Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)266

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3362)

Head: (60) Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question (Member Question No. 71):

Does the Administration have any plans to implement the MTR South Island Line (West) [SIL(W)] project, linking Wong Chuk Hang Station and Hong Kong University Station with intermediate stations at Aberdeen, Wah Fu, Cyberport and Queen Mary Hospital? Has any consideration been given to the suggestion by Residence Bel-Air residents of having the Cyberport Station constructed underground? If yes, what are the details and expenditures? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply:

The Government has commissioned a consultant to conduct a study for the Review and Update of the "Railway Development Strategy 2000", with a view to updating the long-term railway development blueprint for Hong Kong to cater for the latest development needs of the society. Two stages of Public Engagement exercise were conducted to explore the conceptual proposals of ten railway schemes (including the SIL(W)).

The Government is finalising the blueprint for railway development beyond 2020 having regard to transport demand, cost-effectiveness and development needs of New Development Areas. The Government will announce the way forward for the new railway proposals as soon as possible.