



Supply Quick Fixes Exhausted: How to Navigate the Undercurrents Ahead?

May 2022







- Private Housing Supply
- Public Housing Supply
- **3** Looking Beyond Supply Numbers





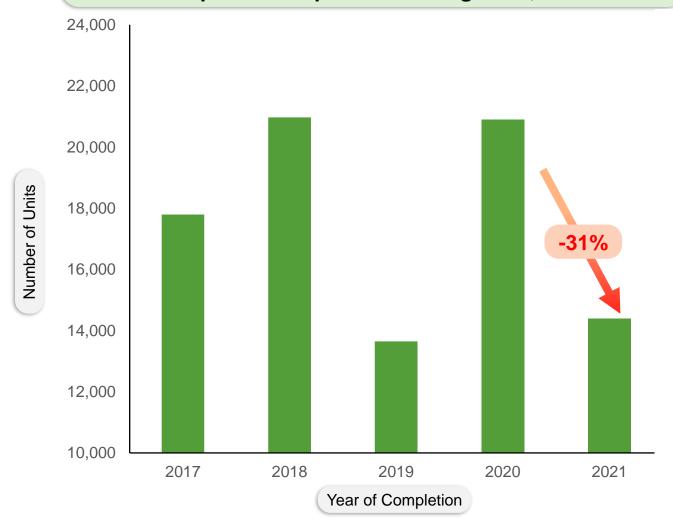


Part One: Private Housing Supply



Private housing completions in 2021 declined year-on-year versus 2020...

Actual completions of private housing units, 2017 - 2021





- Work suspension
- Labour shortage
- Slowdown in government approvals
- Disruptions in material delivery

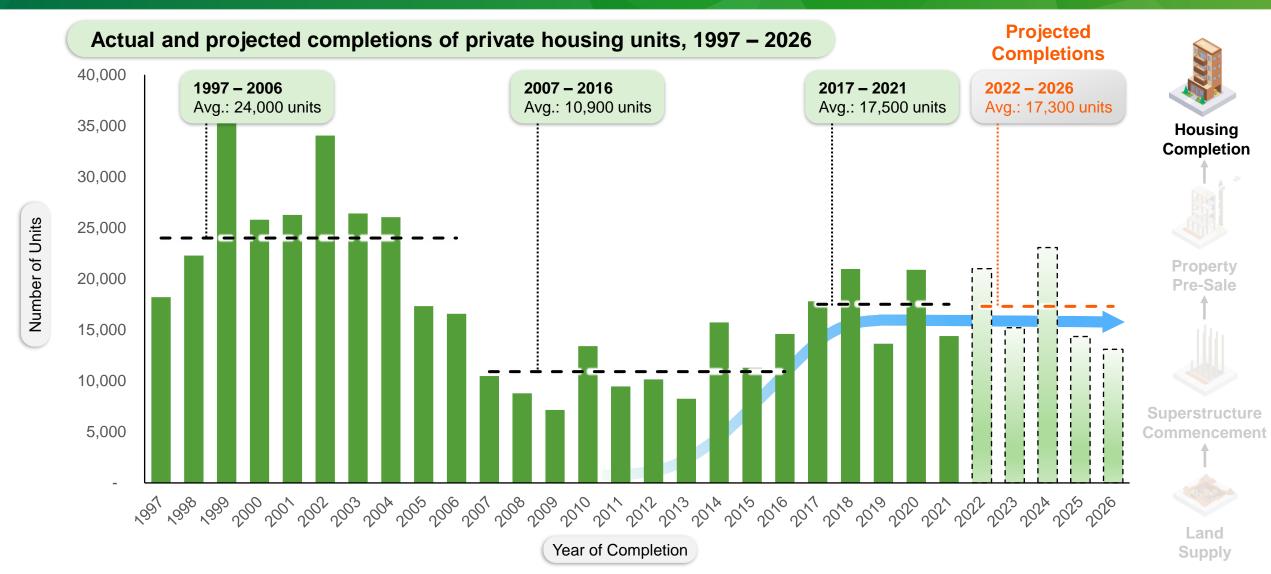
...which is in line with OHKF's past forecast

	Number of units completed	Rating and Valuation Department's estimate	OHKF's estimate
2016	14,595	18,200	17,700
2017	17,791	17,122	20,200
2018	20,968	18,130	20,800
2019	14,093	20,415	18,500
2020	20,888	20,850	17,000
2021	14,386	18,228	15,900

Note: [1] 450 Starter Homes units included

Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Our Hong Kong Foundation

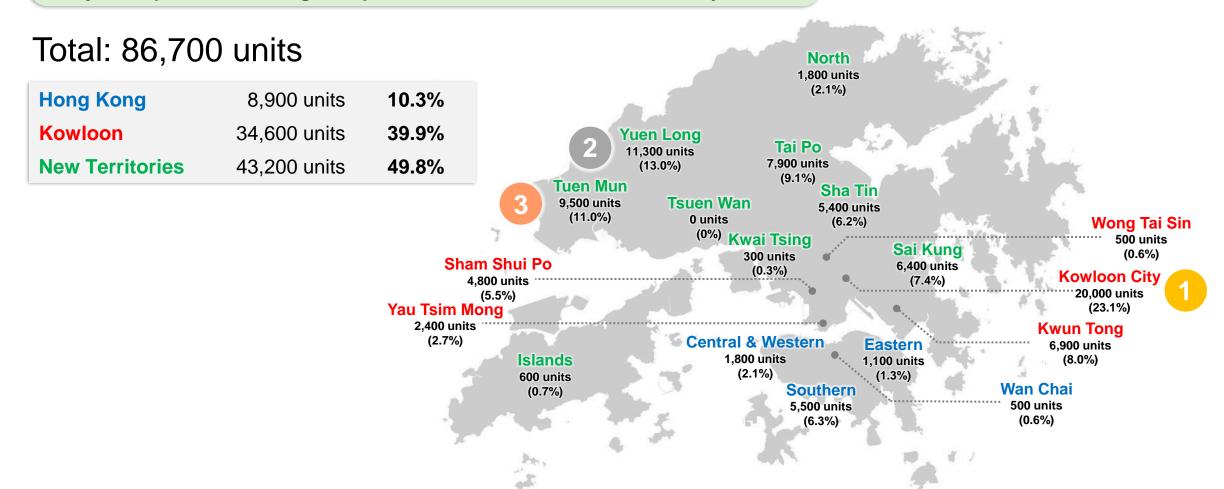
Private housing completions over the five-year horizon are expected to maintain at a relatively high level



Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Buildings Department, Lands Department, Town Planning Board, company data from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

Kowloon City, Yuen Long, and Tuen Mun are the top three districts for the projected private housing completions

Projected private housing completions between 2022 and 2026, by district



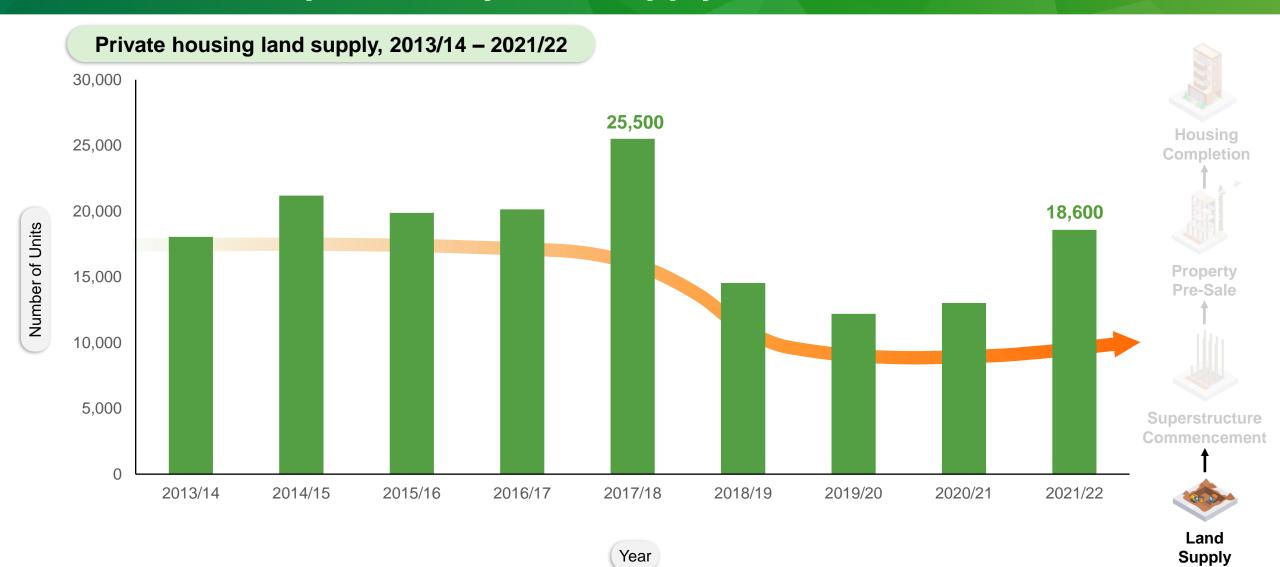
The recent spike in pre-sale consent applications pending approval suggests that upcoming completions would be at a high level



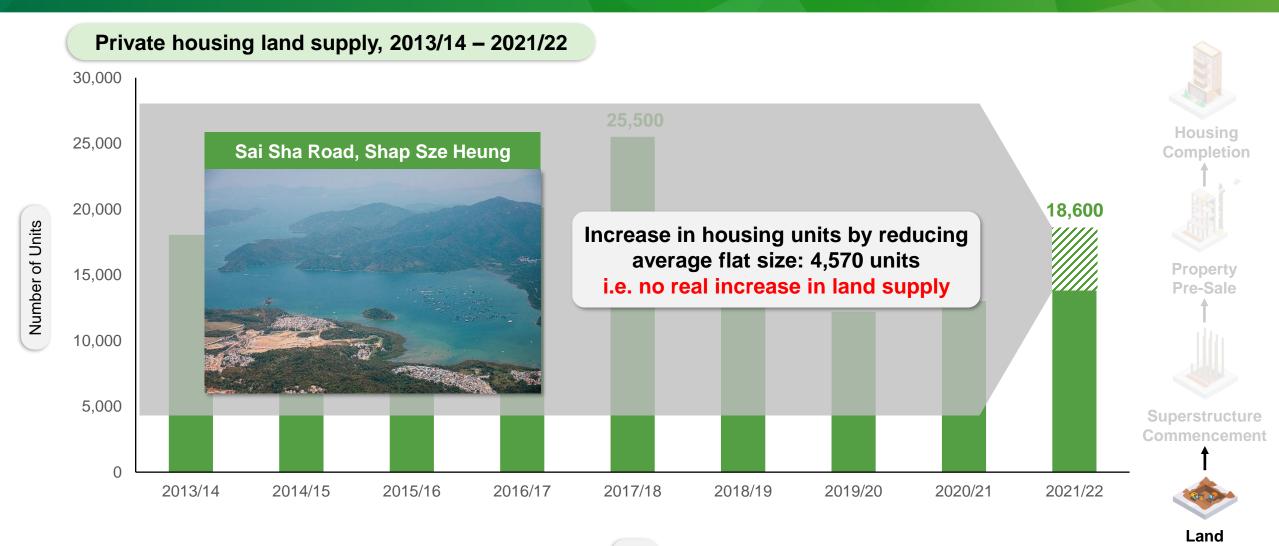
The recovery in superstructure commencements in 2021 also suggests that near-term completions would remain at a high level



