

Good day, Speaker Chiu, Deputy Speaker Lin, and fellow councilors.

My team and I came here today to deliver a policy address at the second regular meeting of the fourth session.

Next year, Tainan will reach its 400-year milestone, which is also a critical moment to improve municipal services in my second term.

The city government's commitment to financial discipline is the foundation for development. For eight consecutive years, there has been a surplus of annual revenue and expenditure, with a total of over NTD 20.5 billion; the gross debt has been reduced by NTD 29.9 billion, a new record since the merger; working with the central government and the private sector, we have invested in various major public constructions. In the first half of the year, the investment of public-private-partnership amounted to NTD 7.5 billion, more than any other local government; our municipal constructions have received a total of 36 awards this year, including the Yuan-Ye Award and the FIABCI-Taiwan Real Estate Excellence Awards. The purpose of cutting costs and increasing profits with rigor is to know what to spend resources on. Before starting major

construction projects, we still need to make sure that every expenditure is absolutely necessary.

Tainan is an area prone to dengue fever. After the first case appeared in June this year, we have worked with the central government, local authorities and citizens to take four major prevention and control measures: First, we made preemptive preparations to increase report rate, set up more testing stations to confirm positive cases, and utilized dengue fever prevention drones to check blind spots. Second, we sought out and eliminated mosquito breeding grounds, mobilized more than 90,000 people to establish the Dengue Fever Prevention Corps, and inspected and monitored high-risk areas, exercising public power to issue a total of 1,481 fine notifications. Third, we implemented the zone defense strategy to carry out chemical control, mobilizing more than 50,000 people to disinfect 65,000 households. Fourth, we issued timely warnings, deployed cell broadcast in hot zones, and sent nearly 20,000 text messages to citizens who had once been diagnosed with dengue fever to prevent cross-infection.

This year, as we lifted the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions and opened our borders, Tainan has been affected by epidemic

diseases common in Southeast Asia. In addition, due to several typhoons passing through and heavy rainfall from the atmospheric circulation, the percentage of rainy days has reached 49%, increasing the difficulty of disease prevention and control. Once again, we would like to remind everyone not to let your guard down. We should continue to “patrol, discard, clean, and brush” and work together to protect a healthy environment.

Regarding the achievements of the Tainan City Government from the period of March 16, 2023 to August 15, 2023, a written report has been submitted to the council. Please refer to it at your own discretion. The following is a concise oral report on the achievements of the city government in the past few months:

I. Human-Oriented Transportation and Extensive Road Networks

To adopt the human-oriented transportation policy of pedestrian safety, we implemented the Top 100 Intersections Safety Action Plan and reported a total of 12,250 cases of “failing to yield to pedestrians or wear a helmet”, improving the safety of road users; we provided pedestrian access and safe routes to school, leveled the arcade pavement and continued to promote road

leveling and improve road quality, creating a pedestrian-friendly environment.

To develop a comprehensive intelligent transportation system, we have set up 11,000 smart parking spaces, accounting for 78% of the city's parking spaces, which is the highest rate in Taiwan, along with a service satisfaction rating of over 92%; a total of 287 YouBike 2.0 service stops have been launched with 3,200 bikes available. Utilized and loved by both citizens and tourists, the user count has exceeded 1.23 million, building a sustainable smart city.

To build a good public transport network in Tainan, the widening projects of District Highway No. 137 and Wenxian Rd., Rende Dist. have been completed and opened to traffic; the construction project of an additional interchange connecting National Highway No.1 and Tainan Metropolitan Expressway as well as that of the main connecting road on the south side of Xinshi Industrial Park has been kicked off; additionally, to provide a comfortable transfer service, Heshun Transfer Station is expected to be completed in the second half of the year, the construction of Yongkang Transfer Station and Pinshi Transfer Station has started, the planning and design of Anyi Transfer Station is underway, and

the Xingzuan Transportation Center BOT project has begun the investment promotion process.

II. Flood Resilience and Urban Sustainability

In the face of extreme weather, we continue to manage water conservancy. Receiving over NTD 14.3 billion of forward-looking infrastructure funds, we improved the effectiveness of flood control of major river basins, pumping stations and stormwater sewers. Although there have been short-duration intense rainfalls recently, most of the standing water receded quickly after the rain started to ease off, which is an indication of the synergistic effect.

At the same time, we increased the penetration rate of the public sewerage system and took over more than 200,000 households to reduce mosquito breeding and the stench, improving the city appearance.

In terms of low-carbon sustainability, we promoted 53 indicators in four major strategies for net-zero transformation. The installed renewable energy capacity has reached 4.0 GW; 45,500 tons of reclaimed water can be supplied every day; the reuse rate of incinerating recycled aggregate has reached 95%; compared with 2010, greenhouse gas emissions were reduced by 14%.

Ensuring sustainability through e-governance, Tainan has won 10 awards in the 2023 Asia-Pacific Sustainability Action Awards, ranking first among the six special municipalities.

III. Attract Quality Brands to Invest in Tainan

Working hard to attract investment, we have completed 1,346 investment projects, attracted a total investment of over NTD 190 billion, and created more than 45,000 job opportunities. STSP Phase III has started the investment promotion process, and the rezoning of Liuying Science and Technology Industrial Zone Phase III is also underway. Both will connect industrial clusters such as Xinshi Industrial Park and Madou Industrial Zone and attract investment from high-tech upstream and downstream industries, promoting the overall economic development of Tainan.

To promote the development of Anping Port and Yuguang Island, we invested in the Argo International Yacht City and Anping Xingzuan Resort, completed the Land Expansionary Urban Plan of Yuguang Island Crescent Bay and started the investment process in Q3.

To expand international sales channels, we continue to expand markets such as Japan, Korea, Canada and Singapore. Through a

three-pronged strategy including product processing and cold chain logistics, diversifying domestic sales and increasing export sales, we have created a world-renowned new agricultural brand for Tainan.

We continue to invest in farms roads and waterways. Next year, more than NTD 800 million will be used to improve the agricultural infrastructure; moreover, we have assisted and trained more than 2,278 young farmers, and over 220 of them enjoy an annual income of over NTD 1 million; a total of 103 rural communities have been approved, ranking first among the six special municipalities, creating a happy countryside.

IV. A Satisfactory Living Standard with Heartwarming Care Services for All Ages

Since this July, we have started providing health insurance subsidies for the elderly, with more than 280,000 beneficiaries; implementing the long-term care policy, we received forward-looking construction funds to build 12 senior citizens activity centers, including 4 A-level, 1 B-level, and 7 C-level health and welfare centers; we started to provide various services such as night care and free interpretation services with caregivers. As a result,

Tainan ranks first among the six special municipalities in the coverage of long-term care services in the first half of the year, creating an elderly-friendly local environment.

To advance housing justice, we have provided housing and rent subsidies to over 38,000 households, which is yet another record high; more than 5,000 house subleasing arrangements have been made; social housing units with a total of 8,138 households have been planned, among which the construction of 2,616 households has started, so that citizens can find a home and settle down.

As for friendly childcare, the ratio of affordable and public/quasi-public preschool education has reached 90%. At the same time, we expanded the extended care program of public kindergartens. In addition, we invested more than NTD 400 million in featured parks, working with our fellow citizens to design 45 parks that integrate local culture, elements and topography. Up until now, 19 parks of children's dreams have been completed.

To create a sports city for all citizens, we developed a regional three-level transitional training system and established a talent cultivation and health management program for outstanding athletes as well as a funding plan for elite athletes. Athletes from

Tainan won 1 silver and 4 bronze medals in the 2021 Summer World University Games, and 1 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals in the 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games. They also made a splash at the 2023 National High School Games, breaking meet records in 7 weightlifting categories. At the National Games kicking off on October 21, people all over the country will see the vitality of our theme “Tainan This Year, Paris Next”.

Additionally, Tainan Annan Aquatic Training Center, which cost NTD 110 million, has been put into use; the construction of the Annan District Sports Center has started, and the Xinying District Sports Center has begun the project contracting process; the standard secondary stadium, two U-12 stadiums, two infield training fields, pitchers/batters outdoor training fields and one indoor training facility of the Asia-Pacific International Baseball Training Centers have all been completed, and the venue has received worldwide acclaim by hosting international events.

V. Promote Diversity and Tourism

None of the aboriginal language courses in elementary and junior high schools have been canceled, and we also continue to carry out the Ascension Program and the Take Root Program to

train Formosan language teachers; we established culture health stations, showing care for indigenous families and providing career services; we promote technician certification and provide guidance to 15 indigenous businesses; the construction progress of the Indigenous Creativity Center has reached 60%, and the detailed planning and design of Beitouyang Settlement Comprehensive Service Center has been completed, creating a friendly environment for diverse ethnic groups.

To reflect the charm of cultural tourism, we held many art and cultural events at Soulangh Cultural Park, Tsung-Yeh Arts and Cultural Center, Longtian Culture Heritage Area, Shuei Jiao She Cultural Park and Tainan City Zuojhen Fossil Park. We also held festivals such as the Tainan Summer Music Festival—General Roar, the Xinying Sweet Festival and the Children's Fun Festival, attracting more than 1.13 million visitors.

Tainan is listed as one of the world's top ten sustainable tourism destinations by a well-known international travel website; 36 establishments in Tainan were awarded with a Bib Gourmand this year, 20 of which are restaurants, reflecting the charm of the “City of Gourmet”.

To promote international tourism, scheduled airlines to Ho Chi Minh City resumed in January, charter flights to Sendai, Japan were launched in April, and the first charter flight from Da Nang, Vietnam to Tainan arrived in August, elevating Tainan to the international level; the hotel occupancy rate of Tainan in 2022 and the first quarter of 2023 are both the highest in the country, proof that Tainan is the best travel destination.

Conclusion—Move Forward Steadily and Happiness Will Follow

As the first city in Taiwan, Tainan will hold the “Taiwan Lantern Festival” in 2024 and welcome its 400th anniversary, demonstrating the city’s cultural charm and diversified development.

Working at a steady pace, the city government promotes the sustainable development of Tainan, balances regional development to achieve co-prosperity, and gears to international standards from a broader perspective, moving forward with our fellow citizens with happiness and fulfillment.

Finally, I wish you all good health and good luck.

May the meeting be a complete success. Thank you!