



30/09/2010 23:11

To ccc@fhb.gov.hk <ccc@fhb.gov.hk>

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bcc

Subject Re : Public Consultation on review of Columbarium Policy

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I would like to express my view below:

1) Currently, the private niches are sold at price of over HK\$ 20 to 30k per unit and most of the low income group may not be able to afford such price. The government and non profit organizations should take an active role to provide at least 50% of anticipated demand charging at a reasonable price for this low income group. This cheaper means of niches supply can also help to stabilize the price of the private niches.

2)The government should expand/convert the existing columbaria/cemetery for more niches. For instance, the government should be able to squeeze land in/near Cape Collinson to provide additional supply.

3) I noted that there is one private columbaria which has built been in Lu Wu (鹿湖), Lantau Island. This is situated in the Lantau Island country park as well as in an over 100 years historic Buddhist practicing sanctuaries. This columbaria has created damage not only to the natural environment but also to the monastics and spiritual practicing communities. The developer is actively acquiring the remaining temples in the area to increase its niches supply which will further increase the damage to the park. There is only one 2-way single lane road access to the columbaria, the traffic flow would certainly an serious issue during the Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festival.

Due to the significance adverse impact to the country park users and buddhists, I would request the Environment Bureau and Planning and Transport Department to also get involved in the above and to order the columbaria to stop its business operation.

Regards,
Mr T Lai