



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, May 22, 1973

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NEW HOUSING COMPLEX FOR TUEN MUN

A new public housing estate will be built in Tuen Mun to provide accommodation for more than 46,000 people.

The estate forms part of the massive 10-year housing programme to provide self-contained public housing units to 1.5 million people.

It will have all the facilities of a modern township, providing parking areas, shops and markets, communal areas and recreation spaces.

These essential facilities are in a central position, with the pedestrian and play areas separated from vehicular traffic.

They can be reached directly from the main blocks by covered walkways, a new concept in the design of housing estates.

The basic domestic units, ranging in area from 175 to 315 sq. ft. with toilets and kitchens on the balconies, will be provided in five 30-storey cruciform or cross-shaped blocks.

More than 300 medium sized flats with balconies will also be provided in a 7-storey slab block.

The cruciform shape of the main blocks will allow better use of the open areas, and the increased number of flats in these high blocks will provide more space for recreation.

Facilities to be provided in the estate will follow closely those planned for the new Lek Yuen Estate to be built in Sha Tin.

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The central shopping area will have a supermarket, and it will be linked to a centralised bus terminus by a ramp serving as an arcade for 30 more shops.

A two-storey restaurant will be built near the bus terminus, and a large cafe will be set up on the deck over the main shopping area.

A public light bus stand has also been included in the plans.

A total of 700 parking spaces -- about one space to 10 families -- has been provided and some 70 other parking spaces for lorries will be distributed throughout the estate where there is a need for delivery services.

Four secondary schools, four primary schools and four kindergartens have been provided for the children and allowance has also been made for the establishment of nursery schools in case they are needed.

The secondary schools will be built to an "inter-locking" design, sharing some common facilities.

There will be a total of 18 acres of recreation space which is double the present recommended minimum of 0.2 acres for 1,000 people.

Accommodation for a welfare hall, study rooms, enclosed games area, an estate office, a post office, library, clinic, police post, ambulance depot and banking facilities have also been provided, as well as an 18,000 sq. ft. workshop area which is to be completely separate from the domestic accommodation.

The whole project is estimated to cost \$130 million and is expected to be completed in 1977.

The first contract for the work is expected to be called in September this year and the first block ready for occupation in 1975.

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Note to Editors: Photographs of a model of the new estate will be boxed this evening.

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KOWLOON BAY CLEARANCE MUST PROCEED AS PLANNED

A Government spokesman today said that plans for the clearance of factories and shops at present occupying the site for the mass transit depot at Kowloon Bay must proceed if construction of the railway was not to be delayed.

He confirmed that all domestic residents in the area would be accommodated and some have already moved from the area.

The position of factory-owners and shopkeepers continued to be viewed with sympathy. Whilst it was true that formal notice of the clearance was given as recently as March this year, the factory-owners and shopkeepers have been aware since early 1972 that they would have to remove their undertakings from the area.

All Crown Land permits were cancelled over a period in 1972, the last cancellation taking effect from September 1. In addition, notices intimating that clearance of the area was to proceed were posted as early as January, 1972. Subsequently the entire area was screened by officers of the Housing Department, known as the Resettlement Department at that time.

Officers of the Labour Department are available now at the Government Offices, Kwun Tong to assist the workers employed in the area to find alternative employment. It is expected that the majority of them will have no difficulty in finding other jobs in the Kwun Tong area where there are currently ample job opportunities.

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The Government spokesman stressed that in accordance with government policy, only those undertakings which were established on the site before 1966 and which had then under 5,000 square feet in working area are eligible for the allocation of government factory units.

It is expected that the allocation of factory units to over 40 eligible undertakings will be completed this week and the allocations to a further 20 eligible undertakings the following week.

Nine shopkeepers will receive ex-gratia allowance in cash and a number of others are under investigation.

Officers from the Housing Department and the staff of the City District Office (Kwun Tong) have been visiting the area and are available to give advice to factory-owners and shopkeepers on their removal problems.

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GOVERNOR TO VISIT HAWKER AREA

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, will visit the hawker area in Pei Ho Street, Sham Shui Po, on Thursday (May 24) as part of the "Keep Hong Kong Clean Campaign".

Once a congested and untidy hawker site, this street has since been transformed into a neat and clean bazaar.

The Governor has expressed the wish to see for himself how some of these places are being maintained.

Three officers of the Urban Services Department will accompany Sir Murray on the visit. They are Mr. James So Yiu-cho, Assistant Director (Abattoirs, Hawkers and Markets); Mr. H. Martin and Mr. D.L. Smith, both Senior Hawker Liaison Officers.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the visit. A G.I.S. officer will meet members of the press at the junction of Pei Ho Street and Lai Chi Kok Road at 2.15 p.m. to assist them in their coverage of the event.

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INAUGURATION CEREMONY

The Wong Tai Sin District Federation of Welfare Services for the Aged will hold a second inauguration ceremony on Thursday (May 24) for office bearers for the 1973-75 session.

It will take place at the Wong Tai Sin Community Centre in Kowloon.

Officials presiding at the ceremony will include the Rev. Paul Webb, Assistant Director, Hong Kong Council of Social Service; Mr. Stephen Law Chi-lin, Senior Principal Social Welfare Officer (Group and Community Work) and Mr. Chan Hon-kwong, City District Officer, Wong Tai Sin.

A spokesman for the Federation, Mr. Basil Leung, said in the coming term it was hoped to strengthen the Federation and organise a campaign for concern for the aged. The existing services provided by its Ki Lin Centre will also be improved.

Note to Editors: You are invited to cover the inauguration ceremony on Thursday (May 24) at the Wong Tai Sin Community Centre at 104, Ching Tak Street, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon, at 4 p.m.

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CHANGES IN EXCO MEMBERSHIPS

Two members of the Legislative Council have been appointed on a temporary basis to the Executive Council.

Mr. Q.W. Lee, whose appointment took effect yesterday (Monday), will serve as an Unofficial Member until about June 17 during the absence of Sir Yuet-keung Kan.

Mr. R.H. Lobo will be an Unofficial Member from today until about August 22 while Sir Douglas Clague is absent from Hong Kong.

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"FANTASTIC REALISM" - A NEW ART EXHIBITION

An exhibition of the drawings and prints of twelve leading artists of the Vienna School of Fantastic Realism will open this week in the City Museum and Art Gallery.

The exhibition entitled "Vienna School of Fantastic Realism" is a joint presentation of the Urban Council and the Austrian Consulate-General.

The School is an art movement which started shortly after the Second World War, and its painters are concerned with themes such as war and peace, the individual and the society, civilisation's refinement and nature's rawness, reason and non-reason, God and the Devil, and lovers' bliss.

Fantastic Realists are meticulous painters and draughtsmen who seek to reveal the inner world of the human psyche. They see fantasy as a way to enhance their experience of reality.

Mr. Karl Peterlik, the Austrian Consul-General, will open the exhibition. It will be open to the public from May 25 to June 10.

Note to Editors: There will be a preview of the exhibition on Wednesday (May 23) at 6 p.m. You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to attend the function.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.