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By Fax 2250 3242

5 May 2011

Editor of South China Morning Post

Dear Editor,

Yung Shue Wan Development Phase 2

I refer to your article entitled “Lamma waterfront plan back on the table” and editorial “Lamma islanders ought to be involved in plan” published on 26 April and 2 May 2011 respectively and letters of Wouter van Marle, Nick Bilcliffe and Jos Vernon published on 28 April, 30 April and 4 May 2011 respectively. To avoid any misunderstandings, I wish to provide some background of the project to your readers.

The Yung Shue Wan Development comprises two phases with the Phase 1 works completed in April 2002. The proposed Phase 2 development includes reclamation of about 4000 square metres of land for the construction of a landscaped seafront promenade with a sandy foreshore feature in order to improve the general landscape and environment of Yung Shue Wan for enjoyment by locals and visitors. As an added benefit, the reclamation can accommodate a new emergency vehicular access (EVA) which will help reducing the travelling time from the town centre to the clinic and helipad in emergency.

The current conceptual proposal was drawn up in 2003 based on support of the public and consensus reached at that time. However, we are yet to commence the detailed design and will certainly engage the public before firming up any details of the proposed works. It is therefore obviously premature to say that the waterfront will all be covered up with concrete.

The advertisement of the Project Profile for public inspection and comments invited from 24 February to 9 March 2011 is only a formality under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. We have no intention of pressing ahead with the project without substantive support of the public including the local residents on its design details.

Yours faithfully,

(LAM Sing-kwok)
Chief Engineer / Port Works
Civil Engineering and Development Department