

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Promoting infrastructure development”
moved by Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 10 December 2008**

**Motion as amended by Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee and
Hon LEE Wing-tat**

That the once-in-a-century international financial tsunami is sweeping across the world, striking the economies of various places including Hong Kong and the situation is very acute, this Council urges the Government to promote infrastructure development with every effort at this critical moment so as to stabilize the economy, increase employment opportunities, enhance the overall competitiveness of Hong Kong and attain sustainable development; to achieve the above objectives, the Government should expeditiously adopt the following measures:

- (a) expeditiously implementing the 10 major infrastructure projects;
- (b) formulating forward-looking plans as early as possible, and planning future works projects following the 10 major infrastructure projects;
- (c) enhancing cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in planning and commencing cross-border infrastructure projects which are beneficial to both places;
- (d) implementing public participation and ensuring the smooth implementation of infrastructure projects to achieve sustainable development for Hong Kong;
- (e) enhancing coordination among departments, recruiting engineers for District Offices in various districts, and allowing various District Councils to engage their own consultants for the minor works proposed by them, so as to expedite the approval of contracts for small and medium works projects and the progress of such projects;
- (f) commencing more public works projects through public-private partnership;
- (g) ensuring a stable amount of work through detailed planning, so as to prevent a cyclical imbalance between the supply and demand in the manpower market; and
- (h) strengthening training for young engineers and construction workers, including educating them on the latest developments in such fields as energy conservation and green construction, so as to meet the latest needs of the community; and

- (i) stepping up the work of environmental impact assessment to achieve sustainable development for Hong Kong;
- (j) regarding strengthening training for young engineers and construction workers, also strengthening training for architects, planners, surveyors and landscape architects;
- (k) regarding expediting the approval of contracts for small and medium works projects, particularly expediting the approval of contracts for those projects for the provision of community facilities such as escalators and lifts for pedestrians, waterfront promenades and cycling tracks; and at the same time, having to streamline the approval procedures of District Councils, so that more community projects can be implemented more expeditiously;
- (l) before commencing the various infrastructure projects, having to make public all information and conduct extensive public consultation;
- (m) in planning the various projects, having to ensure that the projects complement the surrounding districts, avoid doing damage to the nearby natural and ecological environment and community culture, and strive with every effort to conserve relics and monuments as well as historical buildings, so as to strike a balance between conservation and development; and
- (n) subject to not violating the World Trade Organization Agreement on Government Procurement, adjusting upwards the contract caps for small projects and splitting into smaller projects for open tender.