





Chapter VI

Liveable City

My Belief

“A liveable environment makes Hong Kong people happy, hopeful, confident about the future and have a sense of belonging to Hong Kong.”

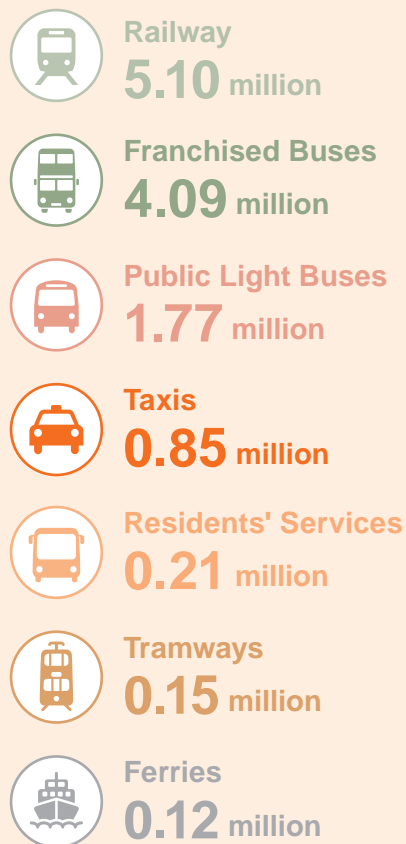
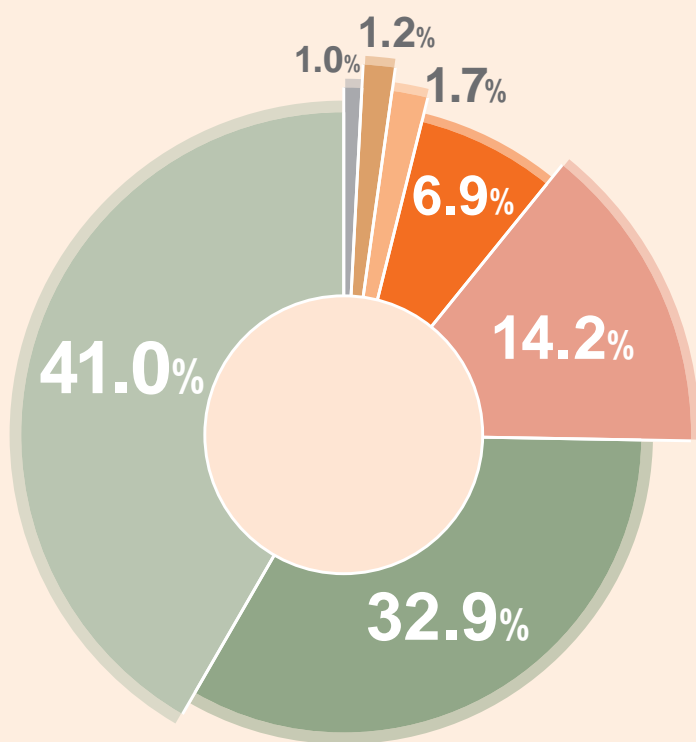
“Public expectations for a ‘liveable city’ are rising. In addition to ample land and housing supply, green countryside, a beautiful harbour, a sustainable environment and heritage conservation are indispensable for a quality city.”

“Hong Kong has a long history as the meeting point of East and West and a melting pot of the two cultures. We should honour the invaluable legacy of the ‘Pearl of the Orient’ and create a cosmopolitan city that embraces culture, arts and sports. This will give our citizens a home where they can enjoy physical health and cultural richness.”

I set out the policy direction of “according priority to transport infrastructure” in my 2018 Policy Address. Through creating capacity, our transport infrastructure will not only be able to cope with foreseeable demand, but also provide reasonable buffer capacity to support possible long-term developments in the future.

Public Transport

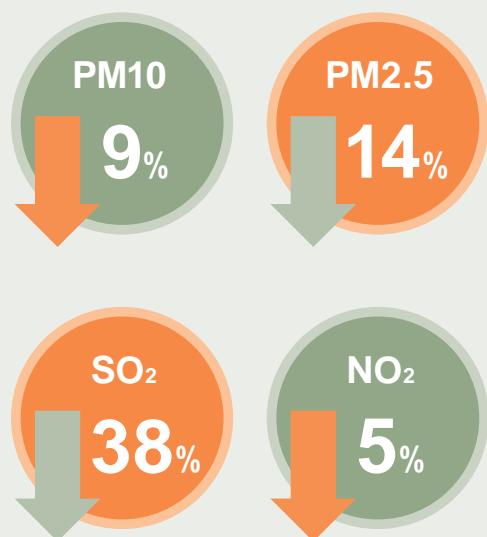
Distribution of Average Daily Public Transport Patronage in 2019



