Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08 CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(T)027

<u>Head</u> : 60 - Highways Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Question Serial No.

1301

<u>Programme</u> : (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Highways

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

<u>Question</u> :

In 2007-08, the Administration will continue to undertake route protection of the recommended railway projects and other longer term proposals. Please provide details of work and the staffing arrangement.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply:

During 2007-08, the Administrative Route Protection Plans will be issued or updated for the following railway projects under planning:

- (1) West Island Line;
- (2) Northern Link and the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link;
- (3) Shatin to Central Link;
- (4) South Island Line;
- (5) North Hong Kong Island Line; and
- (6) Port Rail Line.

The Administrative Route Protection Plans will enable departments concerned to have early discussion and understanding of the interfacing issues arising from the railway proposals. Where there are likely conflicts, appropriate actions in line with Government's objectives and policy could be taken in a timely manner to resolve them. The above railway route protection works are undertaken by our in-house staff. No extra resources are required.

 Signature

 Name in block letters
 WAI CHI SING

 Post Title
 Director of Highways

 Date
 16 March 2007