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(Translation)

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

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Ms LAU,

**Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Meeting on 20 December 2019**

850TH – New Wang Tong River Bridge

In response to Members' requests at the meeting of the Panel on Transport held on 20 December 2019 for supplementary information on the estimated cost of the New Wang Tong River Bridge project (the Project), our reply in consultation with the Highways Department is as follows:

2. The Project mainly includes the construction of two bridges of approximately 35 metres (m) in length comprising a footbridge of 2m in clear width and a cycle bridge of 3.5m in clear width (with a public utility trough of approximately 0.7m in clear width) across Wang Tong River in Mui Wo, and

demolition of the existing Wang Tong River Bridge, with a view to enhancing road safety by widening the river crossing and segregating pedestrians from cyclists. In order to maintain the traffic flow and the pedestrian link across Wang Tong River during the construction period, the contractor would need to construct the new cycle bridge first, and subsequently demolish the existing Wang Tong River Bridge and reconstruct the footbridge. Meanwhile, the Project faces a variety of constraints and challenges due to the unique site location. The major constraints and challenges of the Project include:

- (i) The site location is remote without approach vehicular roads, which would impose difficulties in delivering construction plants and materials to the site;
- (ii) Owing to the close proximity to Silver Mine Bay Beach, works area for construction, storage and assembly of materials would be limited in order to minimise disturbance to the beach users;
- (iii) Phased construction would be required to maintain the traffic across Wang Tong River during construction and therefore would lead to a longer construction period;
- (iv) The site is situated at the estuary portion of Wang Tong River that the construction works would be susceptible to wet season; in particular, the foundation of the new bridge would be constructed during dry season as far as possible to minimise the drainage impact on Wang Tong River;
- (v) The site is subject to tides, which would impose constraints on construction and marine transportation of materials; and
- (vi) The Project is a designated project under Schedule 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499), requiring the implementation of environmental mitigation measures and an environmental monitoring and audit programme during the construction phase.

3. In the light of the above reasons, the Project would require a relatively long construction period of approximately three and a half years. We estimate the capital cost of the Project to be \$99.7 million (in MOD prices). The capital cost of the Project is estimated by a team of professional quantity surveyors and engineers based on the scope of works, the construction requirements, the constraints and challenges involved in the works, with reference to the price of works contracts of similar nature and scale in recent years, as well as the tenders received under the parallel tendering exercise for the works contract of the Project initiated in October 2019. Therefore, the estimated capital cost has adequately reflected the current market price of the construction industry. The breakdown of the estimated capital cost of the Project is set out in detail at Annex.

Yours sincerely,

[Chinese version signed]

(Charlotte CHAN)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Director of Highways
(Attn.: Mr Stephen LEE) (Fax: 3188 3418)

Commissioner for Transport
(Attn.: Mr Alan YIP) (Fax: 2381 3799)

**Breakdown of the estimated capital cost of
850TH – New Wang Tong River Bridge**

	\$ million (in MOD prices)
(i) Twin-bridge	54.6
(a) Bridge structure	27.7
(b) Foundation	26.9
(ii) Footpath, cycle track and cycle parking area	3.4
(iii) Demolition of existing footbridge	2.6
(iv) Geotechnical works (including river walls and retaining walls at the two ends of the twin-bridge)	12.9
(v) Associated drainage, public utilities, public lighting and landscaping works, etc.	9.7
(vi) Environmental mitigation measures	3.8
(vii) Consultants' fee ¹	3.7
(viii) Contingencies	9.0
Total	<hr/> 99.7 <hr/>

¹Including consultants' fee for (i) implementation of environmental monitoring and audit (EM&A) programme and (ii) employment of independent environmental checker.