

**Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development
Enhancement of Footbridges in Tsim Sha Tsui East**

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' support to enhance two existing footbridges in Tsim Sha Tsui East (TSTE), to tie in with the various improvement works to make Tsim Sha Tsui (TST) district more appealing to visitors and facilitate pedestrian flow in the vicinity.

Proposal

2. The Director of Highways, with the support of the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, proposes to upgrade **153TB - Enhancement of Footbridges in Tsim Sha Tsui East** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$59.6 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices for the enhancement of the two footbridges in TSTE.

Background and Justifications

3. Tourism is a main pillar of Hong Kong's economy. We are committed to enhancing existing tourism facilities to sustain Hong Kong's appeal as an attractive tourist destination. TST is an important tourist, leisure and entertainment district in Hong Kong. Various tourism projects and improvement works have been carried out to further enhance TST's attractiveness to tourists and improve the connectivity between TSTE and other parts of TST with a view to boosting tourism activities in the area. These projects and improvement works

include the “Avenue of Stars”¹, the “Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade Beautification Project”², the “Transport Link in Tsim Sha Tsui East”³, and “Improvement Works to the Urban Council Centenary Garden and Mody Road Garden”⁴. We are also seeking public views on our proposal to develop the existing Public Transport Interchange site adjacent to the Tsim Sha Tsui Star Ferry Pier into a new open space with enriched features, subject to smooth relocation of the bus routes and implementation of effective traffic management arrangements.

4. The two existing footbridges in TSTE covered in this project were built in the early 1980s. The original design of the footbridges, with their steel roofing, conventional metal parapets, flooring and typical fluorescent lighting system, does not blend in harmoniously with the enhanced TST area. The ramp structures fitted to the footbridges also occupy much space which if replaced by lifts can facilitate pedestrian flow and allow more space for greening and public enjoyment, thereby improving the environment in the area. Two footbridge ramps on the TSTE promenade opposite to Shangri-la Hotel and Empire Centre have been replaced with lifts, and this improvement measure is well received.

5. The proposed enhancement works to the two footbridges include replacing existing features with a skylight roof, recessed downlights, combined metal and glass parapets and artificial granite floor tiles. These improvements

¹ Since its opening in April 2004, the Avenue of Stars (AoS) has become one of the must-see attractions for visitors to Hong Kong. The New World Development Co. Ltd. funded and constructed the AoS and then donated the project to the Government.

² The Finance Committee (FC) approved the upgrading of **385RO** “Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade Beautification Project” to Category A at an estimated cost of \$183.2 million in MOD prices in February 2004. The project gives a major facelift to the waterfront between the Hong Kong Cultural Centre and the Hong Kong Museum of Art, and the promenade along the Tsim Sha Tsui East. The project has been substantially completed.

³ FC approved the upgrading of **74TI** “Transport link in Tsim Sha Tsui East” to Category A at an estimated cost of \$275.7 million in MOD prices in June 2005. The scope of the project includes the construction of a new Public Transport Interchange (PTI) in TSTE with a podium garden to replace the existing PTI adjacent to the TST Star Ferry Pier and two footbridges. The project has been completed and the facilities have been opened for public use since August 2007.

⁴ The Director of Architectural Services Department completed the project “Improvement Works to the Urban Council Centenary Garden and Mody Road Garden” at an estimated cost of \$14.8 million in MOD prices in January 2006 to give the Gardens a facelift.

seek to offer a pleasant environment to pedestrians strolling along the footbridges. They also include replacing the ramps with lifts to release about 650 square metres of land for greening and public enjoyment, and for facilitating pedestrian movement. The proposed enhancement works do not require structural alterations, and is a cost-effective means to upgrade the footbridges for the benefit of users, and enhance the aesthetic quality of the locality.

Scope and Nature of Works

6. The scope of **153TB** comprises –
- (a) enhancement of the two existing footbridges (FB1 and FB2) and the staircases by -
 - (i) replacing the existing steel roofing, fluorescent light, metal parapet and flooring with skylight roof, recessed downlights, combined metal and glass parapets and artificial granite floor tiles respectively;
 - (ii) installing architectural cladding;
 - (iii) repainting the footbridges;
 - (b) demolition of the two existing footbridge ramps (Ramp A and B) and one staircase alongside Mody Road, and provision of twin lifts at each of the original ramp locations;
 - (c) demolition of the existing footbridge ramp (Ramp C) and the connecting staircase alongside Salisbury Road, and provision of a staircase and twin lift thereat; and
 - (d) associated works including footpath paving works, landscaping, drainage, electrical and mechanical (E&M) works.

_____ A layout plan and photomontages showing the proposed enhancement works are at **Enclosures 1 to 4.**

Financial Implications

7. We estimate the cost of the project to be \$59.6 million in MOD prices, made up as follows –

		\$ million
(a)	Enhancement works	27.6
	(i) replacement of steel roofing, metal parapet, flooring and fluorescent lights	11.7
	(ii) installation of architectural cladding	14.2
	(iii) repainting	1.7
(b)	Construction of lifts and staircase	21.1
	(i) civil works	14.6
	(ii) E&M works	6.5
(c)	Demolition works	1.6
(d)	Footpath paving, landscaping, drainage works	1.6
(e)	Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund (EMSTF) charges ⁵	1.0

⁵ Since the establishment on 1 August 1996 under the Trading Fund Ordinance, the EMSTF charges government departments for design and technical consultancy services for E&M installations provided by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. The services rendered for this project include carrying out the design on all E&M installations and providing technical advice to the Government on all E&M works and their impacts on the project from maintenance and general operation points of view.

(f) Contingencies	5.3	
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Sub-total:	58.2	(in September 2007 prices)
(g) Provision for price adjustment	1.4	
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Total:	59.6	(in MOD prices)
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We have derived the MOD estimates on the basis of the Government's latest forecast of trend rate of change in the prices of public sector building and construction output for the period of 2008 to 2013. The annual recurrent expenditure for the enhanced footbridges is about \$1.9 million.

Economic Implications

8. The proposed enhancement works will enhance TSTE's attractiveness to tourists and boost tourism activities in the area, indirectly bringing positive economic benefits.

9. We estimate that the proposed works will create about 78 jobs (8 for professional/technical staff and 70 for labourers) providing a total employment of 1 280 man-months.

Environmental Implications

10. The project is not a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). It belongs to one of the categories listed in Environment, Transport and Works Bureau Technical Circular (Works) No. 13/2003 that have very little potential for giving rise to adverse environmental impacts. We undertake to implement the standard pollution control measures during construction, as promulgated by the Director of Environmental Protection.

11. We have included in the project estimate the cost to implement suitable mitigation measures to control short-term environmental impacts during construction stage. These measures include frequent cleaning and watering of the site, covering of materials on trucks, use of silenced construction plant, and the provision of mobile noise barriers. We have also considered measures in the planning and detailed design stage to reduce the generation of construction waste where possible. We will require the contractor to submit for approval a plan setting out the waste management measures, which will include appropriate mitigation means to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle inert construction waste.

Public Consultation

12. We consulted the Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures⁶ on the aesthetic design of the footbridge enhancement works on 22 August 2006. The Committee accepted in principle the proposed aesthetic design.

13. We consulted the local stakeholders represented by the Tsim Sha Tsui East Property Developers Association Limited and the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council on 24 October and 16 November 2006 respectively. They supported the project.

14. We gazetted the proposed works under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) (the Ordinance) on 27 April 2007 and received no objection. The Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport), under delegated authority from the Secretary for Transport and Housing, authorised the proposed works under the Ordinance on 26 July 2007 and the notice of authorisation was gazetted on 3 August 2007.

⁶ The Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures, which comprises representatives of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, an academic institution, Architectural Services Department, Highways Department, Housing Department, Planning Department, and Civil Engineering and Development Department, is responsible for vetting the design of bridges and other structures associated with highway system from the aesthetic and visual impact points of views.

15. The Equestrian Events (Hong Kong) of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad Company Limited (the Company) has also been consulted. In anticipation that a large number of overseas visitors and media will visit Hong Kong for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in August and September 2008 and as TST is very popular among tourists, the Company suggests that the Project should commence after completion of the Games. We are prepared to accept this suggestion and adjust the works timetable accordingly.

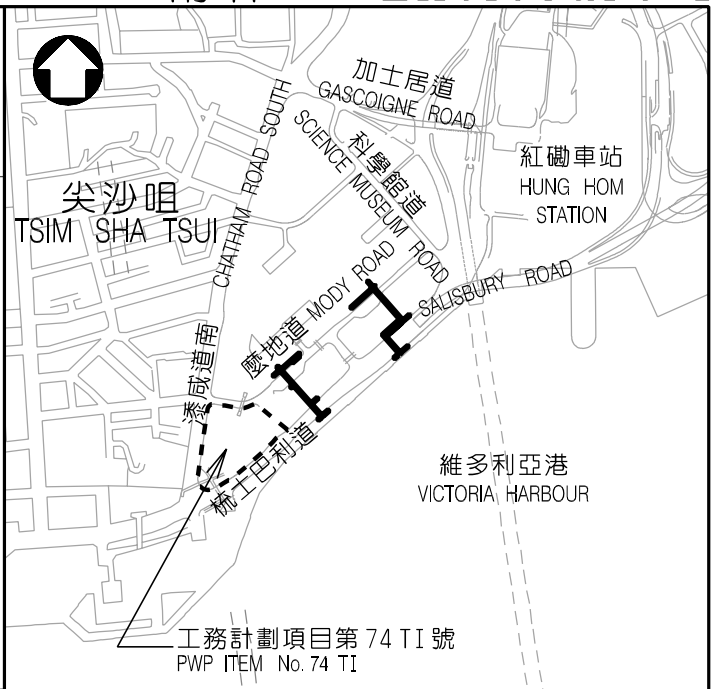
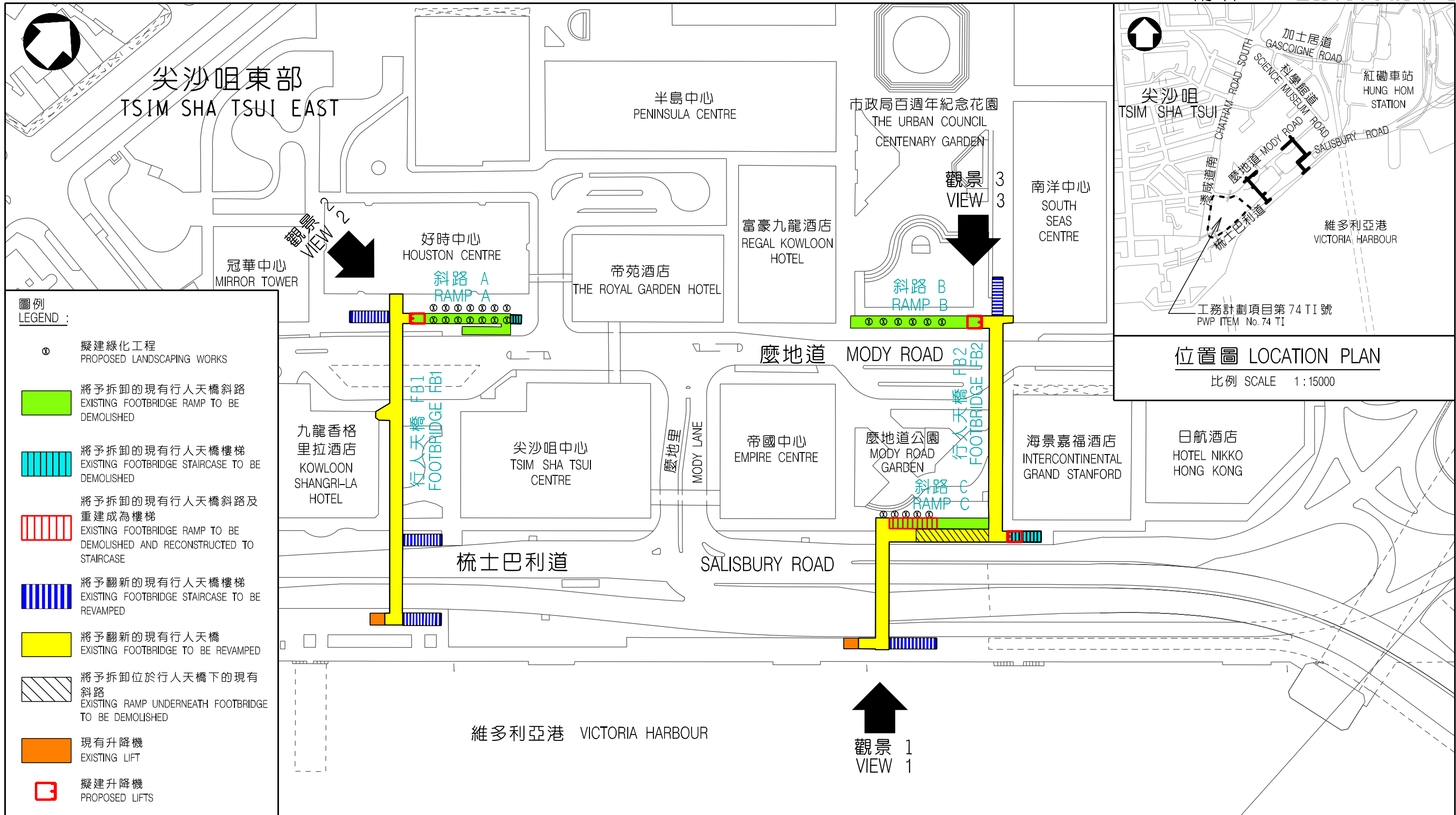
Way Forward

16. We plan to seek the Public Works Sub-committee's endorsement for upgrading the proposed works to Category A in December 2007 and funding approval by the Finance Committee (FC) in January 2008. Subject to FC's approval, the construction works of the project is scheduled to commence in October 2008 for completion in October 2010.

Views Sought

17. Members are invited to note and comment on the proposed project.

Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
November 2007




位置圖 LOCATION PLAN

比例 SCALE 1:15000

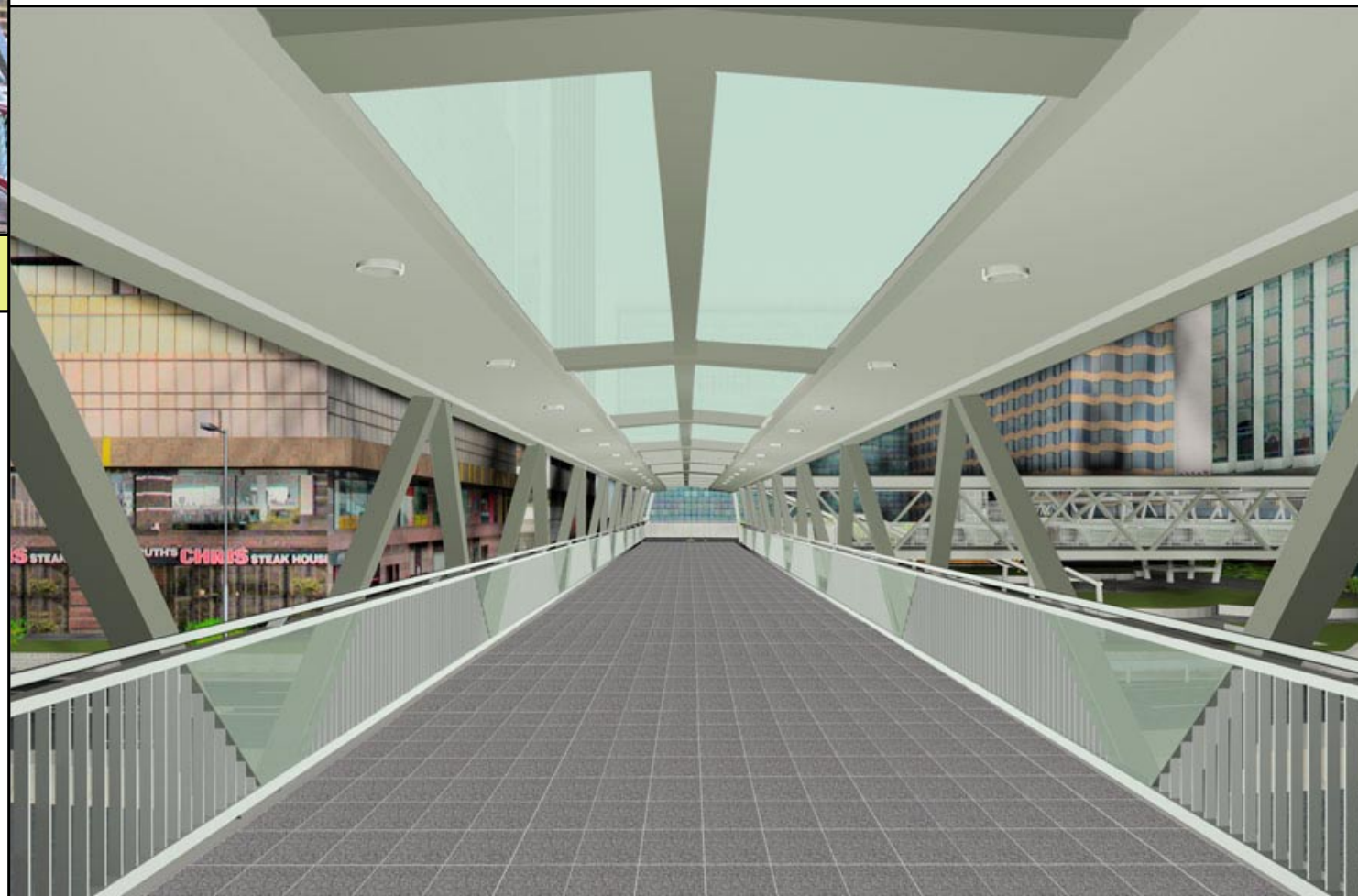
50mm SCALE 1:1

drawing title 圖則名稱
工務計劃項目第 153TB 號
尖沙咀東部行人天橋改善工程 - 平面圖
PWP ITEM No. 153TB
ENHANCEMENT OF FOOTBRIDGES IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST - LAYOUT PLAN

designed 設計 S.K. WONG	date 日期 06.11.2007	drawing no. 圖號 HWDYM055A-SP0001	scale 比例 1 : 1500 OR AS SHOWN	A3
drawn 繪圖 T.L. WONG	date 日期 06.11.2007	版權所有 COPYRIGHT RESERVED		
approved 核准 Y.K. LAU	date 日期 06.11.2007	 HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HONG KONG 路香港政署		
office 辦事處 工程部 WORKS DIVISION				



現有行人天橋的橋面
EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE DECK



drawing title 圖則名稱

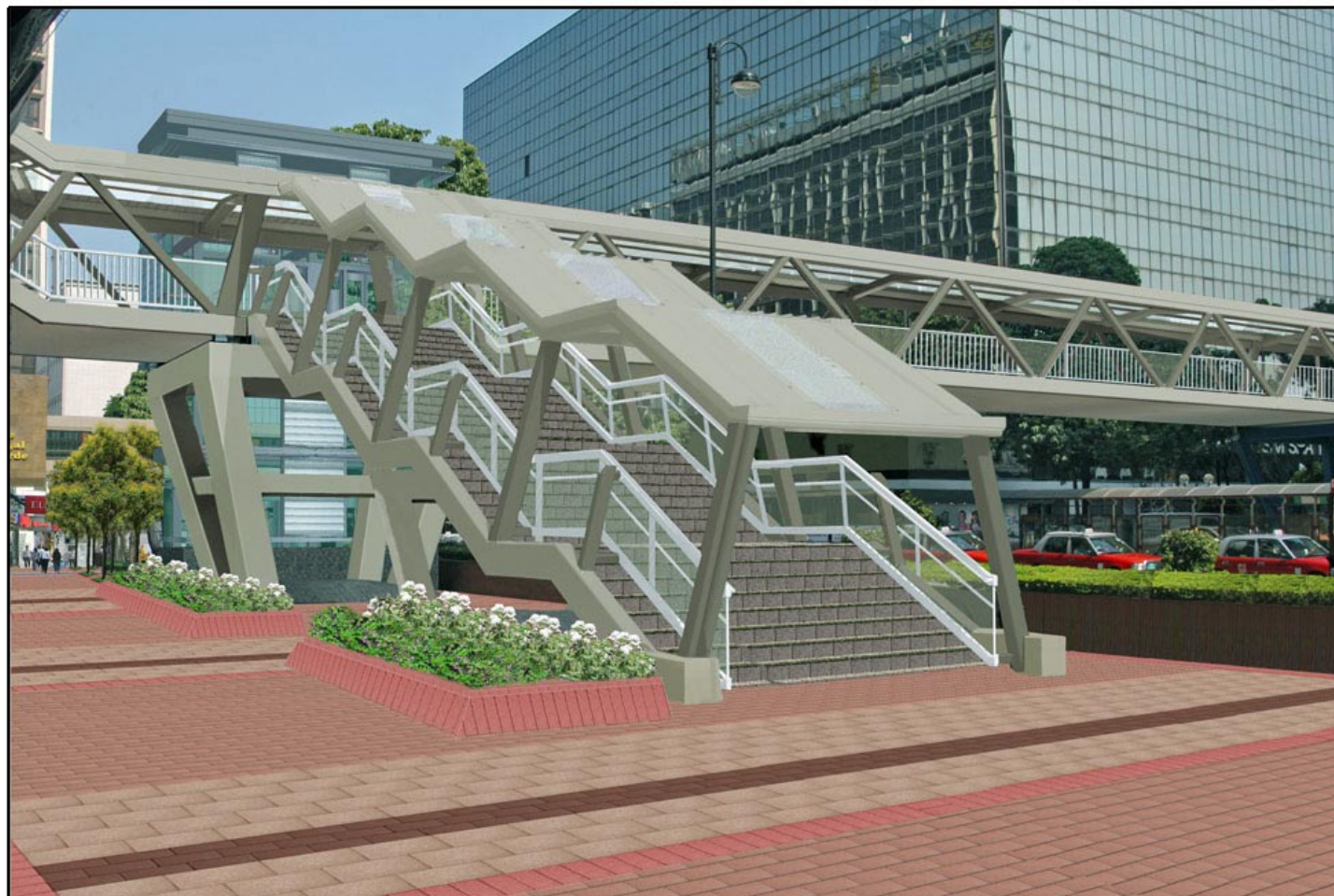
工務計劃項目第 153TB 號 - 尖沙咀東部行人天橋改善工程
翻新後的行人天橋橋面(觀景 1)

PWP ITEM No. 153TB - ENHANCEMENT OF FOOTBRIDGES IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST
FOOTBRIDGE DECK AFTER REVAMPING (VIEW 1)

designed 設計 S.K. WONG	date 日期 06.11.2007	drawing no. 圖號 HWDYM055A-SP0002	scale 比例 A4
drawn 繪圖 S.P. YIP	date 日期 06.11.2007	版權所有 COPYRIGHT RESERVED	
approved 核准 Y.K. LAU	date 日期 06.11.2007	HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT 路政署 HONG KONG 香港	
office 辦事處 工程部 WORKS DIVISION			

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現有行人天橋樓梯
EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE STAIRCASE

drawing title 圖則名稱

工務計劃項目第 153TB 號 - 尖沙咀東部行人天橋改善工程
翻新後的行人天橋樓梯(觀景 2)

PWP ITEM No. 153TB - ENHANCEMENT OF FOOTBRIDGES IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST
FOOTBRIDGE STAIRCASE AFTER REVAMPING (VIEW 2)

designed 設計 S.K. WONG	date 日期 06.11.2007	drawing no. 圖號 HWDYM055A-SP0003	scale 比例 A4
drawn 繪圖 S.P. YIP	date 日期 06.11.2007	N.T.S.	
approved 核准 Y.K. LAU	date 日期 06.11.2007	版權所有 COPYRIGHT RESERVED	
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現有行人天橋
EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE

drawing title 圖則名稱

工務計劃項目第 153TB 號 - 尖沙咀東部行人天橋改善工程
擬建的升降機(觀景 3)

PWP ITEM No. 153TB - ENHANCEMENT OF FOOTBRIDGES IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST
PROPOSED LIFT (VIEW 3)

designed 設計 S.K. WONG	date 日期 06.11.2007	drawing no. 圖號 HWDYM055A-SP0004	scale 比例 A4
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