

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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5 November 2019

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road, Central
Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms Doris LO)

Dear Ms Lo,

Legislative Council Public Works Subcommittee
Follow-up Actions to Meeting on 30 October 2019

At the Public Works Subcommittee meeting on 30 October 2019, Members requested for supplementary information related to the agenda item on “171CD – Revitalization of Tsui Ping River”. The Government’s responses are at the **Annex**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwin Wong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

(Edwin WONG)

for Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office

Encl.

c.c. FSTB (Attn.: Mr Denny HO Lap-ki)
DSD (Attn.: Mr Thomas WONG Hip-lik)

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE**

PWP Item No. 171CD — Revitalization of Tsui Ping River

**Follow-up Actions Arising from the Discussion
at the Meeting on 30 October 2019**

Supplementary information requested by the Public Works Subcommittee on 30 October 2019 is provided below:

1. Cost breakdown for the proposed works in respect of the construction of smart water gate, dry weather flow interceptors, cross-river walkways and landscaped decks

The estimated costs in respect of the construction of smart water gate, dry weather flow interceptors, cross-river walkways and landscaped decks under the Revitalization of Tsui Ping River project are as follows:

Works Sub-item	\$ million (in money-of-the-day prices)
Smart water gate (including associated foundation and mechanical components)	58.0
Dry weather flow interceptors (total 3 nos.)	48.0
Cross-river walkways (total 6 nos.)	208.0
Cross-river landscaped decks (total 6 nos.)	102.7

2. Details of in-stream plantation in the proposed works, including the species of aquatic plants that will be selected for planting

We plan to resurface part of the nullah bed with natural materials and plant aquatic plants in the river channel to enhance the appearance and ecological environment of the channel. The in-stream planting would mainly use native species including *Alisma plantago-aquatica*, *Acorus gramineus*, *Saururus chinensis (Lour.) Baill*, *Commelina diffusa*, *Crinum asiaticum*, *Phragmites australis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Aegiceras corniculatum*, *Kandelia obovata*, *Bruguiera gymnorhiza* and *Clerodendrum inerme*, etc.

3. Design details of the floating pontoon and its connecting gangways in the proposed works, including the area and carrying capacity of the pontoon, and any measures to ensure the safety of visitors using the pontoon

The proposed floating pontoon has an area of about 120 square metres and is designed for a maximum loading for 5 to 6 persons (about 450 kilograms) per

square metre. To ensure visitors' safety, the floating pontoon will be equipped with a safe loading indicator, keeping the maximum number of persons below the safe loading. The floating pontoon will be fitted with telescopic piles, such that the pontoon can be fixed at its pre-set position, but may rise or descend according to the changes of water level in the river. We will provide two gangways connecting the floating pontoon with the riverbanks. One end of each gangway will be fixed to the riverbank while the other end connected with the floating pontoon will be movable, allowing the gangways to move up or down together with the floating pontoon following the water level. The design concept of the connecting gangways is similar to boarding ramps at piers.

A weather forecast and warning system will be provided at Tsui Ping River. When heavy rainfall situation is predicted, the warning system will be activated to alert the public to leave the floating pontoon quickly, and the Drainage Services Department will also close the floating pontoon.

4. Details of modification works to the existing footbridge across Lei Yue Mun Road, including the reason for modification and works details

At the existing footbridge across Lei Yue Mun Road near Tsui Ping Road, a section of the pedestrian ramp lies above the King Yip Street Nullah. Its foundation is sitting horizontally across the nullah, causing a bottleneck to the channel and restricting its flood conveyance capability. Major flooding incidents occurred on Tsui Ping Road in the past were mainly due to the insufficient flood conveyance capacity of the nullah at this bottleneck. To increase the flood conveyance capability of Tsui Ping River, we propose to relocate the pedestrian ramp to a space next to the Kwun Tong Swimming Pool and remove the existing foundation. We will also facelift the footbridge to improve its appearance. In addition, the Highways Department is currently adding a lift and constructing a staircase to the footbridge. Please refer to the attached **Plan**.

5. Temporary traffic arrangement during construction and the traffic impact assessment report for the project

We have conducted a traffic impact assessment (TIA) for the proposed works, the results indicate that the project will not cause significant traffic impact to the area. We are reviewing the content of the TIA report to see whether it can be disclosed in full for public inspection. We will submit the TIA to Members upon completion of the review.

