政府總部運輸及房屋局

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Transport and Housing Bureau

Government Secretariat
Transport Branch

East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref. THB(T) CR 20/5591/92 來函檔號 Your Ref.

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

Dear Ms. LAU,

29 April 2021

Legislative Council Panel on Transport Follow-up actions in relation to the meeting on 19 March 2021

At the meeting of the Panel on Transport held on 19 March 2021, Members requested the Government to submit supplementary information on agenda item "Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau) - Investigation". Having consulted the Highways Department and the Transport Department, we set out at **Annex** the relevant supplementary information.

Yours sincerely,

(Kenny C.M. OR)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Director of Highways

Commissioner for Transport

(Attn.: Mr. W.H. LUK)

(Attn.: Mr. S.H. LEUNG)

Legislative Council Panel on Transport Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau) - Investigation Follow-up actions in relation to the meeting on 19 March 2021

Measures to relieve traffic conditions in Tuen Mun

To improve the traffic conditions in Tuen Mun, the Government completed the widening of the Town Centre Section of Tuen Mun Road between Yan Oi Town Square and Wong Chu Road, and the reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road, etc. In addition, the Government has planned to commence several traffic improvement works in Tuen Mun, including improvement works at Lung Fu Road, Wong Chu Road and Hoi Wing Road, with a view to improving the traffic conditions in Tuen Mun. The investigation study and the preliminary design for these traffic improvement works will commence this year.

- 2. As regards the external connectivity of Tuen Mun, apart from the full commissioning of the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link on 27 December 2020, the Government is widening a section of Castle Peak Road connecting Kwun Tsing Road to Hoi Wing Road (i.e. the Widening of Castle Peak Road (Castle Peak Bay) project). Coupled with the other widened sections of Castle Peak Road, the entire Castle Peak Road from Tuen Mun to Tsuen Wan will be upgraded to dual two-lane carriageway, which can meet the traffic demand arising from the developments along the road and strengthen the external connectivity of the Northwest New Territories (NWNT). The Widening of Castle Peak Road (Castle Peak Bay) project is expected to complete as early as 2024.
- 3. Apart from Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau), the Government is actively implementing Tsing Yi-Lantau Link, the widening of Yuen Long Highway (section between Lam Tei and Tong Yan San Tsuen) and Tuen Mun Bypass to further strengthen the external connectivity of NWNT and to improve the traffic conditions of the major roads connecting the urban areas with the NWNT (including Tuen Mun Road, Tai Lam Tunnel and Ting Kau Bridge). The Government targets to complete the above major road projects not later than 2036.
- 4. The Transport Department will closely monitor road usage, and arrange appropriate traffic management measures to make the best use of the various transport infrastructure, and achieve the desirable traffic conditions and road usage.

Further information on the time required for investigation study

5. The Government shall comply with the relevant statutory requirements during the implementation of transport infrastructure projects. According to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance and Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance, the Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau) ("Route 11") project has to undergo EIA and gazette procedures. collect stakeholders' views as soon as possible for enhancing the engineering scheme, and to prevent abortive detailed design work, the statutory procedures are in general conducted in the investigation study. In response to Member's comments, the information about the investigation studies and the relevant statutory procedures for Route 3 and some large scale infrastructure projects is listed below for reference. Nevertheless, each large scale infrastructure project is unique in terms of say mode of implementation, scope and scale, complexity, prevailing statutory requirements and public views. It is thus inappropriate to make a direct comparison.

Project	Commencement Date of the investigation study (duration, including EIA and gazette)	Date of issue of Environmental Permit	Gazette Date (duration before authorization)
Route 3 Country	Stage 1	Not applicable	Stage 1
Park Section (Tai	Feb 1992	(EIA Ordinance	Mar 1994 ¹
Lam Tunnel and	(6 months)	took effect from	(7 months)
Yuen Long	Stage 2	Apr 1998)	Stage 2
Approach Road)	Feb 1993		Oct 1994 ¹
	(9 months)		(11 months)
Reconstruction	Apr 2002	Non-designated	May 2007 ¹
and Improvement	(37 months)	project	(9 months)
of Tuen Mun Road			
Hong Kong Link	Mar 2004	Nov 2009	Aug 2009
Road of Hong	(85 months)		(27 months)
Kong-Zhuhai-			
Macao Bridge			

Project	Commencement Date of the investigation study (duration, including EIA and gazette)	Date of issue of Environmental Permit	Gazette Date (duration before authorization)
Tuen Mun-Chek	May 2008	Nov 2009	Aug 2009
Lap Kok Link	(45 months)		(27 months)
Cross Bay Link,	Mar 2009	Aug 2013	May 2013
Tseung Kwan O	(64 months)		(18 months)

The relevant procedures were not completed in the investigation stage.

- 6. Based on past experience in the implementation of major transport infrastructure, when setting a period of 54 months for the investigation study for Route 11, the Highways Department allowed for some 24 months for handling public views collected during the statutory process. If the statutory process completes early, the Highways Department can commence detailed design and construction as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the Highways Department will invite tenderers for Route 11 to propose a shorter study programme and acceleration measures to shorten the time required for the investigation study.
- 7. The Highways Department and the consultants will consider factors such as overall traffic benefits, time and resources for implementation in the investigation study to determine the priority of commissioning, modes of implementation and contractual arrangement for the different sections of Route 11, to ensure early and staged completion and commissioning.

Transport and Housing Bureau April 2021