Information Note on Three Proposed Drainage Tunnels LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works

- 103CD Drainage Improvement in Northern Hong Kong Island Hong Kong West Drainage Tunnel
- 108CD West Kowloon Drainage Improvement Lai Chi Kok Transfer Scheme
- 111CD Drainage Improvement in Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung – Tsuen Wan Drainage Tunnel

INTRODUCTION

This paper is to inform the Members on the latest progress of investigation for the three proposed drainage tunnel schemes, viz. Hong Kong West, Lai Chi Kok Transfer Scheme and Tsuen Wan.

BACKGROUND

- 2. The drainage systems in the urban areas of Hong Kong West, Lai Chi Kok, and Tsuen Wan were built several decades ago. The rapid urbanization of these areas in past decades has changed rural unpaved areas into built-up areas, which results in a substantial increase in surface runoff. Consequently, the urban drainage systems are less capable of handling the surface runoff. Flooding frequently occurs at low-lying urban areas during heavy rainstorms.
- 3. The traditional approach to increase the capacity of the existing drainage systems in these highly urbanized areas is to enlarge or construct additional drains or box culverts. However, due to congestion of underground utilities, it is often impracticable to find sufficient room in the ground to lay the drains. The construction would also require extensive road opening in the busy roads causing serious disruption to traffic and other disturbance to the public. The drainage tunnel schemes have been therefore proposed to intercept and convey the surface runoff in mid-hill areas for discharge into the sea. The proposal can do away with the need to implement extensive pipelaying works

in the busy streets of the areas in question. This helps to reduce the disturbance to the public and environment to a minimum.

4. We obtained the endorsement of the PWSC for carrying out three Investigation Studies for the drainage tunnels by consultants at its meeting held on 6 February 2002. The part upgrading of the respective PWP items for funding the Investigation Studies was subsequently approved by FC on 8 March 2002.

PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION STUDY

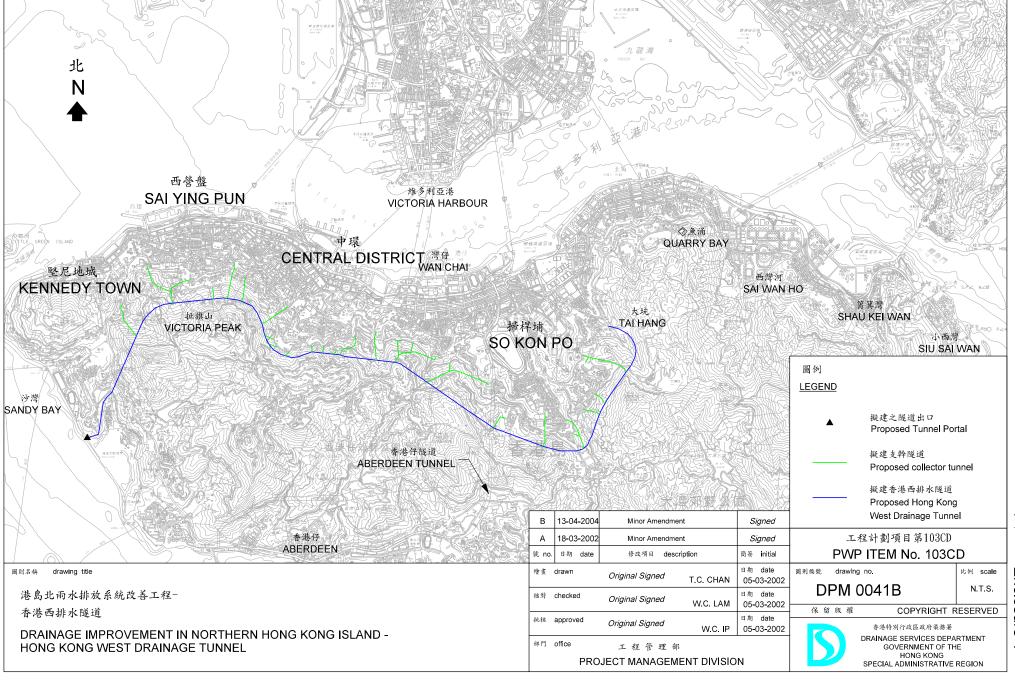
- 5. We started the Investigation Study assignments (hereinafter referred as "Studies") in November 2002. The Studies are now in the Preliminary Design Stage and the various investigations, including geotechnical, traffic, environmental, physical hydraulic modelling and benefit-cost analysis, are in active progress.
- Based on the results of the preliminary reviews, the tunnel schemes are 6. considered to be technically feasible with regard to the construction methods available, geotechnical conditions, hydraulic and maintenance requirements. The preliminary reviews also indicate that the tunnel schemes are cost-effective engineering solutions and that the interception approach is a better solution than the traditional approach of enlarging drains and box culverts along busy roads, which would cause extensive social disturbance to the public in traffic Further data collection and analysis will be and environmental aspects. undertaken in the Preliminary Design Stage to verify the technical feasibility and cost effectiveness of the schemes. The tunnel alignments have also been reviewed and designed to minimize encroachment upon private land lots as far as possible. For the Hong Kong West and Lai Chi Kok Transfer Scheme drainage tunnels, the preliminary tunnel alignments will not encroach upon any private lots whereas for the Tsuen Wan drainage tunnel, only five private lots would be inevitably affected. The preliminary alignments of the three drainage tunnels are shown in Enclosures 1, 2 and 3 for Members' reference. It is anticipated that as more information becomes available from the investigations, we shall be able to finalize the tunnel alignments by mid 2005. We will then seek Members' comments before proceeding to undertaking the detailed design for the tunnels.

