level. No request for separate voting on the recommendation at the FC meeting was made by members.

64. There being no questions from members, the Chairman put item FCR(2018-19)32 to vote. The Chairman was of the view that the majority of the members present and voting were in favour of the item, and he declared that the item was approved.

**Item 5 —FCR(2018-19)33
RECOMMENDATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 4 JUNE 2018**

**EC(2018-19)5
HEAD 33 —CIVIL ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT
HEAD 60 —HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
Subhead 000 —Operational Expenses**

65. The Chairman advised that the item sought FC's approval of the recommendation of ESC made at its meeting held on 4 June 2018 regarding EC(2018-19)5 for the creation of two permanent Chief Landscape Architect ("CLA") (D1) posts, i.e. one permanent CLA post each in the Civil Engineering and Development Department ("CEDD") and HyD, to strengthen the landscape services provided by CEDD and HyD with a view to enhancing the quality, sustainability and liveability of the outdoor environment.

66. The Chairman advised that members had requested for separate voting on the recommendation regarding the proposed permanent CLA post in HyD vide EC(2018-19)5 at the FC meeting. The Chairman directed that the two proposed posts in the paper would be put to vote separately after discussion of the item.

67. Mr AU Nok-hin asked whether any specific quantitative targets had been set for the two proposed posts and the newly formed Landscape Divisions ("LDs") under their leadership. Dr KWOK Ka-ki supported the creation of the two proposed posts. He asked whether the Administration would set quantitative targets for the two proposed posts with regard to improving the greening ratio in urban areas and how resources would be provided to support their work.

68. Under Secretary for Development ("USDEV") stated that the purposes of creating the two proposed posts as well as LDs under their leadership were to significantly improve the ongoing landscape services and to elevate the quality of landscape and tree asset management services. He did not consider it appropriate to set quantitative targets for the two proposed posts. USDEV pointed out that the two proposed posts would lead a team of Landscape Architects ("LAs") in their respective departments to ensure that works projects would be implemented in tandem with the Development Bureau ("DEVB")'s landscape policy throughout all stages of works by formulating relevant enforcing standards and initiatives, as well as setting up a quality management system. For example, the drawing up of guidelines and criteria on landscape planning and design for new development area ("NDA") projects, housing sites and infrastructure works would be integrated with the design concepts of blue-green ecology while covering the selection of suitable vegetation and soil to achieve the policy objective of biodiversity. Other initiatives would include implementing the Government's urban forestry management strategy, reviewing the health and growing sites of senescent trees, as well as improving the vegetation quality in highways landscapes.

69. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung enquired about the necessity of creating the two proposed posts and whether there was overlap in their functions. He was also concerned that other departments had followed suit after the creation of a CLA post in ASD earlier on.

70. USDEV said that it was necessary to create the two proposed posts, and the Administration had no intention to create CLA posts in other departments for the time being.

71. Mr AU Nok-hin was concerned that different standards might apply for landscape planning and design proposals and public works projects. He suggested that the two proposed posts should enhance inter-departmental communication. Mr AU and Dr KWOK Ka-ki also enquired about collaboration among LAs in different government departments.

72. Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1 ("DSDEV(W)1") advised that meetings were usually held with LA grade members approximately every six months in order to provide them with the latest information. Moreover, different activities would be organized from time to time for LAs in different departments to share their experience. USDEV supplemented that DEVB also had a role to play in coordinating LAs in different departments.

Tree management and maintenance

73. Mr HUI Chi-fung enquired about the professional qualifications in arboriculture held by LAs in the Government, as well as the qualifications requirements of the holder of the two proposed posts in respect of urban forestry management and arboriculture.

74. Deputy Director of Highways ("DDHy") said that of the 20 Senior LAs/LAs/Assistant LAs currently in HyD, 15 possessed arborist qualifications, and the remaining 5 were undergoing relevant training. All Senior LAs/LAs/Assistant LAs responsible for tree maintenance possessed arborist qualifications.