Environment

Improved Air Quality

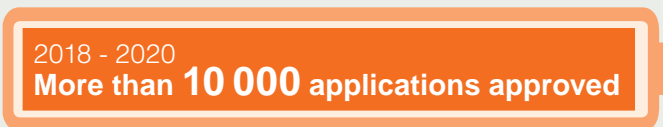
2017 - 2019



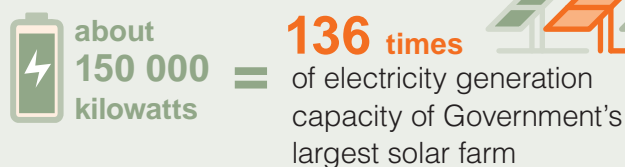
Renewable Energy

Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme

Citizens can sell renewable energy to two power companies

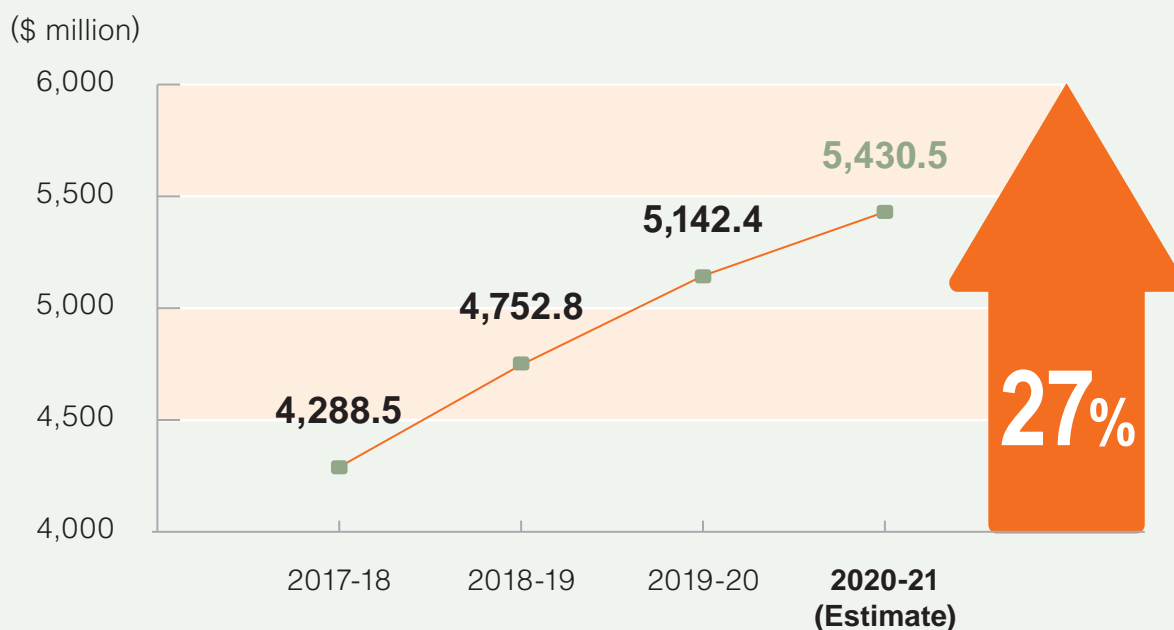


Electricity generation capacity



Arts & Culture

Increased recurrent funding to support arts & cultural development



Sports and Recreation

Enhanced support for sports development



Committed

\$60 billion

Since 2017-18



\$31.9 billion

Kai Tak Sports Park



Reserved

\$20 billion

Five-year Plan for development of sports and recreational facilities



Injected

\$6 billion into
Elite Athletes
Development Fund



Injected

\$1 billion into
Arts and Sport
Development Fund
(Sports Portion)



Injected

\$500 million into
Major Sports Events
Matching Grant Scheme



Injected

\$250 million
into Hong Kong
Athletes Fund



Set up

\$130 million
Team Sports
Development Programme



Reserved

\$100 million
to support
disability sports

Promoting Building Safety

Operation Building Bright 2.0



\$6 billion
to support repair and
maintenance of old buildings

**5 000 private
buildings**
benefited

Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Needy Owners



\$2 billion

**25 000 needy
owners**
benefited

Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme



\$4.5 billion

8 000 lifts
benefited

Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme



\$5.5 billion

**6 000 to 6 500 old
composite (commercial and
domestic) buildings**
benefited

New Public Markets

Six new public market projects

- Tin Shui Wai market
- Tung Chung Town Centre market
- Tseung Kwan O market
- Kwu Tung North New Development Area (NDA) market
- Tung Chung New Town Extension market
- Hung Shui Kiu NDA market



Progress Made

A total of 177 new initiatives were announced since July 2017, of which 165 have been completed or are progressing on schedule.

Key initiatives completed or major progress made are as follows:

Transport

Developing Transport Infrastructure

- Commissioned the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link in September 2018, with daily average patronage of 47 000 as of end-2019. (THB)
- Commissioned the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) in October 2018, with more than 80 000 cross-boundary vehicles of the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao being eligible to travel on HZMB. (THB)
- Commissioned the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link in February 2019, reducing the journey time between Central and Island Eastern Corridor in North Point to around five minutes only. (THB)
- Commissioned the Heung Yuen Wai Highway in May 2019 improving traffic in the North District and providing the access road to the new Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point with cargo clearance services opened in August 2020. (DEVB)
- Invited MTR Corporation Limited to proceed with the detailed planning and design for the Tung Chung Line Extension and Tuen Mun South Extension in the first half of 2020. (THB)

- Commissioned Tuen Ma Line Phase 1 in February 2020 connecting Wu Kai Sha and Kai Tak, shortening the journey time between Tai Wai and Diamond Hill stations from 17 to 9 minutes. (THB)

Improving Public Transport Services

- Three franchised bus companies, viz. Citybus Limited, New Lantau Bus Company (1973) Limited and New World First Bus Services Limited, opened up their real-time arrival information in machine-readable formats on the Public Sector Information Portal (DATA.GOV.HK) in August 2019 for free use by the public and the industry. (THB)
- Improved in-harbour and outlying island ferry services: completed tender exercise for the “Central – Hung Hom” and “water taxi” ferry services, with the “Central – Hung Hom” route commencing operation in June 2020 and the operator actively gearing up for the “water taxi” service. (THB)
- Extended the Special Helping Measures to more outlying island ferry routes to maintain affordable fare level from April 2020. (THB)
- Committed to subsidising the replacement of existing vessels of outlying island routes with greener vessels in phases starting from 2021. (THB)
- Completed the legislative work in the first half of 2020 to relax the vehicle length and maximum gross weight restriction of light buses, and preparing legislative amendments concerning the design of emergency exits, etc., so as to allow more choices for the trade while accommodating the development needs of the industry. (THB)

