

## **List of DEVB's Initiatives in the 2007-08 Policy Agenda Booklet**

A list of DEVB's initiatives in the 2007-08 Policy Agenda Booklet is appended below. We have 16 new initiatives and 28 on-going initiatives mainly under the two themes of "Ten Major Infrastructure Projects to Boost Our Economy" and "Quality City And Quality Life"

### **Ten Major Infrastructure Projects to Boost Our Economy**

#### **New Initiatives:**

We will:

- *Embark on planning and engineering studies on two New Development Area (NDA) Schemes, namely the "Three-in-One" NDA comprising Kwu Tung North, Fanling North and Ping Che/Ta Kwu Ling, and the Hung Shui Kiu NDA with a view to providing housing land and meeting other land use requirements in the future.*
- *Strengthen our partnership with Shenzhen and jointly explore the feasibility of developing Lok Ma Chau Loop to the mutual benefits of both sides, and steer further research and planning work on other cross-boundary issues like border crossings and the development of the boundary areas.*
- *Press ahead with mega projects essential to Hong Kong's economic progress, such as Kai Tak Development through close supervision at a high level.*

#### **Ongoing Initiatives:**

We are:

- *Conducting a joint study with the Shenzhen Municipal Government to establish the need, function and benefits of developing the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Control Point, and in parallel proceeding with an internal study on the connecting roads on the Hong Kong side. We aim to complete the necessary evaluation and planning studies in early 2008.*
- *Undertaking the necessary legislative and administrative measures with a view to reducing the coverage of the Frontier Closed Area and examining the potential uses of the land to be released from the Area.*

- *Seeing through the amalgamation of the newly established Construction Industry Council (CIC) with the Construction Industry Training Authority scheduled for early 2008.*
- *Working closely with CIC to pursue initiatives for improving the standards of the construction industry, in particular on promoting construction site safety for repair and maintenance works and developing a policy framework on sustainable construction.*
- *Conducting a comprehensive review of the manpower situation in individual sectors of the construction industry in collaboration with CIC.*
- *Working closely with the Construction Workers Registration Authority to facilitate registration of construction workers and commencing implementation of prohibition in phases, with phase one coming into effect on 1 September 2007.*
- *Strengthening collaboration with the Mainland authorities to assist the local construction industry in exploring business prospects and pursuing mutual recognition of professional qualifications under the CEPA, and with Mainland cities in the secondment of graduate trainees to encourage exchange of talents and enhance co-operation.*
- *Refining the Land Titles Ordinance in consultation with stakeholders with an aim to introduce amendments to the Ordinance and the supporting regulations into the next term of the Legislative Council as early as possible.*
- *Co-ordinating the timetable for the disposal of railway property developments to ensure that there would not be adverse impact on the property market.*
- *Ensuring that our planning, land use and urban design are in line with our stated mission to protect the Victoria Harbour and enhance it for the enjoyment of our residents and visitors alike, with the participation of the community.*
- *Taking steps to implement the strategy recommended by the Hong Kong 2030 Study which has been completed, to guide the long-term development of Hong Kong.*
- *Progressively implementing the proposals in the Revised Concept Plan for Lantau to realise the vision for balanced and co-ordinated development of Lantau.*

## **Quality City And Quality Life**

### **New Initiatives:**

We will:

