

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
PANELS ON PLANNING , LANDS AND WORKS**

**CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

**Purpose**

In response to the Planning, Lands and Works Panel's request at its meeting on 9 October 2003, this note provides Members with information on major public works projects under the Capital Works Programme (CWP) that are currently in progress or scheduled to commence in the near future which will have a positive effect on employment in the construction industry.

**Spending under the CWP**

2. Government has been making sizeable investments under the CWP and will continue to do so in the years to come. The total spending under the CWP in the five years from 1998-99 to 2002-03 was \$135.2 billion or about \$27 billion on average per annum. In spite of the fiscal deficits in recent years, Government has included in the 2003 Budget an average provision of about \$29 billion per annum for expenditure on capital works projects in the coming five years. This is higher than the historical average. For the 2003-04 fiscal year, for example, the approved provision for the CWP was \$31 billion. Up to end-September 2003, we had already spent \$14.9 billion or 48% of the annual provision. Under a deflationary trend in construction prices in recent years, the increased spending should enable us to implement a lot more projects and provide employment for a larger labour force in the construction industry.

**Major Public Works Projects in Progress**

3. There are more than 1 000 capital works projects in the CWP currently under various stages of construction. About 81 of these projects

started recently during 2002-03 LegCo session. In particular, we commenced quite a number of mega projects since late 2002. These projects include the Final Phase of School Improvement Programme, Package 3 Infrastructure for the Hong Kong Disneyland, Stage 2 Reclamation at Penny's Bay, Road T3 in Shatin, Stage 1 Phase 1 Replacement and Rehabilitation of Water Mains, Route 9, Deep Bay Link and Shenzhen Western Corridor. The table at Annex 1 lists those on-going major projects under construction.

Annex 1

4. The outstanding commitment for the on-going projects under the CWP is about \$116 billion.

### **New Public Works Projects Scheduled to Commence**

5. For the 2003-04 LegCo session, we are planning to seek the Finance Committee's support for funding about 80 new projects that we target to commence in the coming year or so. The table at Annex 2 gives a list of major projects scheduled to start in the coming twelve months.

Annex 2

6. The start of new public works projects in the CWP should be able to adequately replenish those on-going projects that will be progressively completed in the years to come. With the maintenance of a robust CWP, we are aiming to maintain the target average annual spending of \$29 billion in the next five years.

### **Job Opportunities Provided by CWP**

7. In the past few years, the CWP required about 35 000 to 37 000 man-years in terms of manual labour per year. Based on our latest plans, we estimate that an average of about 41 000 labourers and another 4 200 professional/technical staff would be required to deliver all the on-going and new projects (including minor works) in the coming five years.

8. As an extra measure to quickly boost employment in the construction industry, the Chief Executive in his 2001 Policy Address pledged to create 20 000 additional jobs over a period of two years by implementing increased minor works, School Improvement Programme (Final Phase), new leisure and cultural projects, and some other new projects. From October 2001 up to end-September 2003, we created more than 19 100 new jobs under

these additional works-related initiatives. We are confident that we can create the remaining 900 jobs before the end of the current fiscal year as originally scheduled.

## **Conclusion**

9. Government will continue to maintain its robust investment under the CWP, notwithstanding the current budget deficit. With a target average annual spending of about \$29 billion in the coming five years, the CWP should provide an employment level higher than previous years and help alleviate the employment problem in the construction industry.

Environment, Transport and Works Bureau  
November 2003

## Major Projects Under Construction

No.	Project Title	Works Start Date	Scheduled Completion Date
1	Trunk Road T7 in Ma On Shan	Jan-01	Aug-04
2	West Kowloon drainage improvement, stage 2 phase 2 and stage 3 phase 1 works	Jan-01	Jun-07
3	Tai Kok Tsui Complex - phase 2	Jan-01	Mar-05
4	Sha Tin sewage treatment works - stage 3 extension	Feb-01	Oct-07
5	East Rail Extension - Essential public infrastructure works for Hung Hom to Tsim Sha Tsui Extension	Mar-01	Sep-04
6	Castle Peak Road improvement between Area 2 and Sham Tseng, Tsuen Wan	Aug-01	Oct-05
7	Science Park at Pak Shek Kok - phase 1c	Sep-01	Jul-04
8	Route 5 - section between Shek Wai Kok and Chai Wan Kok	Sep-01	Dec-05
9	Infrastructure for Penny's Bay development, package 2	Oct-01	Jul-05
10	Development near Choi Wan Road and Jordan Valley	Nov-01	Jun-06
11	Castle Peak Road improvement between Sham Tseng and Ka Loon Tsuen, Tsuen Wan	Nov-01	Jun-05
12	Route 9 between Cheung Sha Wan and Sha Tin	Dec-01	Apr-07
13	Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan - Ngong Shuen Chau Viaduct and the associated works	Apr-02	Dec-06
14	Construction works for schools in the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (batches 1 to 6)	Jun-02	Jun-06
15	Infrastructure for Penny's Bay Development, package 3 and Penny's Bay reclamation stage 2	Jul-02	Dec-08