As regards temporary traffic arrangements, since the proposed works will mainly be carried out within the King Yip Street Nullah, prolonged occupation

of carriageways is not envisaged. Moreover, the proposed works require construction ingresses/egresses to be set at different locations to suit the sequence of works, in order to facilitate the transport of mechanical plants and materials to the nullah for the works. To minimize the traffic impact to the area, these transporting activities will be carried out at off-peak hours. Prior to construction, the contractor will submit temporary traffic management (TTM) measures to relevant departments including the Transport Department and the Hong Kong Police Force, etc. for approval by the Traffic Management Liaison Group. Upon approval of the plan, the contractor will execute the TTM measures accordingly.

6. Details of enforcement actions against expedient connections to King Yip Street Nullah and the relevant penalties (including the highest and lowest penalties for the cases prosecuted)

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) combats illegal dischargers in accordance with the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO). In handling each case, EPD will trace the path of the wastewater discharge and collect wastewater samples for laboratory testing, with a view to ascertaining the source of pollution and the discharge as pollution. EPD will take prosecution action against the suspected discharger if there is sufficient evidence. According to section 9 of the WPCO, any person that discharges polluted water into stormwater drains commits an offence, and is liable for a first offence to a fine of \$200,000 and imprisonment for 6 months.

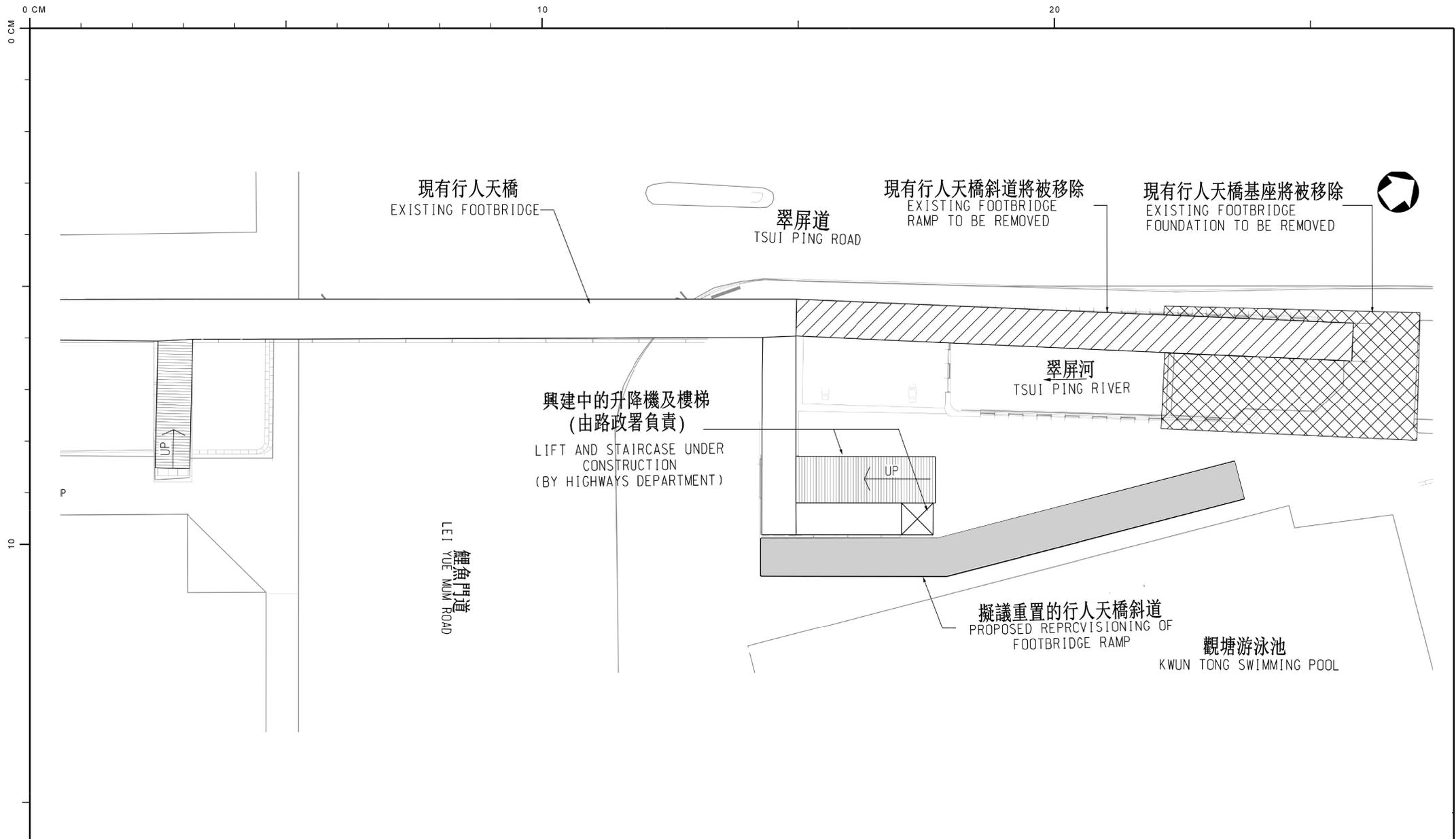
Before considering prosecution, EPD has to gather sufficient evidence to meet the stringent standard of proof. Hence, in handling expedient connections (ECs) in buildings, enforcement staff may have to enter residential premises for investigation and gathering of evidence, or to trace the flow of polluted water and gather samples for laboratory testing at discharge points concealed in buildings, public stormwater and foul manholes. Since investigations take time, enforcement staff will immediately issue warnings to responsible persons, urge the property owners or property management companies to rectify the ECs, and refer the cases to the Buildings Department (BD). BD will then follow up the cases appropriately. If the concerned irregularities constitute serious health or environmental nuisances, BD will consider giving priority to enforcement in accordance with the provisions in the Buildings Ordinance (BO) and the enforcement policy, and issue statutory orders to the owners concerned, requiring rectification of the irregularities within a prescribed period. If the owners do not comply with the repair orders issued by BD without reasonable defence, they will be liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and one year's imprisonment, and a further daily fine of \$5,000 for continuing the offences.

