Appendix A

Response-to-Comment table

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COMMENTS	EDOM DEL	ATED	DEDA	DTA	

	IENTS FROM RELATED DEPARTMENTS	
No.	Comments	Responses
1.	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Conservation Branch, Nature Conservation (North) Division, dated 28 May 2024	
	From agricultural perspective	
	The subject site falls within the "AGR", "GB" and "G/IC" zones and is generally abandoned. The agricultural infrastructures such as road access and water source are available in the vicinity of the subject site, which can be used for agricultural activities such as open-field cultivation, greenhouses, plant nurseries, etc. As the subject site possesses potential for agricultural rehabilitation, the proposed re- zoning is not supported from agricultural perspective.	Please be advised that, with the on-going study of the "Remaining Phase Development of the New Territories North – Planning and Engineering Study for NTN New Town and Man Kam To – Investigation", this area is anticipated to be an important land and housing supply, with comprehensive commercial and residential development to be materialised in the near future. Also, please be advised that the Application Site and its surrounding, under the Northern Metropolis Action Agenda promulgated in October 2023, has been planned to be the "Boundary Commerce and Industry Zone" and positioned as a business district for cross-boundary business services. Hence, the proposed rezoning application has carefully considered the changing planning circumstances of the Application Site and its surrounding, and aligns with the planning directions and objectives put forward by the Government.
	From nature conservation perspective	
	It is noted from the subject application that a minor portion of area zoned "GB" will be rezoned to "OU (I&T Hub)". According to Appendix B Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposals, over 300 nos. of common trees will be directly affected. Nevertheless, ecological impacts arise from the proposed I&T hub, in particular direct impact to the habitat loss / modified watercourse within the Application Site (near the River Ganges Pumping Station) and indirect impact on the Ping Yuen River adjacent to the Application Site, and impact to other nearby sensitive habitats (e.g. marsh, wet agricultural land, woodland, etc.), if any, have not been identified and evaluated. The applicant should conduct an EcoIA for our further consideration of the subject rezoning application.	Noted. An Ecological Impact Assessment has been under preparation and will be submitted as appropriate.

2.	Drainage Services Department, Operations & Maintenance Branch, Mainland North Division, North Section, dated 11 June 2024	
	(a) Please be advised that the Stormwater Drainage Manual has been updated vide its Corrigendum No. 1/2024 and the latest design parameters (e.g. updated rainfall parameters in the North District rainfall zone) should be considered in the relevant assessment.	Noted. The latest Rainfall Intensity Increase has been adopted in the revised Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) (Appendix B refers).
	 (b) Please provide assessment with consideration of the design allowance pursuant to Table 31 of the Corrigendum No. 1/2022 of the Stormwater Drainage Manual. 	Noted. The Applicant has been requesting relevant information from the Department and will supplement further assessment once available.
	(c) Please provide a brief assessment on the corresponding drainage impact of the proposed development (i.e. before and after the land use change) on the water level of Ping Yuen River at the proposed site's downstream.	Noted. The Applicant has been requesting relevant information from the Department and will supplement further assessment once available.
	(d) Section 3.1 - It is mentioned that the capacity of the outlet (SSP1004585) is not sufficient. Please advise corresponding upgrading works to cater for the proposed development.	The stormwater from the Development Site will not be discharged to the mentioned outlet. It is suggested to discharge to the existing 1950 ϕ drain.
	(e) Section 5.2 - It is noted that the development site is located at the upstream of the Ta Ku Ling Ling Ying Public School and Chow Tin Tsuen. In such case, the increment of surface runoff from the development site would possibly impact the downstream areas. Please study and elaborate on the potential drainage impacts to the Ta Ku Ling Ling Ying Public School and Chow Tin Tsuen, and associated mitigation measures, if any.	U-channels are proposed along the outline of the Development Site to prevent the on-site stormwater from any adverse impact on the adjacent area.
	(f) Section 5.3 - It is mentioned that "Access to U-channel and drains will be provided to DSD for future operation and maintenance". Please advise and provide drainage plan to indicate the drains to be handed over to DSD.	Noted. Drainage plan will be further supplemented.
	(g) Section 5.3 & 5.4 - Please provide drainage plan to indicate the proposed	Noted. Drainage plan will be further supplemented.

