

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

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)037

Question Serial No.

2213

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 the pedestrian environment improvement schemes to be implemented in Causeway Bay, Mong Kok and Yuen Long Town, please provide this Committee with the following information:

- (a) the public consultations conducted in 2012-13 including the expenditure involved and results;
- (b) the anticipated expenditure and detailed works to be carried out in 2013-14; and
- (c) the anticipated works commencement dates of the schemes.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

(a), (b) and (c):

The progress and the consultancy fees involved for the three proposed pedestrian environment improvement schemes are set out in the table below-

Proposed Scheme	Latest Position	Estimated Consultancy Fees (\$ million)
Causeway Bay Pedestrian Subway System	The Highways Department (HyD) commissioned a feasibility study for the proposal in 2011. As part of the feasibility study, the HyD has conducted two rounds of public engagement and is studying the comments collected. The public are mainly concerned about the impact of the construction works on traffic and the arrangement for the exits of the tunnel.	0.41 (2012-13) 0.31 (2013-14)

Proposed Scheme	Latest Position	Estimated Consultancy Fees (\$ million)
Mong Kok Footbridge System	<p>The preliminary technical feasibility study has been completed using in-house resources. The HyD is planning to engage consultants to carry out further investigations, covering the programme and method of construction, traffic impact during construction, utility diversion requirements, etc.</p> <p>The HyD has not started the public engagement exercise yet.</p>	Nil
Yuen Long Town Pedestrian Improvement Scheme	<p>A number of improvement schemes, both minor and major in scale, have been developed for improving the pedestrian environment taking into account the views gathered from the public engagement exercise in 2009 to 2010.</p> <p>So far, two minor schemes (viz widening the existing footpath and straightening the pedestrian crossing of Kau Yuk Road/ Tai Tong Road; as well as implementation of no-stopping restrictions at On Shun Street) were completed in 2011. The HyD will complete other minor schemes as early as possible.</p> <p>The HyD commissioned a feasibility study on the major schemes (such as the footbridge system along the Yuen Long Nullah) in September 2011 and aims to complete the study within 2013. In March 2013, the HyD will launch the next stage of public engagement, to collect public views on the major schemes.</p>	<p>0.17 (2012-13)</p> <p>3.70 (2013-14)</p>

Regarding the proposed systems in Causeway Bay and Mongkok as well as the major schemes in Yuen Long, we will work out the implementation programme upon completion of the respective feasibility studies and public engagement exercises.

Name in block letters: K K LAU

Post Title: Director of Highways

Date: 5.4.2013