

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 60 – Highways Department

Subhead:

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration will conduct the investigation of the retrofitting of noise barriers on New Clear Water Bay Road and Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section) in 2008-09. Please provide details about the investigation and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply:

Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on New Clear Water Bay Road (near Choi Wan Estate) – Investigation Study

Scope of the Project

- (a) retrofitting of a section of about 270 metre long cantilevered noise barriers along the central divider at New Clear Water Bay Road in front of Choi Wan Estate;
- (b) application of low noise surfacing material onto a section of the existing concrete carriageway of about 450 metres in length; and
- (c) associated roadworks, slopeworks, drainage works, utility diversion, street lighting, landscaping, traffic aids and other related works.

Investigation Study

The objectives of the Investigation Study are to affirm the engineering feasibility of the noise mitigation options and to refine the project scope through review of previous preliminary desk top study and to carry out further investigation to produce a sound and cost-effective preliminary design.

Latest Developments

The Investigation Study commenced in August 2007 and would be completed in the third quarter of 2008. The consultant is now investigating various noise mitigation schemes taking into account the site constraints and working out the optimum extent and design of the proposed noise mitigation measures.

Costs

The estimated cost of the Investigation Study and associated site investigations is about \$1.2 million.

Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section) – Investigation, Design and Construction Study

Scope of the Project

- (a) retrofitting of cantilevered and vertical noise barriers of total length of about 2 300 metres along a section of Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section) between Sha Tin Centre Street and Fo Tan Road; and
- (b) associated roadworks, slopeworks, drainage works, utility diversion, street lighting, landscaping, traffic aids and other related works.

Investigation, Design and Construction Assignment

The objectives of the assignment are to affirm the engineering feasibility of the noise mitigation options, refine the scope, carry out the detailed design and provide supervision of construction for the project.

Latest Developments

We consulted the Health and Environment Committee of the Shatin District Council on 6 March 2008 and the Committee generally supported the implementation of the project as soon as possible. We plan to commence the above study in September 2008 and the construction works in early 2010 for completion in 2013.

Costs

The estimated costs of the Investigation, Design and Construction Assignment and the construction works are \$7.0 million and \$250 million respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 1 April 2008