NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary Information on 694TH – Route 9 between Cheung Sha Wan and Sha Tin 711TH – Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan – remaining works

INTRODUCTION

In considering PWSC(2002-03)30 on **694TH** "Route 9 between Cheung Sha Wan and Sha Tin" and PWSC(2002-2003)31 on **711TH** "Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan – remaining works" at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting on 22 May 2002, the Administration undertook to provide supplementary information on the following –

- (a) details of the contract packages;
- (b) landscaping design; and
- (c) consultation with the Fire Services Department (FSD) on the design of the noise barriers.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE

Details of Contract Packages

694TH – Route 9 between Cheung Sha Wan and Sha Tin

2. The contracts under **694TH** will be packaged as follows -

/Contract

	Construction Period		Estimated
Contract Title	Commencement	_*	Contract Sum ¹ (\$million in
	Date	Date	MOD)
Advance Works	Oct 2002	Mar 2004	100
Reprovisioning of Waterworks	Oct 2002	Mar 2004	20
Sha Tin Heights Tunnel and Approaches	Oct 2002	Apr 2007	1,320
Eagle's Nest Tunnel and Associated Works	Sep 2003	Apr 2007	3,000
Lai Chi Kok Viaduct	Sep 2003	Apr 2007	1,100

711TH – Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan – remaining works

3. The contracts under **711TH** will be packaged as follows –

	Construction Period		Estimated
Contract Title	Commencement Date	Completion Date	Contract Sum ¹ (\$million in MOD)
Nam Wan Tunnel and West Tsing Yi Viaduct	Feb 2003	Apr 2007	1,450
Stonecutters Bridge	Nov 2003	Dec 2007	3,200
Look-out Point and Exhibition Centre	Jan 2005	Dec 2007	20
East Tsing Yi Viaduct	Nov 2004	Dec 2007	1,150
Traffic Control and Surveillance System	Sep 2003	Dec 2007	170

/Landscaping

Landscaping Design

¹ Estimated figures are updated as of June 2002.

4. The landscaping design for Route 9 aims to minimise potential visual impacts created by the construction works and to beautify the environment. The layout of the road scheme has been so chosen to minimise the occupation of land, especially where there is existing planting. The structural form of the viaduct and other works is designed with an aesthetically pleasing appearance which will blend into the surrounding areas. Landscape planting, including screen planting, woodland planting of new slopes in affected areas, planting along adjacent streets and in amenity areas, will be provided within the project works limit wherever suitable.

694TH – Route 9 between Cheung Sha Wan and Sha Tin

- 5. The main features of the landscape design for **694TH** are set out below
 - (a) for the viaduct, curved and rounded features will be adopted for the bridge decks. Special finishes will be applied to the concrete surfaces. Also, pattern and colouring will be designed for the noise barriers. These features will enhance the appearance of the viaduct;
 - (b) tree planting is proposed along Castle Peak Road and Butterfly Valley Road, and below the Lai Chi Kok Viaduct. The trees will provide shading for pedestrians, reduce the amount of glare from the surrounding high rise tower blocks, and tone down the visual impact of hard paving and structures; and
 - (c) to preserve existing planting, we will limit the extent of cut slopes. Also, the formed slopes, including rock slopes, will be replanted as far as practicable.
- As regards planting on the viaduct, we will endeavour to provide planting at suitable locations along the side of the viaduct where feasible. However, we consider it not feasible to provide planting at the central reserve of the viaduct. As the presence of extensive lengths of noise barriers to be erected along the central reserve has to be supported by some form of foundation, there will not be adequate room for landscaping treatment at the central reserve. The plan showing proposed landscaping works along the viaduct and other sections of the road, and a typical cross-section of the viaduct where planting could be provided, are at Enclosures 1 and 2 respectively.

/**711TH**

711TH – Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan – remaining works

- 7. The main features of the landscape design for **711TH** are set out below
 - (a) for the viaducts, climber planting will be provided at the viaduct columns to enhance the appearance of the piers;
 - (b) regarding landscape planting, trees, shrubs, ground cover and climbers,

woodland planting mixed with hydroseeding will be provided at new slopes and at the east and west portals of Nam Wan Tunnel to enhance the green appearance of the existing hillside; and

- (c) to preserve existing planting, we will carefully position the proposed structures.
- 8. We will provide planting at suitable locations of the viaducts where feasible. In this regard, we will provide planting at some sections of the viaduct leading to Container Terminal 9. The plan showing the proposed landscaping works along the viaduct and a typical cross-section of the viaduct where planting could be provided are at Enclosures 3 and 4 respectively.
- 9. We consider it inappropriate to provide planting on other sections of viaducts in this project for the following reasons -
 - (a) the viaducts are exceptionally high (30 metres to 60 metres) and have a span nearing 80 metres. They are susceptible to constant and high wind. Plant species that can survive in such a windy and exposed environment are rare. The need to provide irrigation and maintenance at such heights and adjacent to live traffic with high speed would also create problems; and
 - (b) the incorporation of planting on the viaducts would induce additional wind and dead loads on the structures and hence the need for a corresponding increase in sizes of the supporting structures and foundations.

Consultation with FSD

10. We have consulted FSD on the fire safety aspect of the above two projects, including the design of the viaducts and the position and arrangement of the noise barriers. We will install fire hydrants on the viaducts. Members can be assured that the projects, including the noise barriers, will meet the fire safety standards required by FSD.







