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Transport and
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5 February 2014

Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms. Sophie LAU)

Dear Ms. LAU,

Inclusion of “Tuen Mun Western Bypass” as a Discussion Item

Thank you for your letter dated 5 December 2013 to our bureau, conveying the concerns of members of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) on the project of Tuen Mun Western Bypass (“TMWB”). Our reply is as follows.

We fully understand the concerns of members of the TMDC and the public on the TMWB project. After obtaining local support to the current alignment proposal in 2010, we proceeded with the preliminary design and related assessments. However, some members of the local community worried that the northern viaduct of the TMWB and the portal of its southern tunnel section at Tsing Tin Road Interchange might affect nearby residents, and raised strong objection against the project.

In view of the above, we have decided to examine if there would be any room for changes to the current alignment proposal so as to achieve the anticipated benefits of the TMWB by formulating a road scheme which would strike a balance in terms of technical feasibility, environmental concerns, traffic performance and economic benefits. At the same time, we are reviewing the implementation schedule of the project.

Currently, we have carried out in a timely manner a number of traffic improvement works to cater for the traffic demand in Tuen Mun. These works include the Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road (section between Tsuen Wan and Sam Shing Hui) which is now underway, and the widening of Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section. Based on the preliminary traffic assessment, the existing road network in Tuen Mun will be able to cope with the local traffic demand in the next decade. We will continue to monitor and review the traffic conditions in the district.

Regarding the latest planning and developments in Tuen Mun and North West New Territories, the Highways Department and the Transport Department are conducting traffic assessment in order to review the additional traffic generated by these developments. When the aforementioned traffic assessment is completed, we will report findings to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council and relevant District Councils.

Should you have further enquiries, please contact Mr. MAN King-leung, Senior Engineer of the Highways Department at 2762 4978, or Mr. CHEUNG Mun-kit, Senior Engineer of the Transport Department at 3150 8200.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Sheena YAP)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Director of Highways

(Attn.: Mr. MAN King-leung, Senior Engineer)

Commissioner for Transport

(Attn.: Mr. CHEUNG Mun-kit, Senior Engineer)