

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)011**

**(Question Serial No. 2672)**

Head: (60) Highways Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (2) District and Maintenance Works  
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Provision for 2020-21 is \$125.8 million (5.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This is mainly due to the increased provision for highways maintenance for newly commissioned projects, filling of vacancies as well as a net increase of 40 posts in 2020-21. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the following –

- (1) What is the additional estimated expenditure on highways maintenance for newly commissioned projects in 2020-21? The increased estimated expenditure is set aside for the maintenance of which highways? Please also list out the estimated maintenance expenditure on newly commissioned projects for 2020-21.
- (2) Regarding Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) Hong Kong Section, what is the recurrent expenditure involved in 2019-20? What is the estimated recurrent expenditure for 2020-21?
- (3) Regarding HZMB Hong Kong Section, what is the non-recurrent expenditure involved in 2019-20? What is the estimated non-recurrent expenditure for 2020-21?
- (4) Regarding the net increase of 40 posts in 2020-21, what are the titles and duties of the posts involved and the estimated expenditures on salaries in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

(1)

The additional estimated expenditure on highways maintenance for newly commissioned projects in 2020-21 is tabulated below –

<b>Projects</b>	<b>Estimated Increase in Expenditure on Highways Maintenance for Newly Commissioned Projects in 2020-21 (\$ million)</b>
Kai Tak Development	12.4
Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section)	2.6
Dualling of Hiram's Highway between Clear Water Bay Road and Marina Cove and Improvement to Local Access to Ho Chung	2.2
Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)	2.0
Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling - Stage 2	2.0
Footbridge Improvement Works at Siu Hong Road, Tuen Mun	1.8
Other new roads, public transport interchanges, footbridges, walkways and cycle tracks	5.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.7</b>

(2) and (3)

The management responsibilities of HZMB Hong Kong Port has been transferred to Government Property Agency since January 2020. The recurrent expenditure for the Hong Kong Section of HZMB in 2019-20 is \$337.8 million and that for 2020-21 is estimated at \$65.3 million. There is no non-recurrent expenditure for the Hong Kong Section of HZMB both in 2019-20 and 2020-21.

(4)

The details of the net increase of 40 posts in 2020-21 are as follows –

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Number of Posts</b>	<b>Annual Staff Cost</b>	<b>Duties</b>
<b>(I) Posts to be Created</b>			
Senior Engineer	3	\$4,543,920	To support housing development
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	5	\$4,095,000	
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	2	\$1,638,000	
Technical Officer/Technical Officer Trainee	1	\$295,470	
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	1	\$819,000	To prepare the taking over and maintenance of the Western Harbour Crossing
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	3	\$2,457,000	To provide maintenance service for newly completed highway projects / enhanced maintenance services
Inspector of Works	9	\$6,632,820	
Assistant Inspector of Works	3	\$1,389,420	
Works Supervisor I	17	\$6,477,000	
Works Supervisor II	4	\$1,226,160	
Clerical Officer	1	\$463,140	
Personal Secretary II	1	\$288,840	
Senior Engineer	1	\$1,514,640	
Engineer/Assistant Engineer or Electrical and Mechanical Engineer/Assistant Electrical Mechanical Engineer	1	\$819,000	
Landscape Architect/Assistant Landscape Architect	1	\$795,150	To deliver enhanced cleansing work and facelift for highway structures
Works Supervisor I	1	\$381,000	
Principal Information Officer	1	\$1,223,580	To strengthen administrative support
Executive Officer II	1	\$534,660	
Clerical Officer	1	\$463,140	
<b>Sub-total (A) :</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>\$36,056,940</b>	

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Number of Posts</b>	<b>Annual Staff Cost</b>	<b>Reasons of Deletion</b>
<b>(II) Posts to be Deleted</b>			
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	2	\$1,638,000	These two time-limited posts which will lapse in 2019-20 are converted into permanent posts
Typist	1	\$225,540	To offset the creation of one Personal Secretary II post
Senior Estate Surveyor	1	\$1,514,640	Posts deleted upon transfer of the management responsibilities of the HZMB Hong Kong Port and Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Crossing Point Hong Kong Port to the Government Property Agency
Estate Surveyor	2	\$2,060,880	
Treasury Accountant	1	\$1,030,440	
Air-Conditioning Inspector	1	\$736,980	
Assistant Building Services Inspector	1	\$463,140	
Landscape Architect/ Assistant Landscape Architect	1	\$795,150	
Field Officer I	1	\$613,140	
Field Officer II/ Assistant Field Officer	1	\$285,870	
Building Services Engineer/ Assistant Building Services Engineer	1	\$819,000	
Senior Executive Officer	1	\$1,124,520	
Assistant Clerical Officer	2	\$577,680	
Clerical Assistant	1	\$225,540	
<b>Sub-total (B):</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$12,110,520</b>	
<b>Net Increase [(A) – (B)]:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>\$23,946,420</b>	

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