

Ref. : HYD GR/1-50/1

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28 October 2009

Highways Department Technical Circular No. 10/2009

Guidelines for Taking Over Footbridges
and Subways for Maintenance

This circular updates and supersedes HyDTC No. 25/97 which is hereby cancelled.

2. The criteria for taking over a footbridge/subway for maintenance by Highways Department (HyD) are as follows:

- (i) it shall be managed by Transport Department and be open to the public 24 hours a day;
- (ii) it shall cross or span over a public road, railway, river or nullah;
- (iii) the ramps, staircases, escalators or lifts shall be located at, or close to, a public footway maintained by HyD with unimpeded public access;
- (iv) the structure shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the Structures Design Manual for Highways and Railways and to the satisfaction of Chief Highway Engineer / Bridges and Structures; and
- (v) the lighting fixtures shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the Public Lighting Design Manual and to the satisfaction of Chief Engineer/Lighting and Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services.

3. A footbridge/subway falls outside the boundary of a development with one end connected to the development and the other end to a public footway may be maintained by HyD provided that criteria in Para. 2 and the following are satisfied:-

- (i) the structure is required by the planning brief or under the lease conditions of the development;

- (ii) the building management shall guarantee 24 hours unrestricted access through the development for use by the public to the footbridge/subway and by the staff or the Contractor of HyD to carry out inspections, maintenance and improvements to the footbridge / subway;
- (iii) the access arrangement through the development shall be acceptable to Transport Department; and
- (iv) the footbridge/subway and the development shall physically be separated. There shall be clear demarcation between the footbridge/subway and the development to avoid future conflicts in ownership and maintenance responsibilities.

4. HyD shall not maintain a footbridge/subway which solely connects private developments or public housing estates on either side of a public road.

5. Maintenance responsibilities shall be decided at a very early stage during preliminary circulation of the planning brief or lease conditions.

6. The acceptance and division of maintenance responsibility and handing over activities shall be co-ordinated by the respective Regional Offices/Project Management Offices/Railway Development Office in consultation with Bridges and Structures Division and/or Lighting Division as appropriate.



(C S WAI)
Director of Highways