No.	Project Title	Works Start Date	Scheduled Completion Date
16	Water supply to South East Kowloon development, stage 1 - works	Jul-02	Jun-05
17	Remaining engineering infrastructure works for Pak Shek Kok development - stage 1	Jul-02	Dec-06
18	Establishment of a Radiotherapy Centre and redevelopment of the Accident and Emergency Department at Princess Margaret Hospital	Aug-02	Jul-05
19	New Headquarters for the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in Kai Tak	Oct-02	Sep-04
20	New Territories South Regional Police Headquarters and Operational Base in Tsuen Wan	Dec-02	Jul-05
21	Immigration Service Training School and Perowne Immigration Centre at Castle Peak Road, Tuen Mun - stage 2	Dec-02	Aug-04
22	Central reclamation, phase III - engineering works	Feb-03	Oct-07
23	Redevelopment and Expansion of Pok Oi Hospital	Feb-03	Dec-06
24	East Rail Extension - Essential public infrastructure works for the Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line	Feb-03	Sep-07
25	Sha Tin New Town, stage II - construction of Road T3	Mar-03	Apr-07
26	Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan (Nam Wan Tunnel and West Tsing Yi Viaduct)	Apr-03	Apr-07
27	Deep Bay Link	Jun-03	Dec-05
28	Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 1	Jun-03	Dec-08
29	Widening of Yuen Long Highway between Lam Tei and Shap Pat Heung Interchange	Jul-03	Dec-05
30	Shenzhen Western Corridor	Aug-03	Dec-05

### Major Projects Scheduled to Start in Coming 12 Months

No.	Project Title	Scheduled Works Start Date
<b>Projects Currently in Category A</b>		
1	Construction works for schools in the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (remaining contracts in batches 1 to 6)	2003-Q4
2	Redevelopment of staff quarters for the establishment of a rehabilitation block at Tuen Mun Hospital	2003-Q4
3	Improvement to Tung Chung Road between Lung Tseng Tau and Cheung Sha	2003-Q4
4	Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 1 (remaining contracts)	2003-Q4
5	Wan Chai East and North Point sewerage, stage 2 works (North Point sewage pumping station)	2004-Q1
6	Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan (Stonecutters Bridge)	2004-Q1
7	Independent Commission Against Corruption Headquarters building, North Point	2004-Q3
<b>New Projects Scheduled for Upgrading to Category A in 2003-04 LegCo Session</b>		
8	Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge Hong Kong section and North Lantau Highway Connection - investigation and preliminary design	2003-Q4
9	Improvement to Castle Peak Road between Ka Loon Tsuen and Siu Lam	2004-Q1
10	Enhancement of public facilities at Ngong Ping, Lantau	2004-Q1
11	New school projects (23 nos.)	From 2004-Q1 onwards
12	Construction of a new infectious disease centre attached to Princess Margaret Hospital	2004-Q2

No.	Project Title	Scheduled Works Start Date
13	Construction of a new infectious disease centre attached to Tuen Mun Hospital	2004-Q2
14	Reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road - detailed design and site investigation	2004-Q2
15	Rural Drainage Rehabilitation Scheme - drainage rehabilitation works at Sha Po Tsuen Stream	2004-Q2
16	South East Kowloon development - infrastructure at north apron area of Kai Tak Airport	2004-Q2
17	Central, Western and Wan Chai West sewerage, stage 2 phase 2B works	2004-Q2
18	Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade Beautification Project	2004-Q2
19	Construction works for schools in the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (batch 7)	2004-Q2
20	In-situ reprovisioning of Sha Tin water treatment works - detailed design of phase 1	2004-Q3
21	Drainage improvement in Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi - urban drainage improvement works	2004-Q3
22	Joint-user complex at Tseng Choi Street, Tuen Mun	2004-Q3
23	Village flood protection for Yuen Long, Kam Tin and Ngau Tam Mei, North West New Territories, stage 2	2004-Q3
24	Stanley waterfront improvement project	2004-Q4
25	Kowloon Tong fire station-cum-ambulance depot with Kowloon Fire Command Headquarters	2004-Q4
26	Implementation of Harbour Lighting Plan, phase 2	2004-Q4
27	Improvement projects and/or retrofitting of air-conditioning to existing markets and cooked food centres (7 nos.)	From 2004-Q4 onwards