

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(1)837/12-13(07)

Ref. : CB1/PL/TP

**Panel on Transport**  
**Meeting on 19 April 2013**

**Background brief on**  
**widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between**  
**Island House Interchange and Fanling**

**Purpose**

This paper sets out the background to the project of widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling ("the Project") and summarizes the major views and concerns expressed by Legislative Council ("LegCo") Members and the Panel on Transport ("the Panel") in past discussions.

**Background**

2. Tolo Highway and Fanling Highway form a strategic road link serving the Northeast New Territories ("NENT") and cross-boundary traffic. In recent years, traffic during peak hours has been operating near the design capacities at some sections of the highways. Traffic queues stretching from Island House Interchange up to Tai Po North Interchange frequently occur during peak hours.

3. According to the Administration, in view of the future developments in NENT, it is anticipated that both the population and the cross-boundary traffic in the area will experience a significant growth which will in turn exacerbate the traffic condition of Tolo Highway and Fanling Highway.

4. To cope with the anticipated traffic demand from the NENT development and growth in cross-boundary traffic, the Administration plans to widen Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling from a dual three-lane carriageway to a dual four-lane carriageway.

5. The Project will be carried out in two stages. Stage 1 involves the widening of Tolo Highway between Island House Interchange and Tai Hang (the location plan is in **Appendix I**). Stage 2 involves the widening of Fanling Highway from Tai Hang to Wo Hop Shek Interchange. During both stages, works will also be carried out to widen the highway interchange sections to improve the merging and diverging arrangements to meet current standards, and construct full-width hard shoulders along the highways where practicable.

6. In February 2009, Finance Committee approved a funding of \$4,486.9 million in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of the Stage 1 works.

## **Environmental concerns**

### Felling or transplanting of trees

7. During the discussion of Stage 1 works at the Panel meeting on 19 December 2008, members noted and expressed concern that whilst about 5 000 trees would be preserved, works of the Project would involve the removal of about 11 120 trees, including about 10 930 trees to be felled and about 190 trees to be transplanted within the project site. At the Council meeting on 9 December 2009, a question regarding the environmental impact of the Project was also raised.

8. The Administration explained that the majority of the trees affected under the Project were common species and were planted within the man-made slopes along the Tolo Highway during and after its construction. Due to their existing location, if the widening works were to be taken forward, there was no other choice but to remove the trees concerned. All the trees to be felled were either of invasive weedy species, poor health or form, located on steep slopes, low post-transplantation survival rate or impractical to prepare proper root balls. Besides, the Administration planned to plant an estimated quantity of about 3 620 heavy standard trees, 44 000 seedlings, 50 500 shrubs which totalled to approximately 98 780 square metres of woodland planting area. The total number of trees to be planted would outweigh the number of trees affected by the Project. No adverse comment on the tree proposal was received from Tai Po District Council and green groups.

### Noise impact

9. As regards the Members' concern raised in the Council question in late 2009 about the impact of increase of traffic noise, the Administration

advised that upon completion of the Project, the number of one-way vehicle trips per hour during peak hours at the road sections concerned was anticipated to increase from around 4 200 then to about 4 900. Noise barriers along the roadside of the Project would be installed as recommended in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report to ensure that the traffic noise would not exceed the limits as stipulated in the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and the Technical Memorandum. As a result, the widening works would not increase the noise level along the road section concerned. Furthermore, for all residents (about 1 800 households) being affected then by the noise impact originated from the existing road section, the noise level would be reduced by a range of 1 to 13 decibels due to installation of the noise barriers.

