

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**TLB033****(Question Serial No. 2211)**Head: (60) Highways DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Capital ProjectsControlling Officer: Director of Highways (YAU Kwok-ting)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and LogisticsQuestion:

Regarding the "Universal Accessibility" (UA) Programme, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1. What were the items completed, under construction and under planning under the UA Programme in Kowloon Central over the past year?
2. Will the Government strengthen the regulation of the contractors' financial situation and evaluate the ability of the contractors to undertake numerous projects? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? and
3. Will the Government look into the possibility of requesting the contractors to pay performance bonds to ensure that the projects will not be left unfinished? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon YANG Wing-kit (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)Reply:

1. Over the past year, two items were completed, 17 items were under construction and two items were under tendering under the "Universal Accessibility" (UA) Programme in the Kowloon City District and Wong Tai Sin District. The details of the aforesaid items are listed in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 below:

Table 1: Completed items

Structure No.	Location	Walkway Type	Types of facilities	Completion Date
Kowloon City				
KC01	Across Junction Road near Renfrew Road	Footbridge	Lift	May 2023

Structure No.	Location	Walkway Type	Types of facilities	Completion Date
Wong Tai Sin				
KF76	Across Fung Tak Road and Lung Poon Street	Footbridge	Lift	Dec 2023

Table 2: Items under Construction

Structure No.	Location	Walkway Type	Tentative Completion Date	Status
Kowloon City				
K64*	Across Hung Hom Road near Dyer Avenue	Elevated Walkway	Mar 2026	Under construction
KS41	Across Chatham Road North near Winslow Street	Subway	Dec 2024	Under construction
OM01	Across Chung Hau Street near Tun Man House of Oi Man Estate	Subway	Jun 2025	Under construction
KS8	Across Prince Edward Road West near Lion Rock Road	Subway	Sep 2024	Under construction
KS9	Across Prince Edward Road West at Kowloon City Interchange	Subway	Dec 2024	Under construction
KS32	Across Ma Tau Chung Road near Olympic Avenue and Kowloon City Interchange	Subway	Sep 2024	Under construction
KF107	Across Shung King Street, Hung Hom South Road and Hung Luen Road near Oi King Street	Footbridge	Dec 2024	Under construction
KS23	Across East Rail Line Track near Surrey Lane and Dianthus Road	Subway	Jun 2025	Under construction
KF111	Across Boundary Street near Embankment Road	Footbridge	Jun 2026	Under construction
KS21	Across Fat Kwong Street near Wo Chung Street	Subway	Mar 2027	Under construction
Wong Tai Sin				
KF73*	Across Tung Tau Tsuen Road near Tung Lung Road	Footbridge	Sep 2025	Under construction
WTS04	Across Chuk Yuen Road connecting Pang Ching Court and Chuk Yuen South Estate	Footbridge	Completed (Lift 1) Jun 2027 (Lift 2)	Under construction (Lift 2)
KF92A*	Across Lung Poon Street near Fung Tak Road	Footbridge	Mar 2026	Under construction
KF62	Across Fung Tak Road and Po Kong Village Road near Fung Tak Estate	Footbridge	Mar 2027	Under construction

Structure No.	Location	Walkway Type	Tentative Completion Date	Status
KF77	Across Lung Cheung Road near Hammer Hill Road	Footbridge	Dec 2026	Under construction
CYS03	Across Chuk Yuen Road Connecting Chuk Yuen Plaza and Chuk Yuen Sports Centre	Footbridge	Mar 2027	Under construction
WTS05	Across Tung Tau Tsuen Road near Lung Tat House of Lower Wong Tai Sin Estate	Footbridge	Dec 2026	Under construction

Table 3: Items under Tendering

Structure No.	Location	Walkway Type	Tentative Completion Date	Status
Wong Tai Sin				
TZL01	Across Sheung Fung Street connecting Tsz Lok Estate Phase 1 and Phase 2	Footbridge	Mar 2028	Under tendering
WTH01	Across Fu Mei Street connecting Wang Fai House and Wang Fu House/Wang On House of Wang Tau Hom Estate	Footbridge	Sep 2027	Under tendering

Note *: Regarding the delay in items under the UA Programme caused by individual contractor, the HyD took back the remaining works under the respective contract and included these remaining works and other items under the UA Programme under a new contract which was tendered out on 1 March 2024, striving to commence construction in mid-2024.

- When engaging contractors for public works projects, the HyD will normally invite the contractors under relevant categories and groups of the List of Approved Contractors for Public Works (the List) to participate in the tender. During the tender assessment, apart from considering the tender prices of the tenderers, their past performance in public works contracts, etc., the financial capability of the tenderer with the highest score and whether the tender price is reasonable would also be reviewed. This is to ensure that the successful tenderer is fully capable (including financially capable) of completing the works in accordance with the contractual requirements. Only the tenderer who passes the financial vetting and satisfies the relevant financial requirements will be awarded the contract.

Furthermore, regarding the management of the list of contractors, all contractors on the List must constantly fulfill a wide range of requirements, including “management”, “staff employment”, “financial capability”, “safety”, “integrity”, etc. In terms of financial capability, the contractors must regularly submit to the Development Bureau (DEVB) the annual audited financial statements and other financial information in accordance with the regulations of the Contractor Management Handbook to prove that

their financial capabilities entirely fulfil the relevant financial requirements. If the contractor fails to submit the financial statements/financial information or fulfil the prescribed financial requirements within the specified period, the DEVB can take appropriate regulatory action in accordance with the Contractor Management Handbook, which includes suspending the contractor from tendering for public works, downgrading to a lower category or group, and even removing from the List.

3. Considering the financial burden involved in paying performance bond by the contractors, the Government would not normally request the contractors to procure performance bond when undertaking public works projects. Nevertheless, in order to protect the rights and interests of the Government, the Government would specify in the works contract that 1% to 2.5% of the contract value paid to the contractors would be deducted as retention money. The retention money would be released to the contractors upon completion of the contract. If the contractor fails to complete the works in compliance with the contract conditions, the Government will deduct an appropriate amount from the retention money to cover the loss according to the contract mechanism.

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