Between 2014 and September 2019, EPD identified 15 ECs in the King Yip Street Nullah catchment, 14 of them have been rectified and therefore not prosecuted. For the remaining case, BD has issued a statutory order to the building owners' corporation concerned, requiring them to take rectification actions.

There are many causes for ECs in buildings. Chances are that sewers might be misconnected to the stormwater drainage system during renovation, alteration works or repair of broken sewers. Problems often occur in the sewers of individual units, on external walls and in common areas of buildings. Old buildings when aging would require more frequent renovation or alteration works than new buildings, so their problems are more common, but such contraventions are usually not intended by the owners. To reduce the problem of ECs in buildings, EPD with the relevant government departments implement the following measures along the three broad directions of public education and promotion, investigation and enforcement:

- publishing promotional leaflets by advising the public and property management companies the correct way of handling sewage and stormwater generated from buildings, thus reducing the occurrence of ECs and pollution to stormwater drains;
- issuing letters to different trades, such as construction contractors, catering industry and property management companies, reminding them to pay attention to the proper handling of polluted discharges;
- proactively carrying out district pollution source survey by curbing illegal discharges at source; and
- following up all complaints related to water pollution and taking enforcement actions, and furnishing BD with the detailed information on EC cases with a view to facilitating BD in overseeing the rectification works by the responsible parties pursuant to the BO.

Through cooperation among the government departments, the above actions will effectively prevent the occurrence of ECs and reduce the problem of pollution from ECs.



圖則名稱 drawing title

工務計劃項目171CD號 - 活化翠屏河
工程平面圖

PWP ITEM NO. 171CD - REVITALIZATION OF TSUI PING RIVER
PLAN

繪畫 drawn

SIGNED C. Y. LEE

日期 date

5 NOV 2019

圖則編號 drawing no.

DDP/171CD/0005

比例 scale

NTS

核對 checked

SIGNED Ir W. S. CHOI

日期 date

5 NOV 2019

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批核 approved

SIGNED Ir H. K. CHAN

日期 date

5 NOV 2019

部門 office

排水工程處
DRAINAGE PROJECTS DIVISION



香港特別行政區政府渠務署
DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE
HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION