

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Progress of the Kai Tak Multi-purpose Sports Complex (MPSC) Project

This paper briefs Members on the scope and progress of the Kai Tak MPSC project.

Project scope

2. The MPSC will occupy a site of about 28 hectares at Kai Tak. It will provide state-of-the-art multi-purpose sports venues that will not only cater for major international sports events but will also help to increase the supply of public sports facilities and provide office and commercial space, open space and park facilities. The scope of the project comprises the following facilities:

- a 50 000-seat multi-purpose stadium with a retractable roof;
- a public sports ground with seating for at least 5 000 spectators, suitable for jogging, athletics training and competitions, and football and rugby matches;
- an multi-purpose indoor sports centre with a main arena with seating for at least 4 000 spectators and a secondary arena with seating for 400 spectators to accommodate indoor sports such as basketball, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, judo, gymnastics, karatedo and wushu;
- office space more than double the provision in the current Olympic House;
- commercial space comparable to that at Hollywood Plaza to accommodate retail and food and beverage outlets;
- cycling trails connecting with the wider cycling network in the Kai Tak Development;
- outdoor sports facilities such as basketball courts, tennis courts, and jogging tracks; and
- large areas of parkland with landscaped gardens, covered seating, children's playgrounds tai chi areas and fitness stations.

The latest schematic layout plan of MPSC is at the **Annex**.

Progress of Implementation

3. The MPSC will be delivered through a design, build and operate approach whereby the Government will fund its capital cost through the Public Works Programme and involve the private sector in designing, building and operating the Complex. This approach will offer the greatest certainty in terms of achieving the policy objectives whilst harnessing the expertise and creativity of the private sector.

4. In early 2014, Home Affairs Bureau set up a small dedicated team to take forward the planning of the Project. The latest progress of the project is summarised in the following paragraphs.

Environmental and Traffic Impact Assessments

5. We began the Environmental and Traffic Impact Assessments in March 2014. Preliminary findings show that one of the key issues to address is noise generated during crowd dispersal when major events are held at the main stadium of the MPSC. With the advice of the Environmental Protection Department, we are studying measures to contain the noise nuisance. We expect the assessments to be completed by the end of 2015.

Planning study

6. We have engaged a planning consultant in January 2015 to assist in applying to the Town Planning Board for permission to relax the height limit on the main stadium to cater for a retractable roof structure, and to develop a hotel as part of the Complex. The hotel is intended for visiting athletes, support staff, officials and spectators during major events; and other visitors during other days. The planning application is expected to be completed by late 2015.

Operations Consultancy

7. We shall shortly invite tenders for an operations consultancy to provide expert advice on the functional requirements of the MPSC, as

well as performance standards, business planning and financial projections. The operations consultant will also engage stakeholders including “national sports associations (NSAs)”, the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation and other potential users so that we will be able to take account of their views and needs when working on the detailed design requirements for the MPSC.

Pre-construction works

8. We aim to obtain funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in mid-2015 to fund pre-construction work for the project, including ground investigation, topographic and tree surveys, utility mapping, and technical services and quantity surveying consultancies, to commence in late 2015.

Open space next to MPSC

9. Pedestrian access to the MPSC from the two new MTR stations namely the To Kwa Wan station and the Kai Tak station needs to pass through the planned Sung Wong Tai Park and Station Square respectively. It is therefore important that these open space projects be substantially completed before the MPSC opens. We have been working closely with the Leisure Cultural Services Department, the Architectural Services Department and other concerned departments in the planning of these projects to ensure that they will be completed in time.

Stakeholder consultation

10. Whilst taking forward the planning of the MPSC, we have maintained close liaison with stakeholders, in particular within the sports community. In this context, a MPSC Task Force has been set up under the Sports Commission which meets regularly to discuss issues related to the implementation of the MPSC. In 2014, we briefed the Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Kowloon City District Councils and the Home Affairs Panel of Legislative Council (LegCo) on the planning and progress of the project. We further briefed the LegCo Home Affairs Panel on the latest progress in February 2015.

11. We have consulted potential users of the MPSC, including the

Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation and individual NSAs to gauge their views on user requirements and expected events to be held in MPSC. We shall continue to consult the sports sector, as well as other potential users of the MPSC. The operations consultant will help us with stakeholder engagement when it starts work later this year.

12. We have set up a project website: <http://www.hab.gov.hk/mpsc> where we post related materials for public information.

Advice sought

13. Members are invited to note the progress of the MPSC project.

Sports Commission
Community Sports Committee Secretariat
March 2015