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24 December 2019

Clerk to the Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Angela Chu)

By Email & Fax

Dear Ms CHU,

**Panel on Transport
Meeting on 15 November 2019**

Universal Accessibility Programme

At the Panel on Transport meeting held on 15 November 2019, the Panel passed a motion raised by Hon AU Nok-hin on expediting the implementation of the Universal Accessibility Programme (UAP) and assisting owners in indicating their agreement on the lift retrofitting proposals through Owners' Corporation/Owners' Committee and delegating the right of way to the Highways Department (HyD) to implement the retrofitting and maintenance works. The Panel also requested information in respect of the number and location of barrier-free facilities that had been damaged in recent public events, whether the damaged facilities have been repaired and re-opened for public use and the cost incurred for the repair of these damaged facilities. Our reply is as follows:-

Response to the motion passed at the meeting

The Government is working in full force to expedite the implementation of items under various stages of the Universal Accessibility Programme in accordance with the established procedures under the Public Works Programme, with a view to completing the relevant works early to facilitate access by the public.

As for the Special Scheme, the HyD is liaising with the concerned departments to work out the detailed arrangements, and will discuss with relevant owners or management parties in due course regarding the details for implementing the works in accordance with the relevant legal documents (such as the Lease and the Deed of Mutual Covenant) of the housing estates, including the granting of the right of way to the HyD by the Manager of the Deed with the approval of Owners' Committees, in order to facilitate early implementation of the Scheme.

Situation of damaged barrier-free access facilities

According to the HyD, 32 lifts maintained by the HyD have been damaged from mid-June to end-November this year, among which 3 lifts are located on Hong Kong Island, 11 in Kowloon and the remaining 18 in the New Territories. The damaged parts of the lifts include lift doors, glass walls of lift shafts, electromechanical components, CCTVs, etc. 18 of these lifts have been reopened for public use after repair. As the 14 other lifts have been more severely vandalized, they are still being repaired and are currently not in operation.

9 lifts under construction have been damaged. All of these lifts are located in the New Territories. The damaged parts of these lifts include glass walls of lift shafts, lift cabins, counterweights, control boards, power boxes, etc. Moreover, some equipment used for implementing temporary traffic arrangements during construction, such as water-filled barriers, fences and hazard warning lanterns, have also been damaged and have to be reprovisioned.

HyD preliminarily estimates that the cost of repairing and reprovisioning of the abovementioned damaged items is about \$11.6 million.

Yours sincerely,



(Austin HSU)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

cc.:

Director of Highways (Attn: Mr Tony Cheung)

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