For information

Legislative Council Panel on Transport

7743TH – Tsuen Wan Bypass, widening of Tsuen Wan Road between Tsuen Tsing Interchange and Kwai Tsing Interchange and associated junction improvement works

Purpose

This paper informs Members of our proposal to upgrade part of **7743TH** – Tsuen Wan Bypass, widening of Tsuen Wan Road (TWR) between Tsuen Tsing Interchange and Kwai Tsing Interchange and associated junction improvement works (the Project) to Category A for engagement of consultants to undertake the detailed design assignment (the Assignment) for **7743TH** and to retain the remainder of **7743TH** in Category B.

Project Scope

- 2. The scope of **7743TH** comprises
 - (a) construction of two single-lane elevated flyovers, one on Tuen Mun bound and the other on Kowloon bound, and parallel to Tsuen Wan Road between Tuen Mun Road and Tai Chung Road Interchange, each of about 700 metres (m) long;
 - (b) construction of two two-lane elevated flyovers, one on Tuen Mun bound and the other on Kowloon bound, and parallel to Tsuen Wan Road between Tai Chung Road Interchange and Tsuen Tsing Interchange, each of about 1.4 kilometres (km) long;
 - (c) widening of a section of Tsuen Wan Road of about 700 m long from dual three-lane to dual five-lane between Tsuen Tsing Interchange and Kwai Tsing Interchange;

- (d) construction of three single-lane slip roads of a total length of 850 m, connecting the vehicular flyovers mentioned in (a) and (b) above to Hoi Hing Road and Texaco Road respectively;
- (e) provision of noise barriers/enclosures, including cantilevered noise barriers of about 8.0 m high and 2.2 km long and noise enclosures of about 6.0 m high and 700 m long;
- (f) associated civil, structural, drainage, geotechnical and landscaping works, traffic control and surveillance systems, traffic aids and street lighting works; and
- (g) an environmental monitoring and audit (EM&A) programme for works mentioned in (a) to (f) above.

A plan showing the proposed works is at **Enclosure**.

3. The part of the Project (the Assignment) we now propose to upgrade to Category A comprises –

- (a) a review of the findings of the previous investigation and preliminary design (I&PD) assignment;
- (b) detailed design of the works described in paragraph 2(a) to (f) above; and
- (c) preparation of tender documents and assessment of tenders.

Justification

4. TWR is a dual 3-lane strategic trunk route connecting Kwai Chung Road and Tuen Mun Road. It also provides local links to the road network within Tsuen Wan via the Tai Chung Road Interchange, and to Tsing Yi via Tsuen Tsing and Kwai Tsing Interchanges.

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5. To meet growing traffic demand resulting from developments in the north-western New Territories, the commissioning and operation of West Rail and its associated property developments as well as other planned developments in Tsuen Wan, we need to upgrade TWR to cater for the increase in through traffic as well as for local access to Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi.

6. We estimate that TWR will be over-saturated and operating at critical volume/capacity (v/c) ratios¹ during the peak hours in 2016 if no improvement works are carried out. The v/c ratios of the road in 2016 and 2021, with and without the proposed works, are as follows –

	Year		
Tsuen Wan Road	2008	2016	2021
Without proposed works	1.1	1.3	1.3
With proposed works	-	0.8	0.9

7. We engaged consultants in July 2002 to undertake the I&PD assignment for carrying out the site investigation and preliminary design of the Project. The consultants have completed the preliminary design. Due to insufficient in-house resources, we propose to engage consultants to undertake the Assignment, including review of the findings of the I&PD assignment, detailed design, preparation of tender documents and assessment of tenders.

Financial Implications

8. We estimate the cost of this part of the Project to be \$46.9 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices, made up as follows –

Volume to capacity (v/c) ratio is an indicator which reflects the performance of a road. A v/c ratio equal to or less than 1.0 means that a road has sufficient capacity to cope with the volume of vehicular traffic under consideration and the resultant traffic will flow smoothly. A v/c ratio above 1.0 indicates the onset of congestion; that above 1.2 indicates more serious congestion with traffic speeds deteriorating progressively with further increase in traffic.

(a)	Consultant's fees	40.3
	(i) review of the findings of the I&PD assignment	f 4.5
	(ii) detailed design	32.5
	(iii) preparation of tender documents and assessment of tenders	
(b)	Contingencies	4.0
	Sub-total	d 44.3 (in September 2008 prices)
(c)	Provision for price adjustment	2.6
	Total	46.9 (in MOD prices)

\$ million

9. The Assignment will have no recurrent financial implications.

10. We estimate that the proposed works will create about 42 jobs for professional/technical staff providing a total employment of 570 man-months.

Public Consultation

11. We consulted the Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC) of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) on 4 September 2007, and the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (E&HAC) of TWDC on 6 September 2007 and 5 May 2008. At the E&HAC meeting on 6 September 2007, while welcoming the Project on traffic grounds and noting that noise barriers/enclosures would be erected on the proposed new flyovers to mitigate traffic noise in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) (Cap. 499), Members were concerned about the traffic noise generated from the existing TWR

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currently affecting the nearby residents of Clague Garden Estate. At the E&HAC meeting on 5 May 2008, the Administration presented an outline design for providing additional noise barriers and other noise mitigation measures on the existing TWR and in the vicinity of Clague Garden Estate under the environmental protection policy on retrofitting noise mitigation measures on existing roads. Members supported the outline design. The Administration will implement the retrofitting measures under a separate Public Works Programme item as they are outside the scope of the Project.