Pedestrian-friendly Environment

- Carried out detailed design for a new footbridge across Kwun Tong Road near MTR Kowloon Bay Station Exit A (in progress) and another footbridge across Wai Yip Street near Siu Yip Street (largely completed). (DEVB)
- Endorsed nine premium waiver applications from landowners for the construction of footbridges and subways at their own cost under the policy of Facilitating Provision of Pedestrian Links by the Private Sector. (DEVB)
- Enhanced the connectivity, improved the environment and released development potential to expedite the transformation of Kowloon East into the second core business district. More than 70 traffic and pedestrian environment improvement works items have been completed. 16 hectares of open spaces and public spaces have been provided or enhanced. (DEVB)
- Press ahead with the Universal Accessibility Programme to proactively retrofit barrier-free access facilities (e.g. lifts) at walkways and extended its coverage to walkways in estates under the Tenants Purchase Scheme, Buy or Rent Option Scheme and public rental housing (PRH) estates with non-residential properties divested under the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA). As of September 2020, 163 items were completed. (THB)

- Promoted “Walk in HK” to foster a pedestrian-friendly environment: completed the first batch of works to enhance pedestrian connectivity between Wan Chai and Sheung Wan in June 2020 while other improvement measures will be implemented by phase; finalise the overall walkability strategy for Hong Kong and extend the coverage of walking route search function under “HKeMobility” to 18 districts by end-2020; consult respective District Councils (DCs) on the projects for provision of cover for walkways connecting to public hospitals from the fourth quarter of 2020; and invite 18 DCs to nominate the second round projects for provision of cover for walkways starting from the fourth quarter of 2020. With regard to the provision of cover for walkway projects nominated by the DCs in the first round, the first project was completed in February 2020 while nine projects have commenced construction progressively. The remaining eight projects are under planning and design. (THB)

Relieving the Burden of Public Transport Expenses

- Launched the non-means tested Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme in January 2019 to relieve the fare burden of commuters, benefiting an average of 1.9 million passengers per month. The Scheme was further enhanced with effect from 1 January 2020 by raising the subsidy rate from one-fourth to one-third of the monthly public transport expenses exceeding \$400, as well as lifting the subsidy cap from \$300 to \$400 per month. (THB)

- Completed the review of the Fare Adjustment Arrangement for Franchised Buses. Among others, the Weighted Average Cost of Capital of the franchised bus industry was adjusted. Profits achieved by a franchised bus operator exceeding the rate of return on average net fixed assets of 8.7% shall be shared on a 50:50 basis between the franchised bus operator and passengers through fare concessions. The new arrangement took effect in January 2019. (THB)
- Exempted franchised bus operators from paying tolls of seven government tunnels and two government roads with effect from 17 February 2019. Each franchised bus operator has set up its own dedicated fund account for keeping the toll savings for relieving fare increase pressure. (THB)
- Waive the tolls of the new Tuen Mun – Chek Lap Kok Tunnel and the Lantau Link upon commissioning of the former scheduled for the end of 2020 at the earliest; and waive the tolls of the new Tseung Kwan O – Lam Tin Tunnel and the Tseung Kwan O Tunnel upon commissioning of the former scheduled for the end of 2021 at the earliest. (THB)
- Established an International Expert Panel in January 2020 for gauging advice on the development of the Electronic Road Pricing Pilot Scheme in Central (Pilot Scheme), following stakeholder consultation on the concept and preliminary ideas of the Pilot Scheme in mid-2019. (THB)

Increasing the Provision of Parking Spaces

- Drawn up short-term and medium-to long-term measures to increase the number of car parking spaces in Hong Kong. These include designating suitable on-street locations as night-time parking spaces, providing public parking spaces at suitable “Government, Institution or Community” facilities and public open space projects in line with the “single site, multiple uses” principle, taking forward pilot projects of automated parking systems and reviewing the standards on provision of parking spaces and loading/unloading bays in housing developments stipulated in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. (THB)

Environment and Nature Conservation

Enhancing Waste Management

- Enhanced support for waste reduction and recycling through new collection services and infrastructures, including launching new collection service on waste paper and pilot scheme on waste plastics collection, as well as “Reduce and Recycle 2.0” Campaign. (ENB)
- Commenced the operation of the O·PARK1 and WEEE·PARK in 2018. So far, treated a total of around 70 000 tonnes of food waste and 50 000 tonnes of regulated waste electrical and electronic equipment respectively. (ENB)

- Launched a pilot collection scheme to collect food waste from some commercial and industrial premises and transport it to the O-PARK1 for recycling from July 2018; actively preparing to launch a larger scale second phase of the pilot scheme in 2021, which will not only cover food waste from commercial and industrial sector, but also progressively include domestic sector. (ENB)
- Introduced the Bill on municipal solid waste charging into the Legislative Council (LegCo) in November 2018. (ENB)
- Launched a two-year pilot project on collection and recycling of plastic recyclable materials in three different districts (namely Eastern District, Kwun Tong and Sha Tin) to provide free collection of non-industrial and non-commercial waste plastics progressively from January 2020; and further processing them into recycled raw materials or products to ensure that they are properly handled. (ENB)
- Recruiting about 80 schools for a two-year pilot programme under which smart water dispensers with exteriors designed by students will be provided to participating schools, and supporting schools to carry out relevant education and experiential activities, such as signing a charter on ceased sale of bottled water. (ENB)
- Ceased to provide plastic straws and polyfoam food containers in premises serving mainly government employees in January 2019 to promote “plastic-free” culture in the community. Government departments, when inviting tenders for new contracts and renewing existing contracts for restaurants at government venues, will also require caterers to avoid using disposable plastic tableware. (ENB)
- Implement the “Plastic-free” School Lunch Pilot Scheme after the resumption of school lunch to encourage primary and secondary schools to use reusable lunch boxes in serving school lunch, and students to bring along their own reusable lunch boxes. (ENB)
- Commenced a study on the production of biochar from yard waste in March 2020; a yard waste processing centre is expected to commence operation in early 2021 to turn waste into resources. (ENB)
- Launched a pilot waste reduction and recycling outreaching service to provide on-site technical support for the implementation of source separation and clean recycling of waste at community level. (ENB)