	drainage networks including the public manhole MH-01 and discharge points.	
(h)	Appendix B – Please clarify if public drains fall within the application boundary and advise if the proposed development would have any implication to the DSD's facilities. You are reminded to consider the meander near the River Ganges Pumping Station in your DIA study.	Noted. Please refer to Section 5.3 of the revised DIA. Further assessment will be carried out at later stage of the proposed development.
(i)	Appendix F - Please provide a corresponding layout plan to delineate the relevant catchments UC01 to UC04 and proposed channels mentioned under this Appendix.	The catchment plan has been supplemented in Appendix F of the revised DIA.
(j)	The applicant shall allow all time free access for the Government and its agent to conduct site inspection on his completed drainage works and conduct maintenance works on drainage facilities under DSD's purview.	Noted.
(k)	The applicant should be reminded to minimize the possible adverse environmental impacts on the existing streamcourse in his design and during construction. DEP and DAFC should be consulted on possible environmental and/or ecological impacts of the development.	Noted. The DIA report has also been circulated to relevant Departments for comment.
	Additional comment (received on 13 June 2024)	
	Section 5.2 & Appendix E - The increment of stormwater runoff of about 4m3/s out of the proposed development, which could account to about 1% of Ping Yuen River capacity as mentioned, is considered NOT negligible, mitigation measures to compensate the drainage impact, e.g. drainage storage tank, should be considered.	Noted. A drainage storage tank is suggested in the Development Site to reduce the possible impact on Ping Yuen River.
Bra Des	anning Department, District Planning anch, Special Duties Division, Urban sign & Landscape Section, Landscape it, dated 28 May 2024	
Lar	ndscape Observations and Comments	
•	Based on the aerial photo of 2023, the site is situated in an area of rural inland plains	Noted.

> landscape character comprising of vegetated areas, farmlands, clusters of tree groups, woodland within the "GB" zone to the immediate west, and small houses within the "Village Type Development" zone to the immediate east of the site.

- According to Appendix B Landscape • and Tree Preservation Proposals, a total number of 323 existing trees are identified in the tree survey and no registered Old and Valuable Tree (OVT), stonewall tree, rare and protected species, and tree of particular interest is found within the site. All 323 nos. of trees including 4 nos. of undesirable species are proposed to be removed. 319 nos. of new trees with native species are proposed to be planted within the site and landscape treatments, such as 2m to 14m soft edges along the development boundary, tree plantings/ green wall for screening, pocket sitting-out spaces with amenity tree plantings along the riverfront promenade, are proposed. Local open space of not less than 13,126 m2 would be provided for the proposed 10,022 resident population and 6,207 working population. Minimum 30% greenery area will be provided.
- The proposed development within 125,863m² site area would bring significant changes to the existing rural inland plain landscape character of the environment. The applicant should reconsider whether the scale of the proposed development is responding sensitively to the existing landscape character in particular where "GB" zone is located within and in close proximity to the site.

According to the Northern Metropolis Action Agenda (NMAA) promulgated in October 2023, the Application Site and its surrounding has been planned to be the "Boundary Commerce and Industry Zone" and positioned as a business district for cross-boundary business services. In close proximity to the city of Shenzhen and situating partly within the proposed NTN New Town where comprehensive development in anticipated in the near future, the proposed rezoning application aptly responds to the changing planning circumstances and aligns with the strategic planning directions and development objectives of the NMAA and NTN New Town Study.

The proposed development intensity of the Innovation and Technology (I&T) Hub at this strategic location has been designed with the optimal balance for I&T development, and been carefully considered its compatibility with other

Noted.

Detailed Comments / Advisory Comments

- The applicant should review the proposed layout plan to preserve the existing trees within the site as far as practicable, particularly for existing large trees with height of 14m and more and DBH exceeding 500mm, such as T15, T195, T251 and T322...etc.
- The applicant should explore the opportunity for more tree planting to meet 1:1 in terms of aggregated DBH when there is available planting space and

new development areas in the Northern Metropolis, namely the San Tin Technopole (a maximum plot ratio of 6 for I&T land) and the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (with a plot ratio of 5 for the Enterprise and Technology Park).

In view of the planning vision of Northern Metropolis – "an International I&T Hub, with unique metropolitan landscape marked with Urban-Rural Integration and Co-existence of Development and Conservation", the proposed I&T Hub has incorporated several sensitive designs to respond to the existing landscape characters of the surrounding. With respect to the Fung Shui Woodland in the southeastern portion, it has been excluded from the Development Site for preservation. Along the Development Site boundary, a 2m-to-14m-wide soft edge creating a transition zone between the built environment and the natural surroundings has been proposed. In terms of the layout design, the buildings have been arranged in a stepped building height profile descending towards the riverfront, with adequate building separations for both visual relief and air ventilation. Greenery has been maximised atgrade and vertically to further enhance the connection with the surrounding landscapes through introduction of green elements. These careful considerations ensures that the proposed I&T Hub is responsive to the existing landscape character, while exhibiting a balance between development and the surrounding context.

