For discussion on 17 January 2020

Legislative Council Panel on Transport

875TH – Noise Enclosures at Gascoigne Road Flyover

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the funding application for upgrading **875TH** "Noise Enclosures at Gascoigne Road Flyover" (the Project) to Category A.

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

- 2. The proposed scope of works under the Project includes
 - (a) construction of an approximately 100 metres (m) length of full noise enclosure covering a section of Gascoigne Road Flyover (GRF) fronting Blocks 1 and 5 of Prosperous Garden (PG);
 - (b) construction of an approximately 40m length of full noise enclosure covering a section of GRF fronting Yaumati Catholic Primary School (YMTCPS) with 30m length of vertical openings on the side farther away from YMTCPS; and
 - (c) ancillary works including electrical and mechanical works, roadworks, utilities diversion, lighting, landscape slope and geotechnical works.

^{3.} A general layout plan, section plan and artist's impression of the Project are at **Enclosures 1** to **3** respectively. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee (FC) in the current legislative session, we plan to commence the proposed works in the first quarter of 2021 for completion in 2025 so as to tie in with the completion and commissioning of **461TH** – "Central Kowloon Route – Main Works" (the CKR project) which is under construction.

JUSTIFICATIONS

4. We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Transport on the funding application for the CKR project on 17 March 2017. While Members generally supported the implementation of the CKR, they demanded that the requests from the residents of Prosperous Garden (PG) regarding the construction of full noise enclosure along GRF fronting PG be addressed, viz (i) replacing the approximately 100m length noise enclosure of a section of GRF fronting Blocks 1 and 5 of PG which originally covers only the eastbound traffic lane with a full enclosure; and (ii) extending the full enclosure fronting Block 3 of PG northward to beyond YMTCPS.

5. Since the two additional noise enclosures are beyond the mitigation measures required under the Environmental Permit (EP) for the CKR project, their implementation would require gazettal and authorisation to the amended road scheme of the CKR project to be obtained again under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370). On 7 June 2017, the Secretary for Transport and Housing provided a written response to the Panel on Transport regarding the above requests and put forward a compromise scheme to implement the two proposed noise enclosures under a separate Public Works Programme item as soon as possible (see LC Paper No. CB(4)1191/16-17(01) for details).

6. After the FC approved the funding application for the CKR project on 20 October 2017, the Highways Department (HyD) had promptly taken follow-up action and engaged consultants to conduct relevant The design of the noise enclosures had then been investigation study. further developed on the basis of the compromise scheme, and the proposed works for the Project as set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 above were formulated. The Project will comprise the construction of an approximately 100m length of full noise enclosure covering a section of GRF fronting Blocks 1 and 5 of PG, with span length ranging from 35m to 50m and height of 20m approximately; and also the construction of an approximately 40m length of full noise enclosure covering a section of GRF fronting YMTCPS with 30m length of vertical openings on the side farther away from YMTCPS. For the latter enclosure, the span length and overall height are about 65m and 15m respectively. For Members' reference, the area shaded in green colour at Enclosure 3 and Enclosure 4 illustrates the locations and works area of the two additional noise enclosures in connection with the CKR project currently under construction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. We estimate the capital cost of the Project to be \$482.4 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

8. The HyD conducted a series of public consultations with the local community in August and September 2018 and obtained their general support on the Project. The HyD also consulted the Yau Tsim Mong District Council on the Project on 27 September 2018. Members expressed support for the early implementation of the proposed works.

9. We gazetted the scheme and plan of the Project under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) on 15 and 22 March 2019. During the statutory period, no objection was received and the Project was hence authorised. The relevant authorisation notice was gazetted on 31 May and 7 June 2019.

10. The HyD has consulted the Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures (ACABAS)¹ on the proposed aesthetic design on 19 November 2019. ACABAS accepted the proposed aesthetic design.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

11. The Project is not a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). The HyD has completed a preliminary environmental review (PER) for the Project which concluded the proposed works would not cause any long-term adverse environmental impacts. The Director of Environmental Protection agreed to the above conclusion and the proposed works will mitigate the traffic noise impact and will not cause other adverse impacts to the environment, including air quality.

