

## \$120m to pave way for project at Tinshuiwai

A \$120 MILLION project will pave the way for reclamation work at Tinshuiwai, Yuenlong. The construction of an access road, drainage channel and site formation will start later this year in preparation for the beginning of reclamation in early 1985.

The development of 488 hectares at Tinshuiwai is a joint new town project by the government and the China-owned Mighty City Company.

In the new town plan, 169 hectares will be developed to house a population of 135,000 and the remainder will be held as a government "land bank".

The Housing Department will accommodate half the population in public estates and the rest will go to private developers. The first residents are expected in 1988-89.

To meet this deadline, scheduled preliminary works start in 1984 and reclamation will begin not later than early 1985.

The estimated cost for preliminary projects stands at \$120 million.

A south-west access road will facilitate construction traffic and connect the site to Castle Peak-road.

A works area will also be formed to enable the reclamation contractor to mobilise equipment before the start of the main reclamation operation.

The Tai River has been diverted to prevent floods in the reclamation area and surrounding villages.

Tenders were invited last November for dredging and seabed operations and it is estimated that between 13 and 30 million cubic metres of sand and gravel are needed for reclamation. Work will start early next

year.

Meanwhile, 12 representatives of villages in Tinshuiwai yesterday petitioned for "reasonable" compensation from the developers.

Mr Yip Kut-yue, one of the spokesmen, said since the government paid Mighty City Company \$21 million for the land, villagers should be compensated a similar amount.

He said the government should postpone the March 29 clearance day until all residents have been compensated.