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**Lantau Development Advisory Committee  
Sustainable Development Subcommittee**

**Task Force on Lantau Conservation  
Second Meeting**

Date: 14 March 2017 (Tuesday)  
Time: 2:30pm - 5:50pm  
Venue: Conference Room of Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre  
(Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon)

**Notes of Meeting**

**Members In Attendance**

Mr. Andrew LAM Siu-lo	Convener
Dr. Michael LAU Wai-neng	Deputy Convener
Dr. CHENG Luk-ki	Representative of Green Power
Mr. CHEUNG Fu	Representative of South Lantau Rural Committee
Ms. HO Pui-han	
Mr. Eric KWOK Ping	
Mr. Julian KWONG Tse-hin	Representative of The Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong
Mr. Ken SO Kwok-yin	Representative of The Conservancy Association
Mr. WONG Man-hon	
Mr. Paul Zimmerman	
Ms. Joan SO Shuk-ye	STP2(SD), CEDD Secretary

**Facilitators**

Ms. Ginger KIANG Kam-yin	DPM (SD), HKI&I, CEDD
Mr. Louis CHAN Pin-lin	PEPO (RA), EPD
Mr. Patrick LAI Chuen-chi	AD (C&MP), AFCD
Mr. Kevin CHAN Sze-wai	STP/SP6, PlanD

**In Attendance**

Mr. Vincent WONG Yin-kai	AS (Land Supply)3, DEVB
Mr. Joe CHOW Chit	ADO(Islands)2, IsDO, HAD
Ms. HO Ching-ye	SNCO(S), AFCD
Mr. Robin LEE Kui-biu	PM (HKI&I), CEDD
Ms. Joyce LAU Yiu-yan	CE (SD), CEDD
Mr. Leo CHAN Tang-lun	SE18 (SD), CEDD
Mr. CHAN Wing-tak	TP1(SD), CEDD

**Introduction**

1. The Convener welcomed members to the second meeting of the Task Force on Lantau Conservation (Task Force) under the Sustainable Development Subcommittee (SD SC) of the Lantau Development Advisory Committee (LanDAC).

**Confirmation of Previous Notes of Meeting**

2. Members agreed to confirm the Previous Notes of Meeting issued by the Secretariat on 8 March.

**Green Transport Strategy (Presentation by Dr. CHENG Luk-ki)**

3. Dr. CHENG Luk-ki made a presentation on “Lantau Conservation begins from Transport” which suggested measures to protect the natural resources of Lantau while addressing the transport needs of locals. The measures mainly included:

- providing environmental-friendly commutation, e.g. priority use of public transports, like ferry services and inter-district buses;
- the overall carrying capacity of Lantau should be taken into account in development to avoid environmental problems, e.g. pollution and fly-tipping issues;
- controlling the number of vehicles entering the Lantau Closed Roads, strengthening patrol, and enhancing monitoring measures on construction vehicles, e.g. installing GPS on construction vehicles;
- strengthening enforcement against dumping of construction wastes in Lantau; and
- no new roads should be constructed at sites of high ecological values.

4. Dr. CHENG Luk-ki concluded that environmental impacts of transport development were ignored and contrarily traffic restrictions would be beneficial to the tourism industry, contributing to conservation of environment and habitat, as well as benefiting the residents.

5. The Convener thanked Dr. CHENG Luk-ki for his presentation. As Green Transport Strategy was among the First Batch Discussion Items, discussion could be held later in that Item. Ms. Ginger KIANG supplemented that this item would also be discussed in the coming LanDAC Traffic, Transport and District Improvement Items Subcommittee meeting in April.

[Post-meeting note: Joint meeting of LanDAC’s Sustainable Development Subcommittee and Traffic, Transport and District Improvement Items Subcommittee was re-scheduled to 2 May 2017.]

**First Batch Discussion Items**

6. Ms Joyce LAU reported that the Secretariat issued email to members on 9 December 2016 inviting proposals on Lantau conservation. Together with the comments received during the public engagement exercise in 2016 on Lantau development, the conservation proposals of the 2007 Revised Concept Plan for Lantau and other recent submissions, the Secretariat prepared a long-list of major conservation-related items. The long-list was emailed on 8 February 2017 to invite members to select 10 priority items by taking into consideration the conservation benefits, imminence of threat, practicality and ease of implementation, and other relevant factors, to facilitate discussion in the Task Force. Based on members' views, a total of 11 items, with each selected by 3 or more members, was consolidated as the First Batch Discussion Items. There were also suggestions on revising/combining some of the items in the long-list. The Revised Long-list of Major Conservation-related Items, containing 74 items, was issued to members on 8 March. The Secretariat would also suitably consolidate the 8 items from Mr. Paul Zimmerman, received before meeting, into the long-list. Ms. Joyce LAU then went through the background information and relevant considerations for each of the First Batch Discussion Items.

