# ITEM FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEAD 704 - DRAINAGE Civil Engineering - Drainage and erosion protection 61CD - Extension of the new drainage outfall from Canton Road

Members are invited to recommend to Finance Committee the upgrading of **61CD** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$38.2 million in money-of-the-day prices.

# **PROBLEM**

We need to extend the existing drainage outfall to tie in with the phase IV extension of West Kowloon Reclamation (WKR) in order to discharge rainwater collected from the Yau Ma Tei area to the harbour.

#### **PROPOSAL**

2. The Director of Drainage Services, with the support of the Secretary for Works, proposes to upgrade **61CD** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$38.2 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices for the extension of the drainage culvert from the existing seafront near Jordan Road Ferry Pier to the new seafront to be formed under the phase IV extension of WKR.

# PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

3. The scope of the project comprises the construction of approximately 380 metres of single-cell box culvert of size 4.5 metres by 3.0 etres. A site plan showing the location of the proposed works is at Enclosure 1.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

4. At present, rainwater collected from the Yau Ma Tei area is discharged to the harbour through the drainage outlet at the seafront near Jordan Road Ferry Pier. To tie in with the staged construction programme of the WKR, we need to extend the drainage culvert to the new seafront to be formed under the phase IV extension of WKR which will commence in January 1999 for completion in December 2001. If we do not extend the drainage culvert, there will be no outlet for discharge of rainwater when the phase IV extension of WKR is completed.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. We estimate the capital cost of the project to be \$38.2 million in MOD prices (see paragraph 6 below), made up as follows -

		\$ million	
(a) Drainage culvert		26.6	
(b) Contingencies		2.6	
	Sub-total	29.2	(at December 1997 prices)
(c) Inflation allowance		9.0	
	Total	38.2	(in MOD prices)

- 8. We will include the project in a reclamation contract for the phase IV extension of WKR under **7332CL** "Westest Kowloon Reclamation main works (remainder)" so that we can integrate the proposed drainage works into the reclamation works for implementation under one contract. The contract will be let on a remeasurement basis because we are uncertain about the quantities of earthworks involved in the reclamation. The contract will allow for adjustments to the tender price due to inflation as the contract period will exceed 21 months.
- 9. We estimate the total annual recurrent expenditure to be \$594,000.

# **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

10. We presented the project to the Yau Tsim Mong Provisional District

/Board .....

Board on 30 April 1998. Members of the Provisional District Board supported the implementation of the proposed works.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

11. The Director of Environmental Protection completed an Environmental Review in February 1994 and concluded that the project would have no long term adverse environmental impact and a full Environmental Impact Assessment was not necessary. For short term impacts during construction, we will control noise, dust and site run-off nuisance to within established standards and guidelines through the implementation of mitigation measures in the works contract.

