Phased Replacement of Senescent *Acacia confusa and Peltophorum pterocarpum* at Yuen Chau Kok, Sha Tin

16.01.2025

Landscape Division / HYD

ABOUT YUEN CHAU KOK
圓洲角

BACKGROUND OF TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AT YUEN CHAU KOK

2010 — **Tree failure**
A *Peltophorum pterocarpum tree* resulted in one dealth

2012
According to the tree failure record from TMO in November 2012, 35% of tree failure cases involved *Acacia* trees

2014 — **Tree failure**
An *Acacia* tree resulted in the blockage of cycle track

2015
Launch of Acacia Programme

2016
Pilot Replacement Scheme
Replacement of *Acacia* trees

2017 — **Tree failure**
A *Peltophorum pterocarpum* tree

2021 — **Tree failure**
An unknown tree resulted in one injury

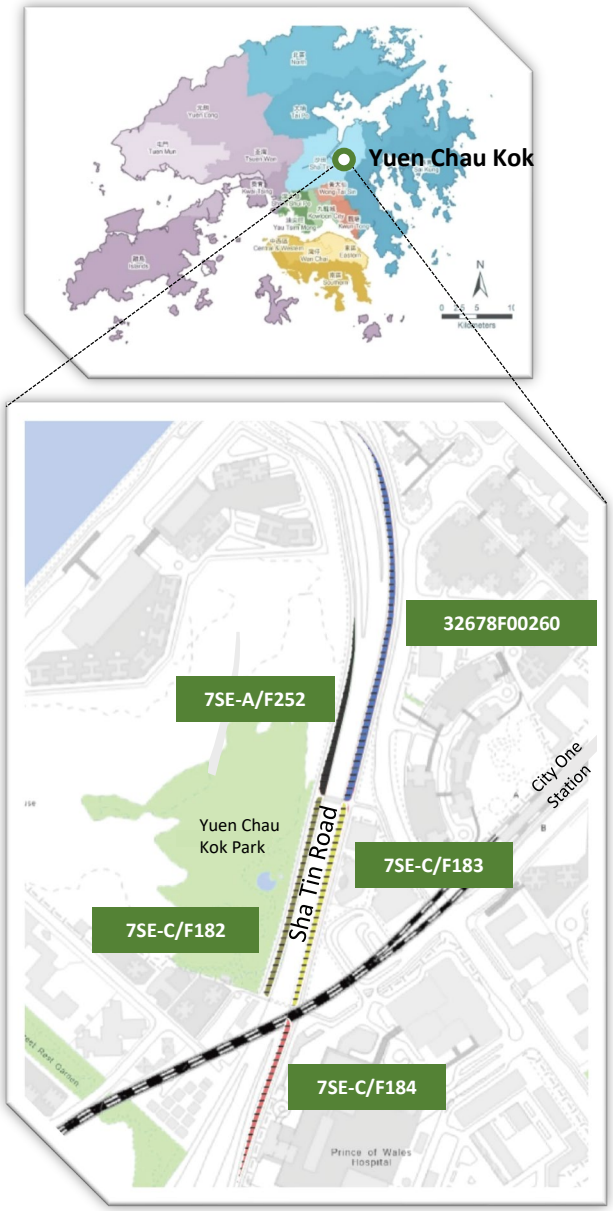
Replacement Scheme (Phase 1)
Replacement of Peltophorum pterocarpum tree and *Acacia* trees

2022
Replacement Scheme (Phase 2)
Replacement of Peltophorum pterocarpum tree and *Acacia* trees

2023
Replacement Scheme (Phase 3)
Replacement of Peltophorum pterocarpum tree and *Acacia* trees

2024
Completion of All Planting Establishment Works

BACKGROUND OF TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AT YUEN CHAU KOK