75. Mr CHU Hoi-dick enquired about the specific details of HyD's work in the maintenance of rooftop landscapes. DDHy advised that maintenance of rooftop landscapes included greening of noise enclosures on roads to enhance the landscape. The proposed CLA in HyD would also take up work in this regard.

76. Mr AU Nok-hin asked how the Administration would assess the effectiveness of work in implementing the urban forestry management strategy and what would be the role played by the proposed CLA in HyD.

77. DDHy stated that the proposed CLA in HyD would lead the new LD in providing an expanding scope of landscape and tree advisory services. Internal enforcing standards would also be formulated to elevate the quality of landscape and tree asset management services.

78. Mr HUI Chi-fung opined that as the duties of the two proposed posts were similar to existing services provided by LAs, and no specific indicators for assessing their effectiveness of work had been set by the Administration in terms of service quality improvement, he was doubtful about the effectiveness of the proposed creation of the said two posts in respect of enhancing Hong Kong's urban environment. That was why he had reservation about creating the two proposed posts. Mr HUI asked whether the responsibilities of the two proposed posts would include reviewing the policies on urban forestry management, tree asset management, etc., the Town Planning Ordinance ("TPO") (Cap. 131) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance ("EIAO") (Cap. 499), as well as formulating a tree legislation.

79. USDEV stated that review of the relevant policies was mainly coordinated by the Tree Management Office ("TMO"), and it was not a major work initiative of the two proposed posts. He held that it was necessary to create the two proposed posts to improve the ongoing landscape services and to elevate the quality of landscape and tree asset management services.

80. Mr AU Nok-hin relayed the views of academics that there were loopholes in the existing Tree Management Information System ("TMIS"), such that health condition of trees, as well as their risk of failure might not be effectively recorded in the tree risk assessment forms. He suggested that the Administration should exchange views with the academics on how to improve TMIS so that no tree would be unnecessarily felled. USDEV replied that the Administration would review the relevant mechanism.

81. Mr HUI Chi-fung was of the view that controversies often arose over the felling of trees because the Administration had been relying on outsourced contractors for tree maintenance work, and the results were hardly satisfactory. He asked about the role of the two proposed posts in strengthening tree maintenance work and reviewing the system of outsourcing tree management; whether the Administration would allocate additional resources to conduct large-scale inspection and maintenance of trees and to carry out open and routine tree risk assessments under the monitoring of various councils.

82. Mr Holden CHOW considered that the proposed CLA in HyD should step up supervision on tree maintenance work performed by outsourced contractors.

83. USDEV stated that tree management policy was under TMO's portfolio. At the same time, TMO was responsible for coordinating the

tree management work of various departments, as well as providing them with arboricultural expertise. Expressing disagreement with Mr HUI Chi-fung's view that trees had been felled by the Administration needlessly, USDEV stressed that all decisions of removing trees were made to safeguard public safety.

84. DDHy supplemented that the department would conduct inspection of trees under its purview every six months, and follow-up actions would be taken if any tree was detected with health problems. Currently, HyD was responsible for the maintenance of some 0.6 million trees occupying a total area of around 1 100 hectares ("ha"). To improve its tree management work, HyD was planning to upgrade TMIS into a Tree Risk and Asset Information Platform to collate tree information from various sources including inspections and data gauged by the newly-introduced sensors. The Administration would also collaborate with tertiary institutions to install sensors on nine high-risk tree species and stonewall trees to detect tree stability. Separately, the Administration would monitor tree health conditions and pathogen infection through the wider use of technology such as remote sensing multispectral imagery.

85. Mr Steven HO suggested that TMO should step up publicity on its tree maintenance work, with a view to alleviating the public's misunderstanding that trees were often removed by TMO. He also considered that TMO's work should best be discussed thoroughly by the Panel on Development. USDEV noted the relevant suggestions.