- *Adopt a new policy statement on heritage conservation and implement a package of measures to progressively achieve the stated objectives.*
- *Require heritage impact assessments to be conducted for public works projects at the project inception stage with a view to avoiding interference with historic sites or buildings or where this is unavoidable, to mitigate the impacts.*
- *Intensify and expedite adaptive re-use of government-owned historic buildings and turn these into unique cultural landmarks through a special scheme involving non-governmental organisations.*
- *Put in place appropriate incentive to promote and facilitate the preservation, including maintenance, of historic buildings in private ownership.*
- *Establish an office of a Commissioner for Heritage in the Development Bureau to co-ordinate work on the heritage conservation and to provide the focal point for local and overseas networking.*
- *Enhance collaboration with the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) and the Hong Kong Housing Society in area improvement schemes to preserve local characteristics.*
- *Create more opportunities for involving stakeholders and members of the public in heritage conservation and area improvement work.*
- *Expedite capital works projects which will improve the quality of living, such as extending the development of Greening Master Plans (GMPs) to the New Territories, launching the final stage of a comprehensive replacement and rehabilitation of water mains programme and developing comprehensive cycle tracks in the New Territories.*
- *Progressively stipulate in all outline zoning plans clear development restrictions on plot ratio, site coverage and/or building height where justified to improve the living environment.*
- *Review the approved schemes of property development projects at Nam Cheong and Yuen Long Stations along the West Rail with a view to lowering their development intensity.*

- *Develop a strategy for the improvement of the Yuen Long Town Nullah to enhance the local environment quality and the ecological value of the nullahs.*
- *Devise a strategy to deal with natural hillside catchments known to be susceptible to potential landslides and which are close to buildings and public facilities, based on a risk-based ranking system to set priority.*

### **Ongoing Initiatives:**

We are:

- *Reviewing the optimal arrangement for preserving the Central Police Station, Victoria Prison and the former Central Magistracy Compound with a view to transforming these historic buildings into unique cultural landmarks.*
- *Continuing to achieve the objective of decking 16 sections of nullahs by 2014 to improve the living environment.*
- *Mapping out a long-term strategy for Total Water Management in Hong Kong, aligning and strengthening on-going activities in accordance with the long-term strategy.*
- *Expediting the reprovisioning of the Sha Tin Water Treatment Works, through a modified implementation strategy that will result in a more reliable and balanced water supply system.*
- *Continuing to promote the wider use of energy efficient devices and adoption of renewable energy systems in public works projects.*
- *Conducting a study on the general strategy for replacement of aged electrical and mechanical installations on government premises to meet modern day requirements, including the wider use of environment-friendly installations.*
- *Continuing to develop and implement GMPs for urban areas by mid-2009.*
- *Developing a performance-based regulatory system to facilitate modern and innovative building design.*
- *Completing the engagement process with stakeholders and finalizing the proposals on a minor works control system to streamline statutory procedures for processing such works in order to improve the legislative framework for building control and building safety. We will introduce amendments to the Buildings Ordinance in the 2007-08 legislative session to implement the minor works control regime.*

- *Proceeding with drafting legislation on a mandatory building inspection scheme and a mandatory window inspection scheme to require private building owners to inspect their buildings and windows regularly for introduction into the next term of the Legislative Council as early as possible.*
- *Working closely with the Hong Kong Housing Society and the URA to assist owners of older buildings to properly manage and maintain their buildings. We are also continuing our efforts to enhance building management and maintenance of private buildings through public education, publicity and participation of professional bodies.*
- *Implementing the flood prevention programme to enhance the protection level in flood prone areas, including initiating a review of the Drainage Master Plans for the northern and northwestern New Territories.*
- *Continuing with the Landslip Preventive Measures Programme to improve slope safety and visual impact of the built environment. We will upgrade another selected batch of 250 substandard government slopes and conduct safety-screening for another 300 private slopes in the coming year.*

### **Investing for a Caring Society**

#### **Ongoing Initiative:**

We are:

- *Continuing to work in collaboration with the construction industry to monitor and control payment of workers' wages and reduce non-value added multi-layer subcontracting to raise industry standards.*

### **Developing Democracy And Enhancing Governance**

#### **New Initiative:**

We will:

- *Launch a pilot scheme in the Lands Department to expedite the processing of lease modification and land exchange applications through the setting up of a dedicated team.*

## **Ongoing Initiatives:**

We are:

- *Ensuring that the Architectural Services Department can achieve the target of outsourcing to 87% of the delivery of new projects in 2007-08 under its re-engineering programme.*
- *Reviewing the small house policy with a view to formulating preliminary proposals for more in-depth discussion and continuing with the implementation of a set of streamlined procedures to expedite the processing of small house applications.*