However, completions beyond the five-year horizon are expected to decline as spade-ready land supply fell after 2017/18



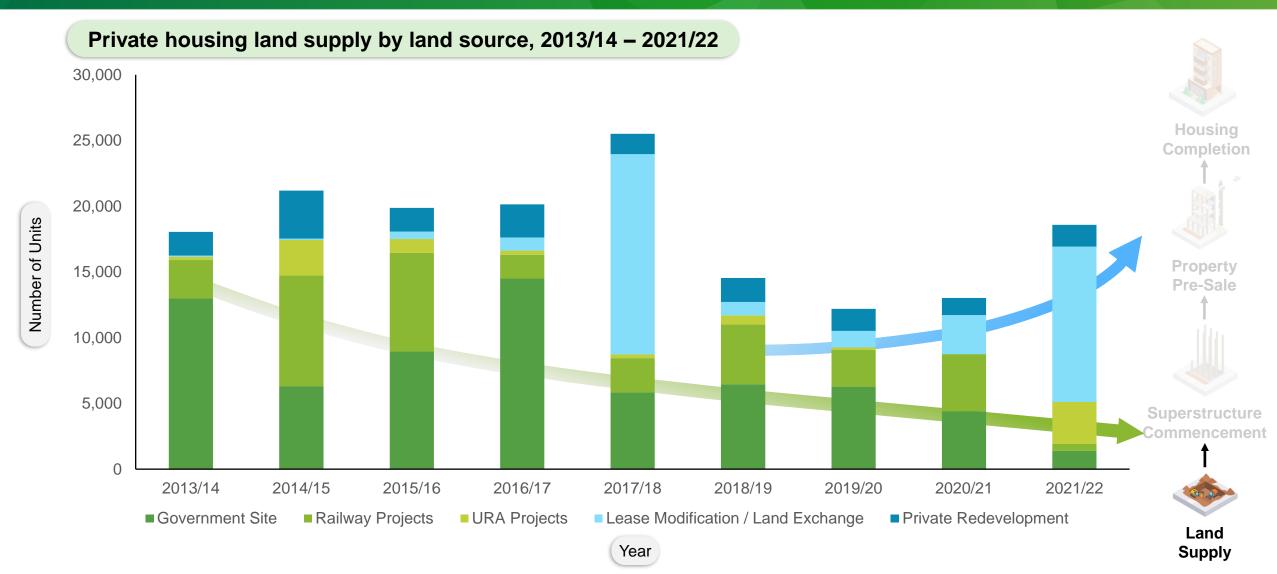
The rebound in 2021/22 was also significantly contributed by the reduction of average flat size for a large private housing project



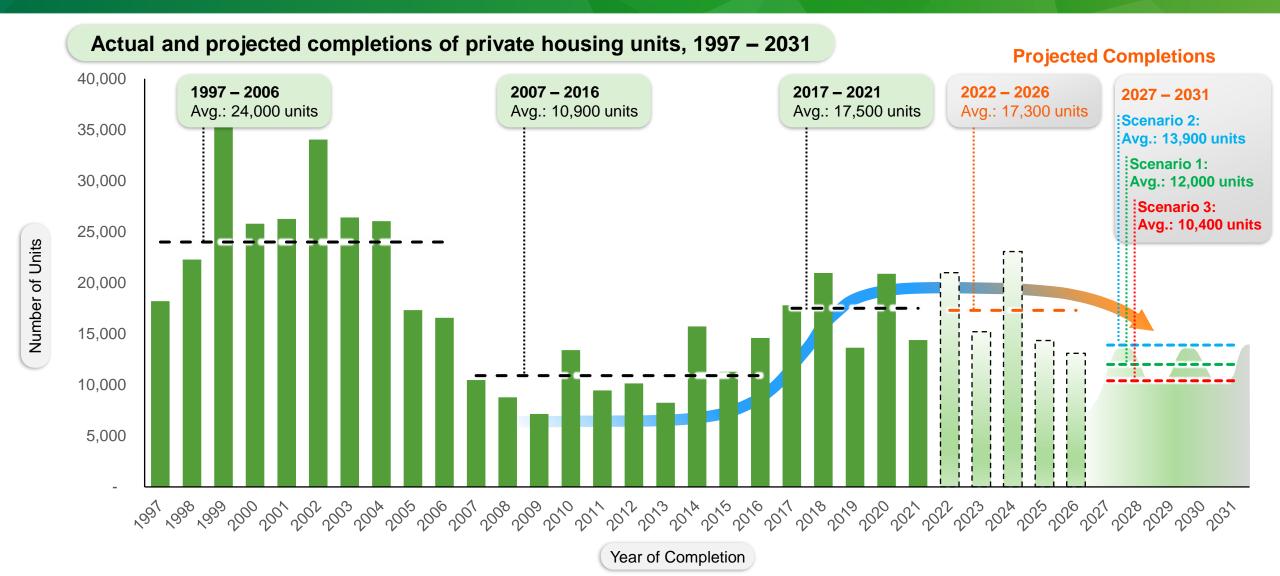
Supply

Year

The decline was delayed as private land bank partly offset the diminishing government-controlled land supply in recent years

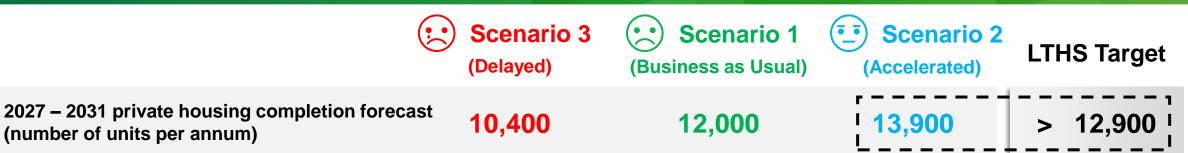


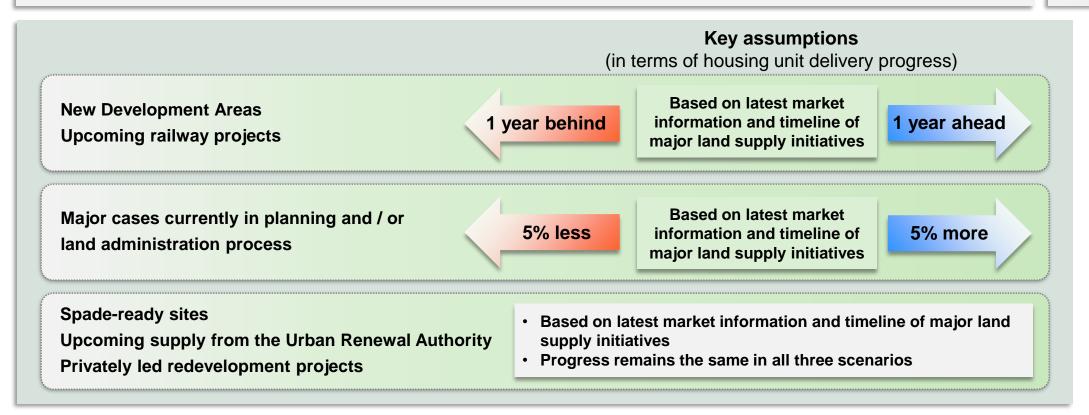
Further uncertainties are therefore expected in private housing completions over the ten-year horizon



Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Buildings Department, Lands Department, Town Planning Board, company data from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

Even if the lowered LTHS target is adopted, meeting it would require strenuous efforts to expedite private housing completions





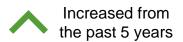
(number of units per annum)

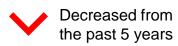
Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Buildings Department, Lands Department, Town Planning Board, company data from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

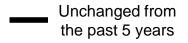
Trends in future private housing land supply foretell the uncertainty in completions over the ten-year horizon

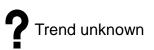
Actual and projected trends of private housing land supply by land source, 2017 – 2031

Land Source	2017 – 2021	2022 – 2026	2027 – 2031
Government Site (incl. Rezoning and New Towns & NDAs)		\	
Railway Projects			
URA Projects			
Lease Modification / Land Exchange		\	?
Private Redevelopment			?

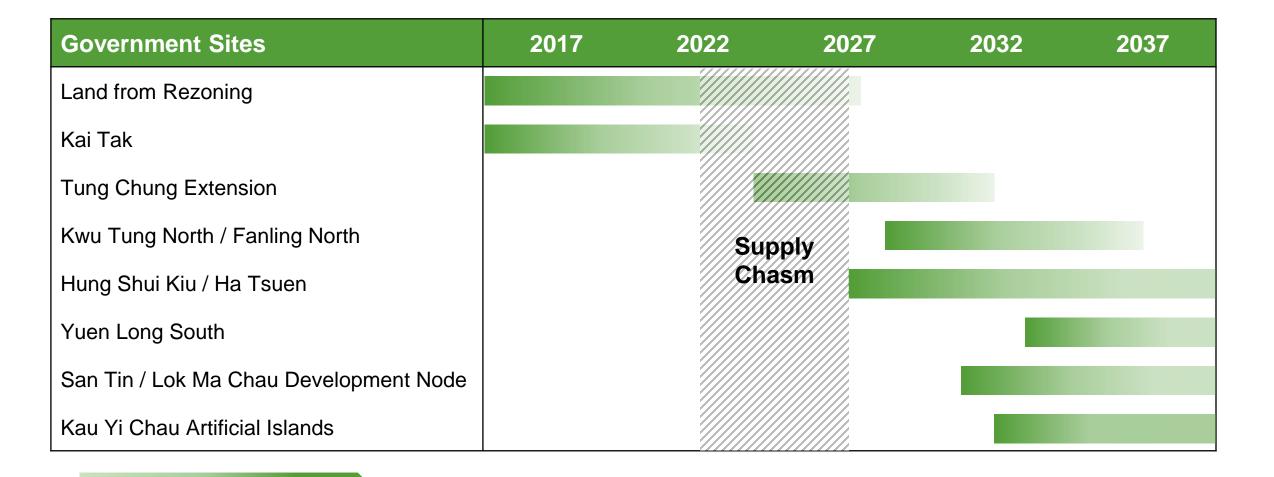








Private housing land supply from government sites faces a supply chasm before the New Development Areas materialise