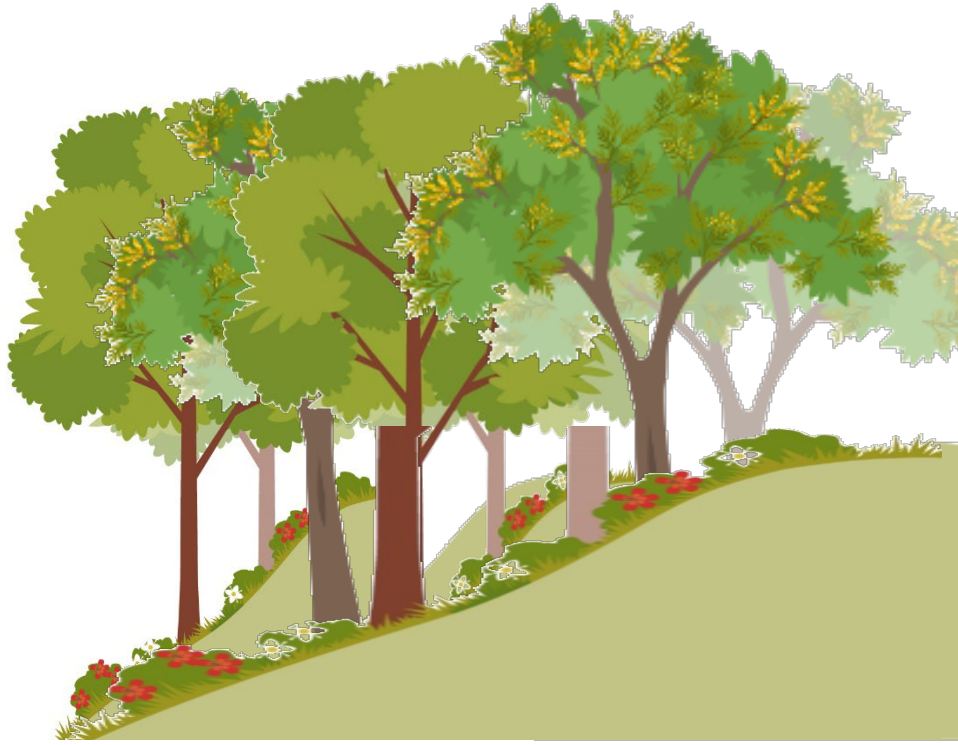
Before 2021

- Dominant trees species in Yuen Chau Kok
  - ***Peltophorum pterocarpum*** (盾柱木)
  - ***Acacia confusa*** (台灣相思)
- Most of the tree forms are ***imbalanced***
- Most of the trees are ***leaning*** toward the pathway and cycle track, ***imposing potential dangers*** to the pedestrians and the cyclists

OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE WORKS

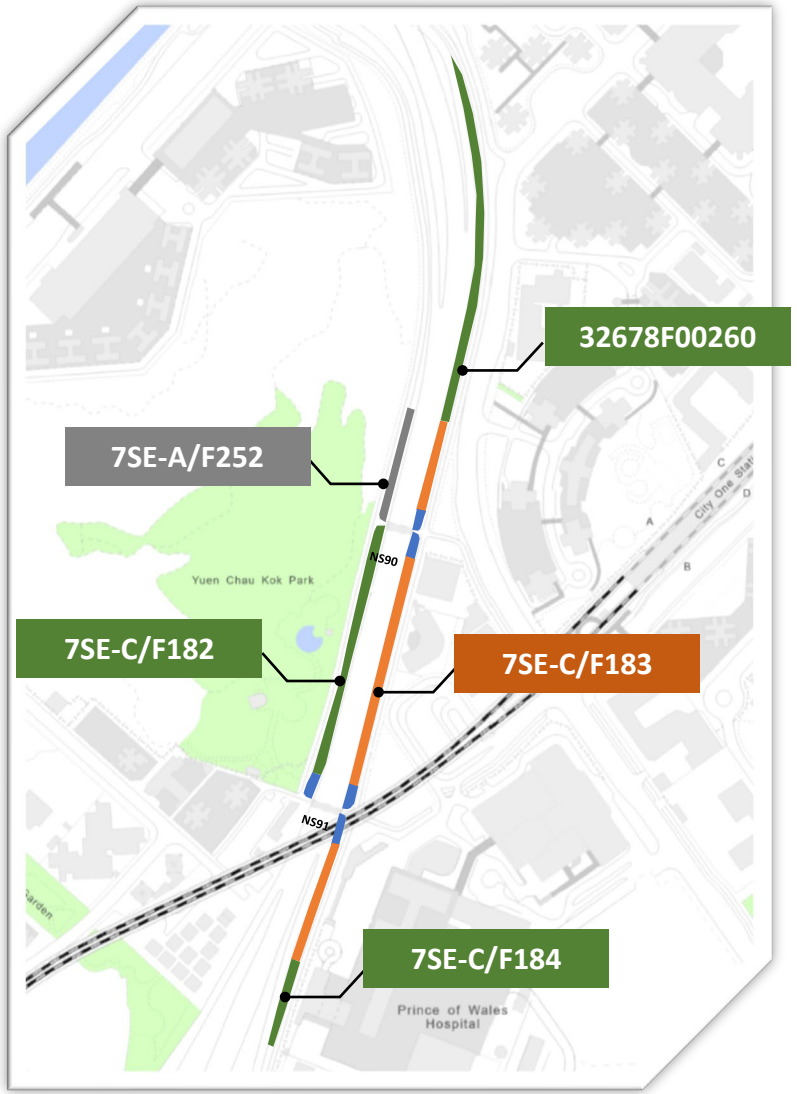
Environmental Enhancement Planting at Yuen Chau Kok

