

3. According to the longer term plan, Road P2 will be extended further east to join Hung Hing Road in Wan Chai North.

Functions of Road P2

4. Road P2 serves two main functions -

- (a) in the short term, it will provide an alternative access to the existing developments in the Central Reclamation area and relieves the congestion around the Connaught Road Central and Connaught Place junction; and
- (b) in the medium to long term, after the completion of the Central–Wan Chai Bypass, Road P2 will serve to distribute traffic from the strategic east-west traffic corridor formed by Central–Wan Chai Bypass and the Rumsey Street Flyover to the neighbouring areas including Central, Central Reclamation, Admiralty, Mid-levels, Wan Chai and Wan Chai North, and vice versa from these areas to the corridor.

5. On the first function, at present traffic generated from Exchange Square, Airport Railway Station, One and Two International Finance Centre, Four Seasons Hotel and the ferry piers has to route through some already congested roads and junctions in Central such as Man Po Street, Man Cheung Street, Man Yiu Street and Connaught Place. Traffic along Man Yiu Street and Connaught Place east-bound has to wait for several traffic light cycles before it can join Connaught Road Central. There is high potential of a gridlock in that area as traffic is unable to exit onto Connaught Road Central, seriously affecting the operation of the existing developments in the same area. Traffic congestion in the vicinity will also adversely affect thousands of ferry passengers using the piers daily for commuting to and from work. With Road P2 and the associated ground level road network in place, it will greatly relieve the very congested eastbound Man Yiu Street and Connaught Place. To relieve the existing congestion in the area, there is an imminent need to construct Road P2.

6. On the second function, a strategic traffic corridor like an

expressway is usually provided with limited exit points for operation reasons and vehicles leaving an exit point will have to travel along distributor road(s) before reaching the local access roads of their destination. This applies similarly to traffic heading the opposite direction. On completion of the Central–Wan Chai Bypass, Road P2 will take up the role of such a distributor road for traffic to and from the neighbouring areas, including Central, Central Reclamation, Admiralty, Mid-levels, Wan Chai and Wan Chai North.

7. Road P2 will also connect the existing roads in the Central Reclamation area and the various north-south roads along its length, thus facilitating the local circulation of traffic around the Central Reclamation area. It will also provide access and pick-up/drop-off points for the future developments in the area including the waterfront promenade to the north of the road, the new LegCo Building and the new Government Headquarters.

Layout of Road P2

8. Road P2 is essentially a dual 2-lane road and will be operated by traffic signals at junctions. Dedicated turning pockets in front of signal controlled junctions are provided to avoid queuing problem. An extra traffic lane is also provided at some junctions to allow safe and smooth weaving of merging traffic.

9. At-grade pedestrian crossings will be provided at junctions of Road P2 to enable unrestricted pedestrian access between the hinterland and the future waterfront. Priority will be given to pedestrians crossing Road P2. Our target is to maintain these at-grade pedestrian crossings as far as practicable in addition to the elevated pedestrian connections to the waterfront area in future.