86. Dr CHENG Chung-tai was concerned about public safety risks posed by trees planted in pots in urban areas. He asked whether the Administration had information on the location and number of trees planted in pots, and whether the two proposed posts would review the current tree risk management system, so as to enhance the management of trees planted in pots and those not recorded in the Tree Register.

87. DSDEV(W)1 said that planting trees in pots or narrow planters was not advisable. The Administration had already promulgated guidelines and asked tree management departments to select suitable tree species in appropriate places. The Administration would roll out the enhanced Tree Risk Assessment and Management measures progressively starting from 2019, with major enhancement covering areas such as assessing the potential adverse impact caused by growing environment on trees, etc.

88. Dr CHENG Chung-tai asked what role the two proposed posts could play against illegal removal of trees on private land by private land owners. He suggested that the two proposed directorate posts should be

conferred with greater powers, so that they could render professional advice to the Town Planning Board on applications made by private land owners for changing the topography or removal of trees.

89. USDEV advised that planning applications made by private land owners under TPO would be followed up by the Planning Department. DSDEV(W)1 supplemented that as far as private land was concerned, if a tree preservation clause was contained in the land lease, owner of the land lot must first obtain prior written consent from LandsD before trees within the lot could be removed. Regarding a case cited by Dr CHENG Chung-tai about removal of tree by private developer at Tung Wan, Peng Chau, the Administration undertook to look into the case and provide a supplementary paper on the follow-up actions taken by the Administration.

[*Post-meeting note:* The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. FC316/17-18(01) on 20 July 2018.]

Compensatory planting

90. Mr CHU Hoi-dick pointed out that over the years, many trees had been removed by HyD due to the implementation of public works projects, and several thousand tonnes of yard waste were disposed of at landfills per annum. HyD was one of the departments in the Government which disposed of the most yard wastes. He enquired about the strategies to be deployed by the proposed CLA in HyD for handling yard wastes to avoid their disposal at landfills.

91. DDHy clarified that as HyD was currently responsible for the maintenance of some 0.6 million trees occupying a total area of around 1 100 ha, the amount of yard waste collected annually would be higher than that of other departments. In 2017, more than 400 000 trees and shrubs had been planted by HyD. He added that if removal of trees was required in the course of implementing works projects, the Administration would replant new trees as compensation in accordance with the compensatory planting proposal under the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. To explore outlets for yard wastes as far as practicable, the Administration would contact educational institutions so that arrangements could be made for using the collected wood in training or other purposes. The proposed CLA in HyD would take forward the initiatives concerned.

92. Mr CHU Hoi-dick opined that requirements under the existing legislation on replanting trees as compensation for those removed due to the implementation of public works projects were not stringent enough.

He asked whether the Administration would review the compensatory planting policy so that various requirements on the number, location and size of trees to be replanted as compensation could be enhanced.

93. DDHy stated that under the existing policy, if removal of trees was required due to implementation of public works projects, the Administration must arrange for compensatory planting. Internal guidelines were also available to specify the ratio, quality, etc. of trees to be replanted as compensation. The proposed CLA in HyD would consider individual tree removal proposals and explore other viable options, while ensuring the quality of works.

Trees on paving block footpaths

94. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was concerned that in the past two years, joint stabilizing sealant ("JSS") had been applied to seal up the gaps between paver blocks at 67 street locations with trees within the territory to strengthen the paver blocks, which might hinder water absorption by the trees and adversely affect their health in the long run. He called on the Administration to avoid using the aforesaid method to strengthen the paver blocks. Mr CHAN also asked if other better alternatives were currently available to serve the same purpose.

95. Ms Tanya CHAN also expressed similar concerns. She considered that paving block footpaths were prone to uneven pavement surface; in particular, growing roots of trees on paving block footpaths might even uplift the pavement causing danger to pedestrians.

