

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)242

(Question Serial No. 4603)

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:

The Highways Department (HyD) states that it will continue to take forward the pedestrian footbridge system in Mong Kok for its early implementation. In this regard, please advise this Committee on the following –

- (a) what is the estimate for this project and when will the works commence? What are the details of the expenditures?
- (b) will district consultation exercise be conducted in the future? What are the relevant estimated costs and plans?
- (c) will the underground strata of the buildings along the alignment be resumed? What are the details? Please provide in a list the names and addresses of the buildings affected, and the related impact; and
- (d) what is the estimated utilisation rate after the commissioning of the project and when was this projection made?

Asked by: Hon Claudia MO (Member Question No. 81)

Reply:

The HyD commissioned a consultant in October 2013 to conduct further investigation studies to assess the anticipated usage of the proposed footbridge system, as well as the impact on traffic, environment and underground utilities during its construction and operation stages, etc. The impact of the project on the buildings in the vicinity will also be examined. The studies are anticipated to be completed in mid-2016, after which the HyD will consult the public on the project. The estimated expenditure for the studies and site investigation is about \$5.5 million. The HyD deploys existing staff resources to oversee the studies and site investigation of the project.

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