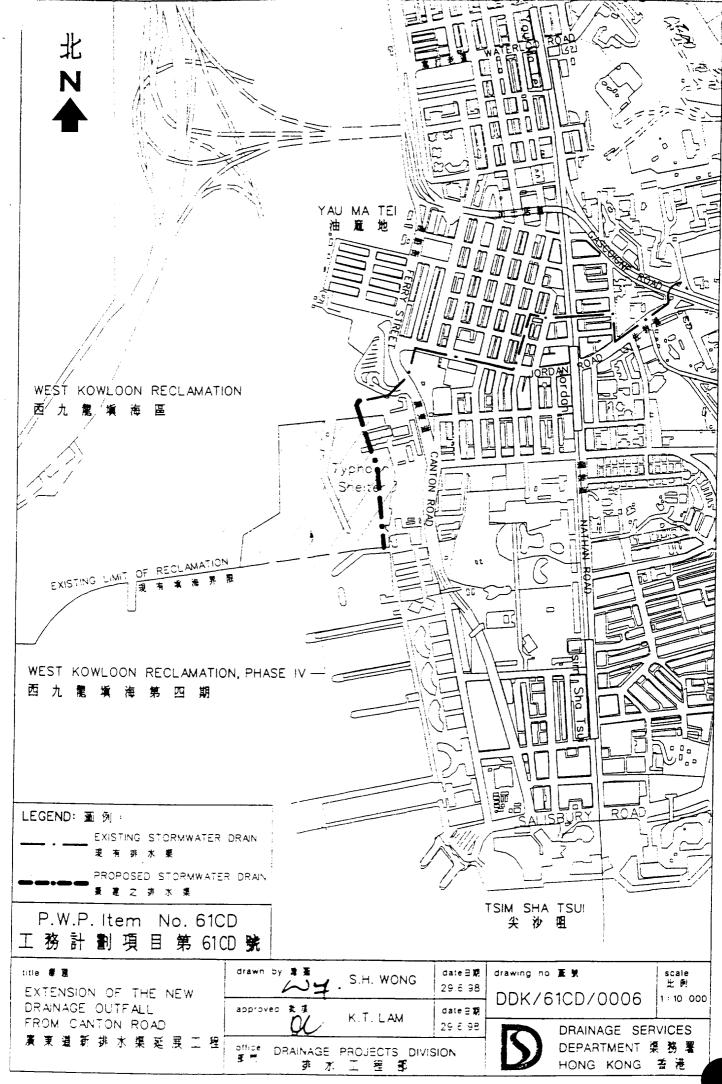
# LAND ACQUISITION

12. The project does not require any land acquisition.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 13. We included **61CD** in Category C in May 1993 and upgraded it to Category B in November 1993 for the extension of the drainage culvert in phase with the staged implementation of the WKR project.
- On 3 March 1995, Finance Committee approved the upgrading of part of **61CD** to Category A, as **69CD** "Stormwater drain from Canton Road to the southern seafront of West Kowloon Reclamation" with an approved project estimate of \$29 million in MOD prices, for the first phase extension of the drainage culvert. We started the works in April 1995 and completed them in July 1997.
- 15. We have completed the detailed design and preparation of tender documents for the proposed works using in-house staff resources. We plan to start construction in January 1999 for completion in December 2001.

Works Bureau September 1998 (PWSC0001/WIN1)



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11 TUNG HANG MEI MUI WO LANTAU ISLAND SEPT 21 1998

Ref.: PWSC 98-9915

HEAD 707/NEW TOWNS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT 18 HH VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

## <u>Item 1 - Improvement to embankment on Wang Tong stream.</u>

To: The Hon. Mr. Ho Sai-Chu, JP.

CC to Members.

From: Mrs. Jenny Quinton

Dear Mr. Ho Sai-Chu.

We understand that members will be discussing further works proposed on the Wang Tong stream, Mui Wo, Lantau, at Wednesday's meeting.

We would like to bring to your attention the fact that the Wang Tong River Training Project was a subject of Legco complaint in November 1996 and conflict over Wang Tong was brought to the media's attention on several occasions.

The works began without public consultation or an Environmental Impact Assessment. Residents complained that it did not address the causes of flooding (which had been resolved two years previously) and would actually exacerbate the problem. Residents were correct in their assumptions, as on two occasions this year flooding was worse than it had ever been.

Residents have met again recently and are ready to submit information recorded on this particular project to the ombudsman.

Before extra funding is given residents would suggest that members seriously question the effectiveness and consequences of any further works.

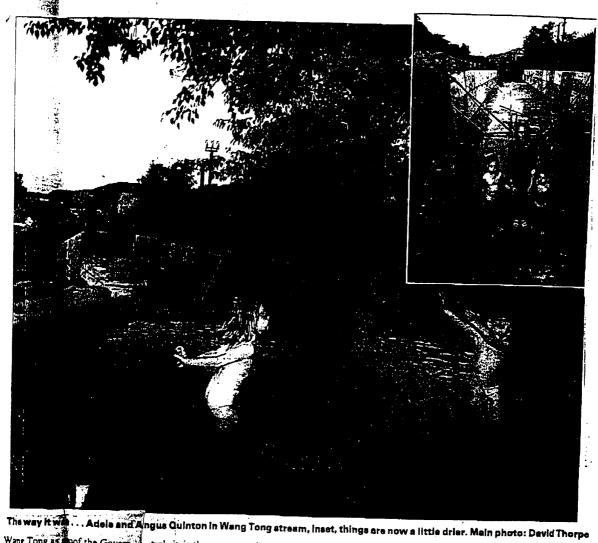
For and on behalf of

A GROUP OF CONCERNED RESIDENTS

# South China Morning Post OCI



Wednesday April 23 1997 



Wang Tong as post-the Governation proment's elaborate consultation prowhich requires a major overhaul.

For many Mui Wo residents the first they knew about the channelisation was then workers began widening the stream and poung concrete.

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Conflict of the Wang Tong emerged largely because of contrasting views between indigenous villagers and for triate residents, a sensitive issue of the Home Affain Department which told staff handling the distance to avoid the word "local the expatriate".

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Desilting is the preferred option. Ebanks have to be improved, the stream bed should remain untouched.

Back in the 1980s, Britain began using river corridor surveys to assess the wildlife value of a watercourse before improvements were made.

Such surveys which are used in tandem with river-friendly uping only one bank, saving meanders and maintaining the river bed, are mandatory for major flood defence projects in Britain.

Unlike Drainage Services Department, which says it is using the river corridor survey technique on river maintenance and dredging projects, RPIS minor works, including channelisations, are exempted from environmental impact assessments.

However, under the new Environmental Impact Ordinance, works to streams and rivers will make assessments mandatory.

The ordinance's technical memorandum, which defines ecological criteria, has yet to be finalised, but Ms Hopkinson said the Government should be following the spirit of the law.

"According to the technical memorandum they should be doing ecological assessment as a matter of course for streams," she said.

While the law may force the design of more environmentallyfriendly solutions, Ms Forbes says the secret to a greener perspective is greater understanding between engineers and ecologists, who she admits don't often see eye to eye.

"If you give these people a hard time they curl up and feel targeted. My approach is to drip-feed them and hope you can make some progress. I am trying to bridge that gap," she says.