

For Information

Legislative Council Panel on Development
Capital Works Reserve Fund
Block Allocations for 2008-09 –
Supplementary Provision for
Subhead 5001BX - Landslip Preventive Measures

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' support of the Administration's proposal to increase the approved allocation for Subhead **5001BX** - Landslip Preventive Measures for 2008-09 from \$953 million by \$58 million to \$1,011 million to meet the unexpected additional expenditure in the current financial year for emergency slope stabilization works arising from the June 2008 rainstorm.

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

2. The ambit of Subhead **5001BX** covers landslip preventive works and remedial works resulting from unforeseen slope failures.

JUSTIFICATION

3. Following the record-breaking rainstorm in June 2008, a large amount of substantial stabilization works on failed or distressed slopes, funded under Subhead **5001BX**, needs to be urgently carried out to safeguard public safety. The works and the estimated costs are listed out in **Enclosure 1**.

4. Expenditure for all the works have been committed, amounting to a total estimate of \$60.6 million. Compared with the original provision of \$2.6 million for emergency works, there is a shortfall of \$58 million to meet the estimated expenditure under Subhead **5001BX** in 2008-09. We propose to increase the approved allocation for **5001BX** for year 2008-09 from \$953 million by \$58 million to \$1,011 million in order to maintain the original schedule of works for Landslip Preventive Measures.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. A comparison of the block allocation approved by the Finance Committee in January 2008 and the revised estimate for 2008-09 is as follows:

	\$ Million
(a) Approved allocation for 2008-09	953.0
(b) Additional allocation required	58.0
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Total allocation required	1,011.0

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6. Public consultation was not carried out as prompt implementation of the emergency stabilization works was called for to safeguard public safety, relieve the affected communities and restore the traffic infrastructure following the June 2008 rainstorm.

LAND ACQUISITION

7. The emergency slope stabilization works do not involve any land acquisition.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

8. Subhead **5001BX** is a block allocation approved together with other block allocations on an annual basis by the Finance Committee under the Capital Works Reserve Fund. The approved allocation for Subhead **5001BX** in the current financial year is \$953 million. We are confident that the additional allocation, if approved, can be spent within the current financial year.

9. We estimate that the proposed works will create about 129 jobs (112 labourers and 17 professional/technical staff) providing a total employment of 1550 man-months.

WAY FORWARD

10. Members are invited to support our proposal for increasing the allocation of **5001BX** for 2008-09 for consideration by the Public Works Subcommittee and for funding approval by the Finance Committee in November 2008.

Development Bureau
October 2008

Enclosure 1

**List of Sites Involving Emergency Stabilization Works
on Failed or Distressed Slopes**

<u>Location</u>	<u>Estimated Expenditure in 2008-09 (\$ million)</u>	<u>Project Estimate (including Expenditure beyond 2008-09) (\$ million)</u>
Tsz Ching Estate, Shatin Pass Road	3.0	3.0
Mount Davis, Sai Wan	6.5	8.6
Yu Tung Road, Tung Chung	5.8	7.2
Above Catchwaters at Tai O and Keung Shan	2.0	2.5
Nam Chung Tsuen, Tai O	13.6	28.4
Tai O San Tsuen, Tai O	12.6	35.1
Wang Hang Village, Tai O	5.5	11.0
Keung Shan Road, Lantau	4.1	16.7
Sham Wat Road, Lantau	1.4	1.4
Other 15 areas each having works < \$1 million	6.1	6.2
Fund Required:	60.6	120.1
<i>Deduct funds initially earmarked for emergency slope stabilization works in 2008-09</i>	<i>(2.6)</i>	-
Shortfall:	58.0	-