

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****THB(T)267****(Question Serial No. 5622)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

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

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question (Member Question No. 63):

Does the Administration have any plans to expedite the “provision of hillside escalator link and elevator systems” by commencing the construction for the pedestrian link at the Chuk Yuen North Estate, speeding up the remaining ten items, and beginning a new round of assessment? If yes, what are the details and expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The Government established a set of objective and transparent scoring criteria for assessing proposals for hillside escalator links and elevator systems to determine the priority for conducting preliminary technical feasibility studies for the proposed works projects. The assessment for the 20 proposals received at the time was completed in 2010, and the results were reported to the Legislative Council Panel on Transport in February 2010. Two proposals were screened out initially, and 18 others were ranked. The Government indicated at the time that preliminary technical feasibility studies for the proposals ranked top ten in the assessment would be conducted by batches, and that the remaining proposals would be followed up after the smooth implementation of the top ten proposals.

Among the 18 ranked projects, a total estimated capital cost of \$703 million has been committed for two projects. Details are as follows:

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Cost Estimate (\$ million)</b>
Pedestrian Link at Tsz Wan Shan	This link is implemented under the Shatin to Central Link project. The construction commenced in July 2012 for completion by phases between 2014 and 2016.	608

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Cost Estimate (\$ million)</b>
Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage	This project is being implemented by the Civil Engineering and Development Department under the Government's policy objective of urban regeneration and enhancing pedestrian connectivity to tie in with the Kwun Tong Town Centre Redevelopment. The construction works commenced in April 2013 for completion in October 2015.	95

The Highways Department (HyD) has completed the preliminary technical feasibility studies, with the deployment of internal resources, for eight out of the nine proposals ranked top ten. The HyD is now undertaking investigation and preliminary design works for these eight proposals that have been preliminarily found technically feasible. For four of these proposals, expenses amounting to \$2.84 million have been incurred for ground investigation and consultancies for further investigation/preliminary design. Details are as follows:

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Preliminary Technical Feasibility Study</b>	<b>Expenditure incurred as at 3.3.2014 (\$ million)</b>
Braemar Hill Pedestrian Link	completed	0.60
Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Cheung Hang Estate, Tsing Yi	completed	1.07
Escalator Link and Pedestrian Walkway System at Pound Lane	completed	0.81
Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Kwai Shing Circuit and Hing Shing Road, Kwai Chung	completed	-
Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street, Kwai Chung	completed	-
Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai Cho Road and Wah Yiu Road, Kwai Chung	completed	-
Pedestrian Link near Chuk Yuen North Estate	completed	-
Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Waterloo Hill	completed	0.36

Since these proposals are still at the early stage of planning and design, the commencement and completion dates of the projects, as well as the cost estimates have yet to be determined.

It is revealed in the preliminary technical feasibility study for the proposal "Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai King Hill Road and Lai Cho Road" (ranked 10th) that the project involves two dangerous private slopes. The HyD will revisit the project after the owners concerned have completed repairing the dangerous slopes satisfactorily.

After reviewing its manpower resources, the HyD has also commenced the preliminary technical feasibility studies for the two proposals, namely “Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Tai Wo Hau Road and Wo Tung Tsui Street, Kwai Chung” (ranked 11<sup>th</sup>) and “Lift and Pedestrian Walkway at Luen On Street” (ranked 12<sup>th</sup>).

For the proposed “Pedestrian link near Chuk Yuen North Estate”, the HyD is planning to engage a consultant in mid-2014 to carry out the investigation and preliminary design.