

Tourism District Enhancement Programme facelifts tourist spots

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The Commissioner for Tourism, Ms Eva Cheng, who officiated at "Tourism District Enhancement" Celebrations today (October 16), said, "Tourism is one of the pillars of Hong Kong's economy. Apart from developing brand new attractions, the Tourism Commission also implements the Tourism District Enhancement Programme (TDEP) to beautify existing tourist spots and upgrade the facilities."

Ms Cheng said that the Tourism Commission launched the TDEP in the Central and Western District as a pilot scheme and the components of the project have been completed in phases. Today, members of community and the tourists can experience the new face of this enhanced tourism district.

The enhancement works in the Central and Western District include street repaving and provision of new street furniture, signage and greening for Hollywood Road and Lan Kwai Fong. The Lok Hing Lane Sitting-out Area is given a facelift and the access linking Pottinger Street and Lan Kwai Fong serves to improve pedestrian flow. The project also includes replacing the commemorative plaques for the Sun Yat-sen Historical Trail, and installing directional signs at the Central-Mid-Levels Escalator and the shopping trail in Central.

Ms Cheng pointed out that the TDEP is being extended to other tourism districts. The improvement works in Sai Kung and Lei Yue Mun have been completed. The Visitor Signage Improvement Scheme covering all 18 districts will be completed next year, while the Stanley Waterfront and Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade Projects have just commenced in August.

Ms Cheng said, "We are planning to extend the TDEP to more tourism spots, including the Peak and Tsim Sha Tsui East, with a view to giving these areas a refreshed look."

The TDEP is championed by the Tourism Commission with the project works co-ordinated by the Architectural Services Department. Other participating departments include the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Transport Department, Highways Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Home Affairs Department etc. The TDEP has also the full support of the District Councils, the local community and the tourism trade.

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