¹ ACABAS, comprising representatives of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Hong Kong Institute of Planners, the Architectural Services Department, the HyD, the Housing Department, the Civil Engineering and Development Department, and a representative from an architectural or relevant faculty from a local academic institution, is responsible for vetting the design of bridges and other structures associated with the public highway system, including noise barriers and enclosures, from the aesthetic and visual impact points of view.

12. To minimise impacts during construction, the HyD will implement mitigation measures, including control of the nuisances caused by construction noise, dust and site run-off in compliance with the established standards and guidelines in the relevant contract. We will also carry out regular site inspections to ensure that these mitigation measures and good site practices will be properly implemented on site.

13. During the planning and design stages, the HyD has considered all the proposed works and construction sequences to reduce the generation of construction waste as far as possible. In addition, the HyD will require the contractor to reuse inert construction waste (e.g. excavated materials within site area for backfilling) on site or in other suitable construction sites as far as possible, in order to minimise the disposal of inert construction waste at public fill reception facilities². The HyD will require the contractor to maximise the use of recycled / recyclable inert construction waste, and the use of non-timber formwork to further reduce the generation of construction waste.

14. During the construction stage, the HyD will require the contractor to submit for the Government's approval a plan setting out the waste management measures, which will include appropriate mitigation measures to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle inert construction waste. The HyD will ensure that the day-to-day operations on site comply with the approved plan and will require the contractor to separate the inert portion from the non-inert portion of construction waste on site for disposal at appropriate facilities. The HyD will control the disposal of inert construction waste and non-inert construction waste at public fill reception facilities and landfills respectively through a trip-ticket system.

15. The HyD estimates that the Project will generate a total about 5 950 tonnes of construction waste. Of these, we will reuse about 1 200 tonnes (20.2%) of inert construction waste on site and deliver 4 735 tonnes (79.5%) of inert construction waste to public fill reception facilities for subsequent reuse. The HyD will dispose the remaining 15 tonnes (0.3%) of non-inert construction waste at landfills. The total cost for accommodating construction waste at public fill reception facilities and landfill sites is estimated to be about \$340 000 for the Project (based on a unit charge rate of \$71 per tonne for disposal at public fill reception facilities

² Public fill reception facilities are specified in Schedule 4 of the Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation (Cap. 354N). Disposal of inert construction waste at public fill reception facilities requires a licence issued by the Director of Civil Engineering and Development.

and \$200 per tonne at landfills as stipulated in the Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation (Cap 354N)).

HERITAGE IMPLICATIONS

16. The Project will not affect any heritage sites, i.e. all declared monuments, proposed monuments, graded historic sites and buildings, sites of archaeological interest and Government historic sites identified by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

LAND ACQUISITION

17. The Project does not require acquisition or clearance of private land.

IMPLICATIONS FOR TREES

18. The Project does not require tree removal.

TRAFFIC IMPLICATIONS

19. The Project will not cause significant traffic impact during To facilitate the related construction works, the HyD will construction. implement temporary traffic arrangements (TTA) and discuss and vet the TTA via the traffic management liaison group established under the CKR This group comprises representatives from the contractor, the project. Hong Kong Police Force, the Transport Department, public transport operators and other concerned government departments. The HyD will specify the requirements for implementing the TTA in the works contracts to minimise the traffic impacts during construction. The HyD will also display publicity boards on site, providing details of the TTA and the anticipated completion dates of individual sections of works. In addition, the HyD has also established a CKR project telephone hotline for public enquiries or complaints.