96. DDHy clarified that gaps between paver blocks were not the primary sources of water intake for trees. Hence, application of JSS would not jeopardize the health of trees. In general, when conducting paving block strengthening works, HyD would, other than using JSS to seal up the gaps between paving blocks, also use sand mixed with cement to construct the layer of sand bedding under paving blocks, so as to increase the stability of paving block footpaths. HyD would consider whether and how best to conduct strengthening works in light of the actual conditions of the paving block footpaths.

97. DDHy further pointed out that when HyD found or received complaints related to damaged or uneven road surface, or road subsidence of a relatively serious nature, it would arrange contractors to carry out repairs or, as the situation required, would request the relevant government departments, public utilities or responsible persons of private construction sites to follow it up expeditiously. Separately, flexible paver blocks

would be used for tree pits to facilitate removal of such pavers in the future as necessary, so that more room would be allowed for the growth and spread of tree roots.

Landscape planning and design

Planting species with amenity value

98. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung was concerned whether there were locations in the territory for people to appreciate *Bauhinia blakeana*, the city flower of Hong Kong and asked if a flower park would be constructed by the Administration. He also suggested that the Administration should make reference to the successful cases of Japan's cherry blossom festivals and Kwai Fong Estate's lapacho trees, with a view to planting vegetation species with amenity value to enhance the city's environment, attract tourists and provide leisure spots for local people. Similar suggestions were also made by Mr LEUNG Che-cheung.

99. Expressing agreement with members' suggestions on planting vegetation species with amenity value, USDEV and DDHy said that the Administration would enhance the relevant initiatives, so that suitable species would be planted in appropriate places. DSDEV(W)1 supplemented that work in this regard was already in progress, such as the planting of cherry blossoms extensively in Ngong Ping and of *Bauhinia blakeana* in the Pok Fu Lam area to highlight the fact that the species was first discovered there.

100. Regarding the planting of cherry blossoms in Ngong Ping, Mr YIU Si-wing expressed support for the Administration's initiative, while Mr LEUNG Che-cheung was concerned that Hong Kong's climate might not be suitable for the growth of cherry blossoms. USDEV stated that the Administration would take heed of expert advice when selecting the species. It was expected that work in this regard could be enhanced with the creation of the two proposed posts.

Enhance biodiversity

101. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen suggested that when implementing large-scale landscape works, the Administration should ensure that biodiversity could be enhanced by the landscape design. Referring to the development of Anderson Road Quarry Site project, he asked if the Administration would consider adopting a landscape design which could attract more birds and wildlife, as well as monitoring the bird population in the landscape areas.

102. USDEV pointed out that enhancing biodiversity was one of DEVB's policy objectives. Regarding the development of Anderson Road Quarry Site project, the Administration would take stock of the number of living organisms in the landscape areas for gauging the effectiveness of the landscape design.

Landscape planning and design of new development areas

103. Ms Tanya CHAN considered that LAs should be involved throughout NDA projects since the early planning stage, so that their professional expertise could help formulate planning designs from the local perspective to enhance the city's resilience against climate change. She enquired about the involvement of the two proposed posts in the planning of NDAs, as well as DEVB's collaboration with the two proposed posts. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung also enquired about the duties of the two proposed posts in the preparation and implementation of Landscape Master Plans ("LMPs").

104. USDEV advised that during the planning stage of NDAs, CLAs would lead their teams to undertake the relevant landscape planning and design work, including preparing LMPs for NDAs. As a matter of fact, planning of NDAs was inextricably linked with landscape planning and design as the overall layout (such as provision of open space) and design must complement each other. He considered that with the creation of the two proposed posts, the quality of professional landscape services could be raised to further underpin DEVB's policies.

105. DDHy pointed out that with the creation of the two proposed posts, it was expected that LAs would get more heavily involved in NDA projects. For instance, by grasping the opportunities to improve landscape design upfront, they could ensure proper integration of landscape designs into the works projects.

