

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****THB(T)022****(Question Serial No. 2550)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

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

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the details of the hillside escalator and elevator projects implemented over the past three years and to be implemented in the coming year by the Administration for hillside areas in various districts in Hong Kong? What are the expenditures involved?
- (2) Will the Administration consider allocating more resources to increase the number of transport connection system projects for hillside areas in Hong Kong and strengthening manpower to expedite the completion of these projects?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

(1) Two hillside escalator links and elevator systems (HEL) projects were open for public use over the past three years. In addition, three are under construction and ten are at various stages of investigation and design. Details are set out below -

(i) Two projects completed and open for public use

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Approved Project Estimates (in money-of-the-day prices) (\$ million)</b>
● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Waterloo Hill (Opened in November 2019)	116.7
● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Cheung Hang Estate, Tsing Yi (Opened in February 2020)	222.7

(ii) Three proposals under construction

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Approved Project Estimates (in money-of-the-day prices) (\$ million)</b>
● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Kwai Shing Circuit and Hing Shing Road	239.4
● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Tai Wo Hau Road and Wo Tong Tsui Street	249.4
● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street	584.4

(iii) Ten proposals under investigation and design stage

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Total Expenditure on Investigation and Design</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Braemar Hill Pedestrian Link<sup>1</sup></li> <li>● Escalator Link and Pedestrian Walkway System at Pound Lane</li> <li>● Pedestrian Walkway System between Po Lam Road North and Po Hong Road in Tseung Kwan O<sup>2</sup></li> <li>● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Kung Lok Road<sup>3</sup></li> <li>● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Hing Shing Road and Tai Wo Hau Road</li> <li>● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai Cho Road and Wah Yiu Road</li> <li>● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai King Hill Road and Lai Cho Road</li> <li>● Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Saddle Ridge Garden and Sai Sha Road</li> <li>● Escalator Link System between Sui Wo Court, Sha Tin and MTR Fo Tan Station</li> <li>● Pedestrian Link near Chuk Yuen North Estate</li> </ul>	<p>As at February 2021, the total expenditure for the design and study of these proposals is about \$36 million.</p>

1 The Panel on Transport was consulted on the project on 19 February 2021. It is planned that the proposed works will commence upon obtaining funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

2 The project was formerly known as “Escalator Link System between Hong Sing Garden and Po Hong Road”.

3 The project was formerly known as “Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Luen On Street”.

The Transport Department (TD) commenced a consultancy study in 2017 to review and improve the assessment mechanism for HEL proposals as established in 2009. Based on the revised assessment mechanism, the consultant engaged by TD carried out initial screening, shortlisting and prioritisation of the 114 proposals on HEL received over the past few years. TD is consulting the relevant District Councils on the assessment results so as to finalise the first batch of projects for implementation.

(2) The Administration has proposed to establish a new Walkability Project Management Office in the Highways Department (HyD) with a view to centrally coordinate and expedite the implementation of projects relating to the concept of “Walkable City”, including HEL projects. HyD will also keep in view the resource requirements and deploy the necessary resources to take forward HEL projects.

Furthermore, HyD will also consider exploring the adoption of innovative design and engineering techniques, such as Building Information Modelling and Modular Integrated Construction, to expedite the delivery of HEL projects.

- End -