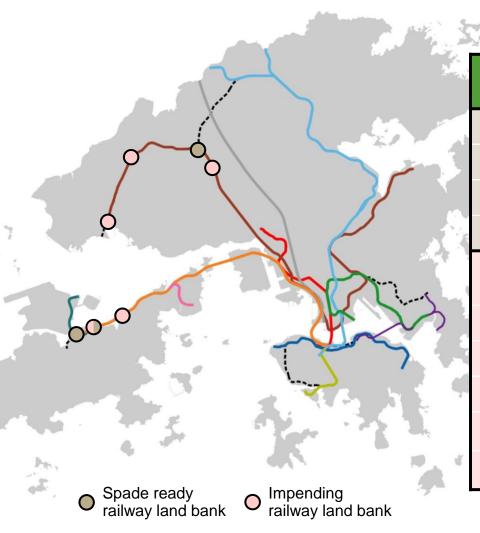


Sources: Legislative Council, Lands Department, Civil Engineering and Development Department, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

Abundant

Depleted

Most of the spade-ready railway land bank have already been depleted, while impending land bank is still in its early stages



Station / Project Name	Number of Units ^[1]	Latest Status
Tung Chung Traction Substation	1,600	To be launched in 2022/23
Tung Chung East Package 1	1,500	To be launched in 2022/23
Kam Sheung Road Package 2	1,050	Under review
Spade-Ready Total	4,150	
Siu Ho Wan Depot	10,700	Package 1 of Phase 1 to be launched in 2022/23
Tung Chung East Remaining Phases	?	Under review
Pat Heung Maintenance Centre	6,060	Under review
Tuen Mun South Extension	20,000	After 2030
Hung Shui Kiu	?	After 2030
Northern Link	?	After 2034

Note: [1] Includes private housing units only

Sources: Lands Department, MTR Corporation, various newspaper reports, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

Further releasing of private land bank's development potential is hindered by insufficient infrastructure

Case Study: Land Sharing Pilot Scheme (LSPS) Development Timeline

2018	LSPS is first announced in the
2010	Policy Address

2021 LSPS receives first batch of applications

The LSPS Office requires applicants to submit additional information, and is expected to complete vetting procedures in a few months

Town planning procedure

? Land administration procedures

? Construction

Lo Fai Road / Ting Kok Road Site, Tai Po

493 private housing units

1,149 public housing units



 Considering the traffic flows of Lung Mei Beach and a nearby housing project, Ting Kok Road will be overloaded



Ho Chau Road Site, Yuen Long

1,474 private housing units

2,616 public housing units



 Near Yuen Long Highway, but residents will require shuttle service to Yuen Long Station or the future Au Tau Station



Lam Kam Road Site, Tai Po

3,636 private housing units

8,484 public housing units

She Shan Road Site, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po

930 private housing units

2,170 public housing units



- Considering the large scale of the project,
 Lam Kam Road will be overloaded
- East-west traffic corridor from Lam Tsuen to Lam Tei is needed



Resorting to transitional housing further demonstrates the limitations on development potential with insufficient infrastructure

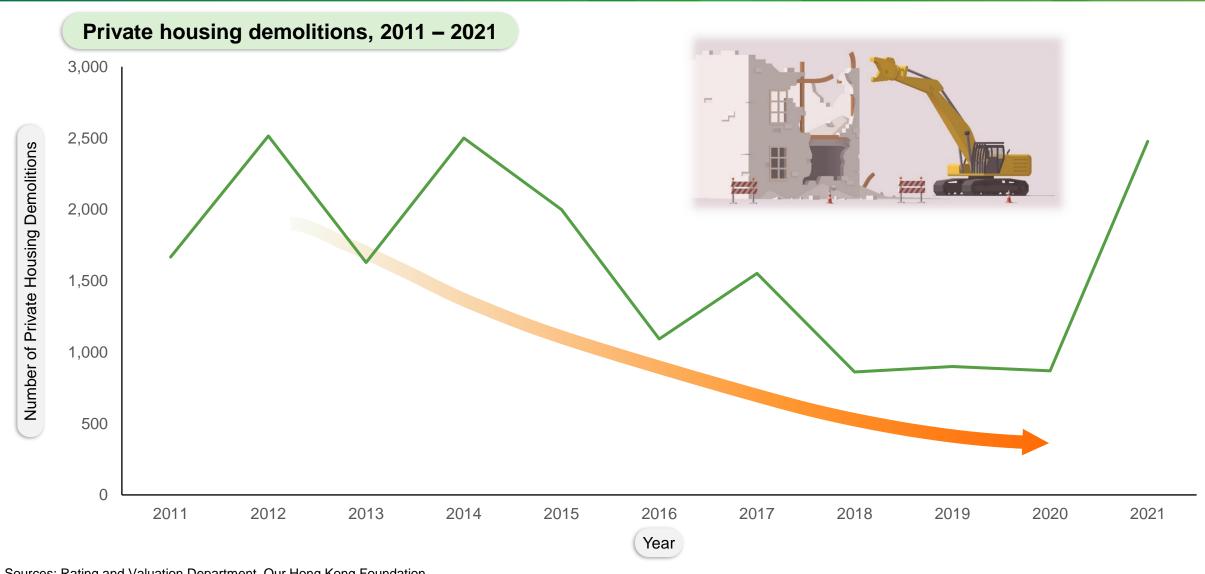
Location	Kong Ha Wai	Kam Tin	Ngau Tam Mei
Area	41,452 m ²	16,631 m ²	21,731 m ²
Plot Ratio	1.5	1.44	1.53
No. of Transitional Housing Units	1,998	1,020	1,076
Year of Completion	2022	2025	2024
Operation Duration	Not less than 5 years	Not less than 7 years	~5 years
Earliest Release Date for Development	2027	2032	2029





- Could more homes be provided if the infrastructure was improved in the first place for permanent private housing development?
- With uncertainty on continuity after the operation duration, when will private housing supply materialise on these sites?

Redevelopment has been sluggish with private housing demolitions on a declining trend for the past decade



Our observations for private housing supply

01

Past efforts to boost completions has paid off

Private housing completions for the next five years is set to maintain at a relatively high level compared to the past ten-year period

02

However, uncertainties lie over the ten-year horizon

Existing land sources are close to depletion, and a supply chasm is expected before the New Development Areas materialise

03

Expediting the New Development Areas is key

Bringing forward the boost from the New Development Areas can help avoid the supply chasm, while releasing the potential of private land bank

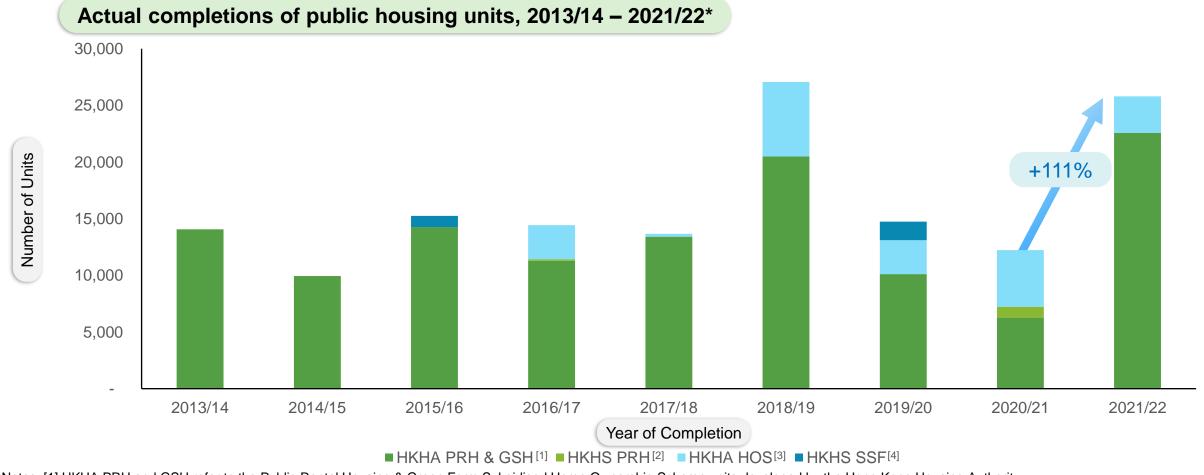




Part Two: Public Housing Supply



Public housing completions in 2021/22 significantly rebounded year-on-year versus 2020/21 and hit a recent high ...



Notes: [1] HKHA PRH and GSH refer to the Public Rental Housing & Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme units developed by the Hong Kong Housing Authority

^[2] HKHS PRH refers to Rental Estates, Rural Public Housing, and Senior Citizen Residences Scheme units developed by the Hong Kong Housing Society

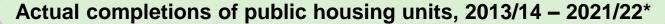
^[3] HKHA HOS refers to the Home Ownership Scheme units developed by the Hong Kong Housing Authority

^[4] HKHS SSF refers to Subsidised Sale Flats Projects, the Flat-for-Sale Scheme and the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme units developed by the Hong Kong Housing Society *Based on the Transport and Housing Bureau's Public Housing Production Forecast as of 12 May 2022

Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

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... but over 60% of the completions in 2021/22 were contributed by backlogs accumulated from the past two years





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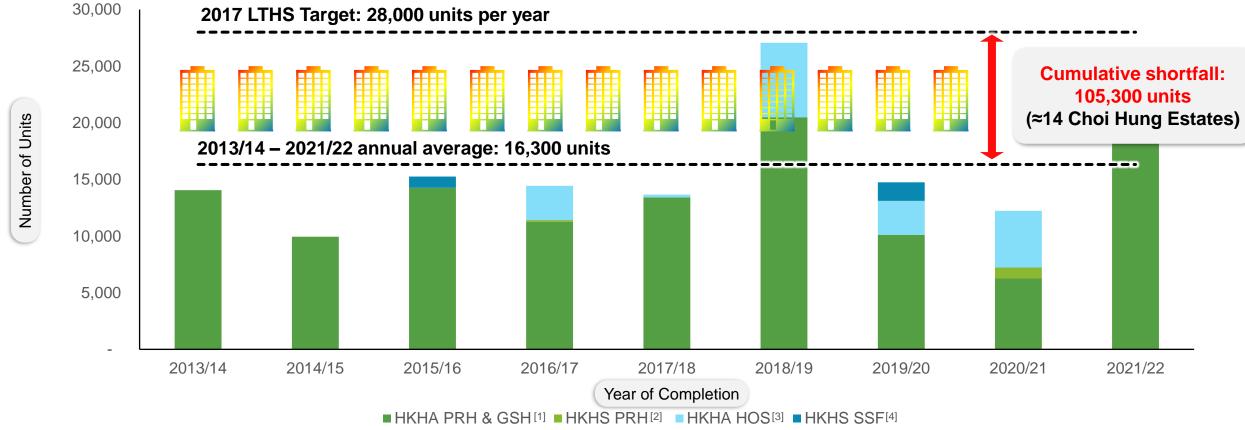
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Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation; Image source: Google Maps

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The resulting cumulative shortfall in public housing completions has exceeded 105,000 units in the past nine years





