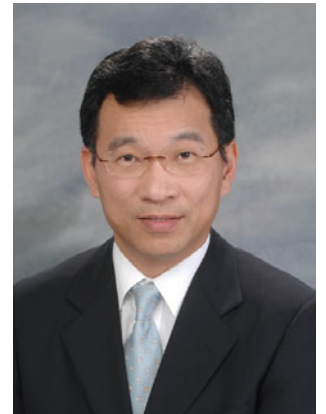


## Director's Message

It is my pleasure to present to you our Environmental Report 2013 which summarised our efforts and achievement in environmental management as well as our environmental targets and initiatives for 2014. In this report, you will see our efforts in pursuing environmentally friendly and sustainable measures at all stages of our road projects. We continue to carefully plan every stage of our projects to fulfil our commitment to environmental management. For example, we have made extensive efforts in tree preservation and thematic planting in the Widening of Tolo Highway / Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling project, and adopted comprehensive noise and dust mitigation measures in the Shatin to Central Link project, in order to minimize environmental impacts arising from the construction works.



We uphold the Government's policy of developing the environmentally friendly railway system as the backbone for the mass public transportation. It aims to reduce the overall tailpipe emission from vehicles and lessen the impact on the environment. The West Island Line, the South Island Line (East), the Kwun Tong Line Extension, the Shatin to Central Link and the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link are under construction. We target to complete the consultancy study for the Review and Update of the Railway Development Strategy 2000 in 2014 and the Government will subsequently announce the way forward for a series of new railway projects.

To enhance cost-effectiveness and environmental-friendliness in road maintenance, we adopt long-life pavement strategy and extend the use of Polymer Modified Stone Mastic Asphalt for road surfacing. Also, we have adopted the use of Mobile Mapping System technology for updating road surface inventories of the streets, roads and tunnels maintained by the Highways Department in a more efficient and environmentally friendly manner.

Stone wall trees are attractive and valuable natural heritage features in Hong Kong's streetscape. We are committed to preserving the 214 stone wall trees managed by the Highways Department while ensuring safety to the public. The major pruning operation to a stone wall tree overhanging Bonham Road to reduce the risk of its falling fully demonstrated our commitment to striving for a suitable balance between tree preservation and public safety. To enhance the aesthetics and biodiversity of slopes under our maintenance, we proactively implement a Landscape Enhancement Management Plan. One prominent and exemplary case is the landscape enhancement work for a 14-hectare hill slope under Castle Peak in Tuen Mun New Town.

We promote environmental consciousness and exchange of ideas amongst our colleagues and external stakeholders. Internally, we organised training courses and green activities for our staff with a view to heightening the knowledge of and awareness in environmental management. Externally, we co-organise the Joint Safety, Health and Environmental Seminar with various corporations around the city to enhance the knowledge of environmental management measures for professional and technical staff. We continue to encourage our contractors to organise and participate in various environmental promotional activities. We have also engaged the community's support to enhance our services by organising community planting, roving exhibition and publishing details of our projects to the public and soliciting their views through various channels.

We are pleased to conclude that most of our environmental targets for 2013 were achieved and our efforts were recognised. We are honoured to receive four Outstanding Environmental Management and Performance Awards and six Considerate Contractors Site Awards in our construction sites as well as the Grand Award for Outstanding Exhibit in Hong Kong Flower Show 2013. These awards were presented in recognition of our good site safety, environmental performance and considerate attitude towards the neighbourhood and the public.

Looking into the future, we will endeavour to carry out our business in an environmentally responsible manner. With the concerted efforts of my colleagues, we strive to continue to make our community a better and lovely place to live in.

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'K.K. Lau', written in a cursive style.

K.K. LAU  
Director of Highways  
30 December 2014