

Expression of interest invited for establishment of Mainland curriculum school

The Education Bureau (EDB) today (July 15) invited expression of interest (EoI) for the establishment of a non-profit making private school offering a Mainland curriculum on a greenfield site in Tin Shui Wai. The deadline is September 30, 2021.

A spokesman for the bureau said, “Currently, there are over 50 international schools providing different non-local curricula, enabling children whose parents come to Hong Kong for work or investment to study in Hong Kong and then continue their studies in local schools upon return to their hometowns. Such schools play an instrumental role in attracting and retaining talent and investment from elsewhere.

“In recent years, the Mainland has become our greatest source of direct external investment and, amongst companies from places outside Hong Kong, Mainland companies have set up the greatest number of regional headquarters/offices/local offices here. Notwithstanding our close ties with the Mainland, there is still no primary or secondary school offering the Mainland curriculum in Hong Kong. It is difficult for these children of Mainland families who have studied in Hong Kong for a few years to reintegrate into the Mainland education system when they choose to continue their studies on the Mainland. Given the vibrant development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong’s efforts to promote the interflow of talents with the Mainland, our demand for Mainland curriculum school places in Hong Kong is also expected to rise.”

Making reference to the prevailing arrangement for international school development, invitation of the EoI is the first step. Subject to the responses, the EDB will invite interested operators who have expressed interest and met the prescribed requirements to submit detailed proposals. The site in Tin Shui Wai (see Annex for relevant site information) will be allocated via the open and competitive bidding mechanism under the School Allocation Committee.

During the EoI stage, applicants shall demonstrate that they possess proven experience and expertise in offering the Mainland curriculum at primary and/or secondary levels, undertake to offer 12 years of primary and secondary education ultimately, and put in place a mechanism to ensure the quality of the Mainland curriculum to be offered. The majority of the student population of the proposed school shall be non-local students.

The proposed school and its school sponsoring body are required to be exempted from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112). The proposed school shall operate on a self-financing basis. The successful applicant is expected to carry out all the necessary technical assessments and measures at its own cost in connection with the use of the greenfield site, and fund any renovation and construction works required. The successful applicant will normally enjoy a nominal premium for the grant of the site. The Government may consider offering an interest-free capital loan for the school building on the greenfield site upon application, subject to approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

In selecting the most appropriate school operator, the EDB will take into account a host of factors including not only the experience and expertise of the operator in running the Mainland curriculum, but also whether it has a good organisation structure, proper management mechanism and a sound financial footing, as well as the quality of its school proposal.

Interested parties are reminded to read carefully the basic requirements and relevant instructions set out in the note to respondents before submitting the reply form, which is available at the EDB homepage (www.edb.gov.hk/en/sch-admin/sch-premises-info/allocation-of-sch/index.html). The completed reply form should be submitted to the Infrastructure and Research Support Division of the Education Bureau on or before September 30, 2021 by post (6/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong) (the postmark date should not be later than the deadline) or by email (irsd@edb.gov.hk).

