

Islands District Council

Paper IDC 22/2012

Improvement Works for Mui Wo Facelift – Phase 1 Works

Purpose

This paper (i) briefs members on the detailed design of Phase 1 Works of “Improvement Works for Mui Wo Facelift” and (ii) to solicit members’ support for the implementation of this project.

Background

2. In 2007-2008, two public forums were held under the feasibility study of “Improvement Works for Mui Wo Facelift” to collect public views on the preliminary design of the project. After the consolidation of public views and the results of project assessments, we completed the preliminary design option and submitted it to Islands District Council in April 2009. Members expressed their support on the project.

3. In October 2009, the Civil Engineering and Development Department commissioned Jacobs China Limited (the consultant) to conduct a study on the design and construction of “Improvement Works for Mui Wo Facelift”. The consultant drew up the items in Phase 1 Works based on the recommendations in the feasibility study that the project should be implemented in phases taking into account the particular situation of Mui Wo. Now, the detailed design of Phases 1 Works is substantially completed.

4. For the detailed design option of Phase 1 Works, we have approached the local groups and residents during the design stage. A public forum was held on 14 January 2012 to solicit public views on the detailed design option of Phase 1 Works to enhance and implement the design. According to the consolidated views, a majority of the general public support the detailed design option of Phase 1 Works of

“Improvement Works for Mui Wo Facelift” and request for the commencement of construction works as early as possible.

Phase 1 Works

5. The Phase I Works cover the construction of Waterfront Promenade Area, Civic Square (Recreational & Leisure Area and Performance Venue), Amenity Areas (including Silvermine Cave) and Signage:

- i) The Waterfront Promenade Area will be provided between the existing cooked-food market and River Silver. The existing footpath will be converted to a cycle track, and a new 5m width pedestrian footpath will be built on the seawall in order to eliminate the conflict between cyclist and vehicular traffic. The new pedestrian footpath and the cycle track will be segregated by curved planters. Shelters and benches will be provided along the footpath. The footbridge at River Silver will also be widened to facilitate the segregation of cycle track and pedestrian footpath. (Please refer Plan 1.)
- ii) The Civic Square will include Recreational & Leisure Area (RLA) and Performance Venue (PV). The RLA will accommodate a wide range of recreational facilities, such as Display Garden, Nature Garden, Playgrounds for different age groups of children and Elderly Exercise Area. PV will provide a large open space for viewing performance. (Please refer Plan 1.)
- iii) The eight Amenity Areas will be scattered around the Mui Wo old town and its village environs, providing facilities such as pavilions, cycle parking, sitting areas and greening plants. (Please refer Plan 2.) The Amenity Areas in Silvermine Cave will feature the exterior Upper Adit and

Lower Adit. New paving, seating benches and pavilion will be introduced to the design of the Upper Adit; whereas a Silvermine Cave information board and a viewing platform are to be provided at the amenity area outside the Lower Adit. On the viewing platform, the public can get a glimpse of the bat roosting site in the Lower Adit. (Please refer Plan 3.)

- iv) There will be three types of Signage, namely main information boards, specific information boards and directional signage at appropriate locations to provide clear directions to the visitors. In addition, we will provide village maps at the entrance of each village for the convenience of the visitors. (Please refer Plan 4.)

Way Forward

6. Subject to the support of the members, we will commence the statutory gazette publication and funding procedures for the project. The Phase 1 works construction is expected to commence as early as 2013 with completion in 2015.

7. To minimise the impact on the residents in Mui Wo, we will consult the relevant government departments and local communities to formulate temporary measures during the construction phase.

Consultation

8. Members are invited to give views on the proposed detailed design of the Phase 1 Works and support to the implementation of this project.

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The Civil Engineering and Development Department
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