Improving Air Quality

- Reduced general concentrations of four major air pollutants by 5% to 38% in the past three years through various measures. (ENB)
- Enhanced regional collaboration on the establishment of a domestic marine emission control area in Mainland waters by requiring vessels to use low sulphur fuel with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5% within Hong Kong waters since 1 January 2019. (ENB)
- Reviewed the emission allowances of power plants and issued the Eighth Technical Memorandum for allocation of emission allowances in 2019 to tighten the emission caps of power plants from 2024 and onwards. (ENB)
- Established a policy to consider adopting green technologies to enhance environmental performance such as reducing the emission of air pollutants in the design and procurement of new government vessels. (ENB)

- Completed the preparations for launching a new scheme in October 2020 to progressively phase out about 40 000 Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs) by end-2027 at a total cost of another \$7.1 billion following phasing out 80 000 pre-Euro IV DCVs under the \$11.4 billion incentive-cum-regulatory scheme. (ENB)
- Completed the preparations for launching a pilot subsidy scheme in October 2020 to promote installation of electric vehicle charging-enabling infrastructure in car parks of existing private residential buildings with earmarked funding of \$2 billion. (ENB)
- Completed the review on the scope of the Pilot Green Transport Fund and injected an additional \$800 million into the Fund to support the wider use of new energy transport technologies. The Fund has also been renamed as the New Energy Transport Fund. (ENB)
- Issued technical guidelines for electric public light buses (fast charging type) and the associated charging facilities and prepared for a pilot scheme to subsidise the purchase of about 40 electric public light buses and installation of the associated charging facilities for a trial. (ENB)
- Tightened the emission requirements for franchised buses in low emission zones to Euro V standards by end of 2019. (ENB)
- Earmarked \$350 million to carry out a pilot trial of four electric ferries in in-harbour routes and appointed a consultant to prepare the design and specifications for the procurement of the electric ferries and the associated charging facilities. The trial of the electric ferries is expected to commence in 2022–23. (ENB)
- Completed the consultation with the trade for tightening the content limits of volatile organic compounds of regulated architectural paints. (ENB)
- Extended the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme to March 2025 with a funding of \$311 million to encourage Hong Kong-owned factories to adopt cleaner production technologies, thereby continually improving regional environmental quality. (ENB)

Nature and Countryside Conservation

- Established a Clean Shorelines Liaison Platform to co-ordinate and promote shorelines cleanup actions through different media and channels. (ENB)
- Established the Countryside Conservation Office in July 2018 and Countryside Conservation Funding Scheme, and provide over \$60 million of funding support to 10 conservation projects. (ENB)
- Designated/planning three new marine parks (on top of the original five and one marine reserve) to increase the total sea area of marine park/reserve by 150% from 3 400 to 8 500 hectares. (ENB)
- Expand the Sham Wan Restricted Area on Lamma Island and extend the restricted period to better conserve breeding ground for green turtles. (ENB)
- Completed the consultancy study on enhancement of the recreation and education potential of country parks and special areas and the related enhancement proposals in 2019, and opened three new viewing platforms for public use in the same year. (ENB)

Climate Change and Energy

- The Council for Sustainable Development has completed a public engagement exercise and will submit a report to the Government shortly, to facilitate the formulation of Hong Kong's long-term decarbonisation strategy. (ENB)
- Achieved in 2019 (one year earlier than scheduled) the original five-year target of reducing the electricity consumption of government buildings by 5%. (ENB)
- Moving steadily towards the target of reducing carbon intensity by 65% to 70% by 2030, as set out in the Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2030+ by implementing various mitigation measures. Hong Kong's carbon intensity in 2018 was about 36% lower than that in the baseline year of 2005. (ENB)
- Public sector took the lead in developing renewable energy (RE) and implementing RE projects, including pilot projects of floating photovoltaic (PV) systems at Shek Pik Reservoir and Plover Cove Reservoir, as well as a pilot PV project at the South East New Territories Landfill. (ENB)
- Supported the private sector in developing RE, including introducing the Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme with about 150 million kWh of electricity to be generated each year by systems already approved, suitably relaxing the restrictions on installation of PV systems on the rooftops of New Territories Exempted Houses (i.e. "village houses"), introducing Solar Harvest to install PV systems for eligible schools and welfare non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for free, introducing legislative amendments so that individuals who have installed RE systems on their residential premises need not apply for business registration or file profits tax returns for the FiT payments they receive, etc. Together with other measures, the total RE generated can meet the electricity demand of some 45 000 households, roughly equivalent to all households in Aberdeen, Ap Lei Chau and Wong Chuk Hang. (ENB)
- Implemented various energy saving measures, such as raising statutory building energy efficiency standards and developing district cooling systems. Provided further tax incentive for energy-efficient and RE installations in buildings from 2018–19 onwards, and established the E&M InnoPortal in June 2018 to promote the use of innovation and technology in enhancing energy efficiency and developing RE. (ENB)
- Working with the power companies under the post-2018 Scheme of Control Agreements to further promote the development of RE as well as energy efficiency and conservation through, among others, introducing FiT and RE Certificates schemes. (ENB)

- Rolled out measures under “Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong’s Built Environment 2015~2025+” to enhance energy efficiency of government buildings, including retro-commissioning, encouraging departments to seek green building certification for buildings under their management, and implementing energy saving projects. (ENB)

Treasuring Our Water

- Implemented a number of water saving measures, including launching the first stage of Mandatory Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme which requires the use of water efficient products in designated parts of new plumbing works, implementing Automatic Meter Reading in new buildings to provide timely information on water consumption, and publishing sample contract clauses to facilitate engagement of contractors by property owners and management agents to carry out leak investigation and repair works for private water mains. The Hong Kong Institute of Construction has launched a certificate course in leakage detection in underground water pipes to help nurture professionals. (DEVB)
- Completed reviewing the Total Water Management Strategy and updated the strategy in the third quarter of 2019. The updated strategy adopts a two-pronged approach of containing fresh water demand growth and building resilience in water supply with diversified water resources. (DEVB)

