

Tenders invited for improvement works of Fanling Highway (Pak Shek Au Portion) and associated works at Kwu Tung North New Development Area

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) today (September 27) gazetted a notice to invite tenders for the contract for Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Remaining Phase: Improvement Works of Fanling Highway (Pak Shek Au Portion) and Associated Works (Contract No. ND/2024/05). The closing time for the tender is noon on December 6.

The works mainly include:

- site clearance and formation (including land decontamination works);
- widening of Fanling Highway (Chau Tau to Pak Shek Au Portion);
- modification of Castle Peak Road (Chau Tau Portion);
- construction of Pak Shek Au Interchange;
- modification of Pak Shek Au Bridge across Fanling Highway;
- construction of footbridge across Fanling Highway (Pak Shek Au Portion);
- extension of existing subways Nos. NS161 and NS161A;
- construction of associated works including water mains, drainage, retention tanks, sewerage works, roadworks, cycle tracks, footpaths, junction improvement, box culverts, slope works, retaining walls, street furniture, landscaping works, electrical and mechanical works and other ancillary works; and
- implementation of environmental mitigation measures (including noise barriers and low-noise road surfacing) and environmental monitoring works for the works mentioned above.

The works are scheduled to commence in April 2025 and will take about 62 months to complete.

The CEDD has commissioned AECOM Asia Company Limited to design and supervise the works. Interested contractors can download the tender forms and other particulars from the e-Tendering System (e-TS). Tenderers must submit tenders in electronic format via the e-TS.

Details of the tender notice are available on the CEDD's website (www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/tender-notices/contracts/tender-notices/index.html). For enquiries, please call AECOM Asia Company Limited at 3922 9000 during office hours.

Fresh artistic atmosphere to be introduced at Victoria Park Arts Corner

A new phase of the Arts Corner will be launched by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in Victoria Park this Tuesday (October 1). Visitors can stroll around a wide array of traditional and trendy handicrafts and arts services stalls while enjoying their leisure in the park.

The 23rd phase of the Arts Corner in Victoria Park will run from October 1 till September 28 next year, and will be open from 10am to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays at South Pavilion Plaza in the park. The Arts Corner comprises eight handicraft and arts services stalls, displaying and selling various kinds of handicrafts and artistic works such as fabric crafts, leather goods and ornaments, as well as providing photography services.

"The Arts Corner aims to enhance public interest in arts and enrich the arts atmosphere in Hong Kong. It will also make the park a more appealing and enjoyable place for visitors," a spokesman for the department said.

Apart from Victoria Park, another Arts Corner and an Arts Fun Fair are being held at Hong Kong Park and Kowloon Park respectively.

The 24th phase of Hong Kong Park's Arts Corner is now open between noon and 6pm every Saturday and Sunday, and on public holidays. It will continue until December 31 at the outdoor area near the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware inside Hong Kong Park. There are 10 stalls in operation including handicrafts stalls selling fabric crafts and ornaments, as well as arts stalls providing cultural and arts services such as painting and portrait sketching.

The 26th phase of the Arts Fun Fair at Kowloon Park is also open now, from 1pm to 7pm on Sundays and public holidays, until May 31 next year at the park's Loggia. There are 18 stalls displaying and selling craftworks including floral artworks and ornaments as well as art services including painting and calligraphy.

"The Arts Corners have been well received in past years. While taking a break at the Arts Corners, park-goers can also visit other facilities in the parks and spend some pleasant time there," the spokesman said.

For enquiries, please call 2890 5824 (Victoria Park), 2521 5041 (Hong Kong Park) or 2724 3344 (Kowloon Park).

Cases of making ex gratia payments from Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund gazetted

â€‹The Commissioner for Labour today (September 27) gave notices in the Gazette under section 16(1A) and/or section 18(2) of the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Ordinance (Chapter 380) for cases with ex gratia payments from the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund made to employees.

For details of the notices, please refer to Government Notice Numbers from 5698 to 5749 on the website of the [eGazette of the Government Logistics Department](#).