Given most of the existing larges tree condition are considered as poor form and structure condition, the defects of each large trees are indicated in the Appendix B Photo Record of the Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposals (**Appendix C** refers).

In addition, the condition of existing trees (T186-T204) along the proposed buffer planting areas have been reviewed and preserved as far as practicable.

The Applicant has proactively explored various ways to increase the tree planning spaces in the proposed development as far as practicable. Despite the majority of rooftop on the Data Centres have been taken up by the cooling Page 6 of 14

	sufficient growing space.	system and solar panels, the compensatory tree planting proposal has maximised the available tree planting space on the rooftop of R&D Centres and ground floor areas to achieve a ratio not less than 1:1 in terms of absolute number. Given the need to provide adequate local open spaces for the enjoyment of both workers and residents, as well as the requirement for adequate growing space for tree health, it becomes challenging to provide additional space for tree planting. According to the "Proper Planting Practice" in the <i>Handbook of Tree</i> <i>Management</i> by the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section (GLTMS) of Development Bureau and normal practices, a minimum of 3m growth space is required for the standard trees and 5m for heavy standard trees. As a result, meeting the 1:1 aggregated DBH ratio through additional tree planting becomes impractical due to space limitations and the necessary requirements for healthy tree growth.
•	With reference to Para. 4.6.2 of the Supporting Planning Statement and Para. 4.1.1.2 of the Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposals, "Soft edges ranging from 2m to 14m have been set along the boundary." The applicant is advised to adopt consistent terms throughout the supporting documents, e.g. soft edges and green buffer to avoid confusion. The applicant is also advised to maximize buffer planting area with tree planting, particularly along the western site boundaries adjoining to "GB" zone.	Noted. The term "soft edges" will be used consistently throughout the Supporting Planning Statement (please refer to Appendix D for the replacement pages) and the Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposal. In addition, the soft edges with 3m width along the western boundaries have been reviewed, and it is feasible for 2 rows of trees planting to maximise the planting opportunities. However, the soft edges at northern side are restricted due to the need to provide the vehicular and pedestrian access to the Development Site, therefore additional space for tree planting will not be available in those areas.
•	Application site boundary should be indicated in all drawings under Appendix B – Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposal.	Noted and revised accordingly.
•	 Please find below comments on Landscape Master Plan (Figure 1.5a to 1.5f) (i) Legible and detailed spot levels should be indicated on plan. (ii) The applicant should clarify whether play equipment and fitness equipment will be provided at the 	Noted. The spot levels have been indicated in the revised Landscape Master Plans. Noted. Play equipment and fitness equipment are indicated in the Landscape Master Plans.

	 children's playgrounds and multi sports ground/ outdoor gym respectively in the main content. Figure 1.9a – The applicant is reminded 	The typical details of tree planting have been
	to provide and indicate in the drawing the sufficient soil depth for tree planting on top of underground carpark at the riverfront promenade.	provided in Figure 1.10.
	• Extent of "Green wall" as mentioned in the Para. 4.6.2 of the Supporting Planning Statement and Para. 4.1.1.2 of the Landscape and Tree Preservation Proposals should be indicated on drawings, i.e. Landscape Master Plan and Greenery Coverage.	The extent of the Green Wall has been highlighted in the Landscape Master Plan and the figure of Greenery Coverage.
	• The applicant should be advised that approval of the application does not imply approval of the site coverage of greenery requirements under PNAP APP-152. The site coverage of greenery calculation should be submitted separately to Building Department (BD) for approval.	Noted.
	• The applicant should be advised that approval of the application does not imply approval of tree works such as pruning, transplanting and felling. The applicant is reminded to seek approval for any proposed tree works from relevant departments prior to commencement of the works.	Noted.
4.	Planning Department, District Planning Branch, Special Duties Division, Urban Design & Landscape Section, Urban Design Unit, dated 29 May 2024	
	Air Ventilation Assessment – Initial Study	
	1. Figure 7 and 13 – The wind enhancement features number as stated in Sections 2.2.2 and 2.2.3 should be marked on the figures in order to facilitate a clearer understanding.	Annotations have been added to Figures 7 and 13. Please refer to Appendix E for revised Air Ventilation Assessment – Initial Study (AVA-IS).
	2. <u>Test points</u>	

• Special Test points should be placed along all mitigation measures and grouped into individual focus areas to evaluate their effectiveness. We note that Special Test Points within the airpaths as marked below are missing.