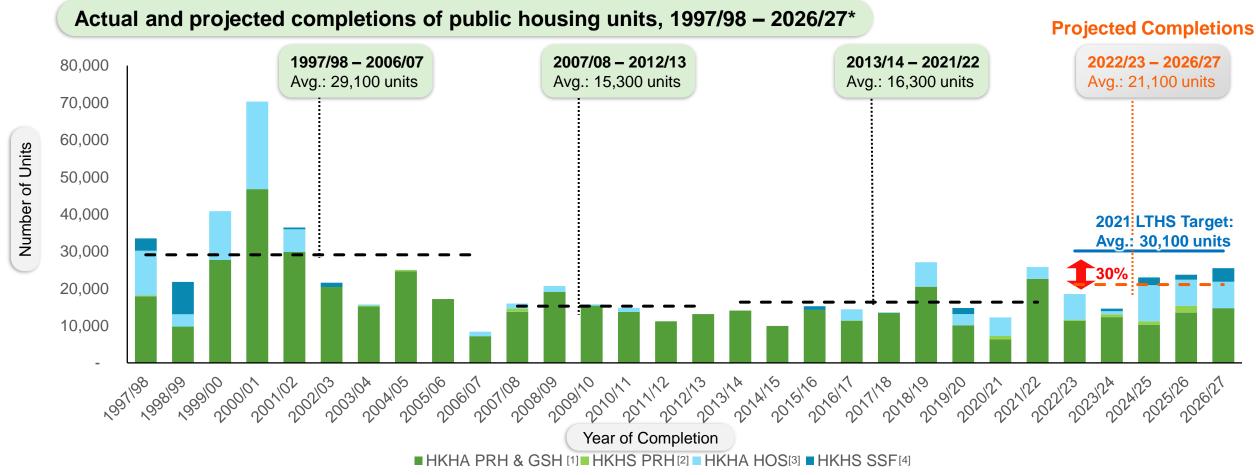
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Upcoming public housing completions will continue to significantly fall behind the LTHS target



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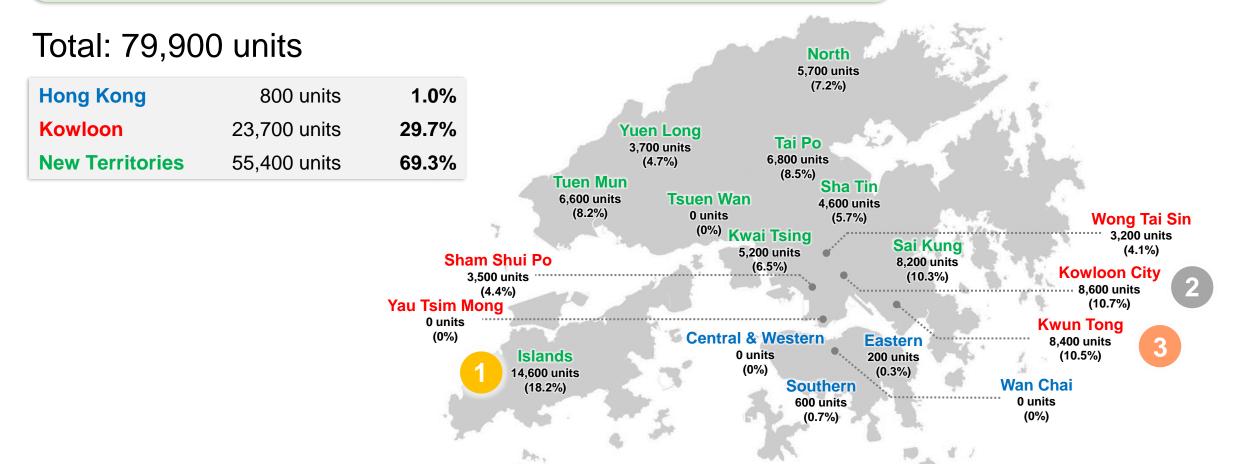
*Based on the Transport and Housing Bureau's Public Housing Production Forecast as of 12 May 2022

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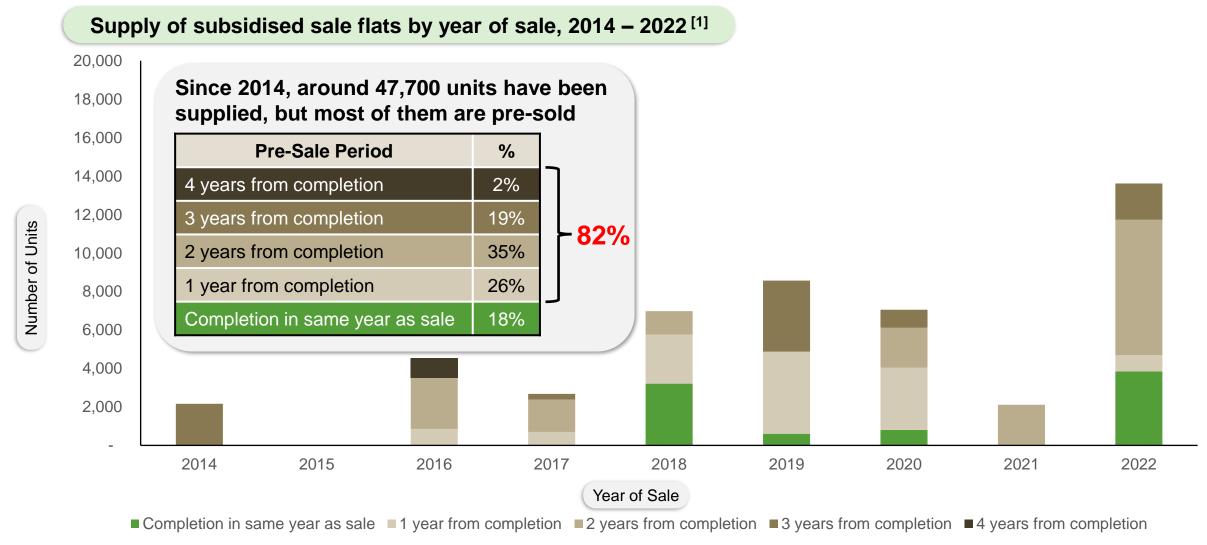
Islands, Kowloon City, and Kwun Tong are the top three districts for the projected public housing completions

Projected public housing completions between 2022/23 and 2025/26, by district



Note: At the time of writing, the project-by-project details of 2026/27 has not been released Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

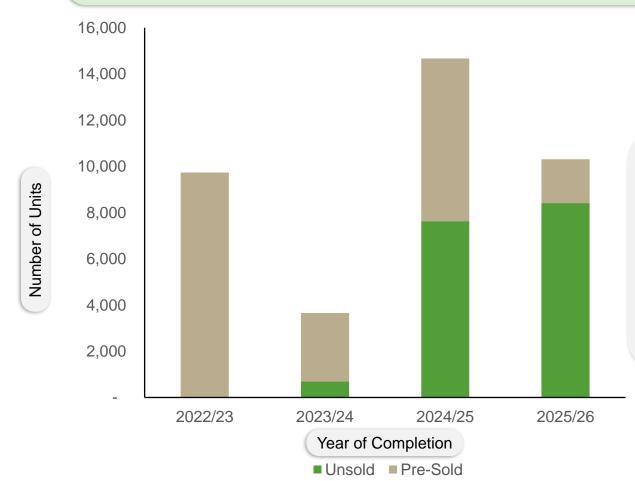
While there seems to be more subsidised housing launched for sale in recent years, 82% of them are actually pre-sold



Note: [1] Includes subsidised sale flats by the Housing Authority and Hong Kong Housing Society
Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation
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Over half of the subsidised sale flats scheduled for completion by 2025/26 have already been pre-sold

Supply of subsidised sale flats by year of completion, 2022/23 – 2025/26 [1][2]



Out of the 38,400 subsidised sale flats scheduled to be completed by 2025/26, over half of them have already been pre-sold

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
Pre-Sold	100%	81%	48%	18%	56%
Unsold	0%	19%	52%	82%	44%

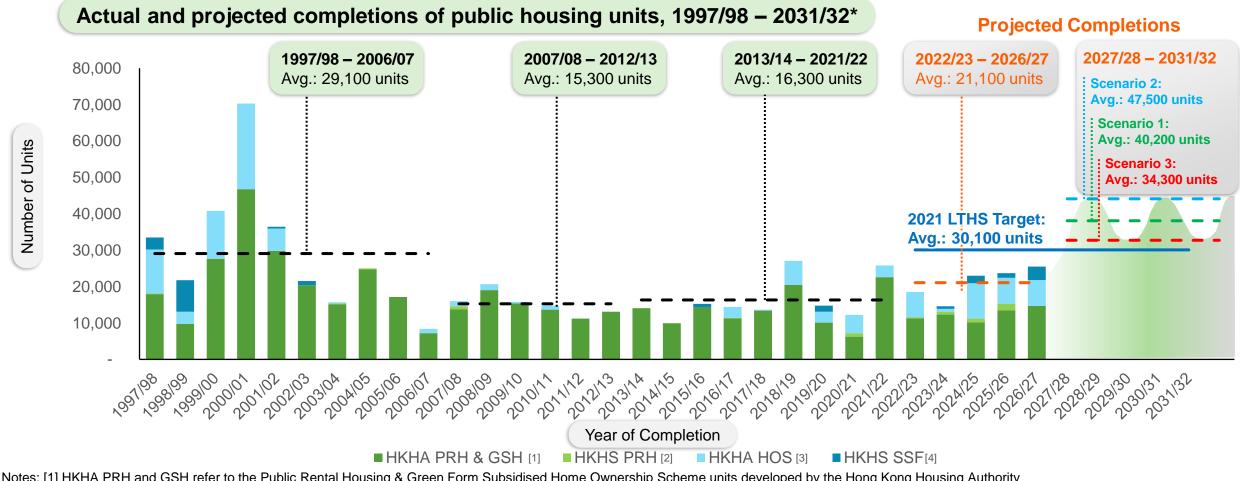
Note: [1] Includes subsidised sale flats by the Housing Authority and Hong Kong Housing Society

Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

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^[2] At the time of writing, the project-by-project details of 2026/27 have not been released

The "back-loaded" pattern is expected in public housing completions but uncertainties remain over the ten-year horizon



Notes: [1] HKHA PRH and GSH refer to the Public Rental Housing & Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme units developed by the Hong Kong Housing Authority

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Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

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Strenuous efforts would be required to fully materalise all land identified in Policy Address for public housing



Scenario 1
(Business as Usual)



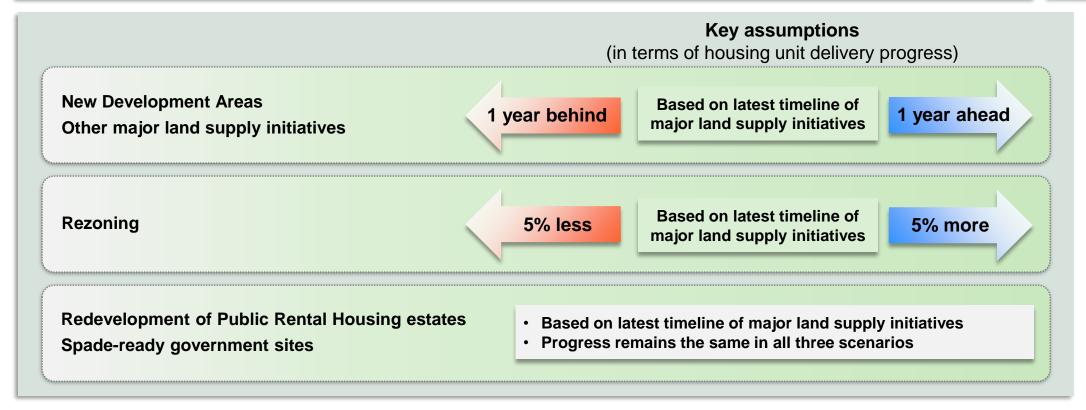
Number of public housing units that can be produced from the land identified according to Policy Address 2021