BACKGROUND

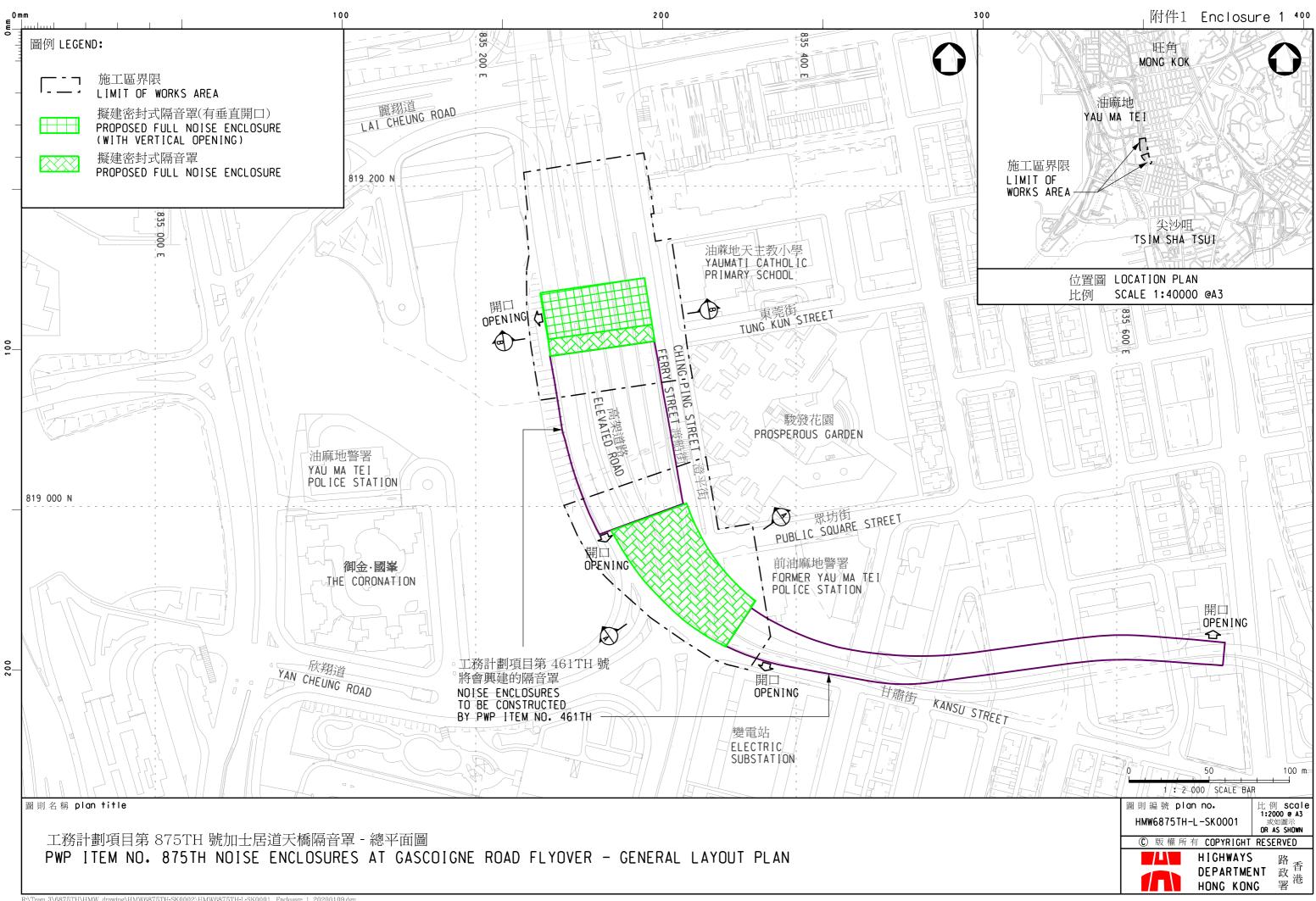
20. We upgraded the Project to Category B in September 2017. We engaged consultants to carry out site investigation, surveys, impact assessments and preliminary design in February 2018. The total cost of the above consultancy service and investigation works was about \$2.8 million and was funded by block allocation **Subhead 6100TX** "Highway works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme". The consultancy service and investigation works have been completed.

21. Subsequently, the HyD engaged consultants in October 2019 to undertake detailed design for the Project. The consultancy fee on the detailed design was about \$2.35 million and was funded by block allocation **Subhead 6100TX** "Highway works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme". The detailed design of the Project has been substantially completed.

