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South China Morning Post
Morning Post Centre
22 Dai Fai Street,
Tai Po Industrial Estate,
Tai Po,
Hong Kong

Dear Editor,

Shore Protection Works at Big Wave Bay Beach

I refer to the report "Beach-lovers horrified at wall plan for Big Wave Bay" (September 6) regarding the proposed shore protection works at Big Wave Bay Beach. I would like to provide some additional information.

Typhoon Hagupit caused severe damage and sand loss to Big Wave Bay Beach in September 2008. A number of trees at the back of the beach were damaged by the typhoon. The managing department of the beach, Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) cleared fallen trees and loose rock fragments on the beach immediately after the typhoon. LCSD then requested our department (CEDD) to provide technical assistance in the design and construction of shore protection works.

We have proposed a preliminary design for the shoreline protection works which mainly comprised the following:

- A retaining wall at the sand dune to stabilize the steep slope caused by Typhoon Hagupit and to protect the existing trees;
- A wall to replace the dwarf wall adjacent to the natural stream course at the north of the beach in order to prevent beach sand from washing out to the sea via the natural stream.

The proposed works are designed according to the current design standards in Hong Kong for permanent marine works. Factors such as public safety, environmental consideration, maintenance, aesthetics, and durability have also been considered.

We presented the preliminary design to the District Facilities Management Committee of Southern District Council (DC) on 4 June 2009. In the meeting, DC supported the implementation of the proposed works and some members made suggestions on enhancing the aesthetics of the structures.

We are finalising the design taking into account DC's suggestions and will consult the DC again when the design is substantially completed.

Yours faithfully,



(LAM Sing-kwok)

Chief Engineer/Port Works

Civil Engineering and Development Department

