(Translation)

25 February 2021

Mr LO Kin-hei Chairman, Southern District Council (SDC) 3 Aberdeen Praya Road, Southern District, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

Proposed Agenda Item for the SDC Meeting on 11 March 2021: Request for Enhancement of the Facilities in Stanley and Shek O to tie in with the "Invigorating Island South" Initiative

The Government has proposed implementation of the Invigorating Island South initiative in the Policy Address of November 2020. The key projects include, inter alia, a proposal for the rebirth of Ocean Park, revitalising the Jumbo Floating Restaurant, enhancing the cultural and leisure facilities in the vicinity of Aberdeen and Wong Chuk Hang as well as development of the Wong Chuk Hang Business Area. Unfortunately, there was almost no mention of the Stanley and Shek O areas except one item "development of a water sports centre at the Shek O Quarry site". Concerning this subject, I would like to put forward the following suggestions and invite representatives from the relevant Departments to attend the meeting for a thorough discussion with this Council.

1. Management of Promenades

The Invigorating Island South initiative proposes to enhance the cultural and leisure facilities in the vicinity of Aberdeen and Wong Chuk Hang, such as enhancing Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter, Aberdeen Promenade and Ap Lei Chau Main Street. Actually, there are quite a number of similar places in Stanley and Shek O, for example, Stanley Promenade and Stanley Waterfront Mart. Can the Government also enhance Aberdeen, Ap Lei Chau, Stanley and Shek O all together, including the mode of management for promenades in the Southern District?

2. Animal-friendly

The current term of SDC attaches great importance on promoting an inclusion of pets policy, say, by setting up a Working Group on Animal Rights to advocate provision of "Inclusive Parks for Pets" in the district. I propose that more animal-friendly measures be adopted under the Invigorating Island South initiative with a view to opening up more public facilities to allow entry of pets, such as opening up of the Ocean Park, Jumbo Floating Restaurant, waterfront promenades in the district and beaches with less visitors (e.g. Turtle Cove Beach).

3. Traffic Problem

In view of the severe traffic congestion in the Southern District, especially the Stanley and Shek O areas, if the development of the Ocean Park and the Wong Chuk Hang area is accelerated without any new plan of transport facilities in support, it would simply aggravate the traffic condition in the district. Regarding a study of the "Invigorating Island South" initiative to explore new marine tourism routes, I would like to propose an introduction of waterborne transport routes for connection between Stanley, Repulse Bay, Ocean Park, Aberdeen and other places in order to alleviate the pressure on land traffic. I also urge the Government to implement the commissioning of South Island Line (West) as soon as possible in order to resolve the traffic problem of the district in the long term.

4. Supporting the Economy of the Southern District

As Hong Kong has been greatly affected by the epidemic situation and global economic downturn, the economy of the Southern District has also suffered a heavy blow. While the Government is implementing the "Invigorating Island South" initiative, what measures will be put in place to support the shop tenants or small and medium enterprises in Stanley and Shek O as well as the entire Southern District?

5. Conservation of Historical Monuments

There are a number of declared monuments and historic buildings in the Southern District, such as the Old Stanley Police Station, historic structures of Pok Fu Lam Reservoir and Staff Quarters Compound of the Tai Tam Group of Reservoirs. Moreover, there are still items of built heritage in the Southern District that have not yet been proposed for assessment, like the Stanley Road and the original Shau Ki Wan Road discovered by District Councillor Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN and I last month. The two ancient roads are of great historical significance and have led to extensive coverage in the media. In the course of tourism development in the district, will the Government consider expediting the conservation and grading work for these heritage

structures so as to enhance public awareness of the heritage conservation in the Southern District?

I should be grateful if you would approve the aforesaid agenda.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)
PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael
Southern District Councillor (Stanley & Shek O)