# Sai Kung District Council Hiram's Highway Improvement Stage 2

### 1. <u>Introduction</u>

1.1 This paper is to brief the Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) on the design arrangement of the Hiram's Highway Improvement Stage 2 project ("the Project"), and to seek SKDC members' views.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Hiram's Highway is a principal road linking Sai Kung to Kowloon East and Tseung Kwan O. There is traffic congestion along some sections of the road during peak hours on weekdays and weekends. In view of the current traffic condition at Hiram's Highway, the Highways Department (HyD) is implementing improvement works to Hiram's Highway in stages, with the objectives to relief traffic congestion, improve road design, and to cope with the development of Sai Kung District.
- 2.2 Hiram's Highway Improvement Stage 1 project commenced in 2016. It covers the section of Hiram's Highway between Clear Water Bay Road and Marina Cove and is anticipated to be completed by end 2020. Hiram's Highway Improvement Stage 2 project will improve the remaining section of Hiram's Highway from Marina Cove to Sai Kung Town, Po Tung Road and Tai Mong Tsai Road to the South of Sha Ha.

#### 3. Study Progress

- 3.1 HyD has engaged consultants to conduct investigation study for the Project. The consultants proposed to widen the section of Hiram's Highway between Marina Cove and Sai Kung Town to dual 2-lane carriageway.
- 3.2 Since 2013, HyD has consulted the major stakeholders on the proposed dual 2-lane on-line improvement scheme and arranged meetings with local residents and communities for exchange of views. From time to time, HyD has also reported the study progress to the SKDC and its Working Group and collected their views.
- 3.3 The SKDC supported the dual 2-lane online improvement scheme on 8 January 2013.
- 3.4 For further collection of views from the public, HyD conducted a public engagement exercise in 2016, including exhibition, website, posters, newspaper advertisements and letters issued to relevant residents and parties about the Project and invited them to express comments. HyD also conducted a public forum on 22 October 2016 at the Sai Kung Jockey Club Town Hall, with about 240 participants joined the forum.
- 3.5 Based on the comments received, the consultants continued to enhance the design to address views and expectations from the public.

#### 4. **Project Description**

4.1 Based on the comments received, the consultants propose to widen the section of Hiram's Highway between Marina Cove and Sai Kung Town (excluding Pak Sha

Wan section) to dual 2-lane carriageway. The scope of works under the Project includes –

- (a) widening of an approximately 4.0 km long section of Hiram's Highway and Po Tung Road (between Marina Cove and Sai Kung Town) to dual 2-lane carriageway, and widening of the Pak Sha Wan section to single 4-lane carriageway;
- (b) improvement of an approximate 600 m long section of Tai Mong Tsai Road between Sai Kung Town and Wai Man Road to 7.3 m wide single 2-lane carriageway;
- (c) improvement of pedestrian crossing facilities;
- (d) provision of noise barriers; and
- (e) associated civil and road works, slope and geotechnical works, street lighting, drainage and water works, and landscaping works.
- 4.2 Please refer to **Annex 1** for the general layout plan.
- 4.3 Impact from the Project to nearby historic buildings will be minimized as far as possible. The Tin Hau Temple and the Hip Tin Temple, as well as the "Pai Lau" of "Man Yee Wan New Village and Sha Tsui New Village" in Sai Kung Town will not be affected by the Project.
- 4.4 According to the current design and project details, the Project is not a "Designated Project" under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. Although HyD is not required to carry out a statutory environmental impact assessment, HyD will conduct an environmental study for the Project to evaluate

its environmental implications. The environmental implications of the Project will be controlled to within the established guidelines and standards through implementation of appropriate mitigation measures.

- 4.5 During construction, HyD will implement suitable temporary traffic arrangements to maintain the traffic flow at Hiram's Highway.
- 4.6 The Project will require resumption of private land and clearance of government land. Eligible owners of the lots to be resumed will be offered compensation in accordance with the prevailing policy, while the affected households will be offered public housing (including Interim Housing) or ex-gratia allowances, where eligible.

#### 5. <u>Implementation Plan</u>

- 5.1 If the proposed improvement scheme obtained the SKDC's support and agreement on its implementation, we will start further consultations in end 2018 with local stakeholders on critical road sections, such as Pak Sha Wan section and Sai Kung Town section. We will also prepare to gazette the road scheme in 2019 according to the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) to collect public's views to the Project.
- 5.2 In view of the diverse views on the Project in the past, we will implement the Project prudently subject to the comments received during local consultations and gazette period. HyD will continue to implement the project according to the Public Works Programme procedures. If the relevant statutory procedures can be completed smoothly, we anticipate that the detailed design of the Project can commence in 2021.

## 6. Advice Sought

6.1 SKDC members' comments on the Project are welcomed. We would also like to seek SKDC members' support for the Project.

## **Enclosure**

Annex 1: Layout Plan

Highways Department

October 2018