### **Traffic implications**

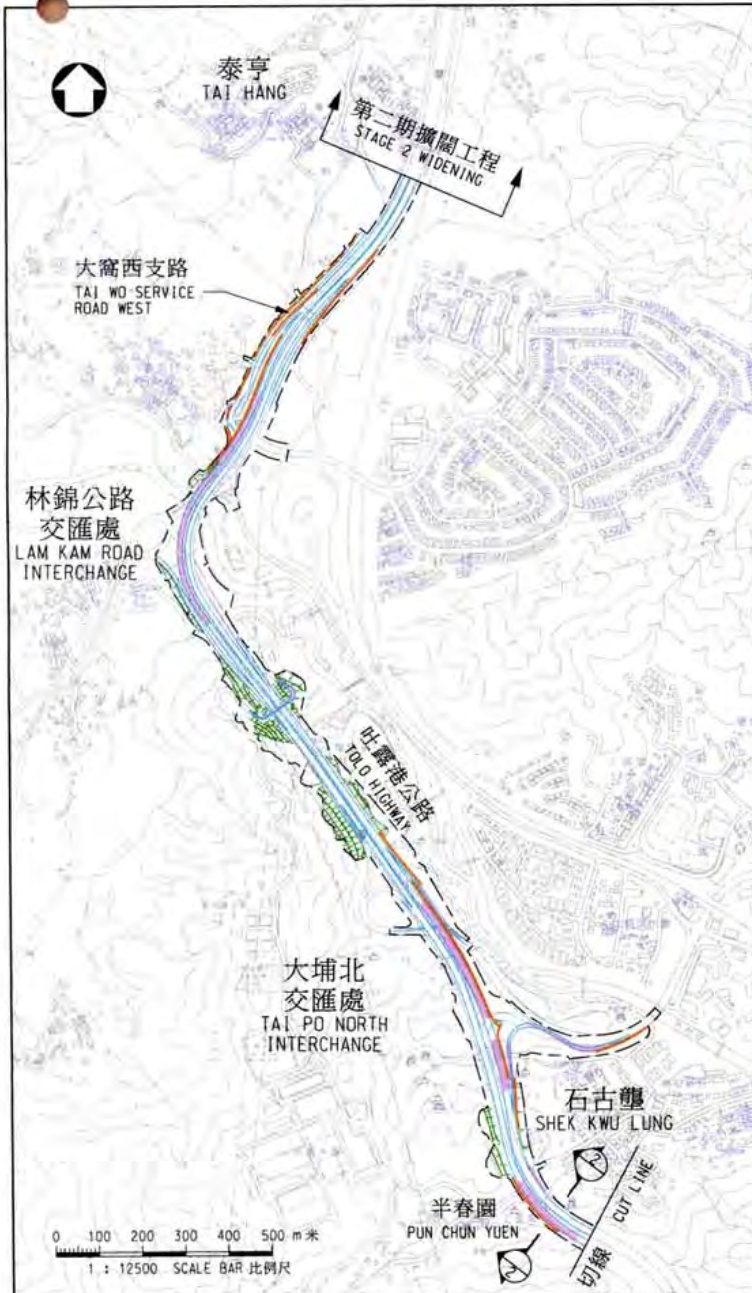
10. In response to Members' concern about the traffic management measures to be taken to alleviate congestion during the Stage 1 construction period, the Administration advised that it would implement temporary traffic arrangements, such as lane closures, traffic diverging and other arrangements, during the construction period in order to minimize the traffic impacts. The Administration would consult the relevant District Council prior to the implementation of temporary traffic arrangements. The Administration would also require the contractor to set up a traffic recovery unit with towing vehicles to stand by at peak hours to facilitate timely removal of broken-down vehicles so that normal traffic could be resumed as quickly as possible in case of major incidents.

### **Latest development**

11. The Administration plans to seek support for the funding application for Stage 2 of the Project, i.e. widening of the Fanling Highway between Tai Hang and Wo Hop Shek Interchange from dual-three lane to dual-four lane, at the Panel meeting to be held on 19 April 2013.