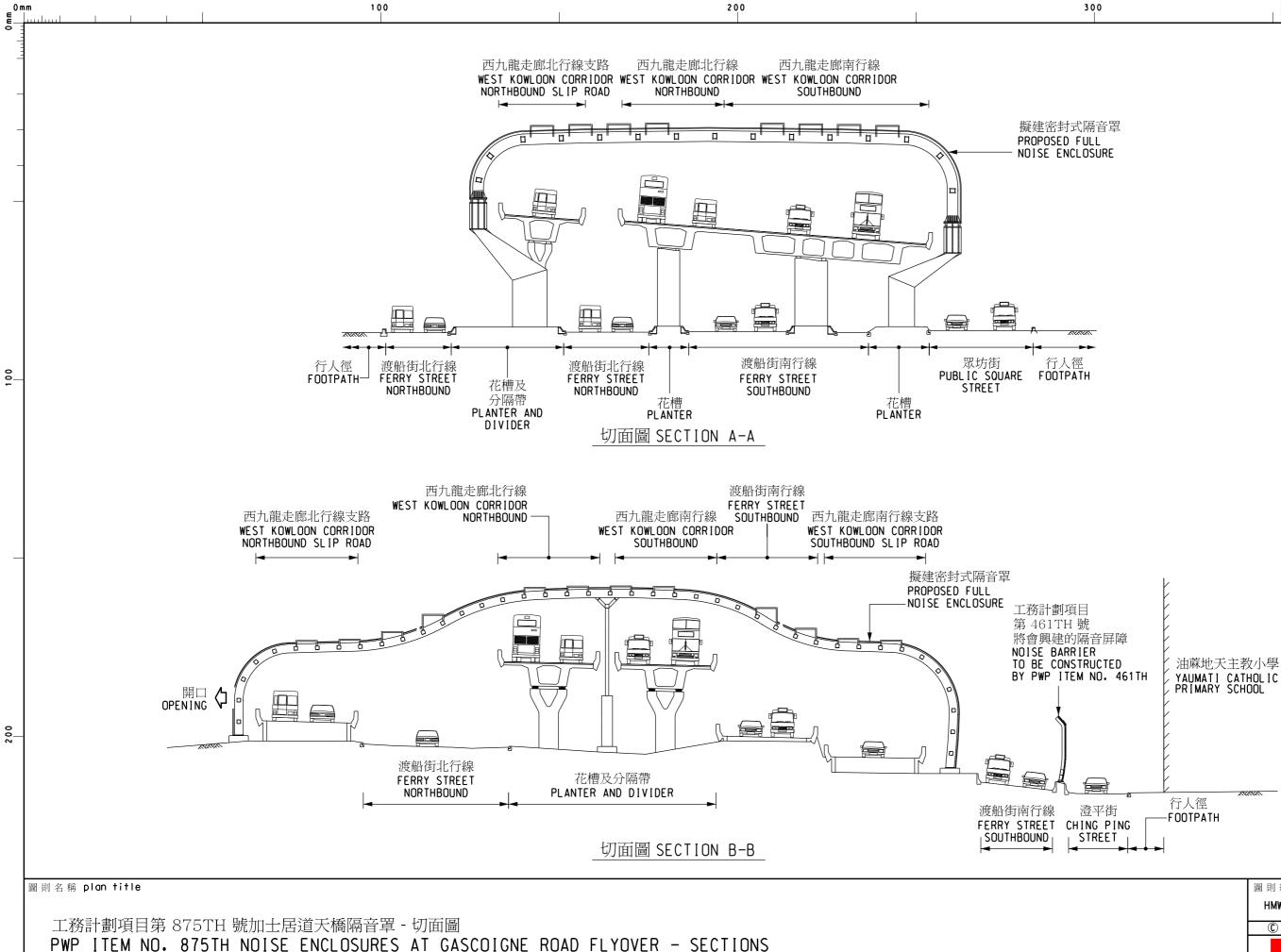
WAY FORWARD

22. After consulting the Panel on Transport, we plan to submit the proposal for upgrading the project of **875TH** as mentioned in paragraph 2 above to Category A to the Public Works Subcommittee to seek its support, and to seek funding approval from the FC in the current legislative session.

Transport and Housing Bureau Highways Department January 2020



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