20 additional Overall Test Points have been added to the space between village houses. Please refer to Figure 28.

Additional Special Test Points and focus areas have been added for the three air paths. Please refer to Tables 10 and 11.

3.	Based on our previous comments on the method statement, all Special Test Points within the site under both schemes should be located at the same location as much as possible, to enable direct comparison of the ventilation performance of the breezeways and mitigation measures. In Table 11, however, the VRs for the special test points of the mitigation measures in the Baseline Scheme are not presented.	The location of Special Test Point in both Schemes is identical. Please refer to Figures 29 and 30, and Tables 10 and 11.
4.	Please report the VR of all the airpath / breezeway as individual focus area as indicated in Figure 7.	The VR of all airpath and breezeways are reported. Please refer to Tables 10 and 11.
5.	In general, large wake region is caused by the proposed development on its downwind side when compared to the Baseline Scheme. Inevitable adverse impact is anticipated. The consultant should discuss the potential impact properly.	A description of the wake region is added in 4 th paragraph of annual, summer and directional analysis. Please refer to Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.
6. •	Section 4.3.1 1st paragraph – In terms of the overall wind performance, there are significant differences between the Baseline Scheme and the Proposed Scheme. It is not agreed that the overall wind performance of the two schemes are similar.	Section 4.3.1 has been revised accordingly.
•	4th paragraph – Chow Tin Tsuen is not at the leeward side of the project side under NNE/ NE wind.	Section 4.3.1 has been revised accordingly.
•	5th paragraph – Please clarify that the red arrows in the text correspond with the blue arrows in the figures.	Section 4.3.1 has been revised accordingly.
7. •	Figure 57 and Table 10 The test points involved in Focus Area 1, 10, 11, 12 and 13 are not consistent between the table and the figure. Please review.	The Test Point and VR of Focus Areas 1, 10, 11, and 13 have been updated. Please refer to Tables 10 and 11.
8.	In light of the fact that test points will be updated, the results need to be updated as well.	Noted.

	 According to the preliminary simulation result, the consultant should explore more effective mitigation measures in order to alleviate the potential impact induced by the proposed development. 	 Three additional measures have been introduced and incorporated into to the Revised Indicative Scheme to further alleviate the potential ventilation impact. 1. A widened breezeway between AD2 and DC3 from 30m to 40m wide; and 2. An additional breezeway between AD2 and AD3 of 30m wide. 3. Two empty bay design of 18m height and 10.8m width under R1 and R4 on the northeastern side. Based on the simulation result, Lin Ma Hang Road, Road to the East of the Application Site and Ta Kwu Ling Village would experience more ventilation impact under SW/WSW wind condition. Additional measures 1 and 2 would enhance the wind permeability towards these areas and alleviate the ventilation impact. In addition, Ta Ku Ling Lin Ying Public School would be sensitive focus area as it is located within the Application Site. Additional measures 1 and 3 would further alleviate the ventilation impact. Please refer to Sections 2.2.3 and 5.2 for the description. Section 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 for the analysis.
5.	 Water Supplies Department, New Works Branch, Construction Division, System Planning Section, dated 31 May 2024 Major Comments on the Application/Main Reasons of Objection: Please find our comments on Appendix F - WSIA:- 1. Table 2.1 - Upon preliminary checking based on the proposed development parameters of the project available in this submission, the existing waterworks infrastructures in the vicinity of the site of the project have no spare capacity to cater for the anticipated increase in water demand due to the project on or before end 2030, please critically review the completion year of 2028. 	Noted. Temporary arrangement has been proposed to ensure that the proposed development will be technically feasible before the implementation of new waterworks infrastructure proposed under the NTN New Town Study. Please refer to Section 3.5 of the revised Water Supply Impact Assessment (WSIA) (Appendix F refers).