Public Safety	Amenity Value	Biodiversity
To enhance public safety, and to reduce the risk of tree failure on the slope	To beautify the current slopes, enhance the vegetation and increase their amenity value	To promote the long-term sustainability of tree management and enhance urban ecology, diverse by native plant species



REPLACEMENT SCHEMES AT YUEN CHAU KOK

IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES



2016

Pilot Replacement Scheme

A slope next to cycling track

- Pioneer scheme to replace *Acacia* trees

2022

Replacement Scheme (Phase 1)

Subway Entrances

- Introduce conspicuous flowers to highlight the subway entrances

2023

Replacement Scheme (Phase 2)

Slopes with higher priority

- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes

2024

Replacement Scheme (Phase 3)

Remaining slopes

- Maintain the amenity value while strengthen on the ecological development of planting

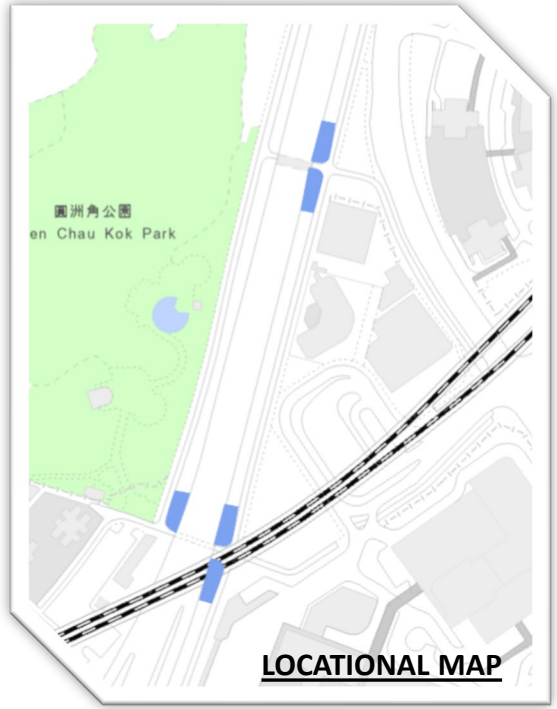
IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES – PHASE 1

PHASE 1

2021 Replacement Scheme (Phase 1)

Feature Planting Species

Native trees with conspicuous flowers	*Reevesia thyrsoidea* 梭羅樹	*Camellia japonica* 山茶	
Shrubs with flowering and seasonal changes	*Gardenia jasminoides* 梔子	*Lespedeza formosa* 美麗胡枝子	*Hemerocallis fulva* 萱草



LOCATIONAL MAP

COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 1

PHASE 1

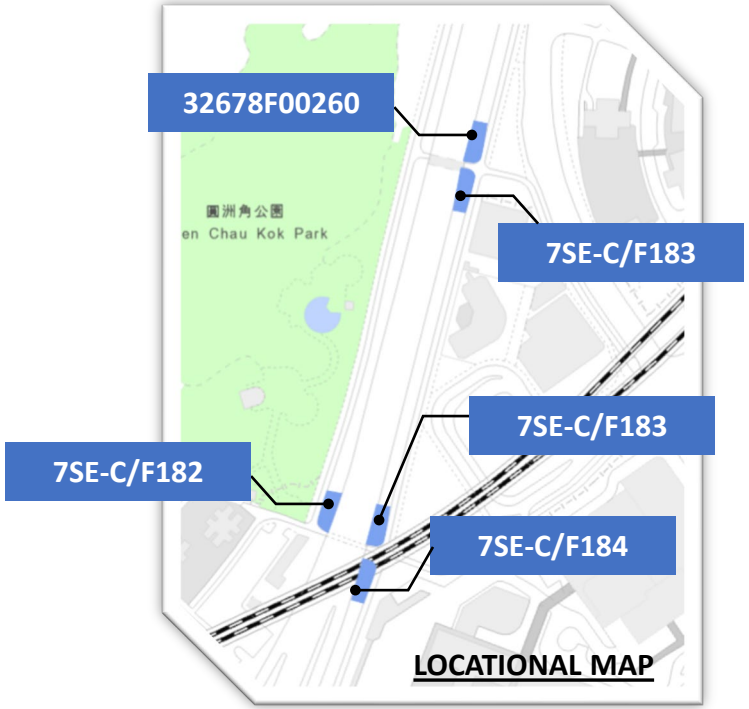
7SE-C/F182

7SE-C/F183

7SE-C/F184

Improvements at Subway Entrances

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Introduce conspicuous flowers to highlight the subway entrances
- Restore understory vegetation



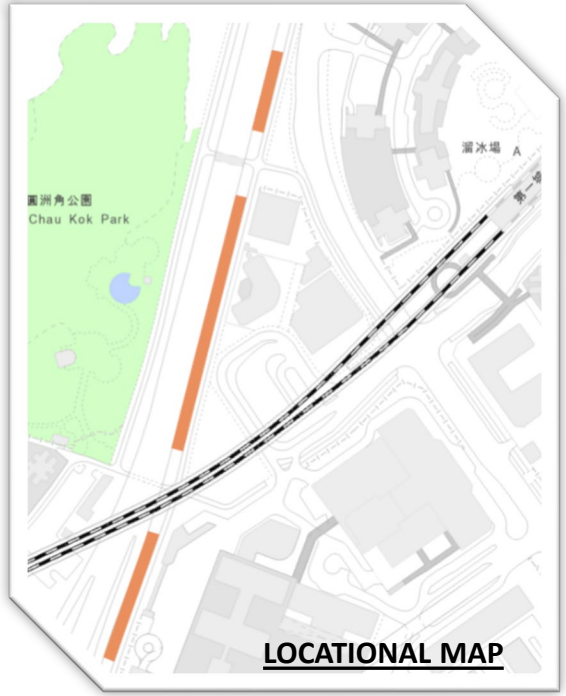
IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES – PHASE 2

PHASE 2

2022 Replacement Scheme (Phase 2)

Feature Planting Species

Native trees with vibrant foliage	*Sterculia lanceolata* 假蘋婆	*Machilus chekiangensis* 浙江潤楠	
Shrubs with flowering and seasonal changes	*Rhaphiolepis indica* 車輪梅	*Psychotria asiatica* 九節	*Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* 桃金娘



LOCATIONAL MAP

COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 2

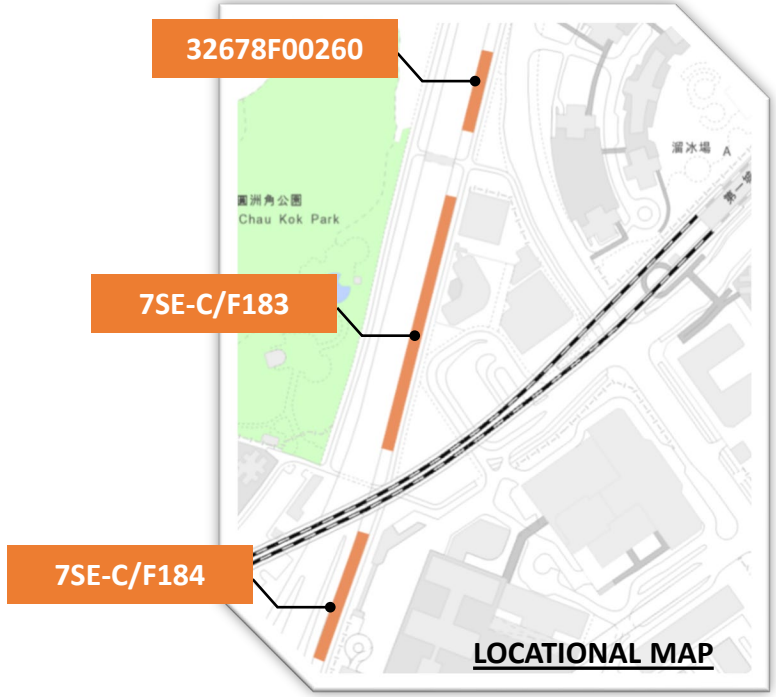
PHASE 2

7SE-C/F183

7SE-C/F184

Slopes with higher priority

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes
- Restore understory vegetation



IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES – PHASE 3

PHASE 3

2023 Replacement Scheme (Phase 3)

Feature Planting Species

Native trees with ecological value	*Ilex rotunda* Thunb 小果鐵冬青	*Viburnum odoratissimum* 珊瑚樹	
Shrubs contrasting in colors and textures	*Duranta repens* L. 假連翹	*Ixora chinensis* Lam. 龍船花	*Pennisetum alopecuroides* 狼尾草

LOCATIONAL MAP

COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 3

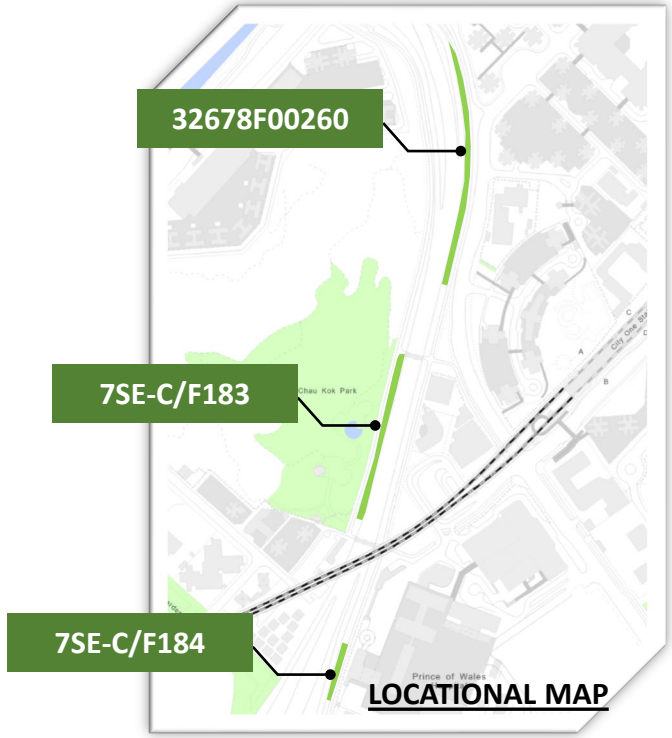
PHASE 3

7SE-C/F184

7SE-C/F182

Slopes with lower priority

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes
- Restore understory vegetation
- Introduce plants with higher amenity value



ABOUT

ENHANCEMENT SUMMARY AT YUEN CHAU KOK

ABOUT

OBSERVATION and WAY FORWARD

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

JUN 2024

Maintenance mode

- Planting works were completed in June 2023
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period was completed in June 2024
- The slope was handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in July 2024, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months

