

Press September 21, 1995

Headline : *HA Strives to Provide Quality Living for HOS Buyers*

Content : The Building Committee of the Housing Authority today (Thursday) approved a new design for the Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) called "Concord Block", which could first be found in Fanling Area 49A, Phase 3 in 1999.

"The Housing Department (HD) has long been committed to continuously improving the quality of both HOS flats and rental flats to cope with the changing needs of users," said Mr Stephen Poon, the Senior Assistant Director (New Development) of the Department, during a visit to the Concord Block mock-up show flats in a Ho Man Tin site this afternoon.

"The introduction of 'Concord Block', which is the latest standard design for HOS, shows HD's determination and continuous effort to improve its blocks with a view to meeting the growing expectations of home purchasers," he noted.

In developing the design of the Concord Block, feedbacks from the users of the existing HOS blocks have been carefully considered. Technical details have been worked out in consultation with the building contractors.

The main features of the new Concord Block are as follows:

Larger flat sizes of 46 square metres for two-bedroom flats and 60 square metres for three-bedroom flats comparing with 37 to 40 square metres and 54 to 60 square metres in the current HOS blocks.

Provision of ensuite bathroom to master bedroom in 3-bedroom flats with specially designed shower cubicle.

Ample space in kitchen for latest electrical appliances.

Forty per cent more effective wall space to facilitate furniture layout.

Linked ground floor lobbies with high quality finishes.

Mail delivery room at ground floor for greater security.

Mr Poon, however, maintained that since the completion of the first New Cruciform Block at Ching Wah Court Phase II in Tsing Yi in 1987 and the first Harmony Block in Tin Shui Wai in 1992, a lot of improvements and modifications had been made throughout these years, stressing that they were all attractive designs to potential buyers.

Recent improvements to New Cruciform blocks include provision of medicine cabinet with

mirror and solid polyester resin worktop with recessed hand basin and the use of one-piece vitreous china water closet and cistern in bathroom; installation of quality timber wall hung cupboards and floor cabinets in kitchen; and the use of large-sized wall and floor tiles to kitchen and bathroom.

Other improvements include the use of granite tiles to walls and floor of ground floor lobby, and large wall and floor tiles to typical lift lobby; and high quality stainless steel and granite finishes to lift cars with CCTV for security purpose.

These recent improvements can first be seen in the future HOS project at Tsz Oi Court in Tsz Wan Shan expected to be completed in January 1997.

Similar improvements are being carried out to the Harmony HOS blocks.

These improvements have been included in the HOS projects at Kam Fung Court in Ma On Shan, Hiu Lai Court in Sau Mau Ping and Tsz On Court in Tsz Wan Shan. Building works are expected to be completed between October 1996 and March 1997.

Members of the public would have the opportunities to visit the mock-up show flats and express their views over a three-month period from October to December 1995. Thereafter the mock-up show flats will be remodelled to incorporate their comments wherever practicable. Construction work for the first Concord Block will start on site in mid 1996.

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