The Secretariat

[Post-meeting note: The items have been suitably incorporated into the revised draft Long-list and sent to members for comments together with the draft Progress Report of Task Force on Lantau Conservation and the First Batch Discussion Items on 13 April 2017.]

7. The Convener pointed out that there was a large number of Lantau conservation proposals and suggestions received, and hoped that the Task Force could agree on the way to come up with the First Batch Discussion Items. While the Government provided background information mainly from policy and operation perspectives, members were invited to discuss, in particular, benefits/opportunities and imminence of the items, for follow up actions and reporting to SD SC. The Convener also pointed out that members should declare should there be any conflict of interests. As the Task Force aimed to solicit members' views for consideration by SD SC, members could continue the discussion after declaration of interest.

8. Mr. Paul Zimmerman noted that some of the conservation items were of strategic importance whilst others were site specific. He suggested structurally re-categorizing the items for better follow-up. He also pointed out that the Government should propose strategy with corresponding measures to enhance conservation. For example, the item on setting up inventory/database and baseline information of Lantau should be done first, then issues that Lantau was facing could be identified. Based on such information, individual conservation project could be discussed. He opined that development and conservation should

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be balanced. For example, constructing new roads would involve large scale slope-cutting, damage the environment and also bring large amount of construction waste. Sustainable solution should be sought out.

9. Mr. Eric KWOK agreed with Dr. CHENG Luk-ki and Mr. Paul Zimmerman. He suggested designating South Lantau as National Park so that a special case for land resumption could be justified. He agreed to point-to-point transportation, and suggested an elevated light-rail system should there be no damage to the shoreline. To address the land-filling issue, he suggested using marine transport for moving out construction waste with Government providing supporting facilities, and applying smart measures to monitor the vehicles entering Tung Chung Road.

10. In response to the Convener, Mr. Ken SO Kwok-yin considered it hard to further prioritize the 11 items. They should be implemented together, if possible. Also, the list included items of different nature and aspects, they could be consolidated to come up with a long term strategy.

11. The Convener, Deputy Convener and Mr. Robin LEE supplemented that, the long-list with over 70 items were mainly public views collected from various channels and summarized into categories. The First Batch Discussion Items which reflected the selection of members could be prioritized for focused discussion. To facilitate discussion, Government departments provided background information on policy/implementation considerations. Members' inputs in various aspects were welcomed for more in-depth discussions. In reporting to the SD SC, the First Batch Discussion Items together with the long-list would be submitted after re-grouping to take on board members' comments.

The Secretariat

[Post-meeting note: The draft Progress Report of Task Force on Lantau Conservation with the revised Long-list and the First Batch Discussion Items was issued to members for comment on 13 April 2017.]

12. Mr. CHEUNG Fu considered it acceptable to restrict overfishing in Shui Hau, if it was not a complete ban.

13. Ms. HO Pui-han agreed to develop water transport but was concerned about its financial viability. Government's support would be required. Also, cycle tracks which would be beneficial to locals and visitors should be considered. Small-scale electric vehicles would be convenient to elderly. However, she objected mountain bike trails which would cause environmental impact. In developing green transport, the Government should consider practicability and increase resources to implement transport management measures.

14. Mr. Robin LEE supplemented that the proposed Sustainable Lantau Office could take lead to discuss and follow up with different departments

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in Lantau related issues.

15. Mr. Paul Zimmerman agreed to setting up Sustainable Lantau Office, just like Energizing Kowloon East Office, to get things done smartly. In addition, road restrictions should continue, the number of permitted vehicles should be reviewed, and frequency of ferries should be increased. Apart from the sites already listed in the long-list, additional site requiring protection should be identified. Regarding fly-tipping, enforcement issues must first be resolved.

16. Dr. CHENG Luk-ki considered the Government not putting enough attention on Lantau conservation. As the current statutory plans did not allow a comprehensive enforcement control, it would be more important to introduce green traffic management measures. The Government, in the short run, should apply administrative measures to restrict the number of certain type of vehicle from entering South Lantau, and buy time for implementing long-term measures.

17. Mr. Julian KWONG Tse-hin considered the green transport strategy in two tiers. The first tier was large scale infrastructure and the second tier being South Lantau road network. For large scale infrastructure, land requirement should be minimized, for example, by adopting tunnels and free-flow tolling systems instead of toll plazas. For South Lantau road network, traffic restriction should continue and road design should be improved to take into account road safety, comfort and streetscape with a view to encouraging drivers to reduce speed through villages.

18. The Convener thanked members for their comments. He stated that both policy and individual items were important to take forward the conservation of Lantau. Ms. Ginger KIANG invited members to provide further comments to the Secretariat, if any, within 1 week of the meeting for reporting the work progress to SD SC.