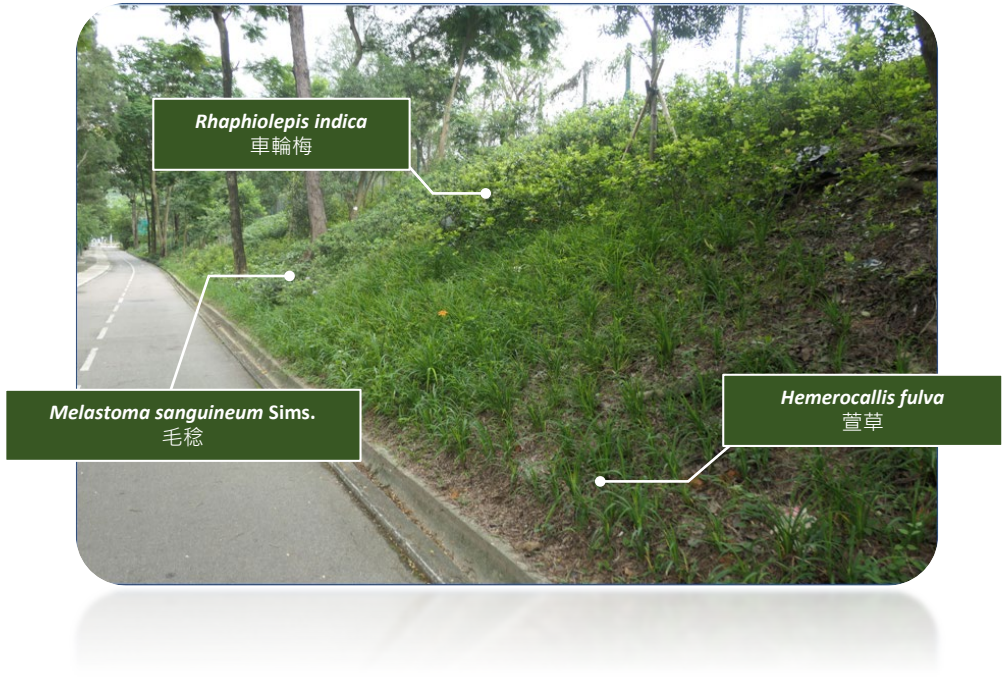
JAN 2025

Observation

- Maintained under HyD M&M Term contractor for 7 months
- The slope is about 35°
- Understory vegetation is observed to be covered by weeds
- *Lespedeza formosa* has been observed to perform particularly well under low maintenance conditions; however, attention has to be paid to the problem of overgrowth.

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

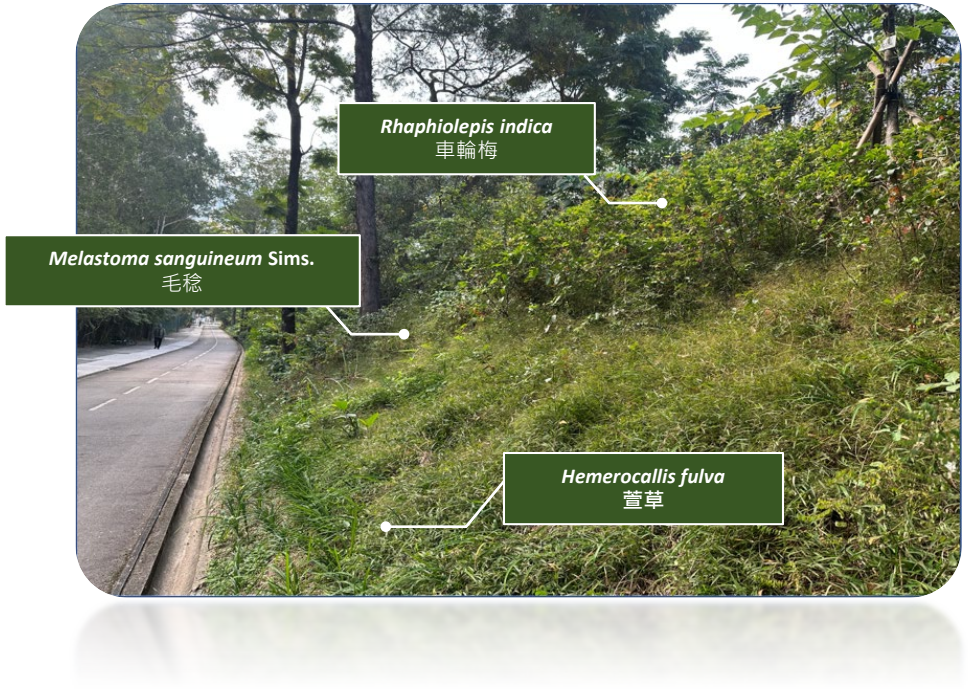
JUN 2024



Maintenance mode

- Planting works were completed in October 2022
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period was completed in June 2024
- The slope was handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in July 2024, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months

JAN 2025

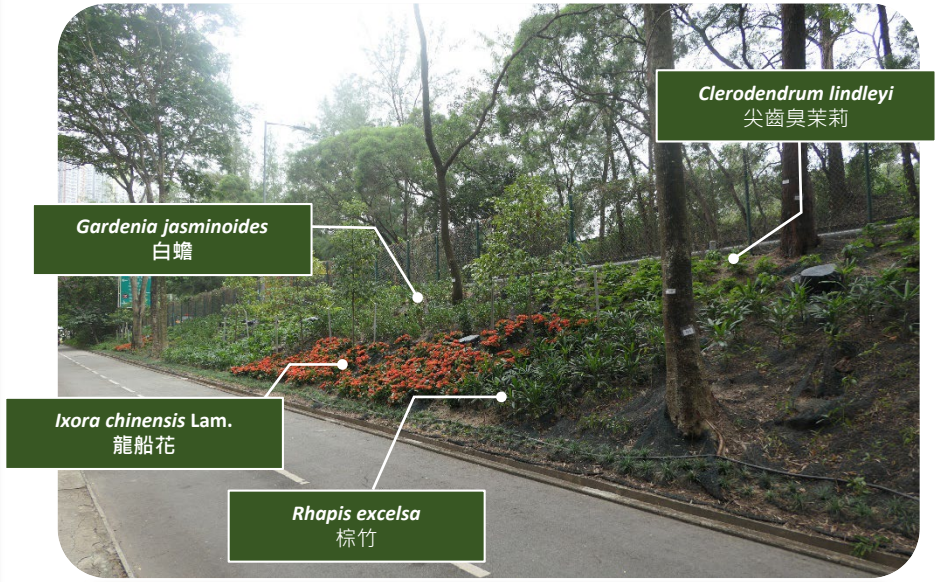


Observation

- Maintained under HyD M&M Term contractor for 7 months
- The slope is about 35°
- Understory vegetation is observed to be covered by weeds
- *Rhaphiolepis indica* has been noted to perform well in low-maintenance conditions, on high gradients slope, and in partially shaded environments.

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

JUN 2024



Maintenance mode

- Planting works completed on December 2023
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period completed on December 2024
- The slope will be handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in February 2025, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months

Observation

- The slope is about 35○
- More intensive watering is required to ensure the plants at the top of the slope establish well
- The overall planting performance under regular landscape maintenance is satisfactory

Way Forward

1

Monthly Inspection

2

On slopes with public enquiry: Monthly inspection + Landscape maintenance operation in 3 monthly basis when necessary

3

Transfer of maintenance works to M&M Term Contractor and maintain the planting in a 6 monthly Routine Horticultural Inspection + Horticultural Maintenance Operation

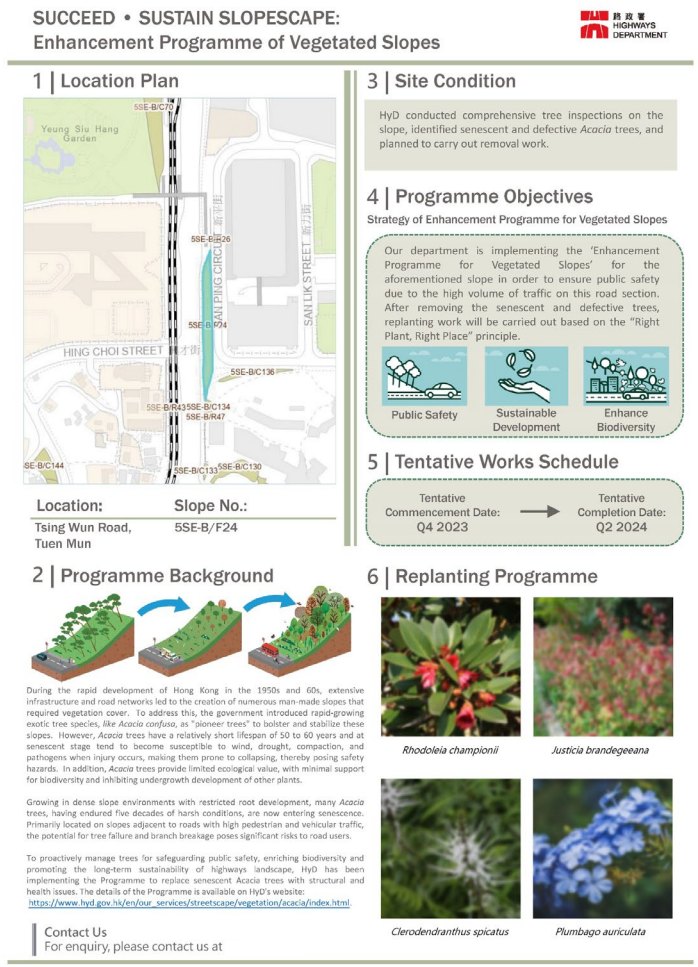
Other Observation

Public Expectation Management

Other Observation + Way Forward

Best practice for Expectation Management to the public:

- 1 month prior to the removal of senescent trees;
- Contractor to post up bi-lingual posters on slopes where trees are going to be removed;
- Response to public enquiry and provide contact point.



THANK YOU