

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

Reply Serial No.

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

THB(T)015

Head: 60 – Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

2414

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The Highways Department has indicated that it will pursue the authorisation of the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link. Please advise on the details and the estimated expenditure for 2009-2010.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

The implementation of the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link will complete the strategic highway network on the northern shore of Hong Kong Island, and will be of paramount importance in alleviating the serious congestion along the Connaught Road Central / Harcourt Road / Gloucester Road corridor. Subsequent to further public engagement exercise in 2008, the amendment road scheme was gazetted on 5 December 2008. The Highways Department is handling the objections to the amendment road scheme. Subject to the timely resolution of the objections, the authorization of the road scheme and the approval of funding by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, we plan to commence the construction works in end 2009 for completion in 2017. The estimated expenditure for the project in 2009-2010 is \$49.92 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 18 March 2009