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2 February 2009

Secretary for Development
(Attn: Mr Ivan CHEUNG)
Development Bureau
9/F, Murray Building
Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr CHEUNG,

Panel on Development
Matters related to Hopewell Centre II

On the advice of the Chairman, Hon LAU Wong-fat, I forward for the Administration's response a submission from E T FARNWORTH on the above subject, which was referred to the Panel by the Finance Committee. We note that the main issues raised in the letter include the following --

- (a) Whether the proposed roadworks will be paid by the developer;
- (b) Whether the costs for construction of the proposed roadworks will be deducted from the land premium payable by the developer;
- (c) Whether the proposed roadworks will form part of the public road infrastructure and if so, whether the Government will be responsible for its maintenance;
- (d) Whether there is departure from the prevailing building approval procedure in allowing part of the proposed roadworks, which are designed for the benefit of the private development in question, to encroach into the public road domain; and
- (e) Whether the Transport Department has the authority to negotiate with a private developer on the proposed roadworks, which according to Mr FARNWORTH, do not form part of the approval of the Town Planning Board for the project in 1994.

I should be grateful if the Administration would provide a written response, with Chinese and English versions and electronic copies, **by 24 February 2009**. Unless you state otherwise, the Administration's response will be made available to the press and members of the public.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Anita SIT)
Clerk to Panel

Encl

cc Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP (Chairman) (w/o encl.)