Noted and revised. Please refer to Table 3.1 and 2. Table 3.1 - For Development Type R1, please use fresh water demand of Appendix C. 2301/h/d instead of 1401/h/d. 3. Table 3.1 - Please clarify if Development Please be advised that Type R1 is involved in Type R1 involves in your development the Development Site only. site only. 4. Table 3.1 and Appendix C - please Noted and revised. Please refer to Table 3.1 and rearrange the unit demand table and Appendix C. distinguish by residential and nonresidential development type. 5. Table 3.1 and Appendix C - Please apply Noted and revised. Please refer to Table 3.1 and Service Trade, unit demand of 40 1/h/d, Appendix C. for residential development in the Table. 6. Table 3.1 and Appendix C -As per item 5 Noted and revised. Please refer to Table 3.1 and of the above comment, please remove J4 Appendix C. and J11 in the table as service trade covers stores, canteen, clubhouse etc. associated with the residential development. 7. Table 3.1 - For residential development Noted and revised. Please refer to Table 3.1 and type, please use flushing water demand of Appendix C. 104 1/h/d according to the actual consumption. 8. Para. 3.5.2 - For temporary arrangement Noted and revised. Please refer to 3.4.4 and of water supply at 2028 from existing 3.4.5. Table Hill FWSR to your development, hydraulic calculation is required. 9. Para. 3.5.2 - Different scenarios for Noted and revised. Please refer to 3.4.4 and hydraulic analysis should be included for 3.4.5. the fresh water supply system according to WSD DI 1309:- 1) Peak flow with 3 x Mean Daily Demand; 2) Fire-fighting Scenario with lx Mean Daily Demand. 10.Para. 3.5.1 - As your proposed Noted. This report has been circulated to CEDD development is located within the NTN for comment and record. study, CE21/2021(CE), you are required to coordinate with CEDD to include your proposed water demand in the CEDD's study and provide record to this office. 11. Para. 3.5.1 - You are required to liaise Noted. Further liaison will be made with with CE21/2021(CE) and formulate a relevant Departments, as appropriate. long-term water supply scheme including fresh water and reclaimed water (Re W) for flushing from CE21/2021(CE) instead of supplying by existing Table Hill FWSR. i.e. Both fresh water and reclaimed water should be supplied by

FWSR and ReWSR from CE21/2021(CE). 12.Figure 3.2 - The figure showing the Noted and revised. Please refer to Figure 3.2. proposed water main is not clear. In the figure, please show:- 1) the connection point between the proposed DN300 FW main and existing FW main to Table Hill FWSR near Man Kam To Road: 2) The demarcation for the proposed FW main to be maintained by WSD and to be maintained by the project proponent near the development site including the connection points between the FW main, TMF and fire service main near Lin Ma Hang Road. 13 . Appendix C - Please review if the water Noted. Please be advised that water demand demand for data center is correct. Only arising from cooling water for data centre has water demand arising from the data center been included. Please refer to Section 3.3 and employee is shown. Appendix C for the revision accordingly. Other Detailed Comments (if applicable): It is noted that part of the proposed site Noted. overlaps the WSD land allocation for the River Ganges Lowland Raw Water Pumping Station. The project proponent shall take note and closely liaise with WSD and CLP regarding land requirement issues Existing water mains inside the proposed site Noted. as shown in the MRP may be affected. The applicant is required to either divert or protect the water mains found on site. If diversion is required, existing water mains Noted. inside the proposed site areas are needed to be diverted outside the she boundary of the proposed site to lie in Government land. A strip of land of minimum 1.5m in width should be provided for the diversion of existing water mams. The cost of diversion of existing water mains upon request will have to be borne by the applicant; and the applicant shall submit all the relevant proposal to WSD for consideration and agreement before the works commence. If diversion is not required, the following conditions shall apply: (a) Existing water mains are affected as Noted. indicated on the site plan and no

development which requires resiting of water mains will be allowed.	
(b) Details of site formation works shall be submitted to the Director of Water Supplies for approval prior to commencement of works.	Noted.
(c) No structures shall be built or materials stored within 1.5 metres from the centre line(s) of water main(s) shown on the plan. Free access shall be made available at all times for staff of the Director of Water Supplies or their contractor to carry out construction, inspection, operation, maintenance and repair works.	Noted.
(d) No trees or shrubs with penetrating roots may be planted within the Water Works Reserve or in the vicinity of the water main(s) shown on the plan. No change of existing site condition may be undertaken within the aforesaid area without the prior agreement of the Director of Water Supplies. Rigid root barriers may be required if the clear distance between the proposed tree and the pipe is 2.5m or less, and the barrier must extend below the invert level of the pipe.	Noted.
(e) No planting or obstruction of any kind except turfing shall be permitted within the space of 1.5 metres around the cover of any valve or within a distance of 1 metre from any hydrant outlet.	Noted.
(f) Tree planting may be prohibited in the event that the Director of Water Supplies considers that there is any likelihood of damage being caused to water mains.	Noted.
*Adopt 1.5 meters for water mains below 600mm dia. and 3 meters for water mains of 600mm dia. And above.	
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(Last update on 24 June 2024)