



長春社 Since 1968

The Conservancy Association

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17th May 2021

Ms. Cheng Mei Sze, Maisie, JP
Director of Environmental Protection
Environmental Protection Department
Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance Register Office

By E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk

Dear Ms. Cheng,

RE: Comments on Traffic Improvement Scheme in Tuen Mun – Widening and Addition of slip roads at Lung Fu Road/Tuen Mun Road/Wong Chu Road/Hoi Wing Road Project Profile

The Conservancy Association (CA) would like to express our concern on the captioned.

Potential impact on trees and woodland

Apart from roadside planting comprising common native, exotic, invasive, ornamental species, large-sized trees in good form can be spotted in several sections of the proposed roads. For example, more than 20 *Ficus virens* can be spotted along Lung Fu Road (Figure 1-5). From our preliminary observation, this group of *Ficus virens* is still in good condition. According to the proposed alignment, these *Ficus virens* would be directly affected. We worry that they would be either felled or unnecessarily pruned.

Regarding the section near Sam Shing Hui, apart from large-sized trees, some young trees with less than 95mm in diameter at breast height (DBH) can also be spotted (Figure 6). Despite provision of tree compensatory proposal, it might, to a certain extent, help preserve individuals but certainly would not re-create an equivalent ecological value and integrity of a habitat.

CA would suggest the following:

- i. Avoidance on tree felling should be on top priority.
- ii. The following order of priority should be adopted for tree removal consideration:



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- retain, transplant on-site, transplant off-site, and fell.
- iii. Proper pruning should be introduced for retained and transplanted trees.
 - iv. Detailed tree survey report should be attached in EIA report.
 - v. Tree compensation is suggested wherever possible. Compensating the ecological function of the wooded areas affected by the project and long term sustainability of the compensation planting should be considered.

Yours sincerely,

Ng Hei Man

Campaign Manager

The Conservancy Association

Figure 1 Approximate location of the tree group *Ficus virens* (circled in blue)

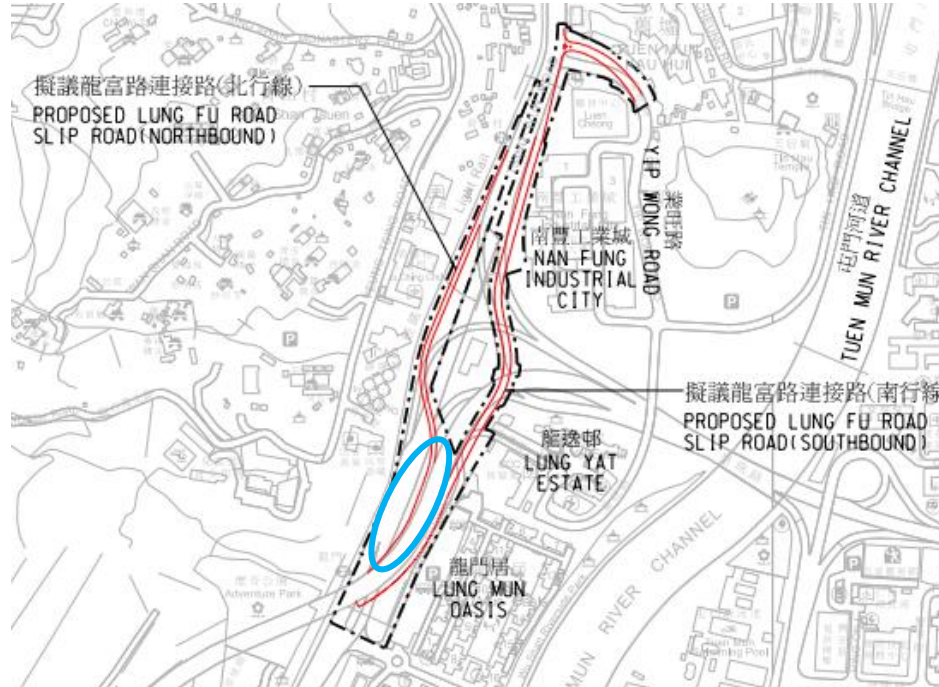


Figure 2-4 The tree group *Ficus virens* (circled in red) is located just next to the existing Lung Fu Road. We worry that the proposed slip road would pose direct impact on those trees





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Figure 6 Some young trees with less than 95mm DBH can be spotted near the proposed road section in Sam Shing Hui

