政府總部 運輸及房屋局 運輸科

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Transport and Housing Bureau Government Secretariat

Transport Branch

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12 February 2019

Ms Anita SIT Clerk to Finance Committee Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms SIT,

182TB – Elevated Pedestrian Corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station

Further to the letter from the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau on 4 October 2018 regarding the item "Elevated Pedestrian Corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station", we would like to further report on the development of the project.

The item was discussed and endorsed at the meetings of the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Finance Committee (FC) on 23 and 26 May 2018. In light of Members' concerns as expressed at the meetings and comments from the community, we have holistically reviewed the case and reaffirmed the necessity for constructing the proposed elevated pedestrian corridor to relieve the pedestrian congestion and the potential safety problem in Yuen Long Town Centre.

The Government understands that Members and the community have concerns on the project cost estimate as well as how the proposed project may integrate with the nullah improvement works, the surrounding environment and the cityscape. To this end, we will incorporate requirements in the tender documents of the project to invite tenderers to propose more cost-effective construction methods with a view to reducing the construction cost, and encouraging tenderers to submit innovative proposals to enhance the aesthetics of the proposed elevated pedestrian corridor and its integration with the surroundings.

We intend to initiate parallel tendering¹ for the project shortly so as to grasp the latest market prices for more accurate estimation of the project cost before seeking the FC's funding approval. Upon obtaining a more accurate cost estimate, we will submit the funding application of the project to the FC for consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Cr. Chan

(Miss Gillian CHAN)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Mr Mike CHENG)

(Fax: 2530 5921)

Director of Highways (Attn: Mr LAM Yat-ming)

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Parallel tendering refers to the Government proceeding with the tendering exercise before funding is secured. Nevertheless, the Government will award the works contract only after obtaining funding approval from the FC. The Government will also state in the tender documents that the project has yet to obtain funding approval and the Government will not award the contract nor indicate to the successful bidder that the Government would accept its bid before securing the necessary funding.