

1. BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 Project Title

Widening of Yuen Long highway between Lam Tei and Shap Pat Heung Interchange

1.2 Purpose and nature of the project

The Yuen Long Highway is a strategic route which has been gazetted as an Expressway under the Roads Traffic (Expressway) Regulation. It is located in the North West New Territories (NWNT), connecting Tuen Mun new town and Yuen Long. The area has been identified as suitable for development and there are proposals for additional housing in Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tin Shui Wai. The Tin Shui Wai Development Study conducted in 1996 identified that most sections of the Yuen Long Highway would operate beyond capacity by 2001.

In order to meet the expected traffic demand, it is proposed to widen the existing highway from a dual 2-lane to dual 3-lane, for the section between the junction with Tuen Mun Highway and the Shap Pat Heung interchange. The scope of the proposed works includes:-

- a) Widening of an approximately 7 km long section of the Yuen Long Highway between Lam Tei and Shap Pat Heung Interchange from dual-2 lane to dual-3 lane;
- b) provision of a 3.3m wide hard shoulder;
- c) realigning the various slip roads joining Yuen Long Highway to suit the above widening;
- d) modification of the existing roundabouts/interchanges along Yuen Long Highway to suit the above widening;
- e) provision/reprovision of noise barriers;
- f) provision/reprovision of police observation platforms;
- g) provision/reprovision of existing emergency telephones and fire hydrants along the widened carriageway and interchanges;
- h) an assessment of the existing condition and residual life of the pavement of the Yuen Long Highway, together with proposals for extending the life of the existing pavement to match the design life of the new pavement;
- i) installation of closed circuit television cameras along the widened carriageway and interchanges; and
- j) provision/reprovision of associated civil, structural, geotechnical, landscaping and drainage works, street lighting, traffic aids (including sign gantries), TCS facilities and E&M installations.

1.3 Proponent

Highways Department, Major Works Project Management Office

1.4 Location of the project and history of site

1.5

The location of the project is shown at Annex A. The existing Yuen Long Highway was constructed in 1993/94

1.5 Number and Types of designated projects to be covered by the project profile

Widening of Yuen Long Highway between Lam Tei and Shap Pat Heung Interchange is the only project to be covered by this project profile. The project is classified as Category A.1 under Schedule 2 of the EIA Ordinance.

1.6 Contact Person

2. OUTLINE OF PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

2.1 Project Planning and Implementation

It is proposed to implement the project by employing consultants to undertake the investigation study, preliminary design, detailed design and supervision of the construction phases of the project. Whereas the detailed design works are to be carried out by consultants, Highways Department may undertake the part of the design works for highway structures (such as bridges) during the detailed design stage, dependent on availability of in-house resources.

2.2 Project Timetable

According to current project programme, a consultant will be appointed in March 1999 to undertake the investigation study and EIA for the project. Construction works are expected to commence in mid 2002 for completion in the third quarter of 2004.

2.3 Interfacing with Other Projects

The project shall take cognizance of the following interfaces:

- Highway between Shap Pat Heung Interchange and Pok Oi Interchange - Remaining Works under Agreement No. CE 35/97 managed by Highways (NT) Region of HyD.
- Yuen Long South Development Engineering Works in Areas 13 and 14, Yuen Long under Agreement No. CE 48/95 managed by NT/N, TDD, PWP Items 27CG and 28CG. The proposed roads will be connected to Shap Pat Heung Interchange;
- Main Drainage Channels for Yuen Long and Kam Tin Remainder Phase 4 under Agreement No. CE 74/96 managed by NT/N, TDD, PWP Item 22CD;

- Route 10 - North Lantau to Yuen Long Highway Investigation and Preliminary Design under CE82/97 managed by Major Works Project Management Office of Highways Department (consultancy commenced in March 1998);
- Crosslinks Studies
- Tan Kwai Tsuen North Fresh Water Service Reservoir and mainlaying works under Agreement No. CE 56/96 managed by WSD. PWP Item B270WF;
- Additional Trunk Transfer Facilities between Yuen Long and Tuen Mun managed by Design Division of WSD. PWP Item No. 9034WF.
- Au Tau Sewerage Pumping Station, Rising Mains and Gravity Sewers. PWP Item No. 4274DS.
- Yuen Long Bypass Floodway under PWP item 7070CD managed by NTN Dev O, TDD.
- The proposed link road L2 managed by NTN Dev O, TDD.

The above PWP Items Nos. B270WF and 9034WF involve extensive laying of trunk watermains alongside Yuen Long Highway and are tentatively scheduled for completion in 2001.

3. Preliminary Environmental Review (PER)

A Preliminary Environmental Review (PER) was completed in February 1998 during the Preliminary Project Feasibility Study stage of the project. The PER identified the potential environmental concerns and the likely mitigation measures required. It also includes preliminary impact assessments on noise, air, water quality, landscape and visual and ecology, as well as hazard during construction, on completion and in operation of the Project.

The PER is attached to this Project Brief as Annex B.

4. POSSIBLE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The possible impacts of on the environment are outlined in Section 4 of Annex B.

5. MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT

Existing and planned sensitive receivers and sensitive parts of the natural environment which might be affected by the proposed project are indicated in Annex C. Relevant details of the impacts are outlined in Section 3 of Annex B.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES TO BE INCORPORATED
IN THE DESIGN**

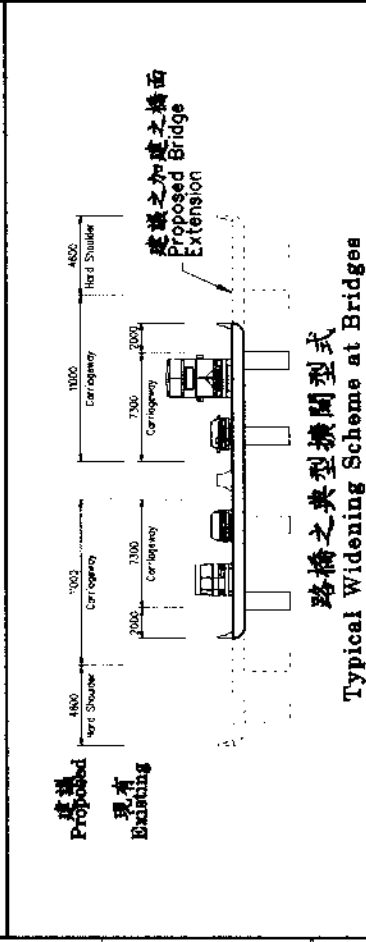
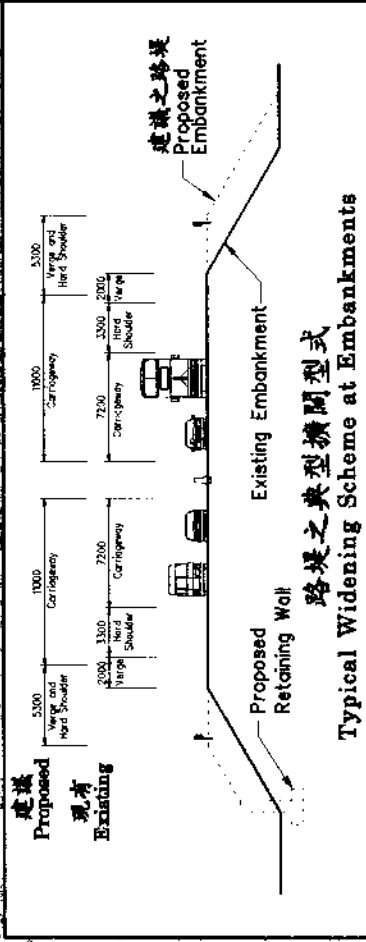
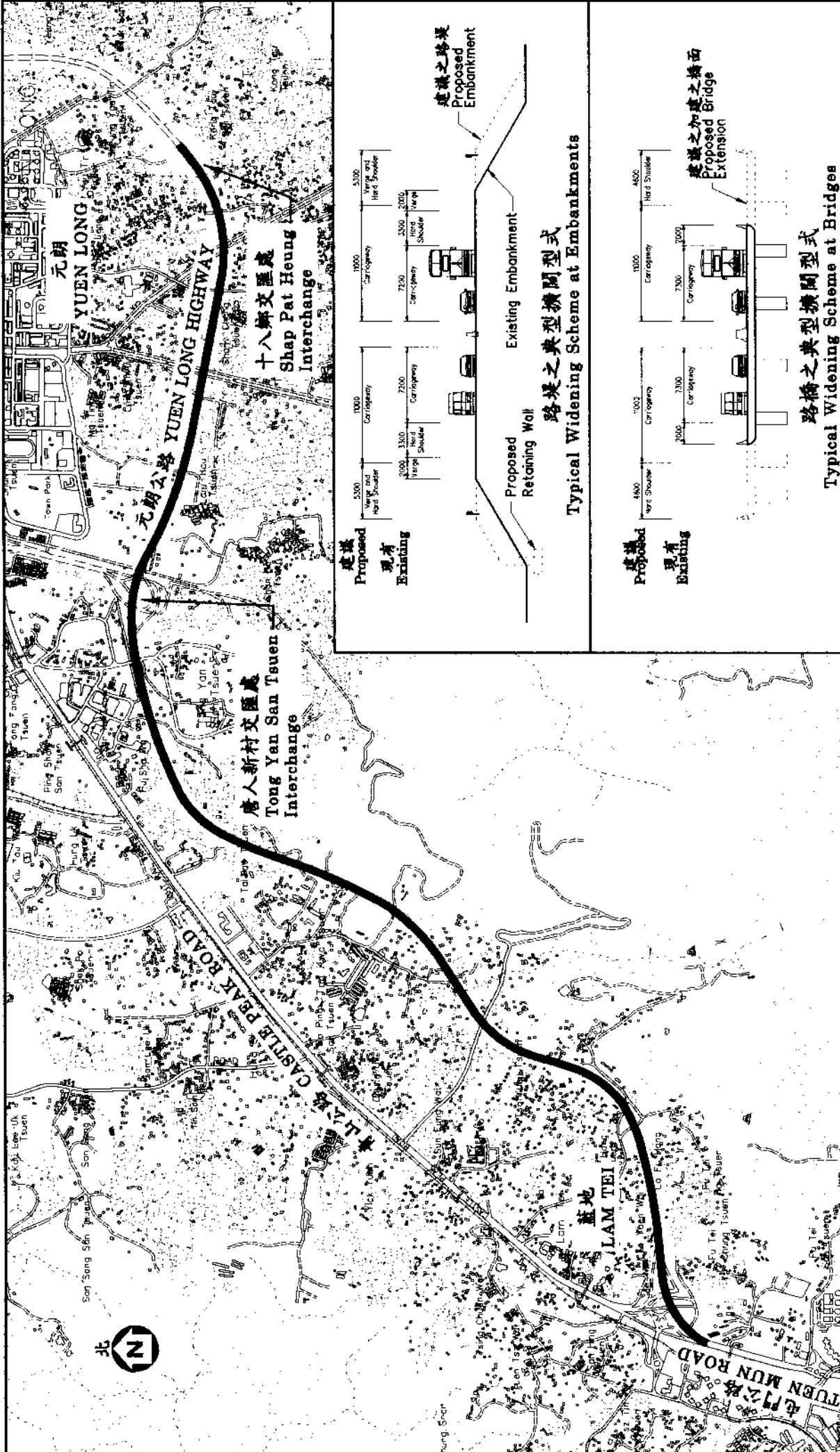
Means to minimize environmental impacts are outlined in Section 4 of Annex B.


7. USE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED EIA REPORTS

Available environmental information includes the North West New Territories Development, Yuen Long Southern Bypass - Preliminary Report by Binnie Consultants Ltd April 1988. No further environmental information is available.

ANNEX A

Drawing No. YLH 005



drawn by P.S. LAM	date 25.9.1988	drawing no. YLH 005	scale 1 : 25000
approved by P.H. CHAN	date 25.9.1988	 HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HONG KONG 路 香 港 政 署 路 香 港 政 署	
主要工程經理處 Major Works Project Management Office			

元朗公路藍地至十八鄉段擴闊工程
 - 勘查研究、初步設計及詳細設計的土地勘測
 Widening of Yuen Long Highway between Lam Tei and Shap Pat Heung Interchange
 - Investigation, Preliminary Design and Ground Investigation for the Detailed Design

The following annexes are NOT available at this website :

Annex B Project Environmental Review

Annex C Environmental Sensitive Receivers

Please visit other locations as stated in the advertisement notice for information.