### **Relevant papers**

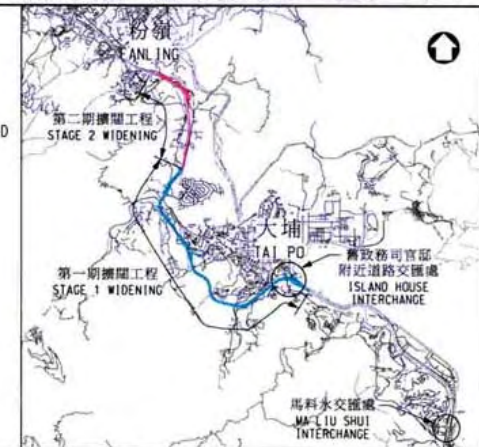
12. A list of relevant papers is in **Appendix II**.



圖例

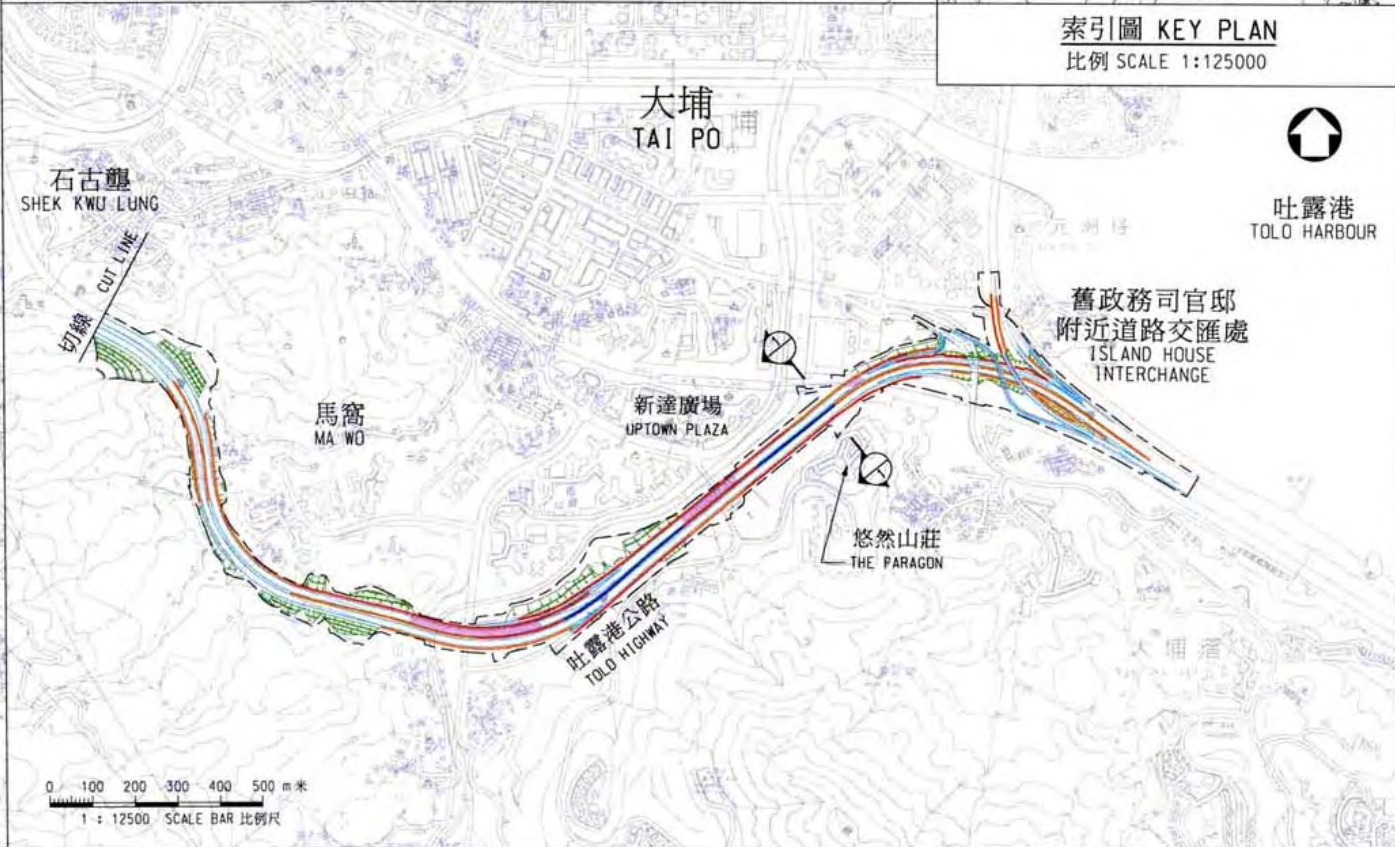
LEGEND:

- 施工區界限  
LIMIT OF WORKS AREA
- 擬建架空行車橋  
PROPOSED VEHICULAR BRIDGE
- 擬建直立式隔音屏障 (2米高至8米高)  
PROPOSED VERTICAL NOISE BARRIER (2m HIGH TO 8m HIGH)
- 擬建懸臂式隔音屏障 (5米高直身及3米或4.5米懸臂)  
PROPOSED SINGLE-LEAF CANTILEVER NOISE BARRIER (5m VERTICAL WITH 3m OR 4.5m BEND)
- 擬建雙懸臂式隔音屏障 (5米高直身及3米懸臂)  
PROPOSED DOUBLE-LEAF CANTILEVER NOISE BARRIER (5m VERTICAL WITH 3m BEND)
- 擬建行車道/擬重新定線的現有行車道  
PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY/EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY TO BE REALIGNED
- 擬建土方工程  
PROPOSED EARTHWORKS




索引圖 KEY PLAN

比例 SCALE 1:125000



圖則名稱 drawing title

工務計劃項目第720TH號(部分)  
舊政務司官邸附近道路交匯處與泰亨之間的吐露港公路擴闊工程 - 平面圖  
PWP ITEM NO. 720TH (PART)  
WIDENING OF TOLO HIGHWAY BETWEEN ISLAND HOUSE INTERCHANGE AND TAI HANG - LAYOUT PLAN

設計 designed	SIGNED	繪圖 drawn	SIGNED	圖則編號 drawing no.	比例 scale
K.F.TAM	10/12/08	S.K.TSE	10/12/08	HMW6720TH-SP0001	如圖所示 AS SHOWN
覆核 checked	SIGNED	批准 approved	SIGNED	© 版權所有 COPYRIGHT RESERVED	
Y.M.LAM	10/12/08	K.M.BOK	10/12/08	 <b>HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT</b> 路香港 <b>HONG KONG</b> 政署	
主要工程管理局 MAJOR WORKS PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE					

**Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between  
Island House Interchange and Fanling**

**List of relevant papers**

<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Minutes/Paper</b>	<b>LC Paper No.</b>
19.12.2008	Panel on Transport	Administration's paper on 720TH - Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling	CB(1)406/08-09(05)  <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/papers/tp1219cb1-406-5-e.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/papers/tp1219cb1-406-5-e.pdf</a>
		Administration's follow-up paper	CB(1)735/08-09(01)  <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/papers/tp1219cb1-735-1-e.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/papers/tp1219cb1-735-1-e.pdf</a>
		Minutes of meeting	CB(1)831/08-09  <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/minutes/tp20081219.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/panels/tp/minutes/tp20081219.pdf</a>
21.1.2009	Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC")	Administration's paper on 720TH Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling	PWSC(2008-09)63  <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p08-63e.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p08-63e.pdf</a>
		Minutes of meeting	PWSC47/08-09  <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/minutes/pwsc20090121.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/minutes/pwsc20090121.pdf</a>

13.2.2009	Finance Committee	Administration's paper on recommendations of PWSC on Public Works Programme and Capital Subvention Projects	FCR(2008-09)61 <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/fc/papers/f08-61e.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/fc/papers/f08-61e.pdf</a>
		Minutes of meeting	FC148/08-09 <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/fc/minutes/fc20090213.pdf">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/fc/minutes/fc20090213.pdf</a>
9.12.2009	Council meeting	Hon CHAN Hak-kan raised a question on Tolo Highway widening project works	<a href="http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/200912/09/P200912090199.htm">http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/200912/09/P200912090199.htm</a>

Council Business Division 1  
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