

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB013

(Question Serial No. 3048)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Capital Projects
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (YAU Kwok-ting)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024-25 under this Programme include continuing to take forward the “Universal Accessibility” (UA) Programme with the provision of barrier-free access facilities for existing footbridges, elevated walkways and subways. Please list the items that were not completed within the original schedule under the UA Programme as at 31 December last year:

1. reasons for the delay;
2. the latest anticipated completion dates;
3. the estimated amount that exceeds the budget; and
4. the estimated amount of supplementary provision requiring approval from the Legislative Council.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

As at 31 December 2023, a total of 157 items under the “Universal Accessibility” (UA) Programme are under construction, of which 148 items are implemented smoothly in general and proceed as scheduled. The remaining nine items are delayed due to the unsatisfactory performance of individual contractor.

As soon as it was observed that the nine items were delayed due to the unsatisfactory performance of individual contractor, the Highways Department (HyD) immediately followed the established procedures in urging the contractor to complete the remaining works as soon as possible, including issuing warning letters and “Adverse Reports”. The HyD also requested the contractor to suspend from tendering for road and drainage public works contracts. However, the overall performance of the contractor still did not improve. In order to complete the remaining works as soon as possible, the HyD took back the remaining works under the respective works contract after seeking legal advice. The HyD then included these remaining works and other items under the UA Programme under a new contract and it was tendered out on 1 March 2024, striving to commence the works in mid-2024. Moreover, the HyD will strictly follow the terms of contract to recover from the

contractor the delay damages arising from the delay of parts of the works, as well as the additional costs resulted from the above contract arrangement.

The latest anticipated completion dates of the aforesaid nine items are tabulated below:

| Item | Structure No. | Location | Anticipated completion date |
|-------------|----------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | KS43 | Across Chun Wah Road near Lok Wah South Estate | 2025 Q3 |
| 2 | KF73 | Across Tung Tau Tsuen Road near Tung Lung Road | 2025 Q3 |
| 3 | HF76 | Across Island Eastern Corridor near Shun Tai Road | 2025 Q4 |
| 4 | HF138 | Across Siu Sai Wan Road near Bus Terminus | 2025 Q4 |
| 5 | K64 | Across Hung Hom Road near Dyer Avenue | 2026 Q1 |
| 6 | SSP01 | Across Tai Hang Tung Road near Nam On House of Nam Shan Estate and Tung Fai House of Tai Hang Tung Estate | 2026 Q1 |
| 7 | SSP02 | Across Tai Hang Tung Road near Tung Lung House and Tung Yu House of Tai Hang Tung Estate | 2026 Q1 |
| 8 | KF92A | Across Lung Poon Street near Fung Tak Road | 2026 Q1 |
| 9 | HS14 | Across Shun Tai Road near Wing Tai Road Garden | 2026 Q3 |

The estimated project costs of the aforesaid items are within financial ceiling despite the project delay, approval for supplementary provision from the Legislative Council is not required.

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