

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

**AN IN-HOUSE REVIEWING STUDY
ON EXISTING FLYOVERS
FOR RETROFITTING WITH NOISE BARRIER**



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

AN IN-HOUSE REVIEWING STUDY ON EXISTING FLYOVERS FOR RETROFITTING WITH NOISE BARRIER

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In the Second Review of the 1989 White Paper issued in January 1994, the Government has indicated the intention to complete a study to investigate the practicability of reducing the adverse traffic noise impacts brought about by existing roads. A "Scoping Study for Providing Retroactive Road Traffic Noise Measures" was completed in 1995 to define the scale of the traffic noise problem in the territory and to identify roads with the potential for retroactive noise mitigation. The second stage study was commissioned in 1996 to investigate in details the engineering, safety, environmental, cost and maintenance aspects of the direct technical remedies for the road sections identified in the Scoping Study.
- 1.2 Flyovers were specifically excluded from both of these studies. Since the majority of flyovers are located in densely populated areas and sit above other roads, independent structures were at the time considered impractical. The Highways Department therefore advised that all direct technical remedies were to be independent of flyovers. In October 1996, ERM-Hong Kong was commissioned by the EPD to carry out a separate study known as "Scoping Study for Providing Direct Technical Remedies on Existing Flyovers" and a total of 188 existing flyovers were examined. The Scoping Study recommended eleven flyovers for further investigation after a screening procedure.
- 1.3 In view of programme and resources considerations, three of these flyovers (Ap Lei Chau Bridge, Tsing Tsuen Bridge and Kwai Chung Road Flyover) were selected for a detailed assessment of engineering feasibility in providing direct technical remedies. The selected flyovers were investigated in "Feasibility Study for Providing Noise Mitigation Measures on Existing Flyovers" (the "Feasibility Study"), commissioned in June 1998 under Agreement No. CE95/97. The study concluded that it is feasible to retrofit Ap Lei Chau Bridge and Tsing Tsuen Bridge with independently supported barriers and enclosures. Kwai Chung Road was found not feasible for retrofitting due to constraints of fire fighting, space and social impacts (disruptions to street level commercial

activities and pedestrian movement). The study also developed a “Working Tool” for systematic reviewing the feasibility of retrofitting existing flyovers.

- 1.4 This study reviewed the feasibility of providing retroactive noise mitigation for the 188 existing flyovers according to the Working Tool and procedures devised in the Feasibility Study.

2. REVIEW METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 Noise sensitive receivers (NSRs) in this review study refer to all existing domestic premises, including temporary housing accommodation. Court of law, hotels and education institutions were excluded since they were either fully air-conditioned for the former or they were included in the territory-wise “School Insulation Programme”.
- 2.2 Following directly from an analogy of the HKPSG noise criterion, the peak-hour noise level $L_{10}(1\text{-hour})$ of 70 dB(A) for domestic premises was adopted for consideration for retrofitting with noise barrier.
- 2.3 The Feasibility Study showed that the feasibility of providing noise mitigation measures depended largely on site conditions. The need for a re-visit of all existing flyovers was recognised during the Feasibility Study and a set of “Working Tool” was developed in order to provide a systematic screening of all existing flyovers (Appendix A).
- 2.4 The broad approach to this study was to carry out a review of the existing flyovers using the “Working Tool” and to identify any potential technical difficulties by reference to complicated actual site conditions. The study also recommended and listed all identified flyovers with priority for which practicable direct technical remedies can be provided.
- 2.5 The Working Tool was applied systematically to:
 - Identify the noise problem;
 - Select the noise barrier form;
 - Consider the practicality of emergency access and fire fighting;
 - Identify road safety problems such as visibility and obstruction of vehicular access;

- Identify the site constraints for noise mitigation measures, e.g. availability of space;
- Ascertain the acoustic effectiveness of the identified barrier form.

3. FINDINGS OF THE REVIEW STUDY

3.1 A total of 188 flyovers in the territory were subjected to a multi-factor screening process. Flyovers that have been subjected to an EIA or with barriers provided were excluded from the review study.

3.2 The 188 flyovers in the Hong Kong territory were reviewed using the 1:1000 scale survey maps produced by Lands Department. Each flyover section was systematically tested using the assessment procedures (“Working Tool”). Only those sections that were identified as noisy roads would be analysed further. The appropriate noise barrier form and site constraints including fire fighting, road safety and availability of space were identified.

3.3 Ap Lei Chau Bridge and Tsing Tsuen Road have already been short-listed for detailed assessment of engineering feasibility (discussed in the Feasibility Study) and thus not repeated in this report. Apart from these two flyovers, five flyovers (including one where the identified section is on an embankment and hence considered as an at-grade road) were identified feasible for providing direct noise mitigation measures. They include three flyovers in Kowloon Peninsula, and one flyover and at-grade road in the New Territories: Kwun Tong Bypass, West Kowloon Corridor, Tseung Kwan O Road, Sha Tin Road and Yuen Shin Road.

3.4 As local roads generally have low traffic flow and hence insignificant noise impacts, they would unlikely be noisy roads and were not considered for noise mitigation measures.

3.5 Preliminary Evaluation of Engineering Feasibility

- (a) Engineering feasibility for the provision of noise barrier proposals should aim to produce a safe and economical structure that requires minimal maintenance. For this reviewing study, a brief assessment of engineering feasibility was conducted in terms of the following aspects:
- compliance with road safety requirements as stipulated in the Traffic

Planning & Design Manual (TPDM)

- compliance with the fire fighting and emergency access requirements of the Fire Services Department and other government departments
 - compatible with pedestrian and vehicular access
 - compatible with existing structure
- (b) The West Kowloon Corridor is a strategic road link between Cheung Sha Wan and Sham Shui Po. This review identified that noise mitigation is possible for part of the flyover, namely the section between Tonkin Street and Willow Street near Nam Cheong Estate. 3m barrier is recommended to protect Nam Cheong Estate. Part of Tung Chau Street Park would be occupied by the supporting structure of the barriers and the barrier support needed to be site backed from Yen Chow Street to meet the sightline requirements.
- (c) Kwun Tong Bypass is an expressway parallel to Wai Yip Street, running along Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter and joins Wai Fat Road. This review revealed that direct noise mitigation may also be feasible for the section near Laguna City. 5m cantilevered barrier is recommended in order to protect the sensitive receivers in Laguna City.
- (d) Tseung Kwan O Road is a district distributor joining the Kwun Tong Bypass in Kwun Tong. The elevated section of Tseung Kwan O Road is located near South Tsui Ping Estate and over the junction between Kwun Tong Road and Lei Yue Mun Road. The main sensitive receivers are residents of South Tsui Ping Estate. A partial enclosure is also recommended to protect these receivers.
- (e) The elevated section of Sha Tin Road runs from City One Shatin to join Tai Po Road (Shatin) across Shing Mun River Channel. This review indicated that direct noise mitigation is possible for the section. Full-enclosure is recommended and sensitive receivers in City One Shatin and Belair Garden would be benefited.
- (f) Yuen Shin Road is a primary distributor joining the Tolo Highway in Tai Po. The identified section of Yuen Shin Road which in fact sits on an embankment is located near Yuen Chau Tsai. Partial enclosure is recommended to protect sensitive receivers in Wang Fuk Court and Kwong Fuk Estate.
- (g) Layout of the proposed mitigation measures for the identified flyovers are

shown in Figures 1 to 5. More details including noise reduction and number of dwellings being protected by the proposed mitigation measures etc. are summarized in Table 1. A database containing all the existing flyovers reviewed is provided in Appendix B.

- 3.6 Each identified mitigation option should further be subjected to a comparative evaluation during engineering design stage to develop the most optimum option for implementation. The evaluation includes the following :

Engineering Consideration

Buildability

Safety

Traffic Management during Construction

Detailed Cost Evaluation

Environmental Considerations

Noise Impact

Air Quality Impact

Landscape Impact

Visual Impact

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To include the four flyovers into the list of existing roads that have potential for retrofitting and for consideration including priority, implementation scheme, etc.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This study reviewed the existing flyovers on the basis of the Working Tool developed from the CE95/97 Feasibility Study and identified four flyovers that are feasible to provide mitigation measures in the form of noise barriers or enclosures.

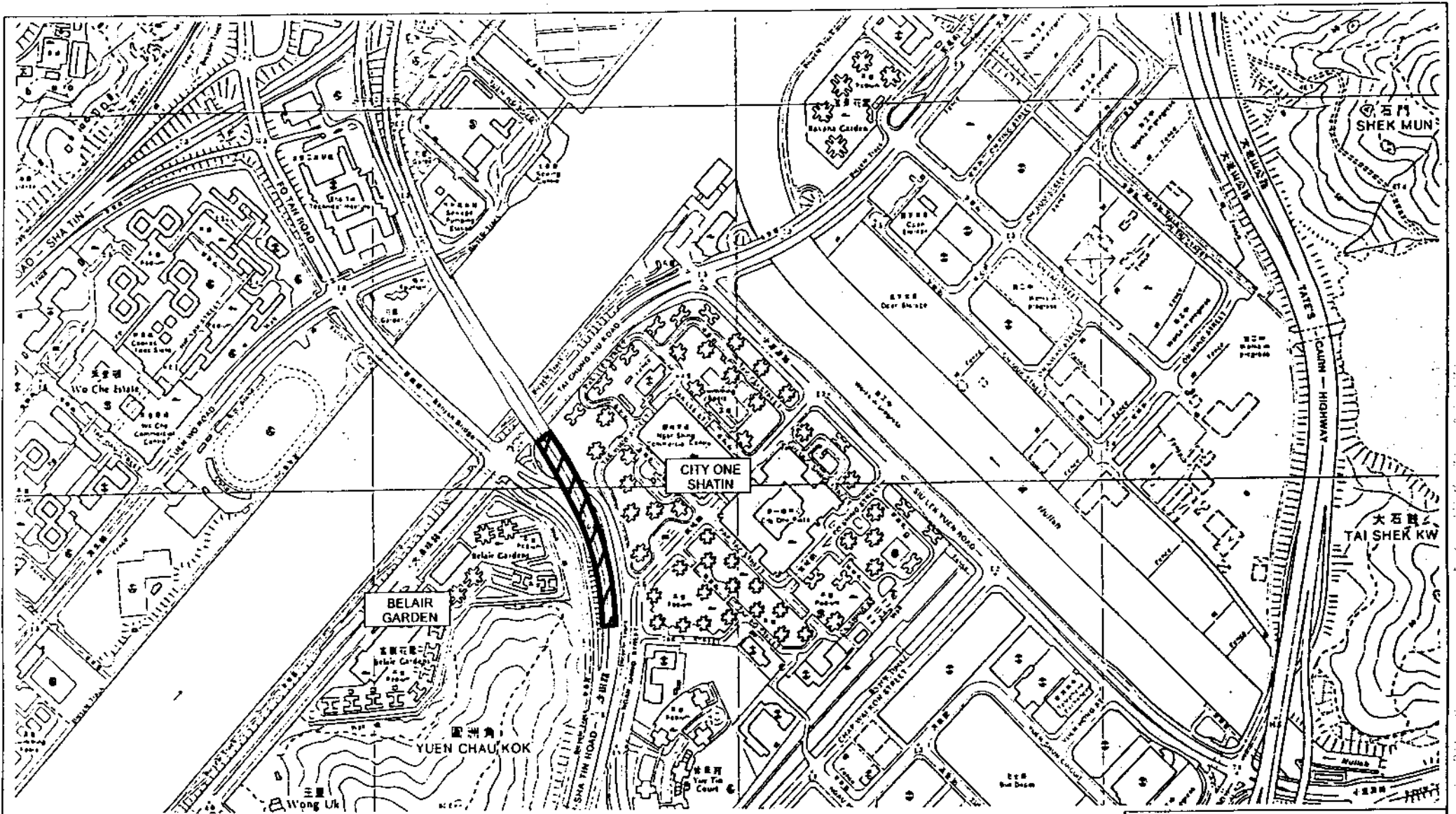
October 1999

[Reviewfo\reviewpaper\text]

Table 1: Summary of Recommended Mitigation Measures

Location	Recommended mitigated measures	Total No. of dwellings exposed	Total No. of dwellings benefitted	Total Cost (HK\$)	Unmitigated Noise L10 (1 hr) dB(A)	Cost / dwelling benefitted (HK\$)
Sha Tin Road (near City One)	Full enclosure	1,260	1,260	99.5M	71-80	80K
Kwun Tong Bypass (near Laguna City)	5m cantilevered barrier	810	810	116.4M	71-79	140K
Tseung Kwan O Road F/O (near Tsui Ping South)	Partial enclosure	960	840	72M	71-79	90K
West Kowloon Corridor (near Nam Cheong Estate)	3m barrier	720	720	115.5M	71-75	160K
Yuen Shin Road (near Wang Fuk Court & Kwong Fuk Estate)	Partial enclosure	935	875	45.2M	71-74	50K

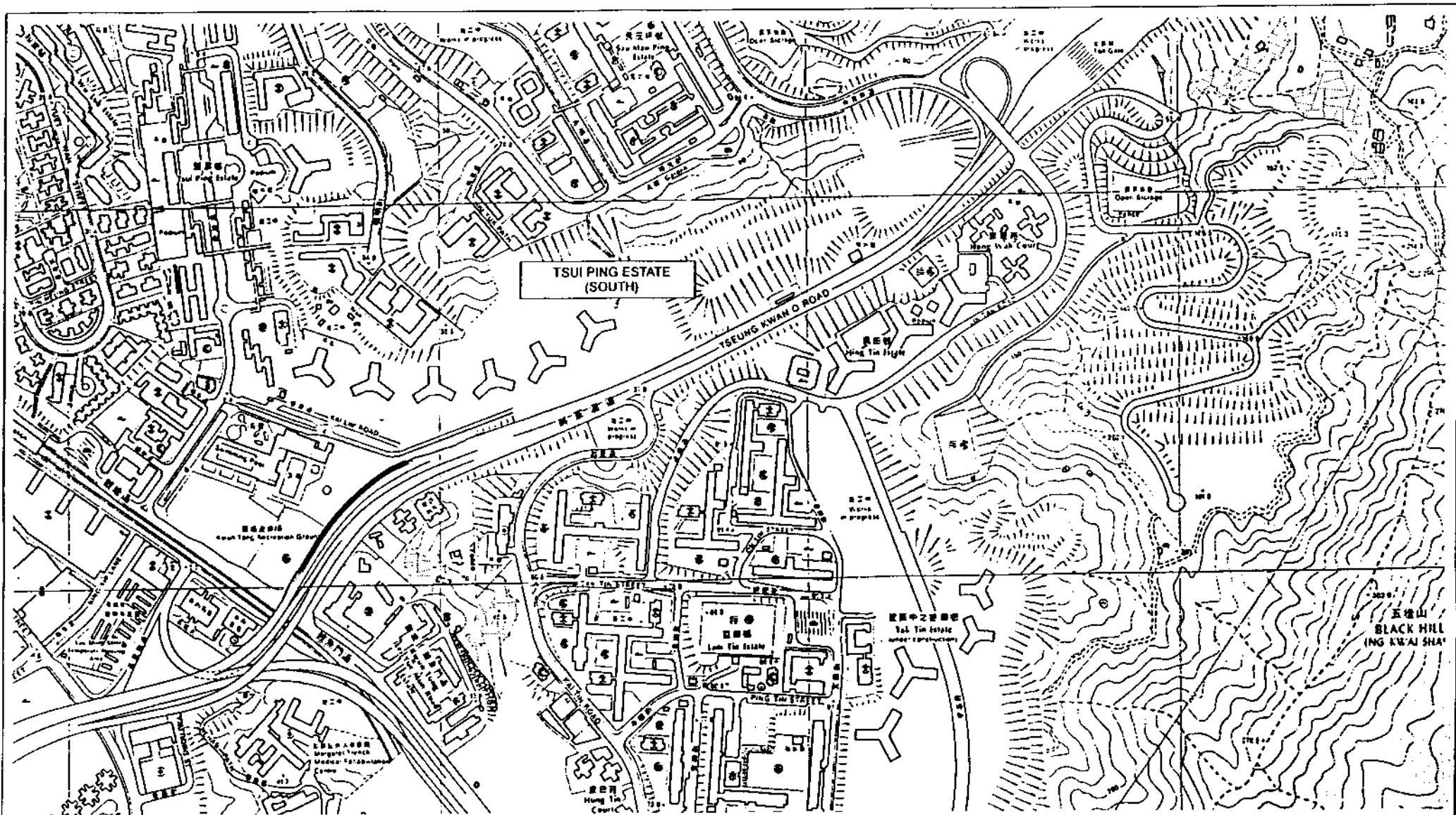
[Reviewfo\reviewpaper\table1]



