

立法會
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Panel on Transport

Meeting on 11 April 2014

**Background brief on road improvement works in
West Kowloon Reclamation Development (Phase 1)**

Purpose

This paper provides background information on road improvement works in West Kowloon Reclamation Development ("WKRD") (Phase 1). It also summarizes the major views and concerns expressed by Members during previous discussions relevant to this subject.

Background

2. According to the Administration, the Transport Department ("TD") carries out district-wide traffic studies from time to time to review the traffic conditions, identify road improvement schemes to ease the existing traffic problems and recommend major road works to meet the long-term traffic demand of the concerned districts. Continuous traffic studies are carried out to ensure that enhancements are timely put in place to meet the future needs.

3. A number of substantial developments have been completed or are being carried out in WKRD, including the existing Kowloon Station ("KOW") for the Airport Express Line and Tung Chung Line, KOW property developments (e.g. shopping mall, hotel, office, and residential buildings), the Austin Station for the Kowloon Southern Link and the developments above it, development of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD"), the West Kowloon Terminus ("WKT") of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link ("XRL") linking up Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Dongguan and Guangzhou and its top-side property developments. With the completion of these developments, WKRD will contain international, regional and territory-wide functions and will have a

very important role in Hong Kong. To equip WKRD for its future role, a good traffic and pedestrian system would be the primary need.

4. To better tie in with the development in the West Kowloon district, TD completed the "West Kowloon Reclamation Development Traffic Study" ("the Study") in 2009. The purpose of the Study was to improve the road and pedestrian connection in the West Kowloon district, and to tackle the traffic congestion problem in some of the junctions, with a view to meeting the increasing traffic demand arising from the entire West Kowloon New Development Area.

5. The design philosophy of the Study is to segregate inter-district and local traffic by a three-layered road network (one at-grade layer, and two underground layers). Such design will connect the local network directly to major roads in the region (e.g. West Kowloon Highway, West Kowloon Corridor, West Harbour Crossing, and the future Central Kowloon Route), ensuring smooth inter-district and local traffic flow.

6. According to the "Forecast of submissions for the 2013-14 Legislative Council session" [LC Paper No. PWSCI(2013-14)11] in November 2013, the Administration will propose to carry out road improvement works in the West Kowloon Reclamation area to cater for the anticipated traffic demand arising from the on-going developments in the area. The proposed scope of the project comprises the construction of (a) an elevated carriageway connecting Hoi Po Road and West Kowloon Highway northbound; (b) an elevated carriageway connecting Nga Cheung Road to Western Harbour Crossing toll plaza area; (c) an at-grade carriageway connecting West Kowloon Highway southbound and Nga Cheung Road; and (d) improvement works along Canton Road and junction improvements. The construction is tentatively scheduled to commence in the third quarter of 2014 for completion in stages from the fourth quarter of 2015 to the first quarter of 2017. The indicative cost of this proposed project is estimated to be above \$500 million.

Major views raised by Members

7. Members have expressed views and concerns on the impact of WKRD and WKT on the traffic in West Kowloon area at previous meetings of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways ("Railways Subcommittee") under the Panel on Transport; and the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project under the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development. Their major views and concerns are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

Railways Subcommittee

8. At the meetings on 16 November and 17 November 2009, members of the Railways Subcommittee expressed grave concern about the impact of the proposed WKT on the traffic of the West Kowloon area (including Jordan Road/Lin Cheung Road, Jordan Road/Ferry Street/Canton Road, Lin Cheung Road/Austin Road West, etc.) and the additional traffic demand arising from WKCD.

Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project

9. At the meeting on 22 January 2010, members of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project also showed concern about traffic improvement works in the West Kowloon district. They expressed concern on the Final Report of the Study mentioned in paragraph 4, such as the estimate of the pedestrian and traffic flow generated by the future WKCD if the seating capacities of its arts and cultural facilities were fully occupied and the breakdown of traffic improvement measures to cope with the anticipated increase in traffic flow generated by commissioning of WKCD facilities and WKT. Also, members urged the Administration to ensure the adequacy and timely completion of infrastructural works for supporting the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD.

Motion passed at the Legislative Council meeting

10. A motion was passed at the Legislative Council meeting of 17 November 2010 on "Territory-wide participation in building the West Kowloon Cultural District", urging the Administration, among other things, to enhance the external transport facilities for WKCD, and improve the accessibility of the surrounding roads, so as to foster a feeling of alignment with WKCD among the residents of Kowloon district. The Administration was also urged to ensure the accessibility of the surrounding roads of WKCD after the completion of XRL so as to enable Hong Kong people to share the cultural facilities in WKCD through the well-planned transport network.

Legislative Council question

11. A Legislative Council Member expressed concern over the impact of WKT on the traffic in West Kowloon area and raised a Council question on 25 November 2009. He urged the Administration to carry out traffic

impact assessment of WKRD so as to alleviate the traffic congestion problem in Yau Tsim Mong District.

Latest developments

12. The Administration published a notice in the Gazette in April 2013 on the proposed road improvement works in WKRD to accommodate developments within the area. From January to March 2014, the Highways Department invited tenders for the proposed project. In March 2014, the Environmental Protection Department announced that the proposed project has completed statutory environmental impact assessments¹. The Administration plans to seek support of the Panel on Transport for the funding application for taking forward the road improvement works in WKRD (Phase 1) at the meeting to be held on 11 April 2014.

Relevant papers

13. A list of relevant papers is in **Appendix**.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
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¹ <http://www.epd.gov.hk/eia/english/register/aeiara/all.html>

**Road improvement works in
West Kowloon Reclamation Development (Phase 1)**

List of relevant papers

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
16.11.09 17.11.09	Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways (under Panel on Transport)	Administration's paper on funding arrangement of the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link	CB(1)356/09-10(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp113cb1-356-1-e.pdf
		Administration's paper on funding arrangement of the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link	CB(1)361/09-10(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp113cb1-361-1-e.pdf
		Supplementary information on the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) provided by the Administration	CB(1)356/09-10(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp113cb1-356-2-e.pdf
		Administration's paper on location of the West Kowloon Terminus and supporting facilities	CB(1)389/09-10(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1022cb1-389-1-e.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Legislative Council Brief on the Hong Kong Section of XRL: Authorization of Scheme	http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1022-thb200910-e.pdf
		Legislative Council Brief on the Hong Kong Section of XRL: Funding Arrangement and Special Rehousing Package	http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1022-thb200910a-e.pdf
		Minutes	<p>CB(1)1337/09-10</p> <p>http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/minutes/rdp20091116.pdf</p> <p>CB(1)1369/09-10</p> <p>http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/minutes/rdp20091117.pdf</p>
16.01.10	Finance Committee	Minutes	<p>FC155/09-10</p> <p>http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/fc/fc/minutes/fc20100116c.pdf</p>
22.01.10	Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project (under Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development)	Administration's paper on the impact of the West Kowloon Terminus of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link on the West Kowloon Cultural District	<p>CB(2)785/09-10(01)</p> <p>http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/wkcd/papers/wkcd0122cb2-785-1-e.pdf</p>

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Minutes	CB(2)1274/09-10 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/wkcd/minutes/wkcd20100122.pdf

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