106. Mr Holden CHOW suggested that the Administration should make reference to overseas experience, such as the development of the Gardens by the Bay in Singapore, so that innovative ideas could be incorporated into Hong Kong's landscape design. He also asked whether the two proposed posts or their teams would attend meetings of District Councils ("DCs") to discuss items relating to landscape planning of works projects and receive views from community persons.

107. USDEV said that when implementing works projects, a Chief Engineer of CEDD would generally attend the relevant DC meetings,

acting as the channel for communication between the Administration and DCs. When necessary, LAs could also attend the meetings.

108. Mr CHU Hoi-dick asked whether the Administration would, for the sake of enhancing the city's resilience against climate change, conduct on its own initiative assessments other than those required under EIAO, including micro-climate studies and assessments on the impact of works projects on urban temperatures. Mr HUI Chi-fung was also concerned how the proposed CLA in HyD would enhance the city's resilience against climate change and asked what the Administration's strategies were, as well as how their effectiveness would be measured.

109. DDHy pointed out that HyD was currently responsible for the maintenance of some 0.6 million trees occupying a total area of around 1 100 ha, and proper management of such trees would be conducive to enhancing the city's resilience against climate change. Separately, the Administration would make reference to the concept of sponge city and suitably incorporate the relevant elements into the works projects. Such work would be taken forward by the proposed CLA in HyD. While noting Mr CHU Hoi-dick's suggestion, DDHy said that the Administration did not have such plan at this stage.

"Walk in HK" policy

110. Mr Gary FAN asked how the proposed CLA in HyD would take forward the "Walk in HK" policy through landscape design, so as to encourage people to walk more. He also asked if the Administration would consider adopting the previous initiatives of installing misting systems, water dispensers, etc. along footpaths. Mr FAN opined that at present, many pedestrian networks connecting to mass transit transport systems involved access through shopping arcades, which tended to be commercial in design. He suggested that the Administration should consider whether alternative routes were available.

111. USDEV said that many constraints were faced by the Administration when improving pedestrian networks in developed districts, and it might not be entirely possible to avoid access through shopping arcades. Nonetheless, there would be greater flexibility in the development of a pedestrian-friendly environment in NDAs.

112. Noting Mr Gary FAN's suggestions, DDHy said that the Administration would adopt an open attitude and formulate the overall design, taking into account the environment of individual districts. He added that the proposed CLA in HyD, with support from his team, would

use his professional expertise to overcome the confined setting and improve streetscape in the communities, such as by designing railings and handrails with different characteristics, as well as adopting thematic paving for footpaths. When taking forward the aforesaid initiatives, the proposed CLA would also coordinate efforts of the departments concerned.

Enquiries about individual projects

113. Dr KWOK Ka-ki was concerned that the two proposed posts might only have a limited role to play with regard to railway projects under construction (such as the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link and the Shatin to Central Link).

114. DDHy pointed out that the creation of the two proposed posts, together with the newly formed LDs under their leadership, would increase the involvement of LAs in major development projects and enhance the landscape and tree asset management services. DDHy agreed that while there might be limited scope for making overall changes to projects under construction, the two proposed posts could still get involved in individual works items under those projects.

115. Mr CHU Hoi-dick considered that given the excessive emphasis placed by HyD on project needs in the past, environmental protection needs had been ignored and the heat island effect intensified. Expressing opposition to the item regarding the construction of an elevated pedestrian corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station and using the project as an example, he queried that the proposed CLA in HyD could not possibly discharge his duty of fostering a pedestrian-friendly environment through implementing quality streetscape and inclusive landscape designs as set out in item 5 of Enclosure 4 of EC(2018-19)5.

116. USDEV stated that there was no direct relationship between the proposed CLA in HyD and the project to construct an elevated pedestrian corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station. He suggested that the project be discussed later under the relevant agenda item.

117. Mr YIU Si-wing supported the creation of the two proposed posts. He asked whether the two proposed posts would render professional advice on landscape design of the two theme parks (i.e. the Ocean Park and the Hong Kong Disneyland), with a view to coordinating an overall greening framework for the two theme parks and their neighbouring communities.

