

Agreement No. CE 61/2007
North East New Territories New Development Areas
Planning and Engineering Study - Investigation
Stage Three Public Engagement

Gist of Meeting with the North District Wholesale Market Operators

Date : 15 August 2012 (Wed)
Time : 3:00pm
Venue : Luen Wo Hui Community Hall, Ground Floor, 9 Wo Mun Street, Luen Wo Hui, Fanling, North District, N.T.

Reprovisioning of the North District Temporary Wholesale Market for Agricultural Products

- It was hoped that a permanent wholesale market could be placed, and to provide sufficient amenities and shelters, as well as increase the area of the market for local farmers selling their products;
- It was hoped that the Government would support agricultural development and review the alignment of the proposed road in order to minimize its impact to the wholesale market;
- It was proposed to find another piece of land near the present location for the new site for the permanent market, to reduce the impact of the phased relocation of the farmers/operators;
- During the detailed design stage of the wholesale market, more consultation should be conducted with affected operators/farmers; and
- Pointed out that alteration of the internal layout of the wholesale market would affect the current operations of the operators.

Reprovisioning for the Affected Operators/Farmers

- It was hoped that the Government could first handle the resettlement issues before relocating the market and the Government could provide some reasonable allowance/subsidy to the affected farmers/operators;
- As the resettlement would affect the income of the operators/farmers, they should be compensated;
- The proposed location of new wholesale market should not affect the income of the operators/farmers while the reprovisioning works should benefit their business in the future; and
- The Government should duly consider the reprovisioning process and arrangements, including the existing layout and operational needs of the operators/farmers.

Overall Development Strategies

- The NDAs proposals should reserve as much farmland as possible for the local farmers to continue farming, so as to prevent them from being unemployed; and
- The NDAs should not only cater for the needs of the additional population, but that of the affected farmers as well.

Others

- It was hoped that the Government would designate an "Agricultural District" in the New Territories, so that the farmers could continue farming; and
- Demanded the Government to formulate a set of long-term agricultural strategies in order to protect the livelihood of the farmers in Hong Kong.

[Note: The above gist of views collated by the Consultants is for reference only and has not been confirmed by the participants.]