Regional Co-operation

- Continue to press ahead with the ecological civilisation construction in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA), in accordance with the strategic policy of the Outline Development Plan for the GBA. (ENB)

External Lighting

- Appointed a Working Group on External Lighting to review the effectiveness of the Charter on External Lighting and measures to better manage external lighting. We will map out the way forward having regard to the recommendations of the Working Group. (ENB)

Sewage Treatment

- Rolled out 22 sewerage projects worth \$33.5 billion from 2018 to 2020, including the construction and upgrading of seven sewage treatment works, rehabilitation of about 18 kilometres of aged sewers over the territory, installation of dry weather flow interceptors and extension of sewerage system to 48 remote villages which collectively serve a population of over one million, and commenced planning of the installation of compact and high-efficiency dry weather flow interceptors at five districts in Victoria Harbour (Hung Hom, Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter, Wan Chai East, Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter and Tsuen Wan Bay). (ENB)

Urban Forestry

- Established the dedicated Tree Risk Inspection Squad to strengthen tree audits and site patrol in 18 districts; provided additional venues for arboricultural field training; and hosted the International Urban Forestry Conference in January 2020. (DEVB)

- Reported the progress of implementation on the Registration Scheme for Tree Management Personnel to the Panel on Development of the LegCo in July 2020 and roll out the Registration Scheme by December 2020. (DEVB)
- Launched the Urban Forestry Support Fund under which the Study Sponsorship Scheme and the Trainee Programme were rolled out in July and August 2020 respectively, and the “People•Trees•Harmony” promotion campaign is in progress. (DEVB)

Heritage Conservation

- Together with the Hong Kong Jockey Club, completed revitalisation of the Central Police Station Compound to become Tai Kwun – Centre for Heritage and Arts. Tai Kwun received the Award of Excellence in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. This is the Awards’ highest honour and Tai Kwun is the second Hong Kong project winning this laurel in 2019, following the Blue House Cluster honoured in 2017. (DEVB)
- Launched Batch VI of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme in end-2019. As of September 2020, a total of 12 projects have been completed under the Scheme receiving in total five UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. (DEVB)
- Pressing ahead with the Conserving Central initiative announced in 2009 with the restoration of the Former French Mission Building due to be completed in end-2020 and the first phase opening of the revitalised Central Market Building in the third quarter of 2021. (DEVB)

City Management

Management of Public Works

- Established the Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders (CoE) in July 2019 and delivered the first Major Projects Leadership Programme in August 2019. (DEVB)
- Invited leaders of the construction industry in Hong Kong to participate in the CoE programmes for exchanging expertise and sharing experience with government major project leaders. (DEVB)
- Entered into Memorandum of Understandings with the Infrastructure and Projects Authority of the United Kingdom Government and the Ministry of Finance of the Singapore Government in March 2018 and July 2019 respectively to foster partnership for enhancing cost effectiveness and productivity of the construction industry and uplifting project governance and performance. (DEVB)

Building Safety

- Launched “Operation Building Bright 2.0” in 2018 with two funding injections totalling \$6 billion to assist owner-occupiers of 5 000 eligible old buildings to conduct inspection and repair works over seven years. As of June 2020, around 920 buildings are participating. (DEVB)
- Launched “Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme” in 2018 and injected an additional \$3.5 billion into the Scheme to subsidise more eligible owners of old composite buildings to implement fire safety enhancement measures as required by the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572). A new round of applications has opened from 2 July to 30 October 2020. (SB)

- Launched the \$2 billion Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Needy Owners in July 2020 to subsidise around 25 000 owners for maintaining their properties. (DEVB)
- Launched the \$2.5 billion Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme in 2019 to subsidise the modernisation of about 5 000 lifts and expanded the Scheme with additional funding of \$2 billion to cover about 8 000 lifts. (DEVB)

Drinking Water Safety

- Implemented the Action Plan for Enhancing Drinking Water Safety in Hong Kong in September 2017 with the following measures:
 - launched the Enhanced Water Quality Monitoring Programme in December 2017, following the establishment of the Hong Kong Drinking Water Standards, to monitor consumers' drinking water quality;
 - strengthened the regulation on plumbing materials and commissioning requirements for new plumbing works;
 - launched Quality Water Supply Scheme for Buildings – Fresh Water (Management System) in November 2017 to encourage property owners and management agents to implement Water Safety Plan (WSP) for their buildings;
 - set up the Drinking Water Safety Advisory Committee which comprises academics and experts of the related fields in January 2018;
 - started to implement WSP by the HKHA in PRH estates in the fourth quarter of 2018 in phases; and

- launched the \$440 million WSP Subsidy Scheme in July 2020 to subsidise around 5 000 private buildings for implementing WSP for Buildings. (DEVB)

- Reviewed the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102). Legislative amendment will be carried out in order to further safeguard drinking water safety. (DEVB)

Building Management

- Promulgated New Codes of Practice and launched new support measures, including Building Management Dispute Resolution Service, Central Platform on Building Management, Pilot Scheme on Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management and the regularised Owners' Corporations Advisory Services Scheme, to assist owners in discharging their building management responsibilities. (HAB)

Property Management

- Commenced the licensing regime under the Property Management Services Ordinance (Cap. 626) in August 2020 which will help raise the professional standards of the property management services and benefit the residents and users of more than 40 000 private buildings in Hong Kong. The licensing regime will be fully in force after a three-year transitional period. (HAB)

Enhancing the Living Environment

- Commenced improvement works at Hoi Bun Road Park and its adjacent area in December 2018, with the soccer pitch completed in June 2020. The improvement works at Lam Wah Street Playground and its adjacent area commenced in July 2020. (DEVB)