118. USDEV stated that internal design of the theme parks would be the responsibility of their respective management teams. In this regard, the Administration could maintain communication with the management teams on landscape design of government facilities in the neighbourhood of the theme parks.

119. Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether the two proposed posts would formulate territory-wide planning and render high-level landscape architectural support for planting different flowers in all major parks over the territory for people's appreciation.

120. Mr Steven HO asked how the two proposed posts would facilitate the construction of a European design flower-themed garden in Hong Kong, particularly in respect of coordination with other departments on the provision of ancillary facilities for sales, catering, etc. under the project. He also suggested that the two proposed posts should render advice on landscape design of Hong Kong's important infrastructures.

121. USDEV said that the Greening and Landscape Office of DEVB would be responsible for the central coordination of the Government's greening and landscape planning and design efforts. The scope of work of the two proposed posts did not include parks in various districts under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD"), as well as the European design flower-themed garden project which was being followed up by the Tourism Commission. LCSD also had its own professional teams to handle landscaping work. Mr YIU Si-wing suggested that the two proposed posts should step up cooperation with LCSD.

Meeting arrangements

122. At 10:58 am, the Chairman directed that the meeting be suspended for members to take a short break. The meeting resumed at 11:08 am.

123. At 12:12 pm, the Chairman advised that he would end the discussion and put the item to vote after all members currently on the wailing list had spoken.

Voting on FCR(2018-19)33

First voting: Creation of one permanent Chief Landscape Architect post in the Civil Engineering and Development Department

124. There being no further questions from members, the Chairman put the proposal to create one permanent CLA post in CEDD vide EC(2018-19)5 to vote. At the request of members, the Chairman ordered a division. The Chairman declared that 33 members voted in favour of and 5 members voted against the item. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung	Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan
Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung	Mr WONG Ting-kwong
Ms Starry LEE Wai-king	Mr WONG Kwok-kin
Ms Claudia MO	Mr Steven HO Chun-yin
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming	Mr YIU Si-wing
Mr MA Fung-kwok	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Mr CHAN Han-pan	Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Mr KWOK Wai-keung	Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung
Dr Elizabeth QUAT	Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong
Mr POON Siu-ping	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan
Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok	Mr CHU Hoi-dick
Mr HO Kai-ming	Mr Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Mr SHIU Ka-fai	Mr SHIU Ka-chun
Ms YUNG Hoi-yan	Mr CHAN Chun-ying
Ms Tanya CHAN	Mr LUK Chung-hung
Dr CHENG Chung-tai	Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Mr AU Nok-hin	

(33 members)

Against:

Mr James TO Kun-sun	Mr Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Mr LAM Cheuk-ting	Mr HUI Chi-fung
Mr KWONG Chun-yu	

(5 members)

125. The Chairman declared that the item was approved by FC.

Second voting: Creation of one permanent Chief Landscape Architect post in the Highways Department

126. The Chairman then put the proposal to create one permanent CLA post in HyD vide EC(2018-19)5 to vote. At the request of members, the Chairman ordered a division. The Chairman declared that 25 members voted in favour of and 13 members voted against the item. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan	Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung
Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Ms Starry LEE Wai-king
Mr WONG Kwok-kin	Mr Steven HO Chun-yin
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming	Mr YIU Si-wing
Mr MA Fung-kwok	Mr CHAN Han-pan
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung	Mr KWOK Wai-keung
Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung	Dr Elizabeth QUAT
Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong	Mr POON Siu-ping
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan	Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok
Mr HO Kai-ming	Mr Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Mr SHIU Ka-fai	Ms YUNG Hoi-yan
Mr CHAN Chun-ying	Ms Tanya CHAN
Mr LUK Chung-hung	
(25 members)	

Against:

Mr James TO Kun-sun	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung
Ms Claudia MO	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Mr Andrew WAN Siu-kin	Mr CHU Hoi-dick
Mr LAM Cheuk-ting	Mr SHIU Ka-chun
Mr HUI Chi-fung	Dr CHENG Chung-tai
Mr KWONG Chun-yu	Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Mr AU Nok-hin	
(13 members)	

127. The Chairman declared that the item was approved by FC.

Item 6 — FCR(2018-19)34

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 28 MAY 2018**

PWSC(2018-19)22

HEAD 703 — BUILDINGS

Recreation, Culture and Amenities — Open spaces

433RO — Open space in Area 6, Tai Po

Recreation, Culture and Amenities — Sports facilities

**291RS — Redevelopment of Yuen Long stadium—pre-construction
activities**

128. The Chairman advised that the item sought FC's approval of the recommendation made by the Public Works Subcommittee at its meeting held on 28 May 2018 regarding PWSC(2018-19)22 for the upgrading of

433RO on the development of open space in Area 6, Tai Po, and part of 291RS on the redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium ("YLS") as 294RS, entitled "Redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium—pre-construction activities", to Category A at estimated costs of \$93.8 million and \$45.4 million in MOD prices respectively; and for the retention of the remainder of 291RS in Category B.

129. The Chairman also advised that members had requested for separate voting on the recommendation regarding the two projects vide PWSC(2018-19)22 at the FC meeting. The Chairman directed that the two projects in the paper would be put to vote separately after discussion of the item. The Chairman declared that he was an independent non-executive director of The Bank of East Asia.

433RO—Open space in Area 6, Tai Po

130. Mr Holden CHOW welcomed the 433RO project. He enquired about the planning progress of the project to construct a football-cum-rugby pitch in Area 33, Tai Po. Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") advised that to meet the demand for recreational space and promote sports development, the Government would launch 26 projects to develop new or improve existing sports and recreation facilities under the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities. Seven of those projects had already obtained funding approval from FC for commencement of works. The Government would continue to take forward the remaining projects.

291RS (part)—Redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium—pre-construction activities

131. Mr LUK Chung-hung pointed out that although the Administration had long indicated its intention to redevelop YLS since 2010, the project was still at the stage of seeking funding approval for pre-construction activities. Criticizing the slow progress of the project, he held that the Government should expedite the implementation of similar projects, so as to meet the need of local districts and avoid further escalation of project costs. Mr LUK also said that YLS was a major sports facility and a venue for holding large-scale events in the district; he thus requested the Administration to compress the construction schedule as much as possible and to minimize the impact on the public and disruption to the football season. USHA said that the Administration was aware of the high utilization rate of YLS and would strive to compress the construction schedule.

132. Mr LUK Chung-hung said that the existing provision of carparking spaces at YLS was severely inadequate during large-scale matches and events; he thus suggested that the Administration should take the opportunity of YLS' redevelopment to improve its design and satisfy such a need. USHA replied that the provision of carparking spaces at YLS would not be reduced upon its redevelopment. Existing carparking spaces on the east side of YLS would be unaffected by the project, while those on the west side would be reinstated after the completion of works.

Provision of a cover at the east spectator stand of Yuen Long Stadium

133. Mr LUK Chung-hung reiterated time and again the call for the Administration to provide a cover at the east spectator stand of YLS after the redevelopment. He asked whether the relevant design would be included in the studies to be conducted under the present funding request. Mr Andrew WAN considered that as the redevelopment of YLS was still at the stage of pre-construction activities, the Government should be open-minded so that the feasibility of providing a cover at the east spectator stand would also be studied.

134. USHA said that under the present proposal, the Government's plan was to re-provision the west spectator stand to provide around 4 000 seats and refurbish the 2 800-odd seats at the east spectator stand. He advised that as the turnout for activities hosted in YLS was less than 2 000 on average, the Administration considered that the west spectator stand would largely suffice to accommodate the spectators of those activities. Given the complicated ground conditions of Yuen Long district and the substantial technical difficulties caused by the size constraint of YLS, the Government had no plans to provide a cover for the east spectator stand based on cost-effectiveness and delivery schedule considerations.

