

(Translation)

Minutes of the 15th Meeting of Traffic and Transport Committee (5/22-23)

Date: 12 December 2022

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, BBS, MH (Chairman)

Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH

Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH

Government Representatives

Mr LEE Soeng-him, Sean

Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan),
Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr CHOW Ching-chi, Alfred

District Operations Officer (Tsuen Wan),
Hong Kong Police Force

Mr KWAN Lam

Assistant District Operations Officer (Tsuen
Wan), Hong Kong Police Force

Mr LAM Chi-chung

Officer-in-Charge, District Traffic Team (Tsuen
Wan), Hong Kong Police Force

Miss CHENG Wing-yin

Senior Transport Officer/Tsuen Wan,
Transport Department

Mr CHEUNG Hang-keung, Ken

Engineer/Tsuen Wan 4, Transport Department

Mr LEE Huen-yiu

District Engineer/Tsuen Wan,
Highways Department

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Mr LIM Kuen

Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Tsuen Wan District Office

Miss LEUNG Wai-ching, Clementine

Executive Officer (District Council) 1,
Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr NG Cheuk-pong, James
(Secretary)

Executive Officer (District Council) 4,
Tsuen Wan District Office

In attendance:

Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly

Chairman, Tsuen Wan District Council

Attendance by Invitation:

For discussion of item 3

Mr MA Kin-ye

Senior Engineer/District Facility,
Highways Department

Mr FUNG Kwun-tang, Myron

Engineer 2/Universal Accessibility,
Highways Department

Ms TSE Wing-yin, Charice

Public Relations Officer 4/Universal
Accessibility, Highways Department

Mr LAU Ka-chuen

Project Coordinator,
Atkins China Limited

Absent:

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Mr WONG Ka-wa

Mr LAU Cheuk-yu

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from the government departments to the 15th meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC), and introduced:

- (1) Miss CHENG Wing-yin, who attended the meeting for the first time and replaced Mr WONG Ping-cheung, William to assume the post of Senior Transport Officer/Tsuen Wan (STO/TW), Transport Department (TD).

2. The Chairman stated that according to section 28 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders, unless otherwise specified, Members who submitted a paper might have up to 1.5 minutes to introduce the paper and 1 minute to make supplementary remarks for each agenda item. Other Members might speak once for up to 1.5 minutes. A maximum of four Members could speak for each agenda item. If more than four Members spoke on an agenda item, he would shorten the speaking time of each Member. The representatives of the departments might have up to 3 minutes to give response.

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 14th Meeting held on 24.10.2022

3. The Chairman said that the Secretariat did not receive any proposed amendments before the meeting.

4. The Chairman asked whether Members endorsed the captioned minutes. Members unanimously endorsed the captioned minutes.

III Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

5. The Chairman said that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: The Special Scheme of Universal Accessibility Programme – Retrofitting of Lift Facilities at an Existing Footbridge (Walkway No. NF220) in Tsuen Wan District (T&TC Paper No. 18/22-23)

6. The Chairman stated that the Highways Department (HyD) submitted the paper. The representatives from the department attending the meeting were:

- (1) Mr MA Kin-ye, Senior Engineer/District Facility (SE/DF), HyD;
 - (2) Mr FUNG Kwun-tang, Myron, Engineer 2/Universal Accessibility (E2/UA), HyD;
 - (3) Ms TSE Wing-yin, Charice, Public Relations Officer 4/Universal Accessibility, HyD;
- and
- (4) Mr LAU Ka-chuen, Project Coordinator, Atkins China Limited.

7. SE/DF and E2/UA of the HyD introduced the paper.

8. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he supported the captioned project and hoped that it would be taken forward as soon as possible so as to facilitate the access of residents of Shek Wai Kok Estate and Lo Wai Village as well as hikers. He enquired about the schedule and estimated completion time of the works as well as the departments to be responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the facilities. He also pointed out that the walkway above Shek Kuk House was situated at an elevated level that the pedestrian flow was low and the surroundings were quiet at dusk and night. He therefore urged the HyD to pay attention and provide adequate lighting and warning facilities thereat (Mr MAN Yu-ming);
- (2) he pointed out that the construction of the three walkways under the Special Scheme of Universal Accessibility Programme (UAP) had been fought for a long time. He welcomed the consultation by the HyD on the retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. NF220 with the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC), hoping that the works

would be taken forward expeditiously. Pointing out that the walkway was in close proximity to residential premises, he urged the HyD to conduct environmental assessments for alleviating the problems of noise and dust caused by vehicles entering and departing from the construction site and to properly follow up complaints lodged by the public once received. Besides, many residents of Shek Wai Kok Estate had reflected to him that it was rather inconvenient to visit the McDonald's and other restaurants in the vicinity at present. Hence, he hoped that the HyD would promptly conduct assessments for the retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. SWK03 and confirm the commencement date of the works, as well as expeditiously complete the retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. NS18, which was currently taken place at the main entrance of Shek Wai Kok Estate (Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly); and

- (3) he enquired of the HyD about the measures adopted for mitigating the negative impacts on pedestrians during the construction period (Mr CHAN Sung-ip).