KEY
 ——— EXTENT OF DIRECT TECHNICAL REMEDIES REQUIRE

FIGURE 1 – CONCEPTUAL ARRANGMENT OF NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES – NT25 SHA TIN ROAD

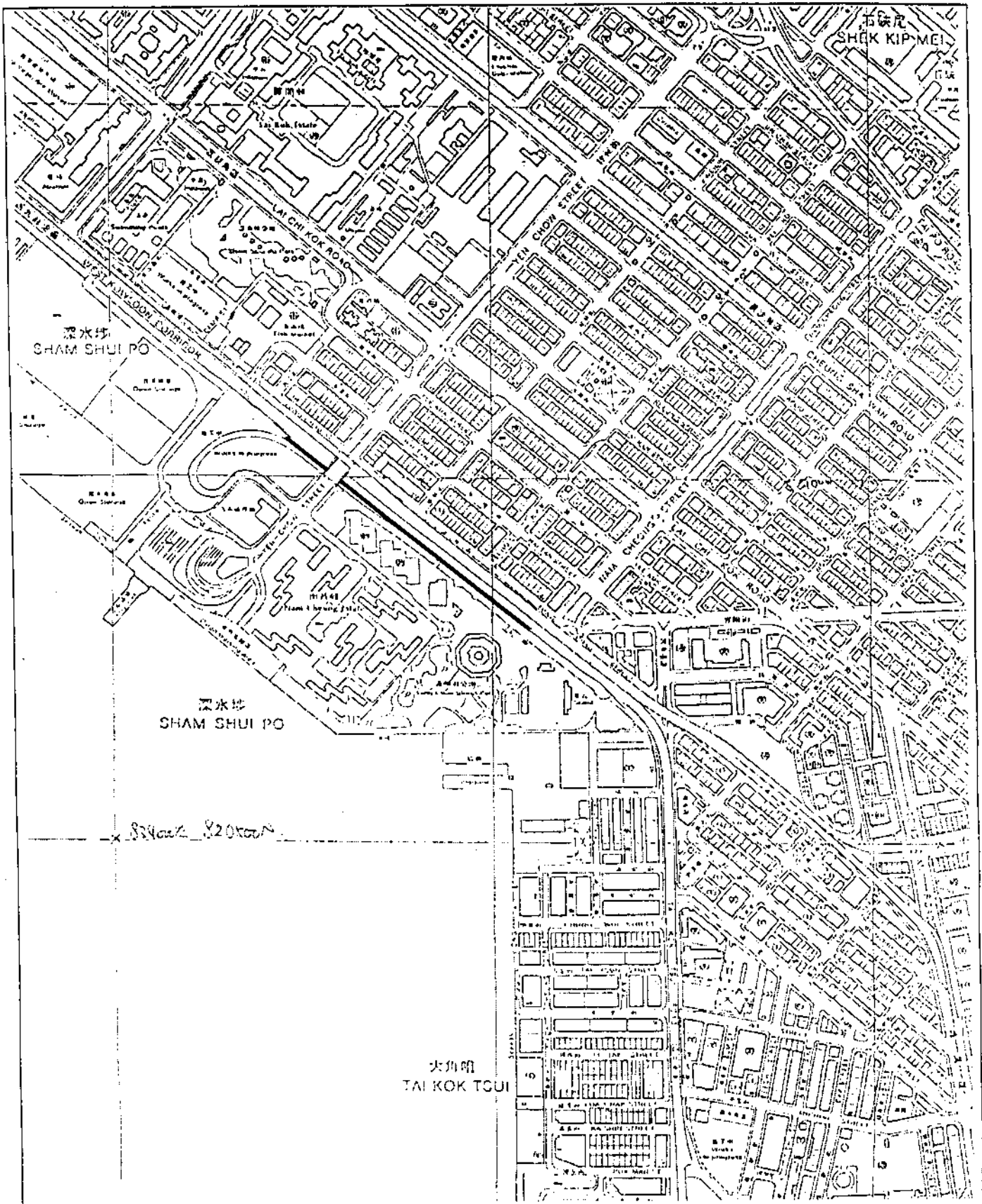




KEY
 ——— EXTENT OF DIRECT TECHNICAL REMEDIES REQUIRE

FIGURE 3 – CONCEPTUAL ARRANGMENT OF NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES – K56 TSEUNG KWAN O ROAD

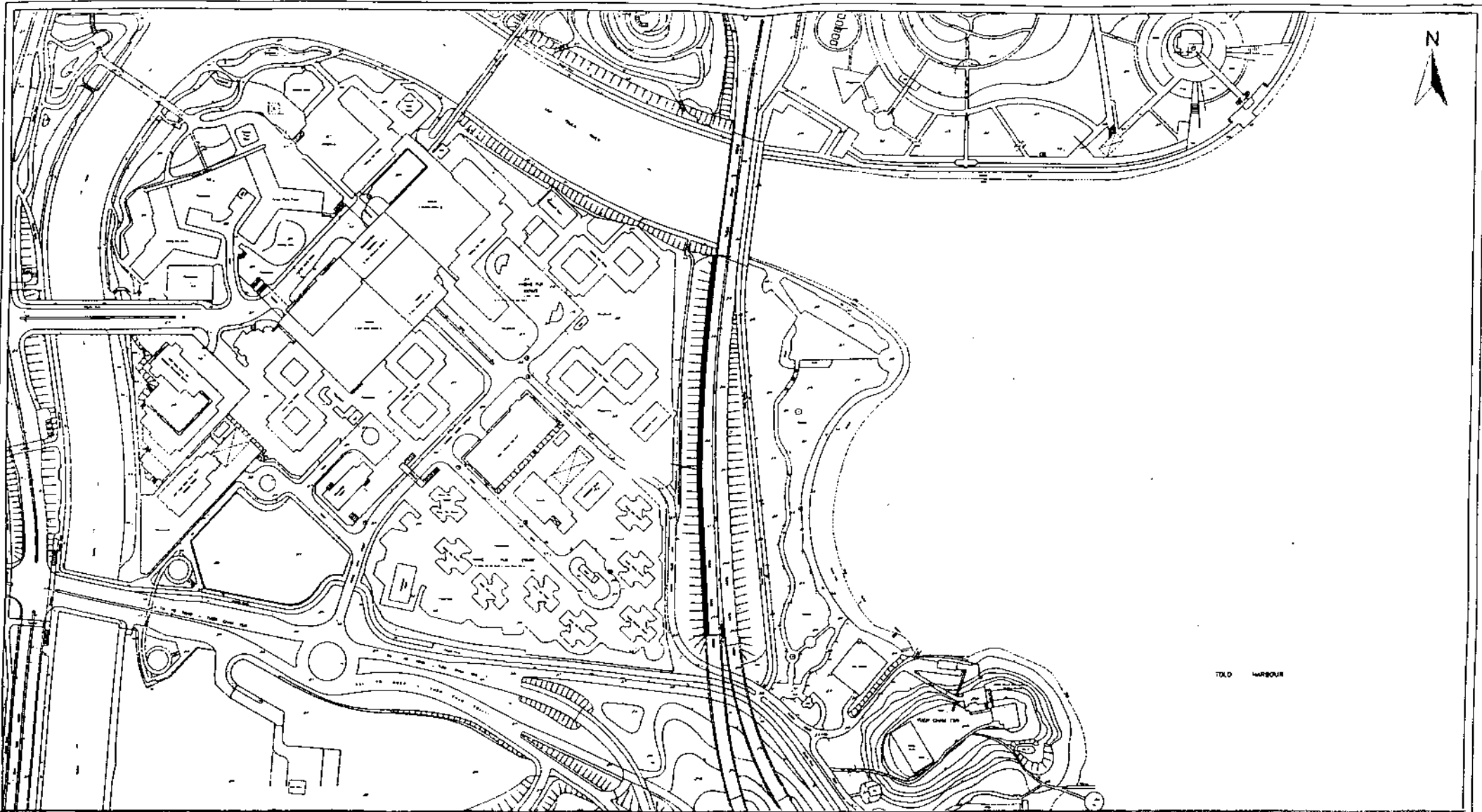




KEY
 ——— EXTENT OF DIRECT TECHNICAL REMEDIES REQUIRE

FIGURE 4 - CONCEPTUAL ARRANGMENT OF NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES - K4 (WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR)





KEY
— EXTENT OF DIRECT TECHNICAL REMEDIES REQUIRE

FIGURE 5 - CONCEPTUAL ARRANGMENT OF NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES - YUEN SHIN ROAD



Simplified Assessment Procedures for Providing Noise Mitigation Measures on Existing Flyovers

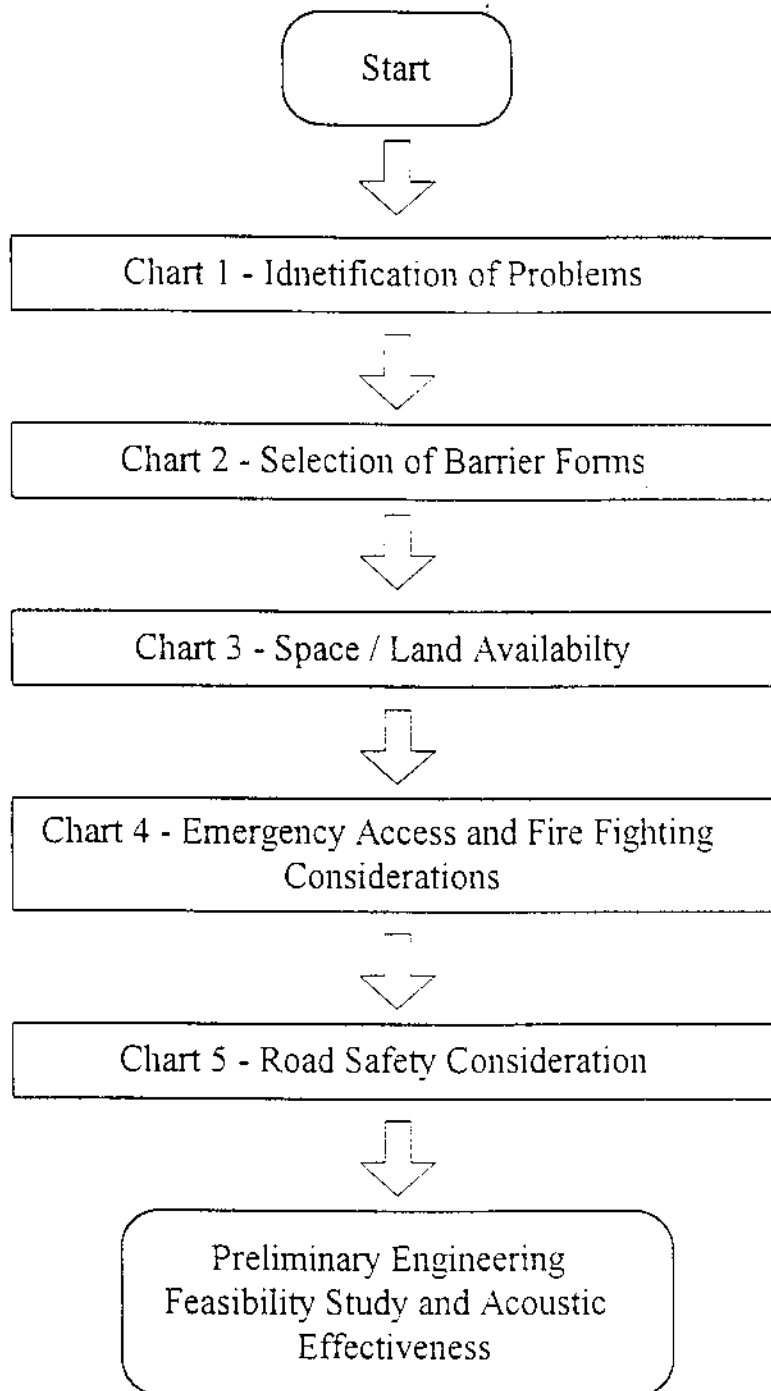
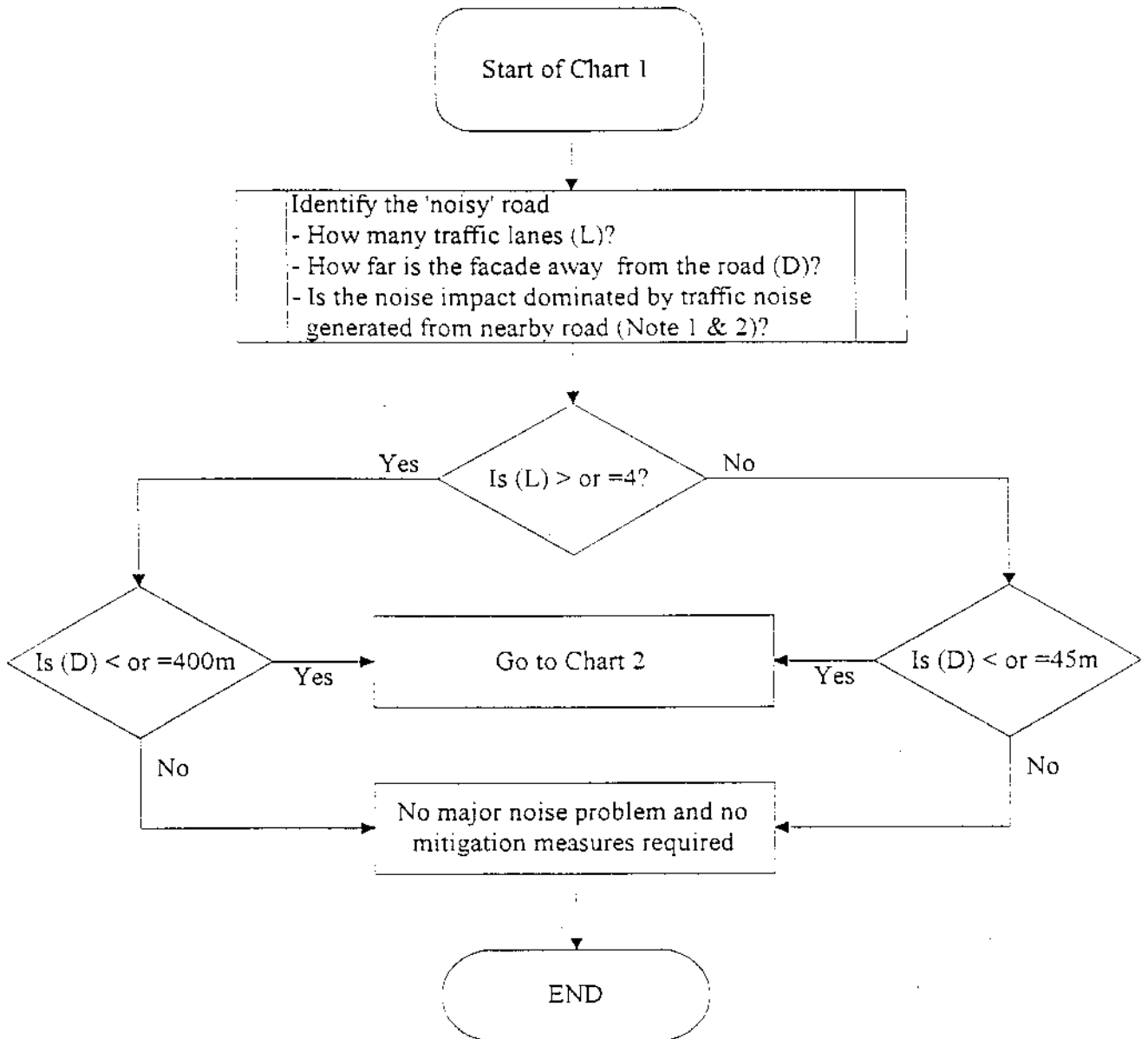


Chart 1 - Identification of Problems



Note 1: If the noise impact is dominated by traffic noise generated from other roads i.e. roads other than the one under investigation, no practical scheme should be provided for the road under investigation.

Note 2: Noise impacts from other roads are considered predominant if the following conditions apply:

- (a) Case 1: Other road has more or equal number of traffic lanes
The road is 50% closer to the receiver than the road under investigation, while the angle of view of the road is no less than 50%.
- (b) Case 2: Other road has 50% lesser number of traffic lanes
The road is more than 80% closer to the receiver while the angle of view of the road is similar.

Chart 2 - Selection of Barrier Forms

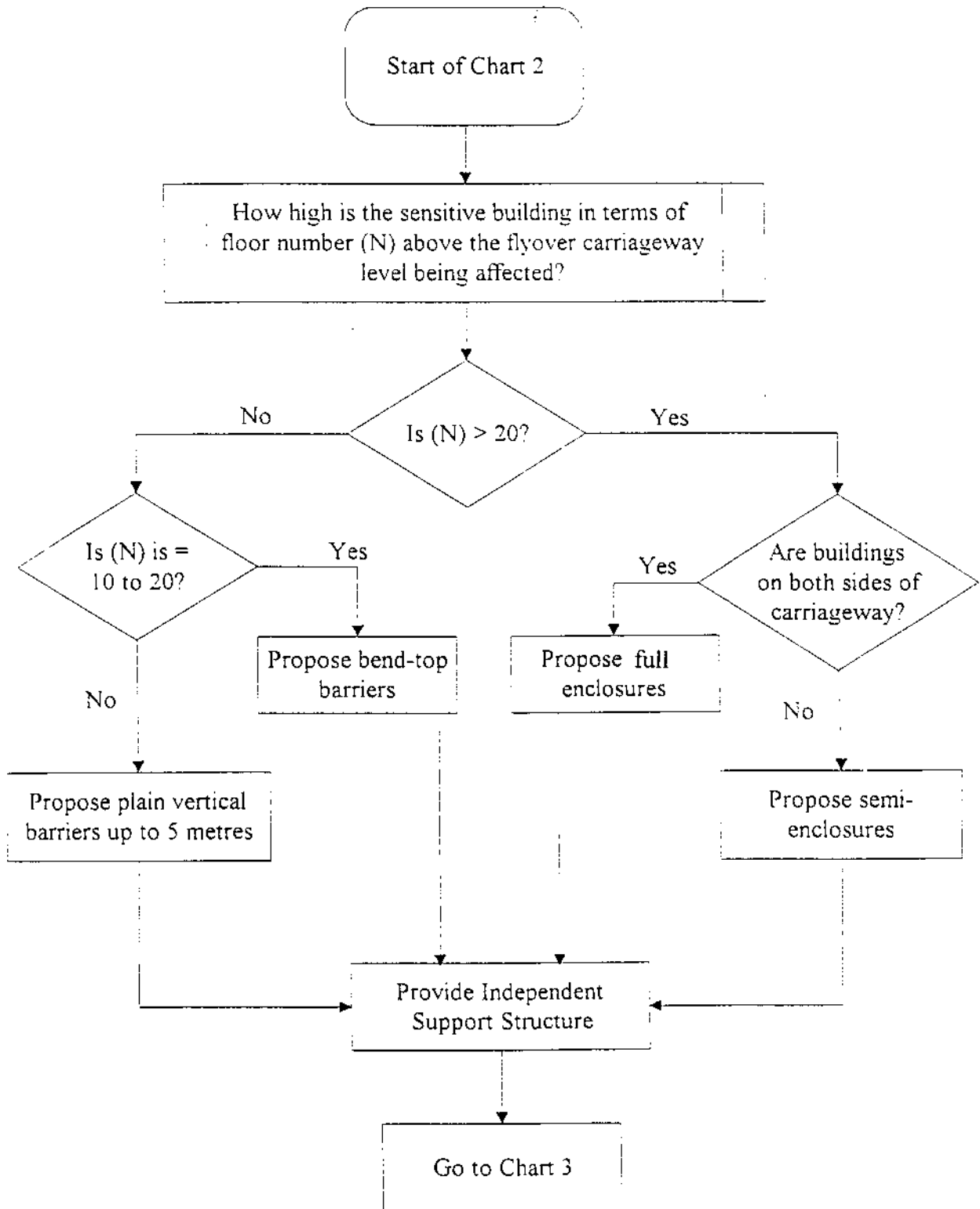
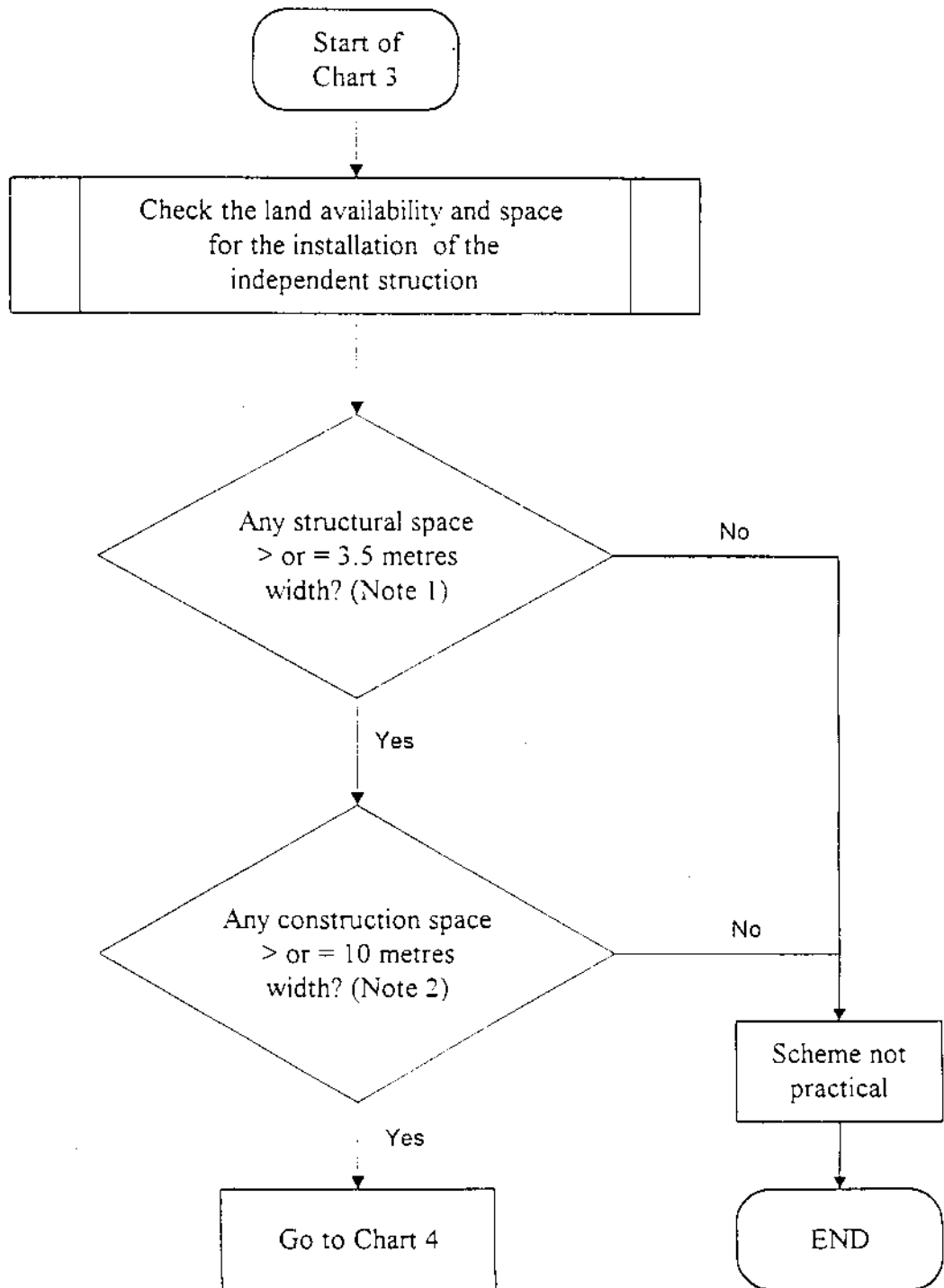


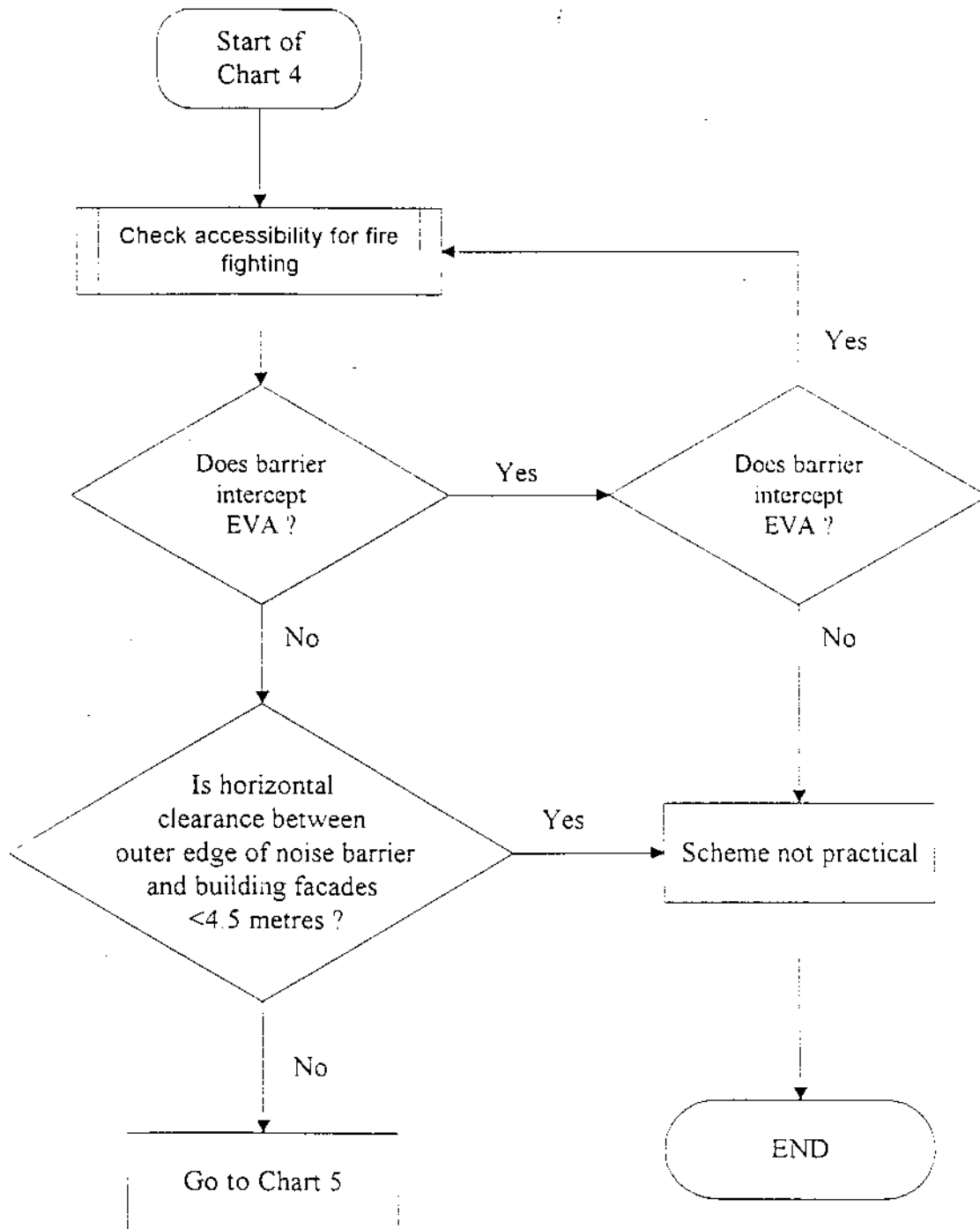
Chart 3 - Space/ Land Availability



Note 1 : Adequate structural space shall be provided for the installation of independent structure. In general, at least 3.5 m width strip of land will be required for locating the foundation of independent structure with reasonable maintenance clearance.

