

Groundbreaking Ceremony of Folk Culture Park Overall Environment and Facilities Improvement Project

A groundbreaking ceremony is held at Pingzhen Folk Culture Park in Taoyuan City on the afternoon of 30th under the witness of Mayor of Taoyuan City, Cheng Wen-Tsan, members of Taoyuan City Council, heads of villages, and citizens. The park aims to provide a recreational space to residents nearby and tourists that is with the function of leisure and education as well as fun and pleasure in order to offer a good venue and a good place full of energetic, healthy, with natural facilities and spaces which meets people's expectations.

According to Mayor Cheng, the area of Folk Culture Park is around 2.53 hectares. It is the center of the life circle in Nanshi. The project is to improve the old, tiring, and damaged facilities while performing space utilization, provide lighting design for energy conservation and inclusive playground as well as optimize the space of green belt in order to enhance the quality of people's recreational activities and highlight folk cultural landscape that is with special feature. The total budget for the project is NT\$23 million, and it is expected to be completed in May 2022.

Mayor Cheng explains the Folk Culture Park has been established for many years and has been closely linked with the daily life of people living in the area. The park provides a place for local residents of their daily activities, social interaction and gathering, religious sphere, and recreational landscape. It

is full of rich feature of traditional folk culture. The project not only is for the improvement of infrastructure but also plans a walking path of 24 solar terms. It also creates a themed square of festival to present festival cultures among different ethnic groups, including Hakka, Minnan, and new immigrants to deepen local cultural meanings by integrating different folk features.

Mayor Cheng highlighted that the population in Pingzhen is more than two hundred and twenty thousand people, which it is the third biggest administrative area in Taoyuan. Additionally, Nanshi is also the center of life circle in Pingzhen. The City Government is currently conducting discussions to establish a comprehensive administrative space next to the Folk Culture Park to accommodate Land Administration Office, Household Administration Office, and Department of Taxation – Pingzhen Branch. All the details will be coordinated and discussed with relevant units. Hsinfu Market Multifunction Building that was completed last year includes facilities of parking spaces, general market, and social welfare institutes. Pingzhen Citizen Sports Center is also close to the Folk Culture Park. We also plan to renovate Nanshi Columbarium Pagoda to make it modern. In the future, Pingzhen will develop in different dimensions and have Citizen Sports Center, Pond Ecology Park, Sky Square as well as cultural, social welfare, and promenade facilities. City Government will implement all the plans for the projects planned for Pingzhen step by step. This year, we still have Zhenxing Village Trail image reengineering project and Fort Park with Children 26 Playground improvement project under construction. We want to meet expectation of citizens and make Pingzhen progress every day to become the new benchmark of improvement in Taoyuan City.