

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

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)032

Question Serial No.

1802

Head: 60 - Highways Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding “continued with the detailed design for provision of barrier-free access facilities at public footbridges, elevated walkways and subways - phases 2 and 3” mentioned under the brief description of Programme (1), please list out the details, commencement dates and expected completion dates of the plans for provision of barrier-free access facilities in the New Territories (including outlying islands) in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Che-cheung

Reply:

The new policy on Universal Accessibility (UA) announced by the Administration in August 2012 retrofits barrier-free access (BFA) facilities such as lifts to existing public walkways (i.e. footbridges, elevated walkways and subways maintained by the Highways Department) so as to facilitate access of the public. Under the UA Programme, the Administration has consulted the District Councils in the first quarter of 2013 on proposals suggested by the public involving about 250 public walkways (referred to as the Expanded Programme) on the priority for implementation, and will proceed to conduct preliminary technical feasibility studies for the selected priority projects. In parallel, we will continue to pursue the Original Programme (consisting of about 170 projects for retrofitting of BFA facilities to meet the requirements of the Equal Opportunities Commission).

Regarding the implementation of the Original Programme (covering the phases of programme referred to in the question), in 2013-14, construction works of ten projects are underway, and those of another 24 projects have just commenced. Among these 34 projects, ten are in the New Territories (see the table below) with the majority to be completed in 2014 or 2015. Depending on the complexity and local situation, it would on average take about two years to complete the construction of a project. In parallel, the design works of another 26 projects are underway to enable commencement of construction in 2013-14.

Location of Public Walkway	District
NF106 – Across Tsing Yi Heung Sze Wui Road near Vigor Industrial Building	Kwai Tsing
NS19 – Across Ching Hong Road near Mayfair Gardens	Kwai Tsing
NF122 – Across Choi Yuen Road and San Wan Road near Pak Wo Road	North
NS38 – Across Tai Po Road near Fo Tan Road	Sha Tin
NS61 – Across East Rail Line Track between Tai Po Road – Tai Wo and Tai Po Tau Drive	Tai Po
NS69 – Across Tai Po Road – Yuen Chau Tsai and Nam Wan Road near Kwong Fuk Road	Tai Po
NS70 – Across Tai Po Road – Yuen Chau Tsai and Nam Wan Road near Kwong Fuk Road	Tai Po
NF87 – Across Tsuen Wan MTR Depot near Mega Trade Centre	Tsuen Wan
NF109 – Across Castle Peak Road near Fou Wah Centre	Tsuen Wan
NS108 – Across a slip road from Tsing Wun Road to Wong Chu Road	Tuen Mun

Name in block letters: K K LAU

Post Title: Director of Highways

Date: 5.4.2013