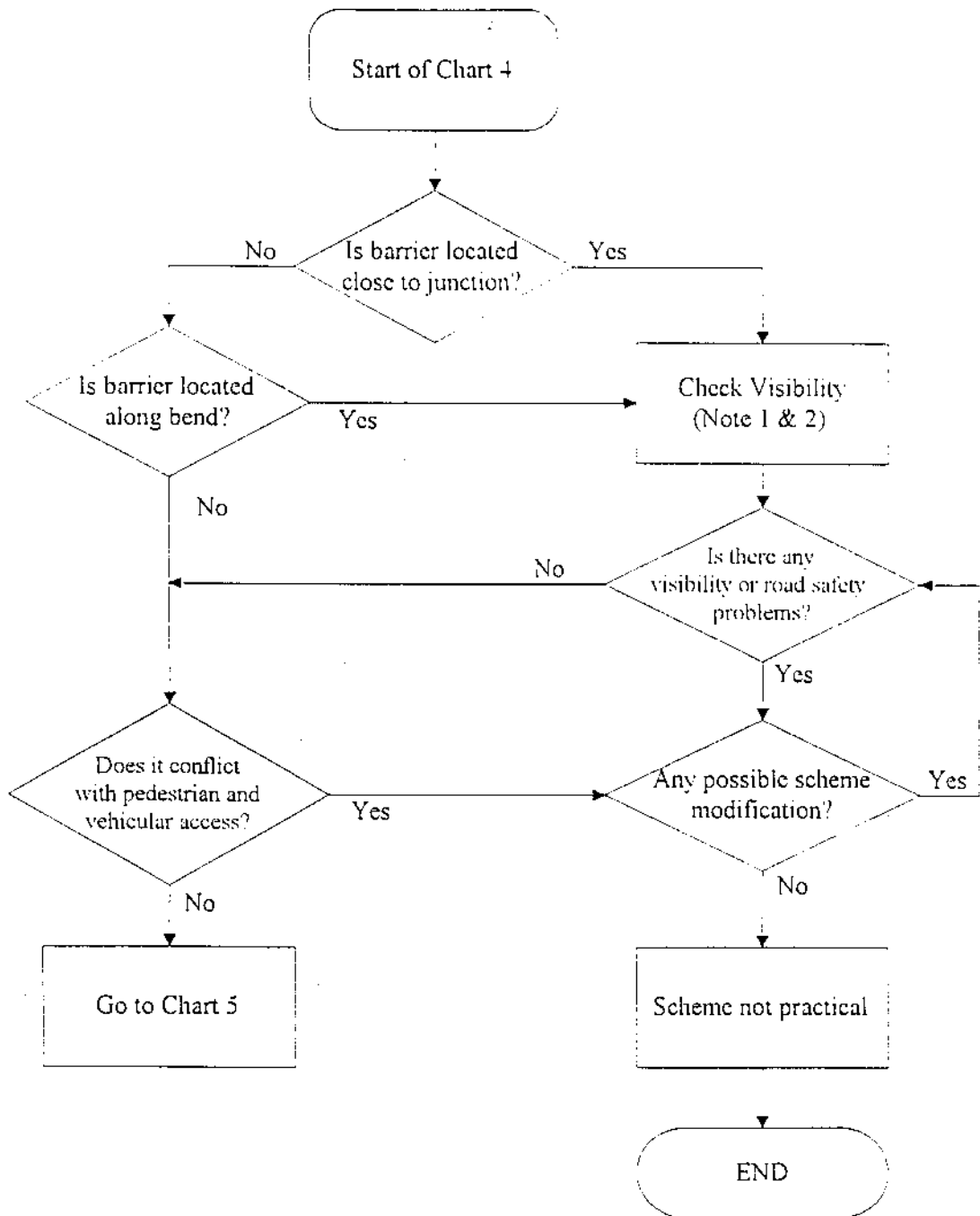
Note 2 : Adequate construction space shall be provide for the foundation works of independent structure. At least 10 m width strip of land will be required for operation of piling plants and excavation.

Chart 4 - Emergency Access and Fire Fighting Considerations



Note: EVA - Emergency Vehicular Access for fire fighting

Chart 5 - Road Safety Considerations



Ref. No.	Flyover Name	Section	Noisy Road (y/n)	Disruption to Emergency Access and Fire Fighting (y/n)	Road Safety Problems (visibility/ obstruct pedestrian or vehicular access) (y/n)	Interfere with commercial activities (y/n)	Space available for independent structure (y/n)	Recommended for consideration for implementation (y/n)	EIA studies during/ before 1999 (Y/N)	Remarks
H1	Hill Road	Pok Fu Lam Road to Connaught Road W	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H2	Bonham Road	Near HKU	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H3	Conduit Road	To Robinson Road, near Woodland Garden (Kotewall Road to Glenealy)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
H4	Robinson Road	Next to Canossa Hospital	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
H5	Robinson Road	Over Magazine Gap Road	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
H6	West Connaught Road	Gilman Street to Sutherland Street	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H7	Pier Road	Opposite to Hang Seng Bank HQ	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H8	Upper Albert Road	Over Albany Road	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
H9	Cotton Tree Drive	Near St. Joseph's College	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
H10	Harcourt Road	Bank of Americal Tower to Admiralty Tower	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H11	Garden Road	Fairmont House to Bank of China Tower	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H12	Justice Drive	Harcourt Garden to Marriott Hotel (Queensway to Supreme Court Road)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Previous EIA
H13	Fenwick Pier Street	Near Academy of Performing Arts	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Previous EIA
H14	Arsenal Street	Connect to Gloucester Road	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H15	Fleming Road	Between Gloucester Road and Jaffe Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H16	Canal Road	Over Morrison Hill Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H17	Canal Road	Above Canal Road East	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H18	Canal Road	Above Canal Road West	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H19	Wong Nai Chung Road	Adjacent to Happy Valley	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H20	Tonnochy Road	Next to Wan Chai Sports Ground	Y	N	Y	N	N	-	N	
H21	Marsh Road	Next to Wan Chai Sports Ground (Hung Hing Road to Lockhart Road)	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	
H22	Gloucester Road	From Victoria Park Road to Causeway Bay	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H23	Gloucester Road	Near Moreton Terr	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H24	Tsing Fung Street	King's Road to Victoria Park Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H25	IEC	Victoria Park Road to Oil Street	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	
H26	IEC	Oil Street to Tin Chui Street	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	
H27	IEC	Branch to King's Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H28	IEC	Branch to Java Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	
H29	IEC	Taikoo Shing to Hing Man Street	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	
H30	IEC	Tai On Street to Aldrich Bay Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H31	IEC	Branch to Nam On Street	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H32	IEC	Branch to Chai Wan Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H33	IEC	Tung Hei Road to A Kung Ngam Village Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H34	IEC	Heng Fa Chuen	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
H35	Shun Tai Road	Chai Wan	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	
H36	Fung Ha Road	Eastern Section	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Local road
H37	Aberdeen Main Road	Aberdeen Main Road to Aberdeen Praya Road	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
H38	Wong Chuk Hang Road	Near HK School of Motoring	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	
H39	Nam Fung Road & Wong Chuk Hang Road Junction		N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H40	Ocean Park Road	Ocean Park Road to Wong Chuk Hang Road	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H41	Ap Lei Chau Bridge		Y	N	N	N	Y	-	N	CE 95/97 study
H42	Hung Hing Road	(Hung Hing Road to Victoria Park Road)	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H43	Stubbs Road	Over Wong Ngan Chung Road	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
H44	Tin Wan Praya Road	Over Aberdeen Praya Road	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H45	Repulse Bay Road	Adjacent to Eucliff an above South Bay Road	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	
H46a	Chi Fu Road	Pok Fu Lam Road to Chi Fu Road	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H46b	Chi Fu Road	Chi Fu Road to Pok Fu Lam Road	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs
H47	Western Park Road	Sai Ying Pun	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	No nearby NSRs

Kowloon

Ref. No.	Flyover Name	Section	Noisy Road (y/n)	Disruption to Emergency Access and Fire Fighting (y/n)	Road Safety Problems (visibility/ obstruct pedestrian or vehicular access) (y/n)	Interfere with commercial activities (y/n)	Space available for independent structure (y/n)	Recommended for consideration for implementation (y/n)	EIA studies during/ before 1999 (Y/N)	Remarks
K56	Tseung Kwan O Road	Tsui Ping South Estate	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
K57	Lin Tak Road		Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
K58	Sceneway Road	Sceneway Garden	N	-	-	-	-	-	N	Local road
K59	Lion Rock Tunnel Road	Link to Waterloo Road	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	