2022/23 – 2031/32 public housing completion forecast (number of units per annum)

277,100

306,600

343,000 > 330,000



Sources: Development Bureau, Lands Department, Town Planning Board, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

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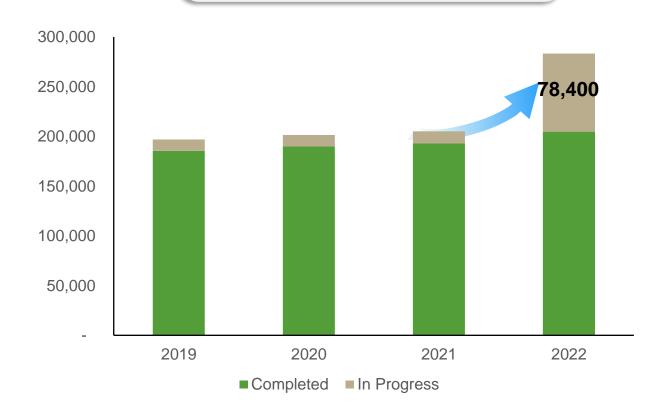
While rezoning efforts have expediated in the past year, a long lead time is needed before materialising into actual supply

Significant increase in the number of the 210+ sites commencing rezoning procedures

Rezoning status by site number

Year (by 31/1)	2019	2020	2021	2022
Completed	129	132	138	145
In progress	13	15	12	24
Rejected	4	5	7	7
Pending	70	64	59	40

Rezoning status by unit number



From past track record, the often-repeated "back-loaded" supply pattern has shown to be wishful thinking

In the 2015 LTHS progress report, the Government identified land for the construction of 255,000 public housing units in the ten-year period between 2015/16 to 2024/25 **Back-loaded supply** First 5 years Second 5 years (2015/16 - 2019/20)(2020/21 - 2024/25)85,000 units (one-third) 170,000 units (two-third)

Reality

85,000 units (one-third)

85,000 units (one third)

94,100 units (37%)

75,900 units are missing

Target supply

Actual supply

Projected supply

Sources: Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

Recurrent delays in public housing completions have been observed with no follow-up actions or consequences

Delays in public housing completions, 2013/14 - 2024/25

Updates on 5-year completions	Number of projects delayed	Number of units delayed	%
2013/14 - 2017/18	10	14,300	16%
2014/15 - 2018/19	8	11,600	13%
2015/16 - 2019/20	17	28,300	30%
2016/17 - 2020/21	2	4,800	5%
2017/18 - 2021/22	5	6,700	7%
2018/19 - 2022/23	7	12,700	13%
2019/20 - 2023/24	11	15,400	16%
2020/21 - 2024/25	11	20,100	21%
Average	8.9	14,238	15%



Public housing projects delayed due to undisclosed reasons



Without consequences, government officials have no incentive to improve

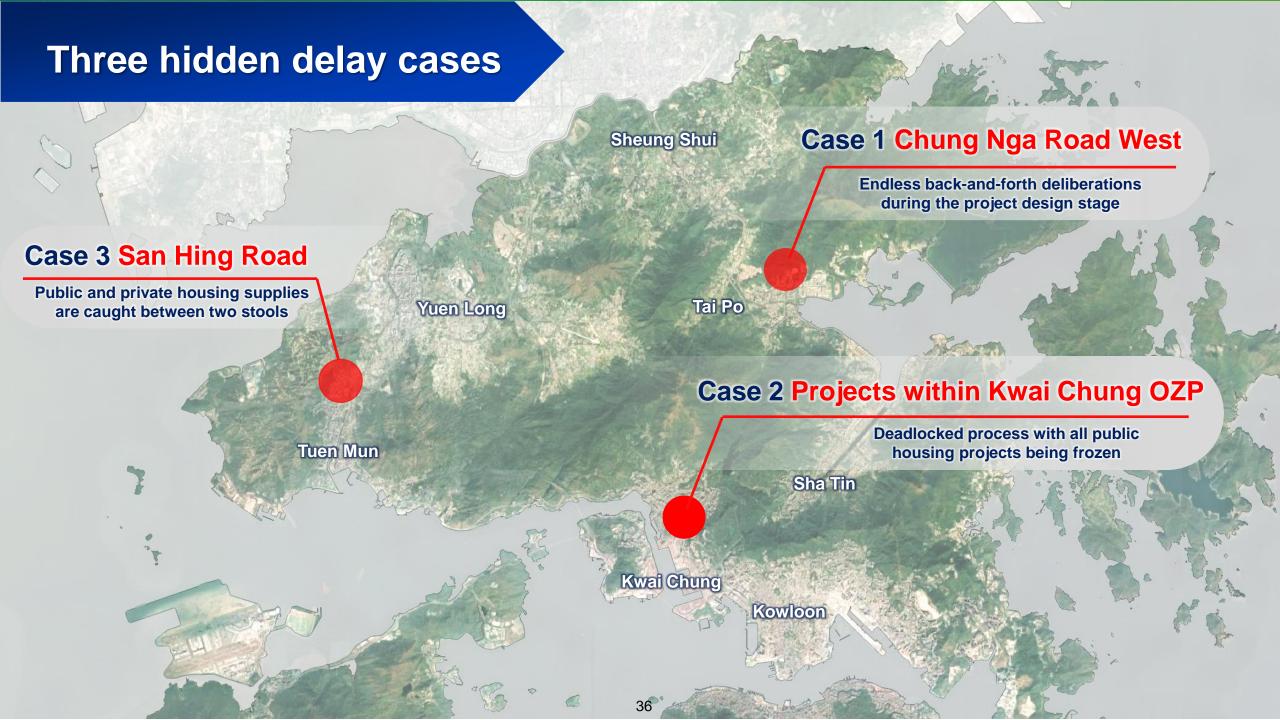


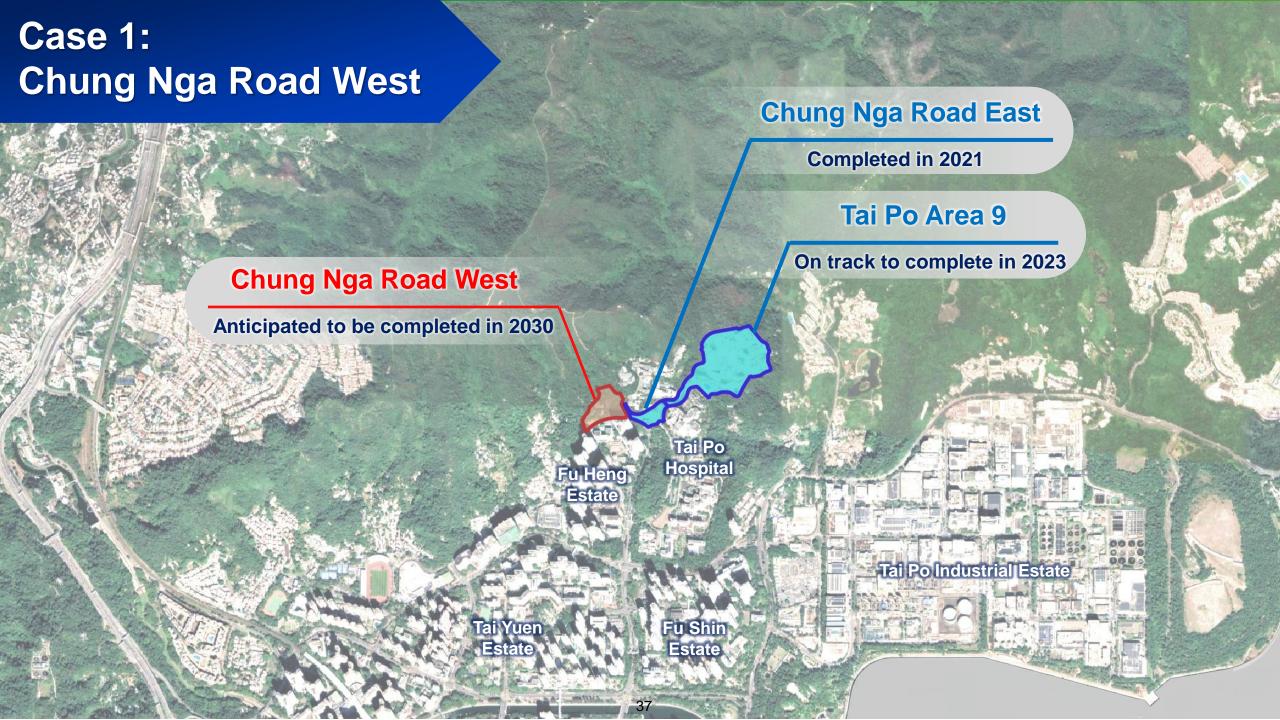
The actual situation may be more pessimistic, as the delays currently disclosed are only the tip of the iceberg

Disclosure on 10-year public housing completion delays

Public housing supply for the next 10 years	Number of projects and housing units delayed	Reason for delay
1 st five years (One-third of supply)	The LegCo identified that on average, nine projects and 15% of the units were delayed each year over the past 8 years	LegCo, reasons for delay
2 nd five years (Two-third of supply)	?	?

Sources: Legislative Council, Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong Housing Authority, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.