- Prequalification of tenders and formulation of detailed tender requirements for the District Open Space, Sports Centre cum Public Vehicle Park project at Sze Mei Street, San Po Kong are in progress. (DEVB)
- Completed detailed design of the distinctive play facilities at Kai Tak Runway Park in August 2020. (DEVB)
- Commenced the Revitalisation of Tsui Ping River project in July 2020. (DEVB)
- Reviewed, evaluated and identified suitable nullahs for revitalization. (DEVB)
- Enhanced the design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah to promote the quality and ecological value of the local environment. (DEVB)
- Allocated a total of \$6.5 billion to connect the harbourfront promenade and optimise the open space. In the past three years, five kilometres of promenade has been opened for public use. The goal is to extend the promenade from the current 23 km to 34 km by 2028 and provide open space amounting to about 35 hectares on both sides of Victoria Harbour. (DEVB)
- Fostered a “bicycle-friendly” environment in new towns and New Development Areas (NDAs) and completed the first phase of improvement to cycle tracks and parking facilities at about 100 sites in new towns in mid-2018. (DEVB, THB)
- Completed and fully opened the 60 km long cycle track network in the New Territories from Tuen Mun to Ma On Shan for public use in September 2020. (DEVB)

Open Space

- Launched the five-year plan to transform more than 170 public play spaces in 2019. Implementation of 17 transformation projects in 2020–21 is in progress, of which funding for seven transformation projects has been approved. (HAB)

Arts and Culture

- Set aside \$20 billion to improve and develop cultural facilities to consolidate Hong Kong’s position as an international cultural metropolis. (HAB)
- Commissioned the Xiqu Centre and Freespace in West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD). Re-opened the renovated Hong Kong Museum of Arts with an increase in total exhibition area by about 40% and increased the total number of galleries from 7 to 12. (HAB)
- Pressed ahead with the M+ and Hong Kong Palace Museum in the WKCD with scheduled commissioning in 2021 and 2022 respectively. The East Kowloon Cultural Centre is expected to commission in 2023. (HAB)
- Increased funding for arts and culture by 27% from about \$4.28 billion in 2017–18 to about \$5.43 billion in 2020–21. (HAB)
- Supported artists and arts groups from Hong Kong to perform and organise exhibitions on the Mainland (especially the GBA) and overseas, as well as organised many international cultural activities, such as the Festival Hong Kong 2019 – A Cultural Extravaganza@Shanghai, the 11th Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum, the 2nd Museum Summit, etc. (HAB)

Sports Development

- Commenced the pre-construction activities on the expansion of the Hong Kong Sports Institute to equip local athletes with world-class training and support facilities and strengthen support services to athletes on physical fitness, sports science, sports medicine, etc. (HAB)
- Commenced the contract for design, construction and operation of Kai Tak Sports Park in February 2019. The Sports Park is scheduled for completion in 2023. (HAB)
- Increased progressively annual subvention for 60 national sports associations (NSAs) from about \$300 million in 2019–20 to more than \$500 million over a four-year period under an enhanced Sports Subvention Scheme. The additional subvention is used to enhance the promotion and development of sports in the community, youth training programmes, public participation, squad training at all levels, overseas exchange programmes and competitions; and enhance the corporate governance of NSAs. NSAs can also make use of the additional resources to improve their manpower and staff remuneration. (HAB)
- Launched the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities in 2017. Sixteen projects have been approved, including heated swimming pools, football pitches, tennis courts, basketball courts, etc., for community use. (HAB)
- Earmarked \$130 million for a five-year development programme to enable the relevant NSAs to formulate and implement training programmes for Hong Kong representative teams for team ball games in the Asian Games. (HAB)

- Launched the \$500 million “Major Sports Events Matching Grant Scheme” in 2019 to encourage the business and private sector to provide sponsorships to NSAs in hosting more new and high level sports events. A total of 15 major sports events were recognised as “M” Mark events in 2019, including three new “M” Mark events. (HAB)

Municipal Services

- Resumed the supply of public niches by allocating the newly built niches in phases. (FHB)
- Completed district consultation for the site selection of a Joint-user Complex (including a new public market) in Tseung Kwan O and the detailed design for overhauling the Aberdeen Market. (FHB)
- Introduced newly designed gravidtraps to formulate quantitative indices for the surveillance of mosquito infestation with a view to strengthening mosquito prevention and control work. (FHB)
- Implemented in 2019 a guideline on incorporating rodent proofing design in new private buildings and carrying out rodent control work in construction and demolition sites, as well as a similar design guide on government works and buildings. (FHB)
- Continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, expedite refurbishment and facelifting works, and conduct trial uses of technologies to improve hygiene and management of public toilets. (FHB)

Animal Welfare

- Completed the first election of the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong in September 2020 in accordance with the law, and the newly constituted Board has come into operation in October 2020. (FHB)
- Provided public funding through the University Grants Committee since the 2019/20 academic year to the Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences at City University of Hong Kong for the city's first ever publicly funded undergraduate programme in veterinary medicine. (EDB)

New Initiatives

Transport

Smart Mobility

- Improve the quality of taxi service by leveraging on technology (e.g. exploring the feasibility of installing electronic taxi meters for e-payment system and electronic driver identification plate) and organising commendation schemes. Preparing legislative amendments on increasing the penalties for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward, and for various malpractices in relation to taxi services. (THB)
- Take forward various smart mobility initiatives: release machine-readable traffic datasets via the Public Sector Information Portal to share with the public; disseminate real-time traffic information collected from traffic detectors starting from early 2021; actively studying relevant legislative amendments to promote the application of I&T on vehicles, including the trial and use of autonomous vehicles in Hong Kong and the review on restrictions on the use of in-vehicle visual display units. (THB)
- Substantially completed the detailed feasibility study (the Study) for the Environmentally Friendly Linkage System (EFLS) for Kowloon East (KE). The Study suggested implementing a “multi-modal” EFLS, which comprises a package of green initiatives that serve complementarily to enhance connectivity in KE. We plan to announce the results of the Study for the EFLS for KE in the fourth quarter of 2020, and gather the views of public. (DEVB)
- Complete the installation of about 1 200 traffic detectors along major roads and all strategic routes by end-2020 to provide additional real-time traffic information starting from early 2021. (THB)
- Commission a pilot real-time adaptive traffic signal systems with sensors for pedestrians and vehicles at five road junctions starting from the fourth quarter of 2020 to help optimise the green times allocated to vehicles and pedestrians. (THB)
- Facilitate public transport operators’ plans to introduce new electronic payment systems for public transport fare collection, including MTRCL to introduce QR code as an additional means for fare payment in MTR domestic network in the fourth quarter of 2020. (THB)
- Install relevant devices for provision of real-time arrival information for Green Minibuses in phases starting from the fourth quarter of 2020. (THB)
- Complete the Proof-of-concept trials on the use of video analytics to detect illegal parking and improper use of loading and unloading bays by December 2020. (DEVB)
- Put in place a Traffic Data Analytics System for collating and analysing traffic data by end-2021 to enhance traffic management and efficiency. (ITB, THB)
- Release real-time information of franchised buses through information display panels at 1 300 covered bus stops, including government Public Transport Interchanges by 2021. (THB)

