

# Director's Message

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It is my pleasure to present to you the Environmental Report 2018 of Highways Department which summarises our efforts in 2018 in environmental management and introduces our environmental targets and initiatives for 2019.

As a responsible member of the community and manager of many public works projects, we are committed to delivering our projects with due consideration to the environment. To manage environmental impacts of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities project, we have established the boundary and formulated the management plan of The Brothers Marine Park (BMP) to offer appropriate protection of marine habitats and species within a sea area of about 970 ha. We would also deploy over 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of artificial reefs and release fish fry in the Core Area of the BMP in the coming years. For the Central Kowloon Route (CKR) project, in addition to minimising the noise impact of the blasting operation by a noise enclosure, a pilot scheme has been launched to produce wood chips with a view to reducing and reusing yard waste produced during the construction works of the CKR. We took the opportunity to improve the environment at the CKR through greening, provision of amenity spaces and landscaped open spaces for public enjoyment, such as the waterfront promenade at Ma Tau Kok.



We uphold the Government's policy of developing the environmentally friendly railway system as the backbone for the mass public transportation. Environmentally friendly measures have been implemented for the Shatin-to-Central Link, which include preservation of cultural heritage at Sung Wong Toi Station, adoption of energy saving cooling system and natural ventilation, use of energy efficient lighting and provision of green roof.

In pursuit of excellence in our work, we have conducted researches and trials on environmentally friendly technologies, including studies on the enhanced application of local recycled glass cullet in the concrete paving blocks production, and the development of low noise road surfacing material for local roads. We have also been exploring remote sensing technologies such as multispectral image, hyperspectral image and Airborne Light Detection and Ranging technologies for efficient mapping of tree assets and monitoring tree health over time in our daily vegetation maintenance works to further enhance urban greenery and to reduce potential tree failure risk.

We engaged with both internal and external stakeholders to promote environmental consciousness and idea exchange. Internally, we organised various training courses, green activities and provided green advice to heighten our staff's environmental awareness. Externally, we co-organised seminars with our business partners to promote the latest safety, health and environmental management measures for the industry. We encouraged our contractors to promote environmental awareness on construction sites. In recognition of their outstanding achievements in 2018, 4 contracts were granted the Wastewise Label and/or Energywise Label of "Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence" and 1 contract was granted the title of "Hong Kong Green Organisation". We also attained the "10 Years Plus Caring Organisation Logo" for our longstanding support to corporate social responsibility initiatives and commitment in the caring of community, employees and environment over the past years.

We are pleased to conclude that on the whole our environmental targets for 2018 were achieved. Our efforts were recognised in receiving 2 "Outstanding Environmental Management and Performance Awards", 4 "Considerate Contractors Site Awards" and the "Grand Award for Unique Feature" in the Hong Kong Flower Show 2018. Our project of "Proactive Rejuvenation of Senescent Acacia Slopes along Highways in Hong Kong" has also been awarded the "Excellence 2018 (Landscape Management) - National Award" from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects. Yet, we will not become complacent with these achievements and will continue to make our best endeavours in environmental management by setting out clear annual environmental objectives and targets.

Looking ahead, we will continue to explore every opportunity to contribute to a sustainable environment. With the concerted effort of my colleagues, we endeavour to make our community a greener and more pleasant place to live in.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy P M Chan', written in a cursive style.

Jimmy P M CHAN  
Director of Highways  
17 December 2019