Aerial photograph of Chung Nga Road West Public Housing Project



Site photograph of Chung Nga Road West Public Housing Project



The development timeline of Chung Nga Road West Public Housing Project is a story of endless deliberations



Hindered

Cancelled

Development timeline

DC was consulted on the proposal for the 1st time

2014

CEDD proceeded with detailed design and site investigation

OZP amendment on rezoning was approved

2015

Neighbouring projects announced at the same time are either completed or on track to complete

Chung Nga Road East 655 units completed in 2021

Tai Po Area 9

6,776 units will be completed in 2023



DC was consulted on the proposal for the 2nd time 2016

Construction commencement delayed

2018

2024

Completion of 950 units delayed

/10

2021

2018

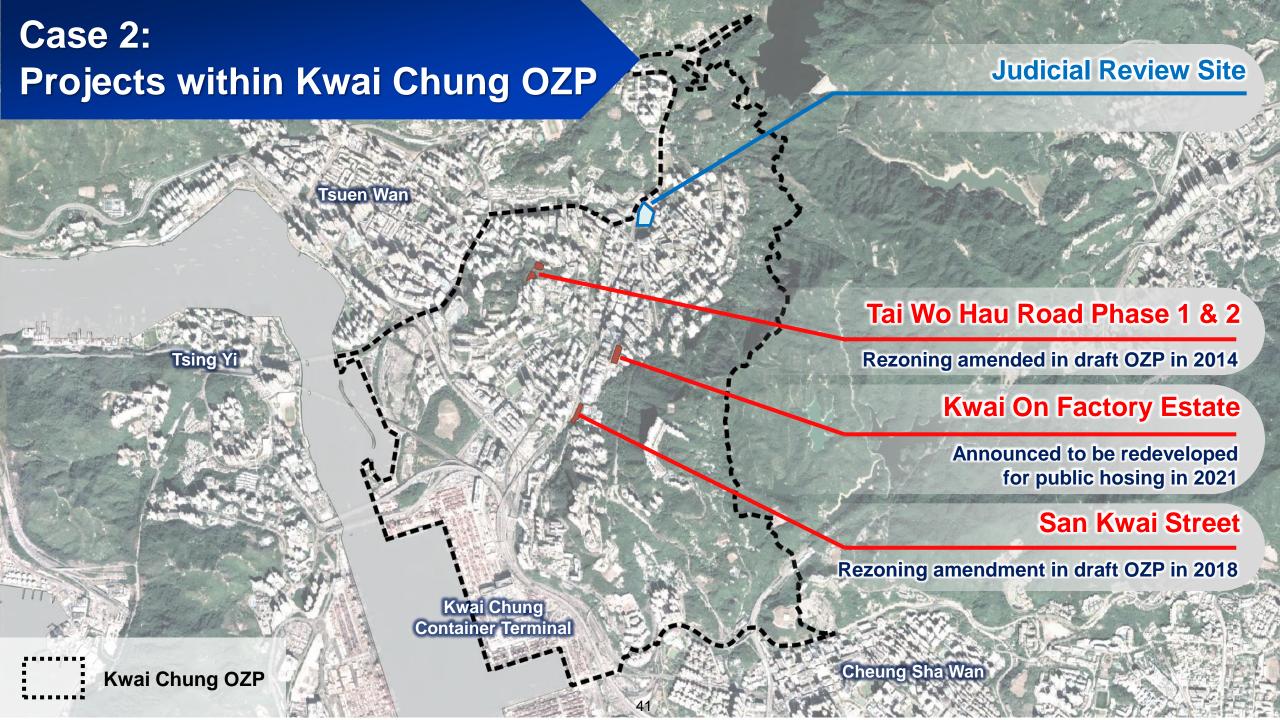
DC was consulted on the proposal for the 3rd time

DC was consulted on the proposal for the 4th time

Latest completion date for 1,030 public housing units is beyond 2030/31

?

Sources: Tai Po District Council, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Town Planning Board, various newspaper reports, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.



Aerial photograph of Tai Wo Hau Road Public Housing Project



Site photograph of Tai Wo Hau Road Public Housing Project



Aerial photograph of San Kwai Street Public Housing Project



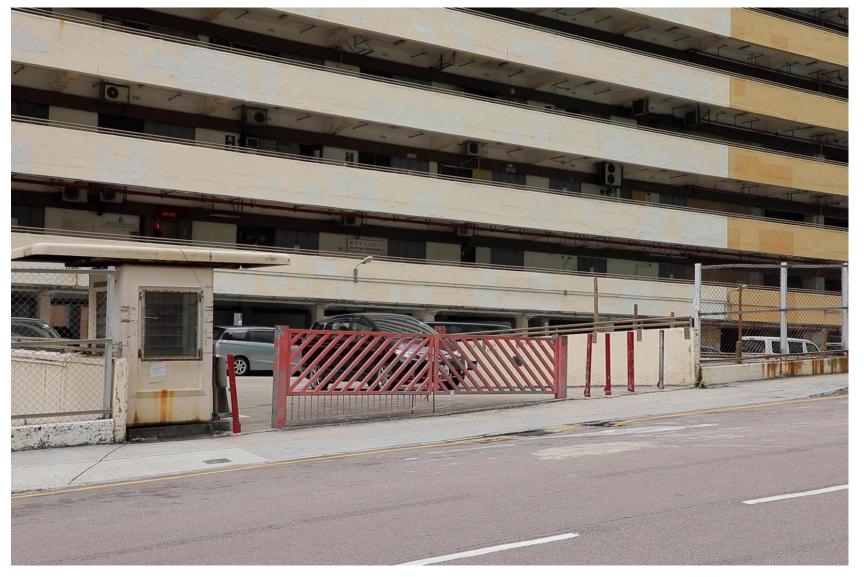
Site photograph of San Kwai Street Public Housing Project



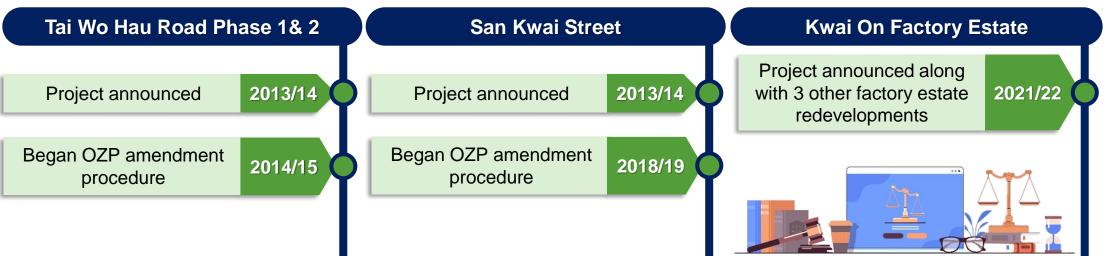
Aerial photograph of Kwai On Factory Estate Redevelopment



Site photograph of Kwai On Factory Estate Redevelopment



The development timeline of projects within Kwai Chung OZP is story of deadlock due to a case under judicial review



Hindered

Proceeded

OZP amendment procedure is being frozen due to the judicial review of a factory site redevelopment proposal

Phase 1 construction commencement delayed	2015/16	Ģ	Construction commencement delayed	2019/20	Ö	OZP amendment prod delayed
Phase 2 construction commencement delayed	2016/17	Ö	700 units completion delayed	2023/24	Ö	Construction commencement dela
787 units completion delayed	2019/20	Ö				600 units completi delayed

OZP amendment procedure delayed

Construction commencement delayed

600 units completion

2021/22[1]

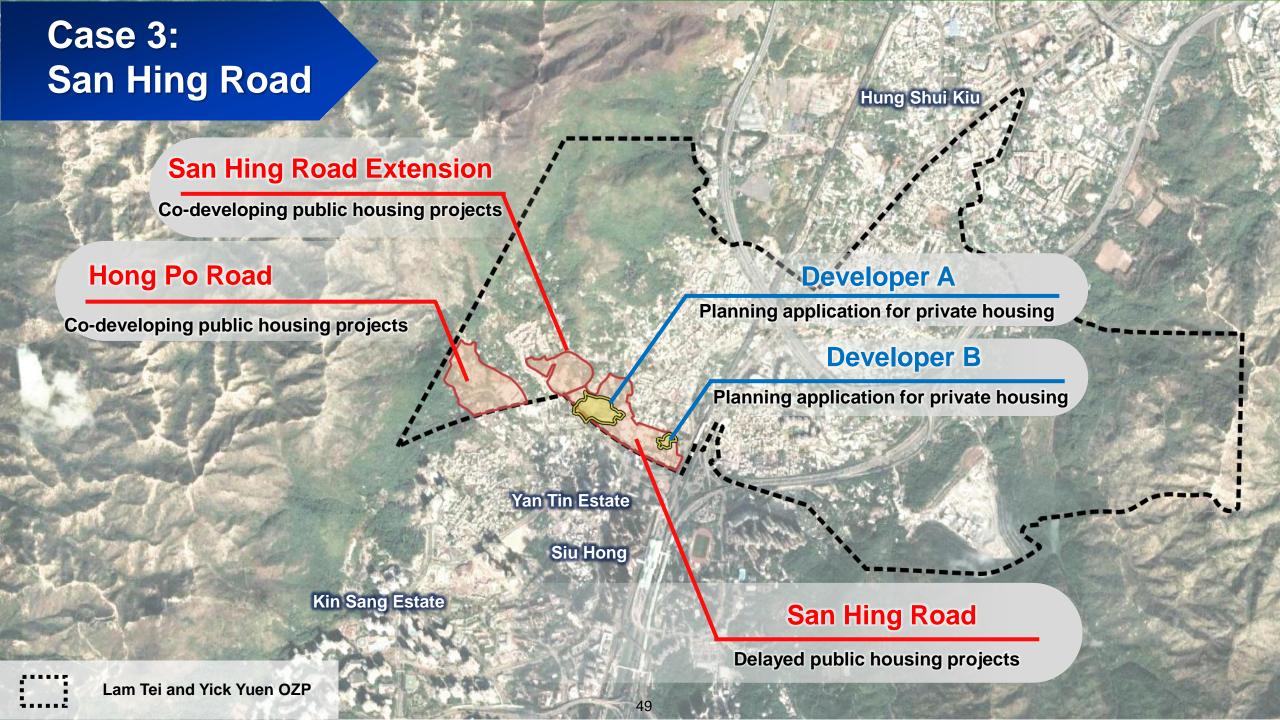
2023/24[1]

2030/31[1]



Note: [1] Referencing on the redevelopment timelines of Yip On, Sui Fai, Wang Cheong Factory Estates Sources: Kwai Tsing District Council, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Town Planning Board, various newspaper reports, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

Latest completion date for 2,000 public housing units is beyond 2030/31



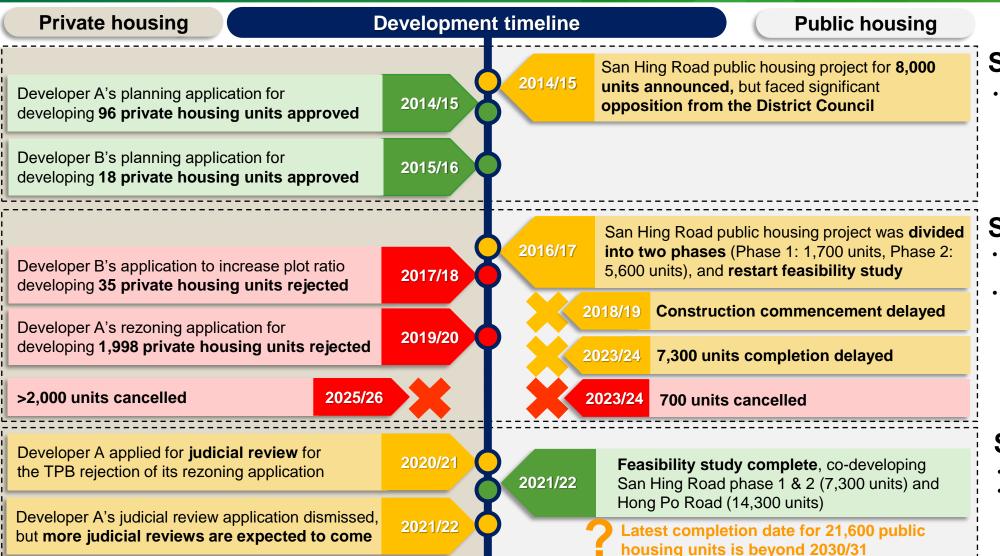
Aerial photograph of San Hing Road Public Housing Project



Site photograph of San Hing Road Public Housing Project



The development timeline for San Hing Road public housing project is a story of squandered opportunity...



