Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No. 2773

Reply Serial No. THB(T)055

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The Financial Secretary has mentioned in the Budget Speech that in order to provide the disabled with a barrier-free environment, the Administration plans to seek approval of the Legislative Council for \$280 million this year to take forward the design work and retrofitting of barrier-free access facilities at about 180 public footbridges and subways, and that the Administration's target is to complete the bulk of the works by 2016-17. Please list, by the eighteen districts, the location of the aforesaid 180 public footbridges and subways, the cost, the target commencement and completion date of such works, as well as the government departments and public organisations involved.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

We propose to seek funding approval of the Legislative Council within this year to provide barrier-free access facilities (lifts or ramps) at existing footbridges and subways. This includes design work of about 180 structures, of which technical feasibility study is being carried out, plus the first phase of retrofitting works.

Owing to the vast number of structures involved, we plan to take forward the project in phases with majority of the works to be completed in 2016-17 and the rest in 2017-18. Subject to the approval of funding, the first phase of construction works for the following ten structures, of which we have completed detailed design, is scheduled to commence in around end 2011 for completion in late 2014:

District	Location	
Kowloon City	Footbridge across Waterloo Road near Suffolk Road	
North	Footbridge across Choi Yuen Road and San Wan Road near Pak Wo Road	
Sha Tin	Subway across Tai Po Road near Fo Tan Road	
Sham Shui Po	Subway across Tai Po Road near Pei Ho Street, Shek Kip Mei	
Southern	Footbridge across Aberdeen Praya Road and Yue Shi Cheung Road	
	Subway across Aberdeen Praya Road near Old Main Street	
Tsing Yi	Footbridge across Tsing Yi Heung Sze Wui Road near Vigor Industrial Building	
	Subway across Ching Hong Road near Mayfair Gardens	
Tsuen Wan	Footbridge across Castle Peak Road near Fu Wah Centre	
	Footbridge across MTR railway track (Tsuen Wan Line) near Mega Trade Centre	

The design work of the 180 structures is expected to commence in mid 2011 for completion in phases by around early 2015. We have already confirmed the technical feasibility and conducted initial public consultation in respect of the retrofitting works at the following 19 structures, and will be ready to move to the design stage once funding for the design works as mentioned above is approved :

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District	Location	
Kwun Tong	Footbridge across Ngau Tau Kok Road and Chun Wah Road near Chun Wah Court, Ngau Tau Kok	
	Footbridge at Lam Tin MTR Station over Bus Terminus near Sceneway Road	
North	Footbridge over KCR at Choi Yuen Road	
Sha Tin	Footbridge across Lion Rock Tunnel Road near Fung Shing Court, Tai Wai	
Sham Shui Po	Footbridge across Lai Chi Kok Road near Cheung Shun Street, Lai Chi Kok	
	Footbridge across Nam Cheong Street near Chak On Estate	
	Subway across Cheung Sha Wan Road at Kweilin Street	
Tai Po	Subway across Nam Wan Road near Kwong Fuk Road	
	Subway across Tai Po Road – Yuen Chau Tsai near Nam Wan Road	
	Subway under the Track of East Rail from Tai Po Tau Drive to Tai Po Tau Shui Wai Road	
Tuen Mun	Subway across a Slip Road from Tsing Wun Road to Wong Chu Road	
Wan Chai	Footbridge across Gloucester Road near Luk Kwok Hotel	
	Footbridge across Harbour Drive and Tonnochy Road near Wanchai Sports Ground	
	Footbridge across Harbour Road and Convention Avenue	
	Tonnochy Road Footbridge across Tonnochy Road near Harbour Road	
	Subway across Wong Nai Chung Road and Queen's Road East, near Sports Road	
Wong Tai Sin	Footbridge across Lung Cheung Road near Tin Ma Court	
Kowloon City	Subway across Prince Edward Road West near Nam Kok Road	
Yau Tsim Mong	Subway across Nathan Road at Bute Street	

As regards the remaining structures, the technical feasibility study is currently being carried out and we will consult the public District Councils on the details of the retrofitting works as soon as the technical feasibility is confirmed and the detailed design is completed. We plan to seek funding from the Legislative Council for the construction works of the remaining structures in several batches. Our plan is to complete the bulk of the works in 2016-17 and the rest in 2017-18.

The Highways Department is responsible for the implementation of the lift/ramp retrofitting works.

Signature	
Name in block letters	K K LAU
Post Title	Director of Highways
Date	18.3.2011