

English Translation

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16 February 2012

Legislative Council Secretariat,
Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong.

(Attn : Miss Betty MA)

Dear Miss MA :

**Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services
Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities
for Persons with Disabilities
Meeting on 11 November 2011**

I refer to the captioned subcommittee meeting on 11 November 2011. Concerning the provision of hillside escalator link and elevator systems, the Chairman requested the Administration to provide the anticipated completion dates of the feasibility studies for the 5 outstanding proposals; and the details of the pre-construction works and individual tasks together with the relevant timetable in respect of the five proposals with the feasibility studies completed. The subcommittee also passed the following motion:

“That this Subcommittee urges the Administration to set aside funds in the Budget for the next financial year for completion of the remaining proposals not yet arranged for feasibility studies for the Provision of Hillside Escalator Links and Elevator Systems.”

As presented in the LegCo Panel on Transport on 26 February 2010, regarding the ranking system of the proposals for “Provision of Hillside Escalator Links and Elevator Systems”, the proposed ranking system aims at providing a comprehensive set of objectives and transparent evaluation criteria, comprising the circumstantial, beneficial and implementation factors, in determining the merits and relative priority of proposals for conducting feasibility studies.

Having regard to the available resources, we took forward the top 10 ranked proposals for the feasibility studies, in order to determine the technical feasibility and the estimated cost for each proposal. The lower ranked proposals would be taken forward after the feasibility studies of the top 10 proposals are on track for implementation. Highways Department is carrying out the feasibility studies for the top 10 ranked proposals. The result of each study would be reported in the corresponding District Council. Up to this stage, the feasibility studies of 5 proposals have been completed and the studies of the remaining 5 proposals are ongoing, please refer to the table below. Highway Department is expediting the ongoing feasibility studies, which is anticipated to be completed in 2012

Rank	District	Requested System	Progress of Feasibility Studies
1	Wong Tai Sin	Pedestrian Link at Tsz Wan Shan	Completed
2	Eastern	Pedestrian Link at Braemar Hill	Completed
3	Kwai Tsing	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Tsing Yi Road West and Tsing Yu Street	Completed
4	Central & Western	Escalator Link System at Ladder Street (Proposed realignment along Pound Lane)	Completed

Rank	District	Requested System	Progress of Feasibility Studies
5	Kwai Tsing	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Kwai Shing Circuit and Hing Shing Road	In progress
6	Kwai Tsing	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Castle Peak Road and Kung Yip Street	In progress
7	Kwai Tsing	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai Cho Road and Wah Yiu Road	In progress
8	Wong Tai Sin	Pedestrian Link at Chuk Yuen North Estate	In progress
9	Kowloon City	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System at Waterloo Hill	Completed
10	Kwai Tsing	Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Lai King Hill Road and Lai Cho Road	In progress

After the completion of the technical feasibility studies, HyD will proceed to the preparatory works in the pre-construction stage. The works include site investigation, preliminary design, consultation with relevant District Councils, gazetting under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap 370) and handling the objections, land resumption, application for funding, detailed design and tendering, etc. All preparatory works at the pre-construction stage involve complicated procedures, the actual timetable depends on the extent and complexity of the proposals. In determining the construction programme, we shall take into account the result of the feasibility studies, priority ranking of the proposals and the respective construction time.

Yours faithfully

Signed

(Albert LEE Wai-Bun)
for Commissioner for Transport

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