Stage 1

Public and private housing projects were **both initiated**



Proceeded

Hindered

Cancelled

Stage 2

- Private housing projects <u>discouraged</u>
- Public housing feasibility study restarted, and completion <u>delayed</u>





Stage 3

- Private developer judicial review
- Public housing feasibility study completed but will face <u>huge</u> <u>uncertainty</u>

Sources: Tuen Mun District Council, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Town Planning Board, various newspaper reports, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

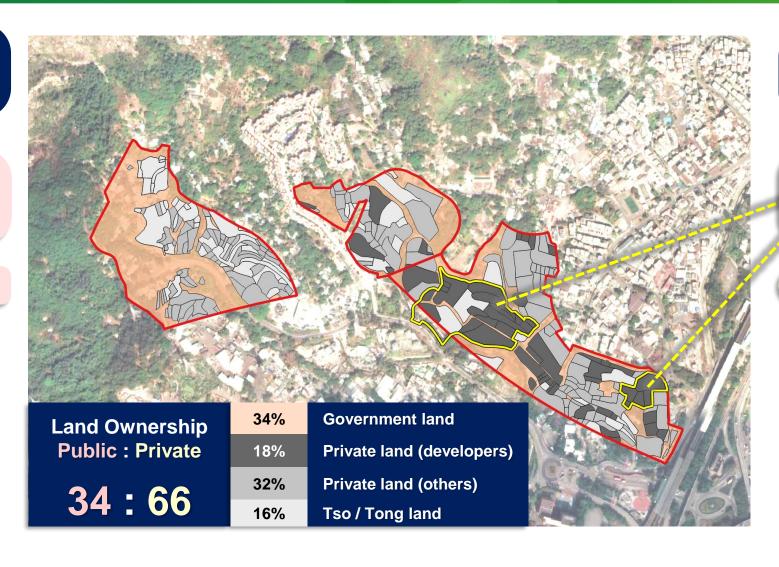
...which led to both public and private housing developments being caught between two stools

Public housing delayed

Low proportion of land ownership

Long development cycle





Private housing discouraged

Readily control majority of land ownerships in application sites

Short development cycle



Sources: The Land Registry, Tuen Mun District Council, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Town Planning Board, various newspaper reports, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

Our observations for public housing supply

01

Completions consistently fail to meet LTHS target

Not only did the cumulative shortfall exceed 105,000 units, but public housing completions in next five financial years are also set to miss the LTHS target by 30% on average

02

Uncertainties for the "back-loaded" pattern lie over the ten-year horizon

Past track record has not been persuasive, made worse by recurrent delays and insufficient information disclosure

03

Breaking the vicious cycle of project delays is key

To ensure the timely delivery of public housing, the Government should disclose the progress and reasons for delays for all projects over the ten-year horizon



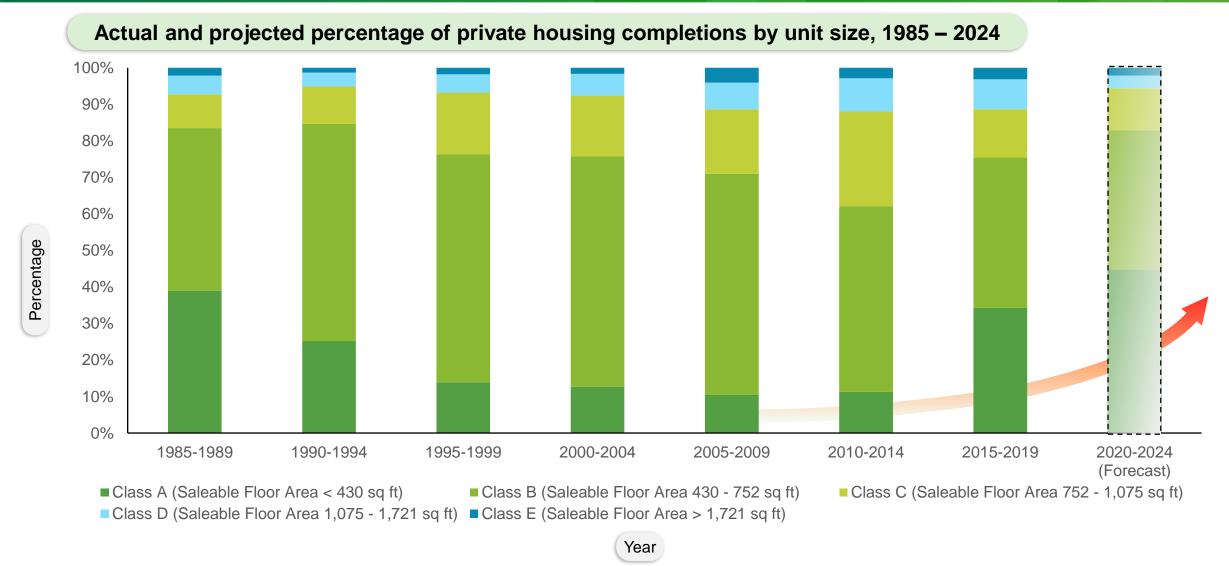


Part Three:

Looking Beyond Supply Numbers

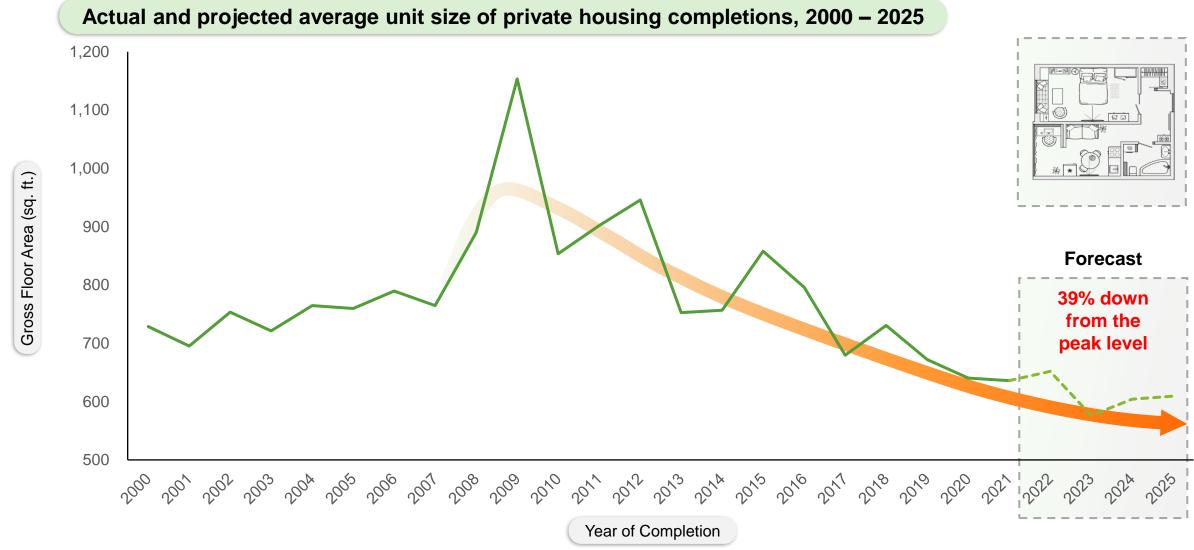


The proportion of small private housing units has rapidly grown in the past decade, and is expected to continue in the short run...



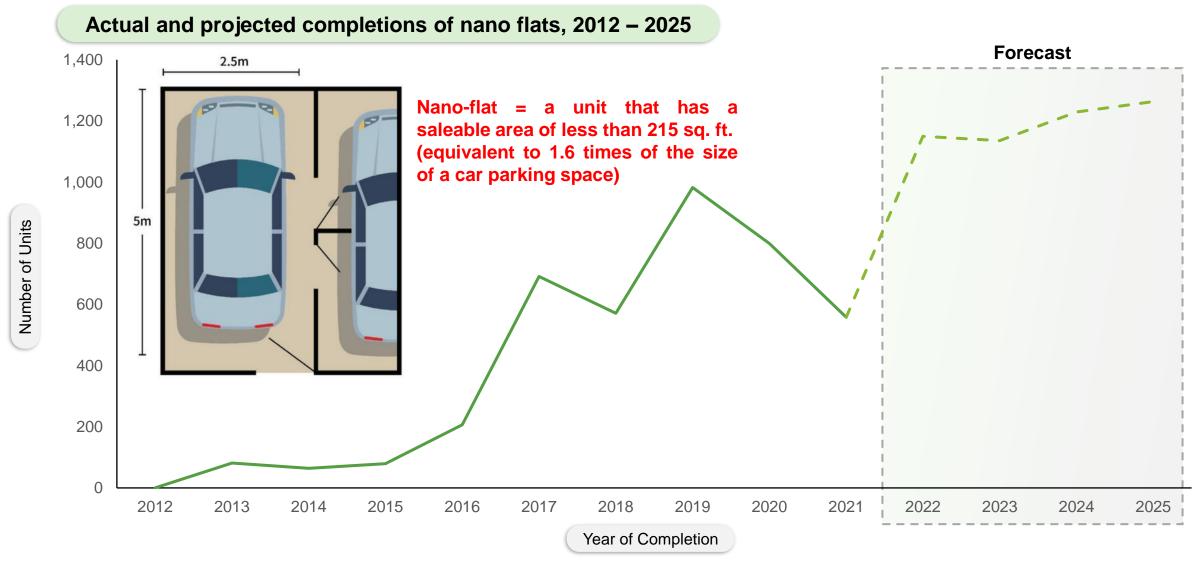
Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Buildings Department, Lands Department, Town Planning Board, company data from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

...which will be reflected in the declining average unit size of upcoming private housing completions



Sources: Rating and Valuation Department, Buildings Department, company data from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation © Our Hong Kong Foundation Limited. All Right Reserved.

