RNTPC Paper No. Y/TM/23A For Consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee on 26.5.2020

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF PLAN UNDER SECTION 12A OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

APPLICATION NO. Y/TM/23

(for 2nd Deferment)

Applicant : Tin Kwong Lun Yee Limited represented by Toco Planning

Consultants Limited

<u>Site</u> : Lots 1744 S.A, 1744 S.B, 1744 S.C, 1744 S.F, 1744 S.G, 1744 S.H

and 1744 S.I in D.D. 132, Hing Fu Street, Tuen Mun

Site Area : About 3,137 m²

<u>Lease</u> : <u>Lots 1744 S.A to S.C in D.D. 132</u>

(i) Building Licence No. 816, 815 and 852

(ii) Height Restriction of 25 feet and 2 storeys

Lots 1744 S.F to S.I in D.D. 132

(i) Orchard Lot

Plan : Approved Tuen Mun Outline Zoning Plan No. S/TM/35

Zoning : "Green Belt" ("GB")

Proposed : Rezoning from "GB" to "Government, Institution or Community"

Amendment ("G/IC")

1. Background

- 1.1 On 16.7.2019, the applicant sought planning permission to rezone the application site (the Site) from "GB" to "G/IC" to regularise the existing religious institution and columbarium use providing 11,094 niches (**Plan Z-1**) under the name of Tin Kwong Lun Yee (天罡隆義). According to the applicant, the Site provides a total of 11,094 sold and unsold niches before 30.6.2017; and the application is to fulfil the planning-related requirement for application of licence for the subject columbarium under the Private Columbaria Ordinance.
- 1.2 On 4.10.2019, the Rural and New Town Planning Committee (the Committee) of the Town Planning Board (the Board) decided to defer a decision on the application for 2 months as requested by the applicant's representative, so as to

allow time for preparation of further information (FI) to address the comments of relevant government departments. The applicant submitted FI on 4.12.2019. In light of the special work arrangement for government departments due to the novel coronavirus infection, the meeting originally scheduled for 21.2.2020 for consideration of the application has been rescheduled, and the Board has agreed to adjourn consideration of the application. Again, the meeting on 30.3.2020 has been rescheduled and the application is now scheduled for consideration by the Committee of the Board at this meeting.

2. Request for Deferment

On 15.1.2020, the applicant's representative wrote to the Secretary of the Town Planning Board (the Board) and requested the Board to defer making a decision on the application for two months so as to allow time for preparation of FI to address comments from various government departments and public comments (**Appendix I**). On 14.5.2020, the applicant's representative advised that the applicant would intend to proceed with the request for deferment (**Appendix Ia**).

3. Planning Department's Views

- 3.1 The application has been deferred once for two months at the request of the applicant to allow time to address the departmental comments. Since the last deferment, the applicant has submitted FI including responses to comments. The applicant needs more time to resolve the comments from government departments.
- 3.2 The Planning Department <u>has no objection</u> to the request for deferment as the justification for deferment meet the criteria for deferment as set out in the Town Planning Board Guidelines on Deferment of Decision on Representations, Comments, Further Representations and Applications made under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 33) in that the applicant needs more time to prepare FI to address departmental comments, the deferment period is not indefinite and the deferment would not affect the interests of other relevant parties.
- 3.3 Should the Committee agree to defer a decision on the application, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration within three months upon receipt of FI from the applicant. If the FI submitted by the applicant is not substantial and can be processed within a shorter time, the application could be submitted to an earlier meeting for the Committee's consideration. The applicant should be advised that the Committee has allowed a maximum period of two months for preparation of submission of FI. Since it is the second deferment of the application, the applicant should be advised that the Board has allowed a total of four months for preparation of submission of FI, and no further deferment would be granted unless under very special circumstances.

4. <u>Decision Sought</u>

The Committee is invited to consider whether or not to accede to the applicant's request for deferment. If the request is not acceded to, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration at the next meeting.

5. Attachments

Appendix I Appendix IaLetter of 15.1.2020 from the applicant's representative
Letter of 14.5.2020 from the applicant's representative

Plan Z-1 Location plan

PLANNING DEPARTMENT MAY 2020