

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

THB(T)018

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

0049

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Please provide details about the preparatory work for the following pedestrian facilities construction works, including the estimated expenditure, works commencement date and works programme:

- a. enhancement of the footbridges in Tsim Sha Tsui East;
- b. Centre Street escalator link (Stage 1).

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

- a. The project "Enhancement of Footbridges in Tsim Sha Tsui East" (PWP Item No. 153TB) has been upgraded to Category A at an estimated cost of \$59.6 million in money-of-the-day prices. Tenders for the construction works are now being assessed. Construction is anticipated to commence in the third quarter of 2009 for completion by mid-2011.
- b. We are finalizing the detailed design for the Centre Street Escalator Link (Stage 1), the cost estimate of which is \$53.3 million in September 2008 prices. We plan to consult the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council (LegCo) on the funding application for the project in April 2009. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee of the LegCo, construction is anticipated to commence in late 2009 for completion in 2012.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 19 March 2009