The trend of nano-flat completions is expected to continue rising but will gradually plateau in 2024–2025

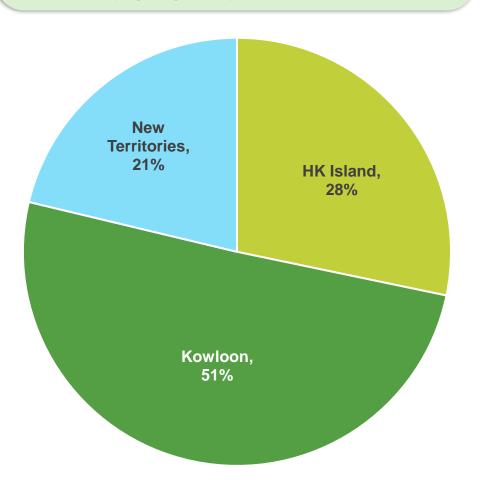


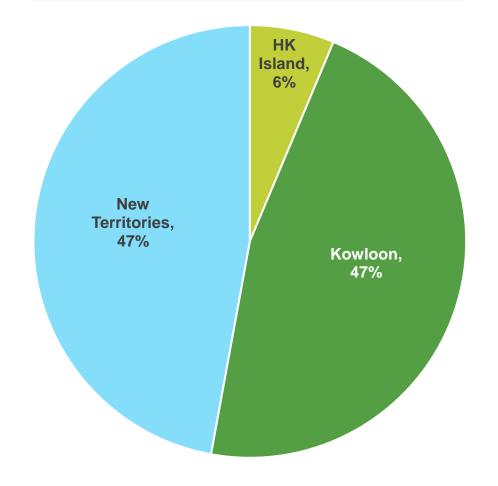
Sources: Buildings Department, Sales Brochure from various developers, and Our Hong Kong Foundation

While Kowloon will continue to be the major source, New Territories is expected to see increasing nano-flat completions

Actual nano-flat completions by geography, 2018 – 2021

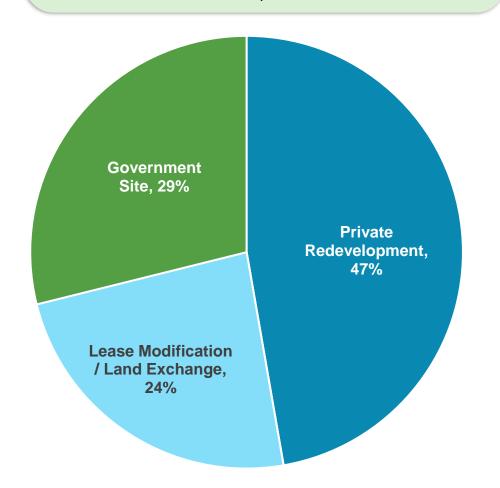
Projected nano-flat completions by geography, 2022 – 2025





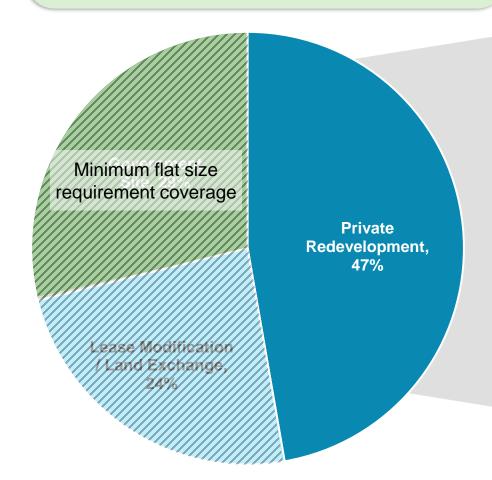
Nearly half of the projected nano-flat completions in the coming four years will come from private redevelopment projects

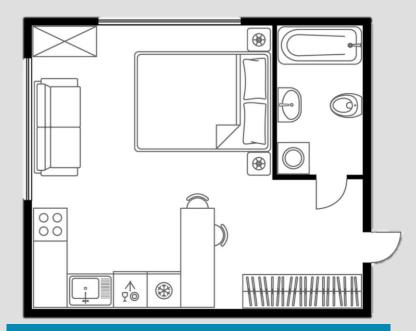
Projected completions of nano-flats by land source, 2022 – 2025



Despite the extended application of the minimum flat size requirement, nano-flats will not completely disappear

Projected completions of nano-flats by land source, 2022 – 2025

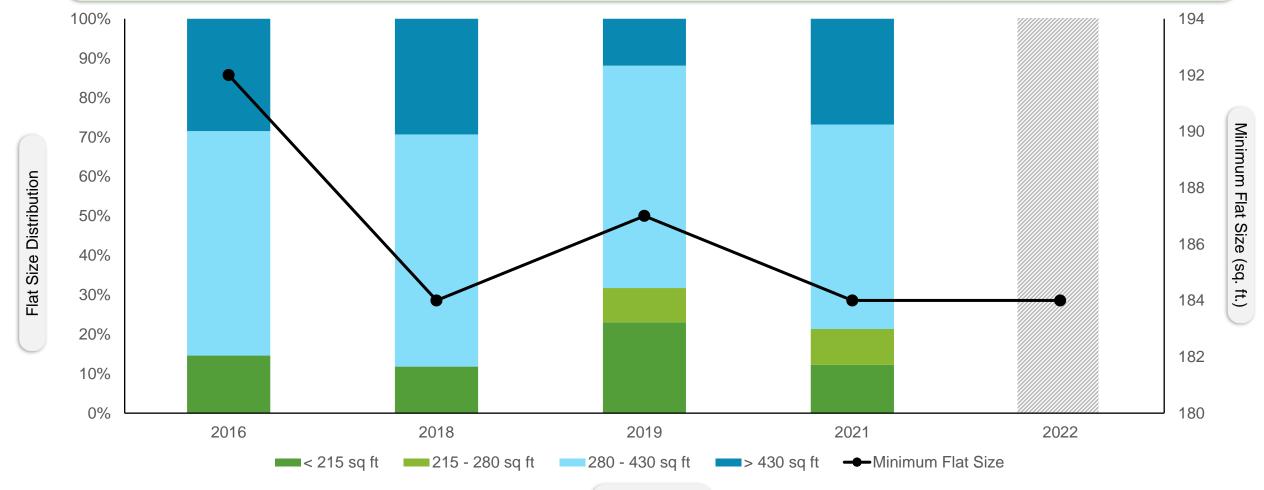




Not covered by the Government's minimum flat size requirement (i.e. each flat > 280 sq. ft.)

The Government is also building nano-flats of its own in public housing projects, as minimum flat size gradually decreased

Flat size distribution and minimum flat size in the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme, 2016 – 2022



Year of Sale

Nano-flats consistently comprises a significantly high percentage in the Green Form Home Ownership Scheme units



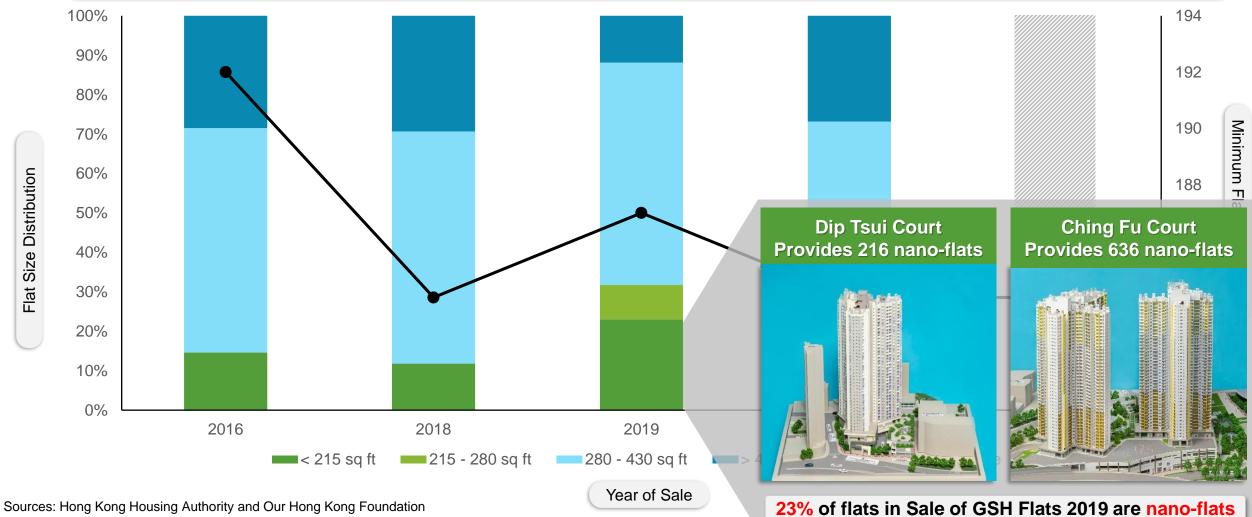
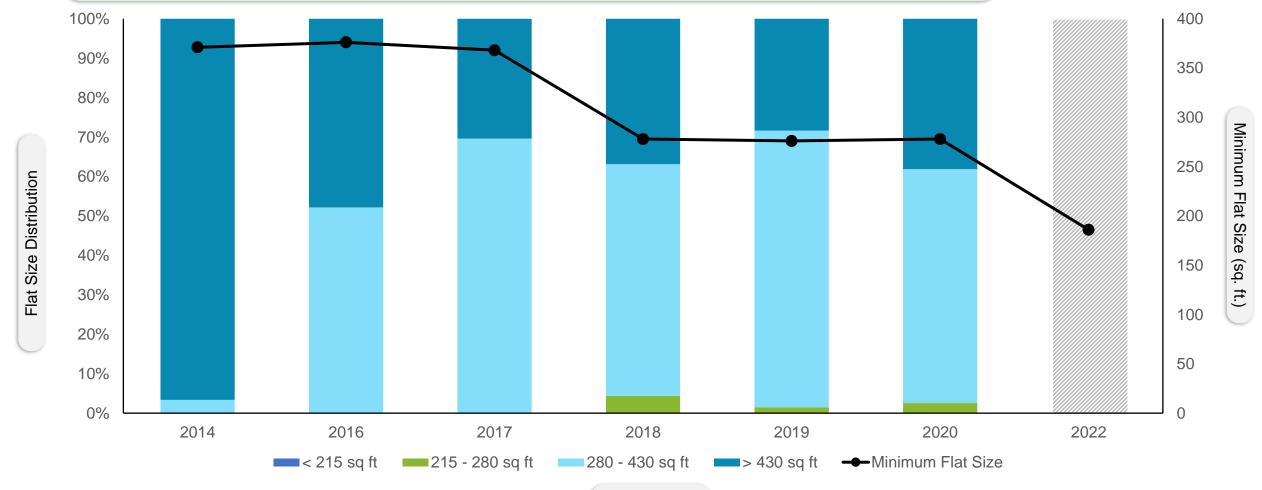


Image source: The Government of HKSAR Press Release

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The minimum flat size of Home Ownership Scheme units has also been on a downward spiral in recent years...





Year of Sale

...as nano-flats are set to make their debut in Sale of Home Ownership Scheme Flats 2022

Flat size distribution and minimum flat size in the Home Ownership Scheme, 2014 – 2022



Sources: Hong Kong Housing Authority and Our Hong Kong Foundation Image source: The Government of HKSAR Press Release

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Our overall observations

Private Housing

Mild improvement but uncertainties persist

While past efforts to boost completion paid off, uncertainties lie over the ten-year horizon, with expediating of the New Development Areas key to avoid a supply chasm

Public Housing

Poor track record and pessimistic outlook

Completions consistently fail to meet the LTHS target as uncertainties for the "backloaded" pattern remain, and breaking the vicious cycle of project delays is key

Living Quality

Larger living space remains a long-term aspiration

Average size of both private and public housing units will continue to fall, while nanoflats are here to stay despite the extended application of minimum flat size requirement





Thank you