



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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14 December 2017

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Attn: Ms Doris LO

Dear Ms LO,

PWSC(2017-18)20

63EG – Academic building at No.3 Sassoon Road (HKU)

In view of Members' concerns raised at the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) meeting held on 15 November 2017, we would like to provide the following supplementary information -

Donation from the Li Ka Shing Foundation to The University of Hong Kong

According to The University of Hong Kong (HKU), the committed donation of \$1 billion from the Li Ka Shing Foundation to HKU has been received in full. Donations to HKU are handled by the designated department of HKU in accordance with the established procedures and schedules.

The land exchange arrangement

For the details of the land exchange arrangement in connection with the Academic building at No.3 Sassoon Road, according to the Lands Department (LandsD), it will take around three to four months to complete the land exchange process after funding approval by the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council. Assuming FC's approval could be obtained by January 2018, the land exchange process should be able to complete by April 2018, and it would not have any impact on the construction programme and project cost as estimated by HKU.

If the works cannot commence in April 2018, the target completion date (i.e. third quarter of 2021) of the construction works may be deferred. We cannot estimate the impact to the project cost for the time being, however, the longer the delay, the higher the risk of cost overrun. Furthermore, the commencement date of the Queen Mary Hospital Redevelopment project may also be affected.

Potential impacts on the two Important Trees

To assess the potential impacts on the two Important Trees (i.e. T41 and T43), HKU conducted an inspection on T41 and T43 with tree expert and their landscape consultant again on 20 November (i.e. after the PWSC meeting on 15 November). All parties agreed that a certified arborist should be engaged to further investigate the health conditions of T41 and T43, value of the possible conservation proposal and its influence to the public. The arborist was engaged on 29 November. The above investigation and study will take about three weeks' time and therefore should be completed by end of December. At the same time, HKU is inviting landscape specialists approved by the Development Bureau to study the feasibility and cost implications of transplanting T41 and T43. After conducting detailed tree investigation and feasibility study on transplantation, HKU will submit a detailed report to LandsD for their review. Further details will be reported in the relevant Finance Committee meeting.

Energy efficient installations and renewable energy systems

The proposed building will adopt energy saving designs which include variable speed drives water cooled chiller, automatic demand control of supply air, heat wheels and heat pipes for heat energy reclaim of exhaust air and building energy management system. The payback periods of these energy saving devices range from 4.4 years to 11.6 years. The overall payback period is about 9.6 years. The payback periods are similar to other devices of the same type.

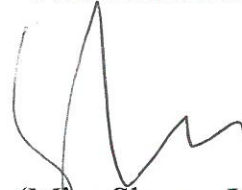
Utilisation of the proposed new academic building

The classrooms and laboratories of the proposed new academic building (i.e. No. 3 Sassoon Road building) will mainly be used for the undergraduate teaching of the School of Nursing and the School of Chinese Medicine. From 2002 to 2009, the number of nursing student places has been gradually increased from 100 to 190 per annum. In addition, with effect from 2012, HKU has implemented a senior-year student intake scheme for the Bachelor of Nursing Programme with an annual intake of 25 students. Since 2002, the School of Nursing has been using 3/F and 4/F of No. 21 Sassoon Road and later, also 2/F and 3/F of Pauline Chan Building for academic and office purposes. The substantial increase in student number has resulted in insufficient space and the proposed new academic building at No. 3 Sassoon Road will help address the need. At present, the annual student intake to the Bachelor of Chinese Medicine is 24 and the proposed building will be able to meet the space requirement of the School of Chinese Medicine. The space to be vacated in the old buildings will be reserved for teaching, and research purposes.

The existing out-patient clinic under School of Chinese Medicine to be relocated to the proposed new building is for teaching purpose and to provide practicum opportunity for students of School Chinese Medicine. The total area of the consultation rooms and acupuncture rooms in the new clinic will be of similar size as the existing rooms. It is therefore expected that the new clinic can serve around the same number of patients as the existing one. However, for better protection of privacy of patients, individual acupuncture rooms will be provided

in the new building instead of partitioning by curtains. Furthermore, the size of the waiting area in the existing clinic is relatively small and there are insufficient seats for the patients. A larger waiting area will be provided in the new clinic.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sharon Ko', written in a cursive style.

(Miss Sharon Ko)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. University Grants Committee Secretariat
(Attn: Miss Winnie Wong, DSG(1))

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
(Attn: Ms Terri Kwong, TsyO(W))