[Post-meeting note: No comment was received by the Secretariat within 1 week after meeting. An email to follow up was issued to members on 21 March 2017.]

### **Rural Conservation Pilot Projects**

19. Upon the invitation of the Convener, Ms. Joyce LAU introduced the three Rural Conservation Pilot Projects at Pui O, Shui Hau and Tai O. She stated that these projects were still in exploration stage and comments from green groups and locals were welcome.

20. Ms. HO Pui-han concerned the re-vitalization of Tai O salt pan would affect the ecology, in particular the mangrove on/near the site. She suggested having the salt pan on ground for demonstration without actual

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operation and minimizing the land take required for its ancillary facilities for protection of habitat. Also, she hoped to discuss with concerned departments on wetland protection should further details be available. She also suggested follow up with sewage issues of stilt houses to improve the environmental hygiene and general amenity of Tai O.

Drainage  
Services  
Department

[Post-meeting note: Regarding Tai O sewage issues, Drainage Services Department advised that a project was being planned to improve the sewage collection, treatment and disposal facilities of Tai O. It would include expansion and upgrading of the Tai O Sewage Treatment Plant, construction of two new sewage pumping stations and, if feasible, provide sewage collection system to nearby villages and stilt houses.]

21. Ms. Ginger KIANG supplemented that the Rural Conservation Pilot Projects were still in very preliminary stage and their locations, scale and feasibility were subject to review. There would be consultations with relevant parties when taking forward the projects.

22. Mr. Eric KWOK Ping suggested, in short term, the private land within the wetland in Pui O should be rented for cattle shelter. In medium term, sewerage project in South Lantau to improve the environment should be expedited. In the long term, to set Lantau as a test scheme and use Conservation Fund to resume land for conservation purpose at a fair price. That could protect the private land interest and the cattle at the same time.

23. Mr. WONG Man-hon and Mr. CHEUNG Fu stated that while AFCD had a sterilisation programme, the cattle number in Lantau still increased, which affected the residents livelihood. The Government should provide resources for cattle shelter, and arrange organizations to look after the cattle. They also mentioned that there was proposal to relocate cattle to Tai A Chau in order to reduce the conflicts between locals and cattle.

24. Ms. HO Pui-han opined that cattle was part of the agricultural society and having close relationship with locals. They should be retained in-situ. She suggested the Government to provide land, and to construct cattle shelter with bamboo scaffolds of local character to create an international landmark.

25. Mr. Paul Zimmerman stated that the proposal in Tai O had come up since 2009, and the issue of Pui O was obviously related to land ownership. The Government should provide concrete proposals with background information and solutions when consulting the Task Force on these Pilot Projects. He considered the proposed Tung Chung River Park was worth for pursuing. The Government should take a proactive consideration towards land resumption, if required.

26. Ms. Ginger KIANG explained that the briefing aimed to provide

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background information of the Rural Conservation Pilot Projects to members. In carrying out different conservation projects, different types of resources would be considered, as appropriate.

27. Mr. Ken SO Kwok-yin said his organization had taken part in Management Agreement projects under New Nature Conservation Policy. However, he noted that the current scope of Management Agreement was different from that of the Rural Conservation Pilot Projects. The pilot projects would involve environment as well as cultural items. He hoped the Government could clearly explain its policy and objectives, and arrange briefing session for applicants to understand more.

Environment  
Bureau /EPD

[Post-meeting note: On policy and objectives of the rural conservation pilot projects and relevant application briefing, Environment Bureau advised that the Government was in the process of formulating the relevant proposals and would inform the public of the application arrangement as soon as practicable.]

28. Deputy Convener said that the Government had to provide more information on the Pilot Projects, and to state clearly whether these projects would be taken forward together with the First Batch Discussion Items, or they were just for the discussion of the Task Force.

29. Dr. CHENG Luk-ki hoped to improve the overall conservation of nature and culture in Lantau. He opined that it should not focus only on the three Pilot Projects at the expense of other more important conservation issues.

30. Mr. Robin LEE explained that this discussion item aimed to provide Task Force members with the background information of the Pilot Projects mentioned in the Policy Address. He further supplemented that the Policy Address this year provided a great opportunity to conserve Lantau. He hoped members could provide solid advices and comments, so the Government could take them into consideration when examining the details of project items.

**Any Other Business**

31. Mr. Paul Zimmerman enquired whether the country parks in Lantau would be affected, as the Policy Address mentioned about the consideration of utilizing land in country park. He believed the green groups would object to any reduction in country park areas and hoped that enclaves could also be included into the country park.

32. Mr. Robin LEE replied that CEDD currently was not involved in any review of country park boundary in Lantau.

33. There being no other matters, the Convener thanked members for

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attending the second meeting of the Task Force. The meeting was closed at 5:50 pm.