12. We also consulted the T&TC of the Kwai Tsing District Council on the Project on 21 February 2008. Members had no objection to the Project. We will continue to keep the two District Councils and the community informed of the progress of the Project throughout the detailed design process and consult them again before applying for funding from the Legislative Council for construction.

Environmental Implications

13. The Assignment will not have any adverse environmental implications. The Project is a designated project under Schedule 2 of the EIAO and an environmental permit is required for the construction and operation of the Project. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, which was approved on 8 December 2008, concluded that the environmental impacts of the Project could be controlled to within the criteria under the EIAO and the Technical Memorandum on EIA Process through implementing appropriate mitigation measures. We will incorporate into the detailed design and relevant works contracts all the mitigation measures and an EM&A programme as recommended in the approved EIA Report to verify the effectiveness of recommended mitigation measures. To alleviate the traffic noise impact on sensitive receivers along TWR, which is the major environmental concern of the Project, we will implement measures including the installation of cantilevered noise barriers and noise enclosures.

14. The proposed design consultancy will not generate any construction waste. We will require the consultants to fully consider measures to minimise the generation of construction waste and to reuse/recycle construction waste as much as possible in the future implementation of the construction projects.

Land Acquisition

15. The Assignment does not require any land acquisition.

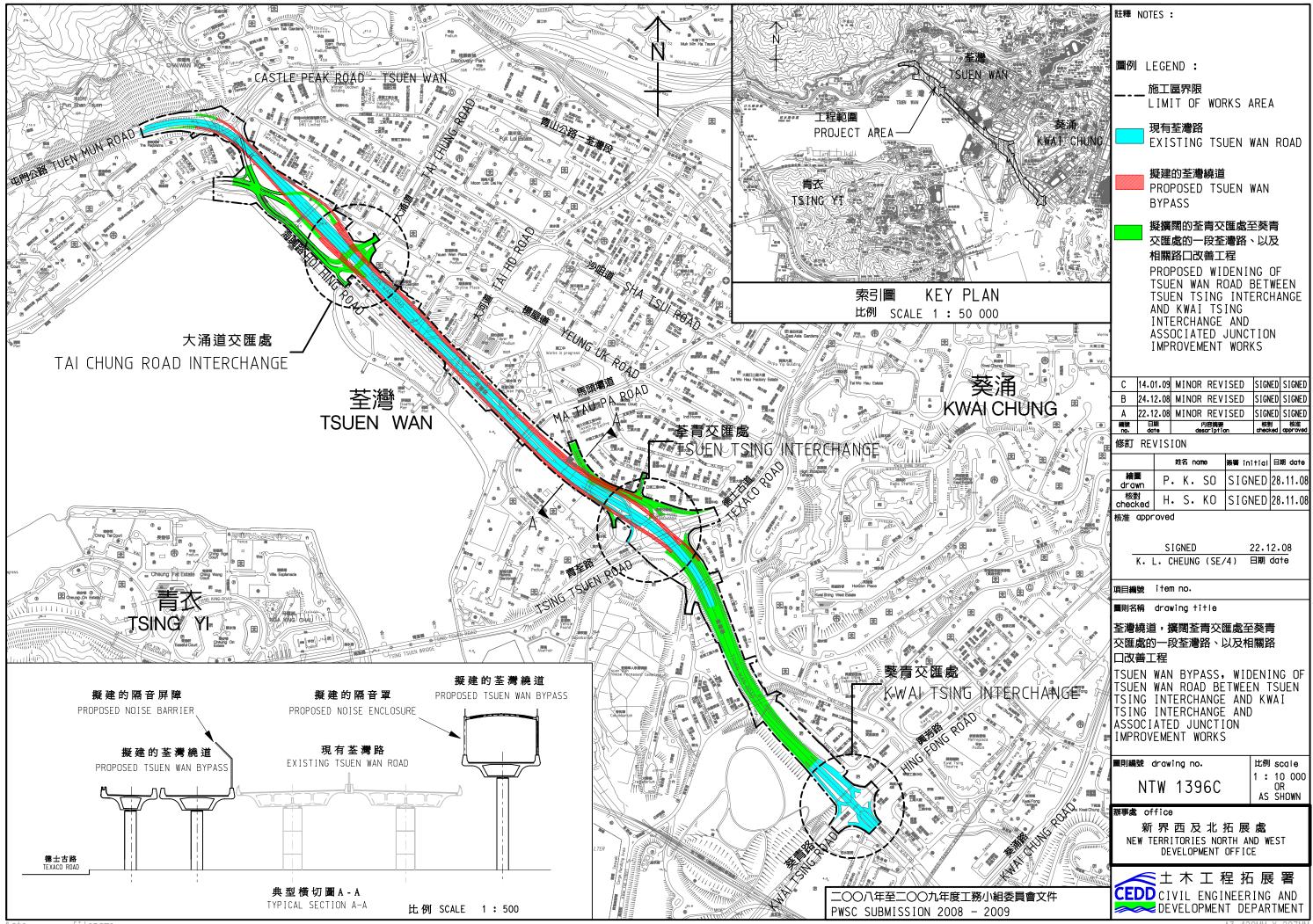
Way Forward

16. We intend to submit a funding application to the Public Works Sub-committee and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in April 2009 to upgrade part of the Project to Category A for detailed design. Subject to funding approval, we plan to start the Assignment in September 2009 for completion by November 2011.

Advice Sought

17. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Transport and Housing Bureau February 2009



附件 Enclosure