LATEST PROGRAMME AND PROJECT COST

7. Subject to availability of funds, the latest programme and estimated project cost for the three drainage tunnel projects are as follows:

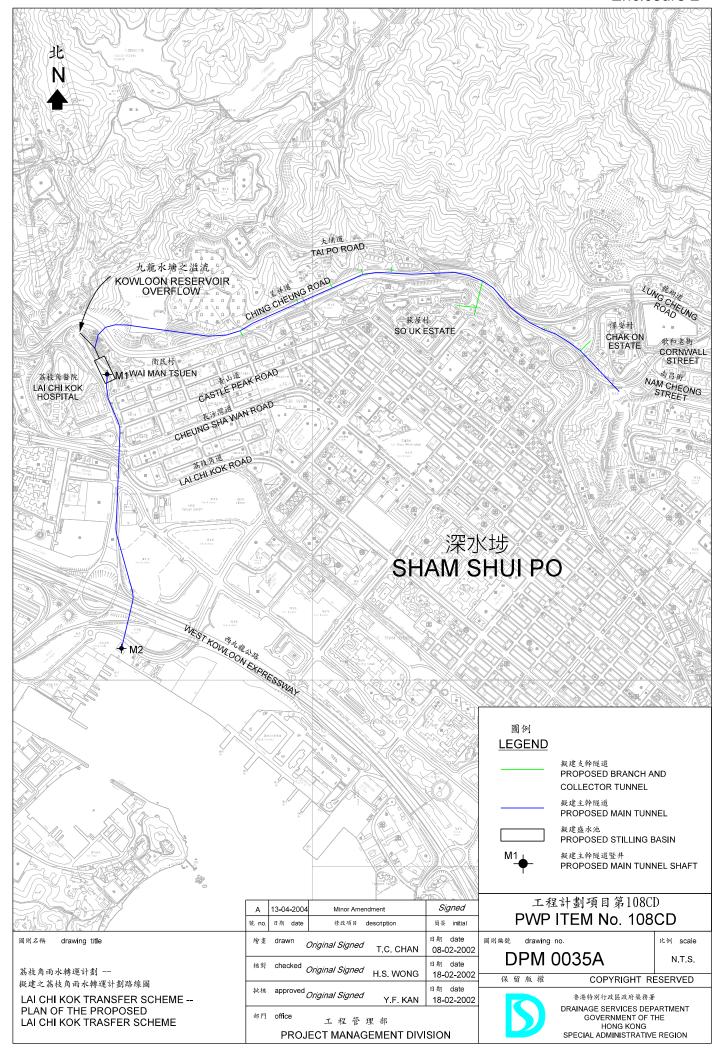
Proposed drainage	Construction	Commissioning	Estimated project
tunnel	date	date	cost
Hong Kong West	2007/08	2011	\$1800M
Lai Chi Kok Transfer	2007/08	2011	\$1050M
Scheme			
Tsuen Wan	2007/08	2011	\$1060M

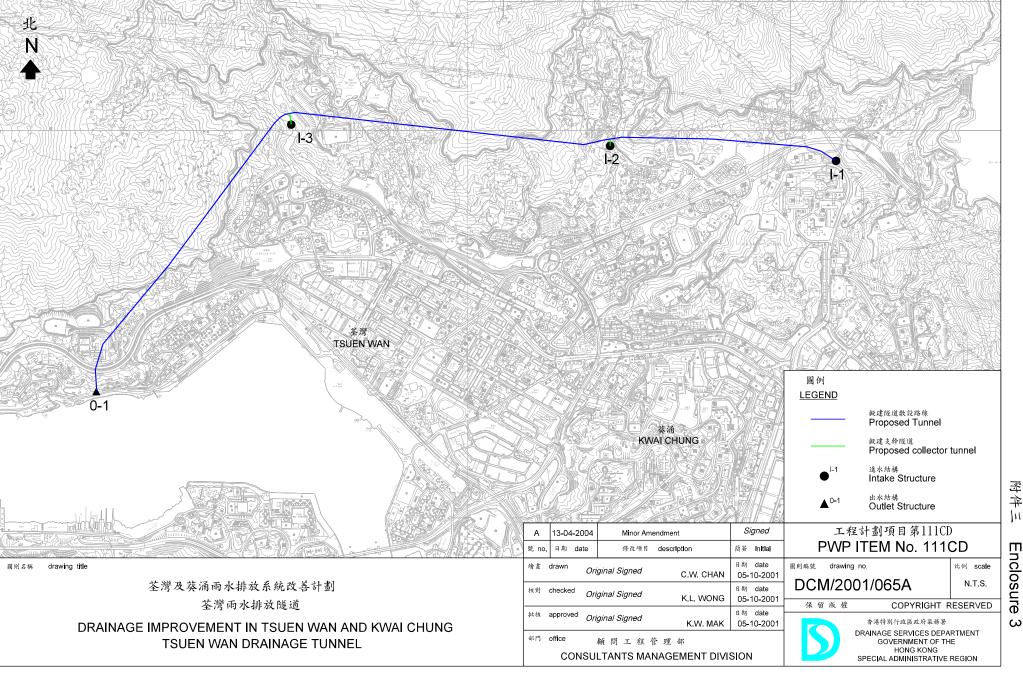
Environment, Transport and Works Bureau April 2004



附件一

Enclosure 1





附件三