- Install new on-street parking meters by phases starting from the fourth quarter of 2020 to support payment of parking fees through multiple payment means (including Faster Payment System and remote payment through a new mobile app “HKeMeter”) and provide real-time parking vacancy information. (THB)
- Commission automated parking system pilot projects in batches starting from 2021, to pave the way for wider application in short-term tenancy public car parks and public car parks in government premises and to encourage adoption in public car parks in private developments. (THB)

Pedestrian-friendly Environment

- Promote walkability between Admiralty and Wan Chai through improvement of the existing pedestrian walkway systems under the policy of Facilitating Provision of Pedestrian Links by the Private Sector, public works and redevelopment projects, so as to facilitate people to walk from the hinterland to the harbourfront and through the promenade to different places. (DEVB)
- Expand walking route search function on Transport Department’s all-in-one mobile app “HKeMobility” to 18 districts by end-2020. (THB)
- Establish “bicycle-friendly” new towns and NDAs, including the completion of feasibility study on fostering a pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment in Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen NDA and Yuen Long South Development in March 2021. (THB, DEVB)
- Implement pedestrian enhancement measures in 2020 for two pilot areas, namely Central and Sham Shui Po, including traffic calming measures and decluttering of non-essential traffic signs. (THB)

Urban Redevelopment

Revitalisation of Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market

- Take forward the revitalisation of the Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market for boosting local retail business and economy as well as developing it into a new attraction for tourists taking into account Urban Renewal Authority’s ongoing Yau Mong District Study proposing master planning concept for the wider area. (HAB, DEVB)

Harbourfront and Open Space

- Commence works on the Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor to connect Causeway Bay and Quarry Bay, and infuse creative elements into the harbourfront park at Eastern Street North in Sai Ying Pun that will feature a large-scale play facility, a sizable water-fun area and an all-weather observation deck overlooking the sea. Both projects are scheduled to commence in 2021 with a view to phased completion in 2024. (DEVB)
- Assist the Harbourfront Commission to continue its active community engagement, including curating artworks in collaboration with local creative talent, holding design competitions on public furniture and inviting professional input to turn the design concepts for the two harbourfront projects at Golden Bauhinia Square and Wan Chai Ferry Pier respectively into concrete proposals. (DEVB)
- Under the administration of NGOs, the open community garden at Belcher Bay promenade in Sai Wan will commence operation in October 2020, while the community living room at Quarry Bay harbourfront will be open in late-2021. (DEVB)

- Speed up the five-year modification programme covering more than 170 public play spaces managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) across the territory to bring early fun to children while creating more jobs for the construction sector. (HAB)
- Regularise LCSD's trial scheme of Inclusive Parks for Pets (IPPs), which was first launched in six parks, and to provide over 30 additional IPPs in 18 districts from December 2020. These parks will be equipped with basic ancillary facilities for pets and more than 10 of them will be provided at waterfront promenades or nearby parks. (HAB)
- Tighten the statutory energy efficiency standards for buildings every three years; expand the scope of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme; and support the development and use of innovative energy saving technologies through the "E&M InnoPortal". (ENB)
- Improve the energy performance of government buildings and infrastructure by a further 6% in the coming five years, through energy audits, retro-commissioning, use of innovative technologies, and renewable energy, etc. The annual saving in energy cost would then be about \$200 million. (ENB)

Environment and Sustainable Development

Carbon Emission Reduction and Energy Saving

- Draw up, with reference to the views collected last year by the Council for Sustainable Development through public engagement and the Council's recommendations, Hong Kong's long-term decarbonisation strategy and climate action roadmap up to 2050, and join the global efforts in combating climate change. (ENB)
- Decarbonise through substantially reducing the share of coal (from about half in 2015 to about a quarter in 2020) in Hong Kong's fuel mix for electricity generation. We will also step up our efforts in promoting energy efficiency and conservation. (ENB)
- The power companies will progressively install smart meters for about three million customers across the territory before the end of 2025. So far, more than 500 000 have been installed. (ENB)
- Retrofit under the "Green Schools 2.0" programme energy-efficient lighting and air-conditioners, and install real-time energy monitoring systems for schools, motivating teachers and students to practise low-carbon living. Some 110 schools have applied to join the programme. (ENB)
- Invite applications for the \$200 million Green Tech Fund before the end of the year. This will give new impetus to deep decarbonisation and the development of green technologies. Since the 2017–18 financial year, the Environment and Conservation Fund has earmarked \$25 million to encourage community organisations to carry out projects with climate change as the theme. (ENB)

Air Quality

- Formulate Hong Kong's first roadmap on the popularisation of electric vehicles in the first quarter of 2021 to set forth long-term policy objectives and plans to promote the use of electric vehicles and their associated supporting facilities, and prepare a target for banning the sales of conventional fuel propelled private cars, with a view to leading Hong Kong into zero vehicle emission in future. (ENB)
- Update the Clean Air Plan by the first half of 2021 to examine long term targets and measures to further improve air quality, with a view to continuing reducing emissions of air pollutants from various sources. (ENB)
- Review the Eighth Technical Memorandum with a view to further tightening the air pollutant emission caps for power companies from 2026 onwards. (ENB)
- Prepare a proposal to tighten the content limit of volatile organic compounds in architectural paints. (ENB)

