

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB004

(Question Serial No. 1796)

Head: (60) Highways Department

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

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (YAU Kwok-ting)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

Regarding the “Pedestrian Link between Sui Wo Court and the Footpath under Fo Tan Road”, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1. What is the progress of the preparatory work?
2. What is the anticipated commencement date?
3. What is the project estimate?
4. When does the Government plan to submit the project to the Legislative Council for consideration?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

The project “Pedestrian Link between Sui Wo Court and the Footpath under Fo Tan Road” is currently under investigation and preliminary design stages. The majority of the alignment of the proposed project is located within the lots owned by the Hong Kong Housing Authority and private owners, and is also close to residents, green belt and railways. Therefore, the Highways Department (HyD) is discussing with relevant owners and stakeholders, as well as collecting professional opinions from relevant government departments in order to reach an agreement on the specific alignment. At the same time, the HyD is also continuing to evaluate different design optimisation schemes in order to minimise the resumption of private lands and reduce the impacts caused by the project to the surrounding facilities and environment, such as to retain the existing pedestrian ways and stairs as far as possible to facilitate the residents going to and from MTR Fo Tan Station during construction, to avoid affecting or altering the existing slopes as far as possible, to reduce the felling of trees etc. Therefore, the project estimate has yet to be confirmed at the current stage.

The HyD will continue to implement the project according to the established procedures and review constantly on how the public resources can be used more efficiently and the

effectiveness of the works expenditures can be enhanced. It will also examine the priority of the items under planning and appropriately adjust the progress of implementation in response to the latest developments, including the policy development, the financial situation of the Government etc. The anticipated submission date of the project for the Legislative Council's consideration and the project commencement schedule have yet to be confirmed at the current stage.

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