Ends/Thursday, July 15, 2021

**Expression of Interest for a greenfield site
for the establishment of a Mainland curriculum school**

Information on the greenfield site earmarked

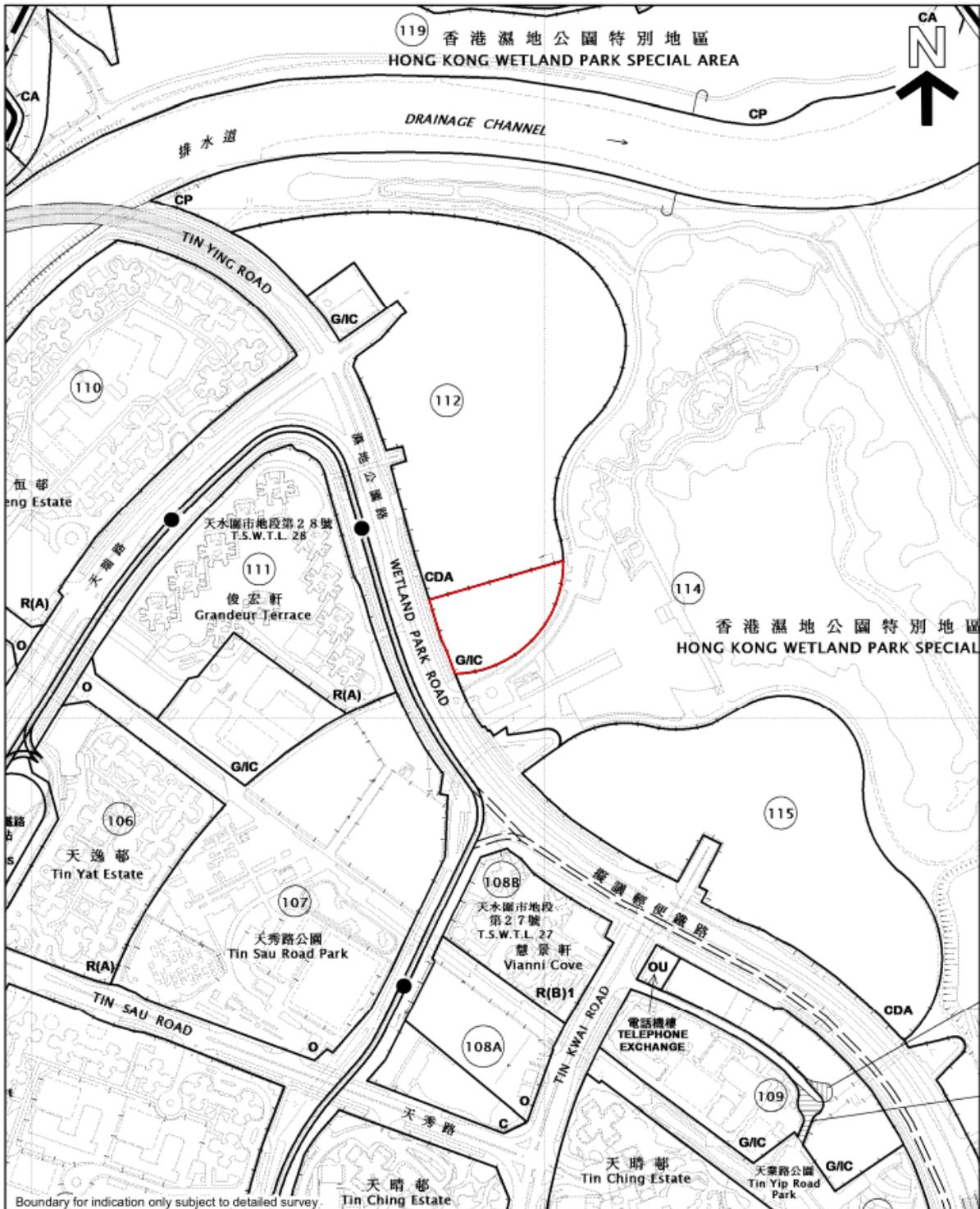
Points to note

- (1) The map shown is for reference only. Information including the site area and site boundary of the greenfield site, as appropriate, are approximate measurements for indicative purpose only.
- (2) Respondents are encouraged to seek professional advice on matters relating to site development at an early stage to ensure full understanding on the prevailing statutory and/or administrative requirements and their implications. The successful applicant shall appoint an Authorised Person to prepare and submit building plans on the development of the greenfield site.
- (3) The successful applicant will be responsible for all the costs and expenses in carrying out the construction works and in conducting any related studies including but not limited to traffic impact assessment and environmental review. The successful applicant shall maintain, repair and upgrade slopes and retaining walls within the site boundary, if any. The successful applicant shall also allow access by parties concerned for maintenance, repair and/or upgrading of the features lying within or in the close proximity of the site boundary.
- (4) The successful applicant should minimise the impact on the living environment of the neighbourhood when carrying out works on the site.
- (5) The site will be handed over to the successful applicant on an as-is basis.
- (6) Further infrastructural information in relation to the site, if any, may be provided when detailed proposals are invited from eligible respondents who have expressed interest in this exercise. Visits to the site may also be arranged at that stage.
- (7) Enquiries may be directed to Mr. Brian MOK at (852) 3509 8391 or irsd@edb.gov.hk.