Waste Management

- Tender for the development of a modern pulping facility in EcoPark by 2024 to transform waste into resources and diversify outlets for local waste paper. (ENB)
- Formulate a long-term strategy blueprint on waste management to set forth long-term policy objectives and plans to promote waste reduction and recycling, with a view to achieving transformation of waste into resources and supporting circular economy. (ENB)
- Explore the installation of food waste grinders in NDAs and housing projects to complement measures to reduce food waste disposal. (ENB)

- Optimise the use of food waste and sewage sludge anaerobic co-digestion technology to expedite the enhancement of the overall food waste treatment capability in Hong Kong. (ENB)

Eco-Tourism

- Support eco-tourism, better serve visitors and help revitalise desolate villages, the Countryside Conservation Office will work with relevant bureaux/departments to jointly develop a set of licensing requirements and procedural guidelines designed especially for guesthouses and catering businesses in countryside areas, making reference to the special nature and restrictions of rural settings. (ENB, HAB, FHB)

Environment and Related Funds

- Set aside an extra of about \$200 million under relevant environment related funds, which is approximately equivalent to one year allocation under the Environment and Conservation Fund, to launch more green projects. In addition to creating more employment opportunities, the projects will also help step up the promotion of community participation in low-carbon living and environmental protection covering sustainable development areas such as energy, air quality, waste reduction, conservation, water quality, and cleaning up of the shoreline. (ENB)

Arts, Culture, Leisure and Sports

- Launch a 101 Academy series on LCSD's new Edutainment Channel, which provides a systematic introduction to basic knowledge in culture, arts, science, recreation and sports as well as horticulture to members of the public in order to arouse their interest in these disciplines. (HAB)
- Feature an online interactive programmes series, which provides interactive courses and programmes as well as virtual tours, etc., to bring new experiences to the public by application of different technologies. The series will include virtual museum tours, a trial scheme of Online Interactive Sports Training Programmes and virtual guided tours to places with blossoming flowers and inclusive parks for pets. (HAB)
- Ride on the global advancement of technology in the cultural ecosystem, we will develop the East Kowloon Cultural Centre as an advanced arts and cultural hardware, providing the latest stage technology and equipment to support novel applications for stage productions and also explore the setting up of designated facilities as Testbed Studio equipped with Extended Reality technology and immersive audio visual systems to facilitate arts practitioners to work, explore and learn together. (HAB)
- Open a two-kilometre cycle track from Tsing Tsuen Bridge to Bayview Garden in Tsuen Wan in early 2021, and to continue planning and design of the remaining track of about 20 kilometres of the Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun Section. (DEVB)

- Design and construct a GreenWay of 13 kilometres in total length for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists in the Kai Tak Development Area in two phases. The first phase of 7.5 kilometres is scheduled for completion by 2023, and the remaining phase of 5.5 kilometres will be completed after 2025. (DEVB)
- Incorporate the design of cycle tracks in the harbourfront projects funded by the \$6.5 billion dedicated funding to enable cycling along the harbourfront areas in the longer-term. (DEVB)

City Management

- Complete Phase 2 of the QR Code labelling for about 200 000 trees by early 2022 and commence a three-year study to collect and analyse data from tilt sensors to test their effectiveness in identifying trees at risk of collapse. (DEVB)
- Apply smart water supply initiatives, including the launch of automatic water supply suspension notification system in December 2020 to enhance customer services. (DEVB)
- Adopt new technologies for signboard control with a view to protecting public safety, including uploading the first batch of legal signboards' information to Geoinfo Map for public's viewing in September 2021 and commencing the trial run of the Defective Signboard Diagnostic System by end-2021. (DEVB)
- Provide free public WiFi services, and adopt relevant technologies to detect illegal dumping, wild animals and flooding, and strengthen security in rural villages. (ITB, ENB, DEVB)
- Explore using robotics and artificial intelligence to assist in early detection of hill fire in country parks. (ITB, ENB)

- Collaborate with the Hong Kong Green Building Council to explore the development of a sustainability evaluation system to enhance the performance and sustainability of infrastructure projects to reinforce the international status of Hong Kong's infrastructure development. (DEVB)

Municipal Services

Environmental Hygiene

- Conduct trial of thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence function to monitor and analyse rodent activities with a view to quantifying rodent infestation, and strengthening targeted anti-rodent work. (FHB)

Public Markets

- Commission the Tin Shui Wai temporary market shortly and introduce a new operation mode for strengthening the management role of the service contractor with the aim of enhancing business vibrancy in the market while meeting the needs of the public. (FHB)
- Commence preliminary planning for the construction of a public market in Tseung Kwan O and complete the site selection for the new public market in Kwu Tung NDA shortly. (FHB)
- Commence the overhaul works of the Aberdeen Market and include the overhaul of Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market as well as the minor refurbishment or improvement works in selected markets under the Market Modernisation Programme for early implementation. (FHB)

Public Toilets

- Conduct trial of antibacterial coating for sanitary wares in public toilets to improve their hygiene. (FHB)
- Develop a Smart Toilet System for improving the planning and delivery of public toilet services. (FHB)

Animal Welfare

- Formulate legislative proposals and draft the amendment bill to enhance animal welfare after reporting the public consultation results to LegCo in April 2020. (FHB)

Food Safety

- Complete public consultation on proposals to strengthen the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including industrially-produced trans fat and mycotoxins and introduce relevant legislative amendments into the LegCo after collating the views received. (FHB)
- Cease radiation testing against every consignment of imported Japanese food and subsume the testing under the routine annual food surveillance programme of the Centre for Food Safety based on risk assessment for better trade facilitation, while ensuring food safety. (FHB)