

TLB043

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2369)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) District and Maintenance Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (YAU Kwok-ting)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

The responsibilities of the Highways Department include “implement local road infrastructure works to facilitate and cope with the public and private sector developments”. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) The revised estimate of \$2.5977 billion for 2025-26 was 7.4% less than the original estimate of \$2.8061 billion. What are the reasons?
- (b) Over the past 3 years, what were the respective numbers of local road works conducted in connection with the developments of public bodies (such as public housing projects, government facilities) and the developments of private bodies (such as private residential projects, commercial development projects)? What were the respective total expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ho-ming, Augustine (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

- (a) The revised estimate for 2025-26 under Programme (2) represents a 7.4% decrease compared to the original estimate, mainly reflects the change in the completion dates of the new road works and relevant projects (including the transport infrastructure of the Diamond Hill Development Area, the retrofitting of lifts under the Universal Accessibility Programme, and the Wan Chai Development Phase II), deferring the handover to the Highways Department (HyD) for maintenance, and a corresponding decrease in the provisions required for workshop services (including electrical and mechanical services, etc.).
- (b) The HyD is responsible for the maintenance of public roads and ancillary road facilities under its ambit. It deploys staff members to conduct regular inspections and arranges for timely repair works. At the same time, the HyD carries out improvement works for local roads upon the recommendation of the Transport Department (TD), optimises road facilities to align with district developments (including housing projects, government facilities, commercial developments etc.), such as providing pedestrian crossings and

bus lay-bys, improving the local road alignments, widening of roads, and strengthening the guardrails etc. Over the past 3 years (from 2023 to 2025), the HyD received a total of approximately 5 025 works requests from the TD for local road improvement projects, involving a total expenditure of \$160 million. The HyD does not maintain separate expenditure breakdowns for district road works carried out in response to public sector developments (such as public housing projects and government facilities) and private sector developments (such as private residential projects and commercial developments).

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