



香港地貌岩石保育協會
Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

Man-Made Beach at Lung Mei : Total Neglect of Geoconservation and Sustainability

Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong strongly objects the development of a 200 meter man-made beach at Lung Mei as geological and landscape conservation had been totally disregarded by the Environmental Assessment Report and the Advisory Committee on the Environment.

Natural coastline is one of Hong Kong rare valuable resources. Once depleted, they can never be restored. The increasing developments of infrastructure and housing have already significantly reduced our natural coastlines. We must preserve our scarce resources unless the proposed project is fundamental and critical to the livelihood of the people of Hong Kong. Robin Kennish, the consultant from Environmental Resources Management argued that the natural shoreline affected by the project was just 2.2% of the Plover Cove area. If it is **“UNJUSTIFIED”**, whether it is 0.001% or 2.2%, the invaluable assets of all Hong Kong citizens must not be frivolously depleted.

The striking profile of Pat Sin Leng neighbored by the large water surface of Plover Cove (or called Shuen Wan Hoi) and Tolo Harbour all combined to form the rare scenic beauty and panoramic vistas of the northeastern New Territories. These have become the unique landmark of Tai Po District and the Northeastern hinterland of Hong Kong. The construction of a man-made beach would permanently destroy the invaluable breathtaking **“NATURAL”** landmark of this region.

From the environmental landscape aspect, the selected site is totally unsuitable for swimming. Being a highly enclosed water body in Tolo Harbour which is an inner bay, Plover Cove has weak flushing capacity. With a total shoreline of approximate 15 km, Plover Cove is all surrounded by land with only a narrow outlet of around 0.7 km at the southeastern side opening to Tolo Harbour. This narrow outlet accounts for around 5% of the natural coastlines of Plover Cove. The landscape has limited the inflow of fresh water which would definitely affect the water quality. Following the increased property developments and population in the area, it is projected that the water quality would be further deteriorated as more and more effluent and pollutants are being discharged to Plover Cove and Tolo Harbour even though there would be the implementation of sewerage network plan.

The Government is unwise to spend more than HKD130 million taxpayers money to build a beach which is unsuitable for swimming. It is immensely unsustainable for us and our coming generations to bear the burden of subsequent inestimable operation and maintenance costs.



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The Government should spend our taxpayers' money more effectively by developing Lung Mei into a sustainable natural coastline ecological park equipped with facilities integrated with the natural environment. This would be a win-win situation of retaining our natural coastlines while providing recreation for Hong Kong citizen and attraction to tourists. We must treasure our natural coastline, once destroyed, is irreparable.

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