9. SE/DF of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) the HyD would expeditiously launch the works of the proposed retrofitting of lift facilities at the three walkways in Tsuen Wan district under the Special Scheme of UAP in stages, after taking into account the variations in terms of technical difficulty and common areas of the housing estates involved. The site boundary of the works for the proposed retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. NS18 was entirely within government land and the construction works had already commenced. As for the proposed retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. NF220, the site boundary of the works for the proposed lift no. 1 (near Shek Tsui House) was within the area of the housing estate concerned, whereas the site boundary of the works for the proposed lift no. 2 (near Shek Kuk House) was within government land. The technical requirements were therefore relatively stringent for the proposed works. The HyD had completed the preliminary design and held an initial discussion with the deed of mutual covenant (DMC) manager of the housing estate on issues concerning land title. It would take time for processing since legal documents such as land lease were involved. In regard to the proposed retrofitting of lift facilities at Walkway No. SWK03, the technical difficulty of implementing the proposed works would be considerable owing to the space constraint and a vast number of underground facilities at the location concerned at present. The site boundary of the works for retrofitting the two proposed lifts was within the area of the housing estate. The HyD and its engineering consultants were in discussion with the DMC manager of the housing estate on various design proposals, aiming to avoid and minimise the impact on the existing underground facilities, slopes and subways;

- (2) the electrical and mechanical equipment of the proposed lifts would be repaired and maintained by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) and the contractors engaged by the EMSD, whereas the structure of the proposed lifts would be repaired and maintained by the HyD. The engineering consultants would ensure that adequate lighting would be provided when designing the proposed lifts and the existing lighting system of the walkway would not be affected. If Members identified any proposed works in the future that would adversely affect the existing lighting of the walkway, the HyD would review the situation and take follow-up actions;
- (3) the HyD attached great importance and endeavoured to avoid and minimise the negative impacts of the works on residents and the environment, and would readily accommodate to the activity schedule of the housing estate concerned during the construction period; and
- (4) the HyD would narrow the walkway as appropriate or provide alternative routes for access during the construction period to minimise the inconvenience and impact caused by the works on pedestrians.

V Item 4: Proposal for Enhancement of the Roof Cover for the Pedestrian Walkway Connecting Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan South
(T&TC Paper No. 19/22-23)

10. The Chairman said that Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr LEE Soeng-him, Sean, Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (ADO(TW)), Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO);
- (2) Mr CHEUNG Hang-keung, Ken, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 4 (E/TW4), TD; and
- (3) Mr LEE Huen-yiu, District Engineer/Tsuen Wan (DE/TW), HyD.

Besides, the written replies of the HyD and Lands Department (LandsD) were tabled at the meeting.

11. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio introduced the paper and suggested conducting an on-site inspection.

12. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) although the roof covers of all the three sections of the pedestrian walkway were managed by the TWDO, he preferred that the works of connecting the existing roof covers to be carried out by the HyD in consideration of its ample skills and experience. He also enquired whether the works in question were eligible for funding under the UAP. Some residents looked forward to the construction of a

footbridge, however, he found that the space at the location concerned was very narrow. Besides, given that Shak Chung Shan Memorial Catholic Primary School was concerned about whether the proposed footbridge would be too close to the school, and it was necessary for the departments concerned to solicit support from the owner's committee of Riviera Gardens, the implementation of the construction works would be rather complicated. He would welcome the construction of a footbridge if the Government put forward a feasible proposal. Otherwise, the Government should consider the proposal of connecting the existing roof covers instead. As proposed in the captioned paper, the roof cover of the pedestrian walkway concerned should be extended to the pedestrian crossing at Wing Shun Street off City Point via The Pavilia Bay. He enquired whether the existing substation would become an obstruction to the works (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio); and

- (2) he enquired whether the construction of the captioned roof covers of the pedestrian walkway were funded by the TWDC and requested the Secretariat to coordinate and arrange an on-site inspection (the Chairman).

13. DE/TW of the HyD responded that the roof cover of the pedestrian walkway concerned was neither constructed nor maintained by the HyD and advised that it should be the departments responsible for the construction then and the maintenance at present to take follow-up actions.

