



Rapid Progress on Kwun Tong Project

The URA has worked especially hard on the Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment project, to ensure that it moves ahead as quickly as possible. This is by far our largest project to date, covering two sites that together occupy 5.35 hectares and 24 buildings. Some 5,000 people living in nearly 1,800 households will be affected, as well as over 500 shops and hawker stalls.

Through these efforts, we were able to secure approval from the Chief Executive in Council for the two Development Scheme Plans in July 2008. This approval allowed us to develop further the two Master Layout Plans, which were approved by the Town Planning Board by January 2009.

The good progress we have made with this project has been partly the result of the very extensive and successful two-year public consultation conducted by the URA during the preliminary planning stages, together with our intensive ongoing community engagement programme.

No fewer than 1,657 property interests stand to gain from the project and the URA made offers to acquire all these interests at the close of the 2008 calendar year. Only five months after the offer period began from early January, over 80% have accepted. These acceptances include 97% of the domestic owner-occupiers.

This is an unprecedentedly high rate of acceptance for this stage of the project acquisition process for such a large project. It demonstrates both the fairness of the URA's property valuations and the efficiency with which the offers were delivered by our dedicated staff in often difficult and stressful conditions.



Many have already benefited. Many of those who accepted the offers, have been able to buy much better homes for themselves with, in some cases, some money left over to spend on their new homes.

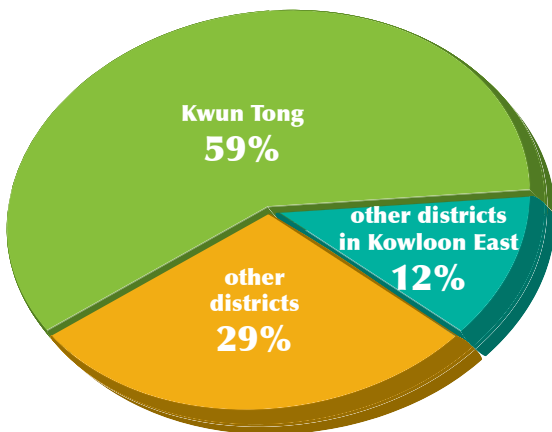
In a further step forward for this project, the URA started construction of the Fuk Tong Road bus terminus so that the Yuet Wah Street Site could be vacated ready for construction to start by the fourth quarter of 2009.

The URA has already commenced or implemented about 50 redevelopment projects. When completed, these projects will help 30,000 people improve their living condition.



Mr Tsui in his new home in Clear Water Bay Road.

Where have domestic owner-occupiers gone?



This table is based on the reply of 325 domestic owner-occupiers affected by the Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment project who were willing to provide information. A detailed tracking survey is being conducted.



Madam Lee has bought her new home in Hiu Kwong Road.



Madam Lee has moved to her new home in Lam Tin.