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(Translation)

10 January 2019

By Email & Fax
(Fax No.: 2840 0716)

Council Business Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms Sophie LAU)

Dear Ms LAU,

**Panel on Transport
Meeting on 16 November 2018**

Universal Accessibility Programme

Supplementary Information

In response to the Members' request for supplementary information at the Panel on Transport meeting held on 16 November 2018, having consulted the Highways Department (HyD), our reply is set out below:

- (1) To streamline the work procedures of the Universal Accessibility (UA) Programme and expedite its public consultation process

In accordance with the established procedures of the Public Works Programme, all lift retrofitting items under the UA Programme have to go through feasibility study, investigation, detailed design and tender stages before the commencement of construction works.

The implementation programme of individual items is subject to the time required for handling diversified public opinions, the need for underground utilities diversion or interfacing with other projects etc. The HyD has taken the following measures to expedite the programme:

- (i) The HyD will award contract for a batch of items when they have gone through the relevant procedures with a view to implementing the items as soon as possible. This will avoid holding up the implementation programme of those items, which are ready for construction, due to hiccups in individual items.
 - (ii) In the light of past experience, diversion of underground utilities is often required when retrofitting lifts at walkways. In this connection, starting from the Second Phase of the UA Programme, apart from obtaining the relevant utility records from utility companies, the HyD will excavate trial pits under advance works contracts at the design stage to ascertain the actual position and condition of underground utilities as early as possible, such that the projects can be taken forward more smoothly during construction stage.
 - (iii) Unlike the past practice (i.e. each District Council (DC) selected three items for feasibility studies and then further consultation be held with the DCs on the preliminary schemes of those items that are technically feasible), we will streamline the consultation procedures for the Third Phase of the UA Programme by conducting feasibility studies on all items first and brief the DCs concerned on the findings and the preliminary schemes of the items according to the progress of study subsequently. The detailed design and construction works for those schemes confirmed to be technically feasible and supported by the respective DCs will commence afterwards. This will save the time required for the DCs to find replacement for the technically infeasible items, and hence allow the items to be taken forward in a more efficient way.
- (2) Details about the lifts under the UA Programme which were damaged by the Super Typhoon Mangkhut and the remedial actions taken

All along, most of the lifts retrofitted under the UA Programme have been able to maintain normal operation even after issuance of

a typhoon signal or rainstorm warning. However, the Super Typhoon Mangkhut was characterised by ferocious winds. When Mangkhut battered Hong Kong and the nearby regions, Hurricane Signal No. 10 was hoisted in force for ten hours. It brought serious storm surges to Hong Kong and caused widespread destruction.

During the typhoon, 16 lifts under the UA Programme were affected. The locations and service suspension periods of the 16 lifts were set out in **Annex I**. After the cyclone disaster, the stocks of some lift components required for repair were depleted and new orders needed to be placed. Henceforth, 3 lifts took a longer time to repair. The remaining 13 lifts resumed normal operation in late September and October last year.

The HyD is reviewing how to improve the operation arrangement of the lifts in inclement weather in order to minimise the effect of extreme weather on the lifts.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Sibyl WONG)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.:

Director of Highways (Attn: Mr Sam LAM)

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The lifts affected by the Super Typhoon Mangkhut

	Structure and lift no.	Location	Period of service suspension (from 16 September 2018 to)
1	NF156 – 2	Footbridge across Tai Po Road – Yuen Chau Tsai Section near Kwong Fuk Estate	18 September
2	NF332 – 2	Footbridge across Yu Tung Road near Tung Chung Ha Ling Pei	18 September
3	HF118 – 2	Footbridge across Connaught Road Central near Shun Tak Centre and Western Market	22 September
4	NF315 – 2	Footbridge across Lung Mun Road near Lung Mun Light Rail Station	25 September
5	NF83 – 1	Footbridge across East Rail Line Track along Fanling Highway near Pak Wo Road and Wo Hing Road	3 October
6	NS89 – 3	Subway across Tsing Yi Road near Cheung Ching Estate	4 October
7	NF316 – 2	Footbridge across roundabout at Che Kung Miu Road and Mei Tin Road	4 October
8	NF191 – 2	Footbridge across Ting Kok Road connecting Tai Yuen Estate and Fu Heng Estate	11 October
9	HF137 – 1	Footbridge across Connaught Road Central near Pottinger Street	13 October
10	HF163 – 3	Footbridge across Siu Sai Wan Road near Harmony Road	15 October
11	NF185 – 1	Footbridge across Tusen Wan Road and Kwai Hei Street near Kwai Fuk Road	19 October
12	NS87 – 1	Subway across On Po Road near Nam Wan Road and Sun Hing Garden	23 October
13	HF163 – 2	Footbridge across Siu Sai Wan Road near Harmony Road	25 October
14	NS77 – 1	Subway across Tai Po Tai Wo Road near Nam Wan Road	30 November
15	NS75 – 2	Subway across Nam Wan Road between Kwong Fuk Road and Plover Cove Road	4 December
16	NS75 – 1	Subway across Nam Wan Road between Kwong Fuk Road and Plover Cove Road	12 December