135. USHA further said that on account of concerns expressed by the public and members, the Government would request the engineering consultant to explore the possibility of adding a temporary cover to the east spectator stand of YLS when necessary during its delivery of the proposed pre-construction activities. Upon completion of the relevant studies, the Government would consult the local DC on the findings.

136. Mr AU Nok-hin and Mr KWONG Chun-yu enquired about the rough estimate of the additional construction cost involved should a cover be added to the east spectator stand. Mr KWONG also asked whether ground investigation works had already been conducted by the Administration such that it could come to the conclusion that substantial

technical difficulties would be involved in the provision of a cover at the east spectator stand.

137. Director of Architectural Services responded that preliminary ground investigation works were being conducted and expected to be completed in 2019. Moreover, taking into account the complicated ground conditions of Yuen Long district, \$5.4 million had been earmarked under the proposed 291RS project for further site investigation works and minor studies. She also said that the Government could not provide any cost estimate for the provision of a cover at the east spectator stand at this stage.

138. Regarding the Administration's claim that the 4 000 seats at the covered west spectator stand would suffice to meet demand, Mr Andrew WAN queried the justification for providing a total of some 6 900 seats in YLS as it went against the principle of cost-effectiveness all along stressed by the Government. Mr KWONG Chun-yu was worried that future demand had been underestimated in such projections, particularly when YLS might attract a greater number of users after the redevelopment.

139. USHA stated that in 2017, six large-scale events were held in YLS, and their turnouts were all less than 2 000. Regarding school athletic meets routinely held in YLS, the turnout would only be about 400 to 600 in general. Hence, the Government held that the 4 000 seats at the covered west spectator stand would suffice to meet existing and projected demands.

140. Commissioner for Sports, Home Affairs Bureau ("C for S/HAB") supplemented that currently, matches sanctioned by the Asian Football Confederation ("AFC") were mostly hosted in the Hong Kong Stadium ("HKS") and the Mong Kok Stadium ("MKS"), and the turnout for matches hosted in MKS could be as high as about 5 000 to 6 000. Considering that some AFC-sanctioned matches could be hosted in YLS if the relevant standards for hosting such matches could be met after its redevelopment, the proposed provision of a total of some 6 900 seats under the project was appropriate for hosting the relevant matches.

141. C for S/HAB further said that currently some seating in HKS and MKS was also not provided with a cover, and AFC-sanctioned matches would mostly be held at night. Thus, he considered the proposed scope of works appropriate for the purpose. Mr Andrew WAN objected to the provision of a temporary cover at the east spectator stand of YLS after the redevelopment. He also opined that the Administration could consider providing a cover for all seating in HKS and MKS.

142. Mr AU Nok-hin sought information about the procurement cost and day-to-day operating expenses for providing a temporary cover at the east spectator stand. He also requested the Administration to further explain the guidelines on the use of a temporary cover.

143. Mr Holden CHOW pointed out that the redevelopment of YLS was generally supported by members of the public, but they were gravely concerned whether a cover would be provided at the east spectator stand of YLS after the redevelopment. He requested the Administration to confirm that flexibility would be provided in the design of the east spectator stand to allow for possible provision of a temporary cover in future.

144. USHA said that at present, HKS would also erect temporary cover over some seating when hosting the Hong Kong Sevens matches. The Government would request the engineering consultant to build in flexibility during its delivery of the proposed pre-construction activities and explore the possibility of adding a temporary cover to the east spectator stand of YLS when necessary.

145. Regarding the Government's intention to re-provision the west spectator stand and only refurbish the east spectator stand of YLS, Mr LUK Chung-hung was concerned that the outlook of the two spectator stands might eventually lack coordination. He thus suggested that the Administration should pay more attention to the relevant design.

146. The meeting ended at 1:00 pm.