Tin Shui Wai Site	
Location	Tin Shui Wai Area 112 adjoining Hong Kong Wetland Park
Site area	Around 8 608 m ²
Site boundary	Site boundary to be confirmed by the Lands Department upon granting of land to the successful applicant
Status	Immediately available. The successful applicant is required to check the current site conditions and review if further site formation works are necessary.
Estimated number of school places	No less than about 900 places
Remarks	
<p>(1) Subject to the progress of the construction works by the successful applicant, the school is expected to commence operation at the greenfield site as from around the 2025/26 school year.</p> <p>(2) The successful applicant is recommended to carry out an Environmental Review on the school design to meet the requirements in Chapter 9 of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines at the design stage, and provide the mitigation measures accordingly.</p> <p>(3) Appropriate measures should be in place to avoid or minimise the potential impacts on wildlife associated with noise, human disturbance, artificial lightings, light glare and bird-building collision during the construction and operation phases.</p> <p>(4) Currently, there is no vehicular access to the site. The successful applicant shall be responsible for the construction of vehicular run-in/out at Wetland Park Road and the associated access road and modification of highways facilities as appropriate. Moreover, the site should be provided with an emergency vehicular access in accordance with Regulation 41D of the Buildings (Planning) Regulations.</p> <p>(5) Traffic Impact Assessment covering the following aspects should be conducted on –</p> <p>(a) Provision of internal traffic facilities such as pick-up/drop-off areas and car parking spaces – sufficient provisions should be provided inside the site to prevent queuing of vehicles onto public roads. Any queuing of vehicles would cause significant impact on the future traffic conditions;</p> <p>(b) Manoeuvring of school buses/coaches at the adjoining Wetland Park Road to/from the site and related recommendation;</p>	

- (c) Pedestrian and cycling connectivity – existing facilities including footpaths and road crossing facilities along Wetland Park Road and cycling facilities should be reviewed and upgraded if necessary; and
 - (d) Traffic impact to the road network and junctions etc. in vicinity of the site should be assessed and upgrading work should be conducted if appropriate.
- (6) The implementation of mandatory school bus or public transport policy (i.e. all students shall commute to and from the school by school buses or public transportation (excluding taxi)) and staggered start and dismissal times of the school from that of nearby school(s) are recommended, subject to the outcome of Traffic Impact Assessment.
 - (7) The existing ground level of the site is slightly lower than that of the existing road level in the vicinity. Proper measures should be provided to avoid any potential flooding due to surface runoff. In addition, there is no drainage reserve area within the subject site and existing stormwater drainage system along Wetland Park Road is available for connection. The nearest foul sewer manhole is located at about 110 m away from the site. Furthermore, the applicant is required to conduct Drainage Impact Assessment and Sewerage Impact Assessment to ascertain whether the existing drainage and sewerage systems are capable of catering for the additional runoff and sewage generated by the proposed development.
 - (8) Fresh and salt water supplies are available.
 - (9) The building design should follow the Sustainable Building Design Guidelines promulgated by the Building Authority. Any latest requirements on gross floor area (GFA) calculation (including GFA concession) should be followed. Before carrying out any new building works on the site, the successful applicant should obtain prior approval and consent of the Building Authority and detailed checking under the Buildings Ordinance will be carried out at the building plan submission stage. When conducting construction works, including minor works, the successful applicant is required to comply with the current building, fire safety and related legislation and administration requirements, including the provision of barrier free access.
 - (10) The successful applicant is required to notify the Antiquities and Monuments Office two weeks prior to the commencement of construction work.
 - (11) The successful applicant is required to work with relevant government departments and the local community to address concerns, including traffic concerns, to their satisfaction.

Location map



Extracted from
 OZP No.: S/TSW/15
 Exhibition Date: 07 May 2021
 Date: 7 May 2021

G/IC Site in Area 112, Tin Shui Wai
 Scale 1:5,000
 METRES 50 0 50 100 150 200 METRES

Tuen Mun and Yuen Long West District Planning Office
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
 Reference No. PLAN