



BY EMAIL ONLY

Ms. Maisie Cheng, J.P.
Director of Environmental Protection
EIA Ordinance Register Office
Environmental Protection Department
(E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk)

13 July 2020

Dear Ms. Cheng,

Project Profile for Penfold Park Enhancement Project

Green Power would like to draw your kind attention to our comments about the above-captioned Project Profile.

1. As estimated by the project proponent, about 15% of trees (152 out of 1019 trees) inside the project boundary will be felled. Green Power opines that Penfold Park is a major urban park in Shatin District which carries out a variety of environmental and ecological functions, namely habitats for local or migratory wildlife, relief of urban heat island effect, open area for facilitating air pollutant dispersal, etc. Trees play a vital role in these beneficial aspects to the community and living quality. Therefore, number of trees planned to be felled should be as few as possible by considerations of alternative options. Tree species of ecological importance should be replanted.
2. The active egretty inside the project area shall be properly protected during the project's construction phase. Since the project proponent intends to surround the large pond by acoustic hoarding to reduce the noise impact to the egretty, it is worth taking note that the design of hoardings should avoid bird-hit incident and disturbance to their roosting and foraging.
3. The provision of landscaped gardens and a butterfly garden shall primarily aim to enrich the urban ecology. As quite a lot wildlife (birds, dragonflies, butterflies, reptiles and amphibians) were recorded in the Project Profile, it is necessary to make a preferential selection of native plant species and management strategies to avoid use of pesticides and herbicides as far as possible. Provision of sanctuary areas in the project area in the construction phase is necessary for them to re-establish their population in operation phase.
4. It is recommended to incorporate elements of environmental education into the proposed landscaped and butterfly gardens in the Park. Educational signages, trails, or materials should be considered to promote the importance of urban ecology, which is one of the major initiatives under the Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP).

Thank you very much for your kind attention. For any inquiries, please contact the undersigned at Green Power (T: 39610200, F: 2314 2661, Email: wflo@greenpower.org.hk).

Yours faithfully,

LO Wing-fung
Assistant Senior Education & Conservation Officer
Green Power