DH's enforcement operation "Pipepurge" against waterpipe smoking in no smoking areas (with photo)

The Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office (TACO) of the Department of Health (DH) conducted an enforcement operation codenamed "Pipepurge" last night (September 26) against illegal waterpipe smoking activities in no smoking areas in Tsim Sha Tsui.

During the operation, officers from TACO (including plainclothes officers) issued a total of seven fixed penalty notices (FPNs) to persons illegally smoking waterpipes at one bar. TACO's investigation is ongoing, and prosecution may also be taken against operators of the bar who are suspected of contravening the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371) (the Ordinance) and the Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Cap. 221) for aiding and abetting smoking offences. TACO will also notify the Liquor Licensing Board of the above-mentioned violation.

Under the Ordinance, conducting a smoking act in a statutory no smoking area (such as indoor areas of bars or restaurants) is prohibited. Any person doing a smoking act in statutory no smoking areas is liable to a fixed penalty of \$1,500. Moreover, where smoking products (including waterpipes) are sold, in bars or otherwise, the restrictions on the promotion and sale of smoking products stipulated in the Ordinance apply. Offenders are liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000. Venue managers of statutory

no smoking areas are empowered by the Ordinance to request a smoking offender cease the act; if the offender is not co-operative, the manager may contact the Police for assistance.

Also, under the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, any person who aids, abets, counsels or procures the commission by another person of any offence shall be guilty of the like offence. A spokesman for the DH appeals to operators and venue managers of bars/restaurants not to assist any person in breaching the statutory smoking prohibitions, or provide a waterpipe apparatus and tobacco to customers for use.

The DH spokesman stressed that TACO will follow up and investigate every complaint about illegal smoking, and will conduct inspections and take enforcement actions in the venue concerned. TACO will also conduct joint inspections and enforcement action (including plainclothes operations) with other law enforcement agencies from time to time with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement. The DH will continue to closely monitor and take stringent enforcement actions to tackle illegal waterpipe smoking. In the past 12 months, TACO conducted 119 operations against illegal waterpipe smoking activities in no smoking areas. A total of 161 FPNs were issued against smoking offenders, while 78 summonses were issued to staff members and operators of the bars/restaurants for other related offences.

The spokesman said that waterpipe is a smoking product, and its combustion of fuel (e.g. charcoal) releases carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a colourless, odourless and tasteless gas that is a by-product from incomplete combustion of any fuel containing carbon, such as charcoals. Exposure to a low concentration of carbon monoxide can lead to a range of symptoms such as dizziness, headache, tiredness and nausea; whereas exposure to a high concentration of carbon monoxide can lead to impaired vision, disturbed co-ordination, unconsciousness, brain damage or even death. People should seek medical attention immediately if they suspect they are developing symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Due to deeper inhalation and longer smoking sessions, waterpipe users usually inhale more toxins than they would when smoking cigarettes. A typical one-hour waterpipe smoking session exposes the user to 100 to 200 times the volume of smoke inhaled from a single conventional cigarette. Moreover, sharing a waterpipe apparatus increases the risk of transmitting infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis. Furthermore, areas in bars/restaurants where waterpipes are handled or kept have been found to be unhygienic during previous enforcement operations. The spokesman cautions against waterpipe smoking and the use of other smoking products. Smokers should quit smoking as early as possible for their own health and that of others. For more information on the hazards of waterpipe smoking, please visit www.livetobaccofree.hk/pdfs/waterpipe_leaflet_new.pdf.



Unconscious remand person in custody dies in hospital

A 62-year-old male remand person in custody, who had been found unconscious in Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre, died in a public hospital today (September 27).

The remand person in custody suffered from hypertension and diabetes mellitus. He required continuous medical care and follow-up at the institution hospital and public hospitals. At 6.56am today, the remand person in custody was found unconscious in his cell by a correctional officer. The officer immediately called for reinforcement to provide first-aid treatment to him, and an ambulance was called at once to send him to a public hospital for further treatment. He remained unconscious after being sent to the public hospital. His condition deteriorated and he was certified dead at 7.59am today.

The case has been reported to the Police. A death inquest will be held by the Coroner's Court.

The person in custody was remanded for the offence of voyeurism in September 2024.