14. ADO(TW) of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) the construction of the roof covers at Sections A and B as mentioned in the captioned paper were funded by the TWDC and implemented by the TWDO, while the roof cover at Section C was constructed by the Home Affairs Department (HAD). All the roof covers at the three sections of the pedestrian walkway were currently maintained by the Works Section of the TWDO. After internal assessment, it was technically infeasible for the Works Section of the TWDO to reconstruct the roof covers at Sections A and B according to the design of the roof cover at Section C. Therefore, the works might need to be taken up by the Works Section of the HAD for handling;
- (2) there were many difficulties in connecting the roof covers at various sections. The Works Section of the TWDO had conducted an on-site inspection at the location concerned. The emergency access of Shak Chung Shan Memorial Catholic Primary School was in between the roof covers at Sections A and B. Moreover, as there were a vast number of underground facilities between the roof covers at Sections B and C, it was technically unsuitable to construct additional roof covers for the

pedestrian walkway. Furthermore, since a substation was situated at the location off The Pavilia Bay, the construction of a roof cover for the pedestrian walkway thereat would hinder the routine operation and maintenance of the substation and prevent vehicles from approaching in case of an emergency; and

- (3) the TWDO was willing to participate in an on-site inspection with other departments at Members' request with a view to studying the suitability of carrying out the works at the road sections concerned.

15. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio hoped that the TWDO, TD, HyD and LandsD would assign officers to attend the on-site inspection. He opined that it was necessary for the Government to adopt a holistic and comprehensive approach towards policy-making, thereby rationalising the powers and responsibilities of various departments, identifying the departments responsible for the projects and giving an account of the situation to the TWDC. If any departments considered that it was not appropriate for them to implement the projects, they should provide reasonable justifications instead of sticking to old ways and avoiding cross-departmental coordination.

VI Item 5: Information Papers

- (A) Traffic Enforcement Result in TWDIST between October and November 2022 Concerned Illegal Parking Location
(T&TC Paper No. 20/22-23)

16. Members noted the contents of the information paper.

- (B) Minor Traffic Improvement Projects Completed in the Past Two Months, in Progress and Planned to Commence by the Highways Department (Tsuen Wan District) and Timetables (as at 25 November 2022)
(T&TC Paper No. 21/22-23)

17. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) concerning Provision of Traffic Signals and Alteration of Road Markings at the Junction of Hoi Hing Road and Hoi On Road under Project No. TW/19/01175-46 (Project No. TW/19/01175-46), Improvement to Roadside Railings and Traffic Signals on Sha Tsui Road near Kwan Mun Hau Street under Project No. NE/18/00568-91 (Project No. NE/18/00568-91) as well as Improvement to Road Traffic Signs and Traffic Markings at the Bus Terminus on Shek Wai Kok Road under Project No. TW/19/01550-141 (Project No. TW/19/01550-141), the temporary traffic arrangements were pending approval, and the expected commencement dates and completion dates of the works were in the first quarter of 2023. He enquired about the progress at present and whether there would be sufficient time for

disseminating information about the changes brought by the aforementioned projects to residents (Mr MAN Yu-ming); and

- (2) he pointed out that district consultations had been conducted last year to collect views on the proposed projects of providing pedestrian crossing facilities at the bus terminus on Tsuen King Circuit near Allway Gardens and of providing boarding and alighting area for Rehabus on Yeung Uk Road near Wo Tik Street. Yet, these proposals were not included in the paper. He therefore enquired about the progress of these proposals (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio).

18. DE/TW of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) concerning Project No. TW/19/01175-46 and Project No. NE/18/00568-91, the HyD had discussed the temporary traffic arrangements with the TD and Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) in October 2022. After making a few minor amendments, the HyD expected that the works would commence in the first quarter of 2023. As each project could be completed within one day, the HyD would carry out the works in the afternoon on weekdays. It was believed that there would not be much of an impact on the traffic;
- (2) as for Project No. TW/19/01550-141, the HyD had discussed the temporary traffic arrangements with the TD and HKPF. After making a few minor amendments, the HyD expected that the works would commence after the Chinese New Year in 2023 and would be completed within two months. The HyD would inform the Chairman and Members concerned of the arrangement about the on-site inspection in due course and provide explanation about the alterations to the bus stops and minibus stands;
- (3) the HyD had not yet received the TD's Works Order regarding the provision of pedestrian crossing facilities at the bus terminus on Tsuen King Circuit near Allway Gardens; and
- (4) regarding the proposed provision of boarding and alighting area for Rehabus on Yeung Uk Road near Wo Tik Street, the temporary traffic arrangements would be more complicated owing to a higher traffic flow in the vicinity. The HyD did not have the actual commencement date of the works for the moment but expected that the works would be launched in the first or second quarter of 2023.

19. E/TW4 of the TD responded that the TD would follow up on the issues raised by Members at the meeting.

VII Item 6: Any Other Business

20. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 20 February 2023 and the deadline for submission of papers was 3 February 2023.

VIII Adjournment of Meeting

21. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

5 January 2023