

Section 7
LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACTS

7 LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACTS

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The Contractor is responsible for the implementation of all necessary mitigation measures as recommended in the EIA Study to minimise landscape and visual impacts. During the site environmental audit inspections (see *Section 9*), the Landscape Architect shall be responsible for ensuring that landscape and visual mitigation measures are fully implemented by the Contractor. It should be noted that no off-site mitigation measures are provided.

7.2 Mitigation Measures

Construction Mitigation

7.2.1 The Contractor is responsible for implementing the following mitigation measures:

1. Provision of decorative hoarding where works are at grade within residential areas.
2. Use of erosion preventive measures to prevent unsightly soil slips.
3. Organisation of works programme to ensure advance tree planting is carried out within the construction phase.

Operational Mitigation

7.2.2 The Consultant/Contractor is responsible for implementing the following mitigation measures:

1. co-ordination of the design of hard materials finishes to all elevated road structures, particularly those with semi or fully enclosed noise mitigation barriers, to create landscape and visual elements that are integrated with, and features of, the surrounding environment, co-ordination of the slip road column design layout should ensure that they are kept in line for enhanced visual impact;
2. provision and implementation of dense screen buffer tree and shrub planting on both sides of the road on the reclaimed areas adjacent to Yau Tong. This will screen the proposed road and noise barriers from Hong Kong Island and the Boat Traffic. The reclamation base itself will not be able to be screened, however in the context that the existing views are of industrial frontage this area will be a visual improvement;
3. co-ordination of the design of noise barriers, including those on elevated structures, to create elements integrated within the scheme and surrounding landscape, care should be taken to avoid any abrupt changes in height of the noise barriers;
4. co-ordination of the design of all new formed slopes to have natural looking contours within the context of the existing surrounding topography, particularly in regards to any sections on Devil's Peak;
5. provision and implementation of tree and shrub planting to all new formed slopes to replace vegetation removed during works, and to provide a natural visual screen. Species sympathetic to the surrounding vegetation will be used. Shotcrete and chunam to be avoided wherever possible;
6. co-ordination of the finished colour to concrete drainage channels on new engineered slopes to reflect the tonal qualities of the adjacent vegetation;

7. co-ordination of the design of hard materials finishes and associated soft landscape to the tunnel portals at Lei Yue Mun Point to fully integrated them into the surrounding landscape, it should be ensured that planting areas are provided for screening purposes;
8. the implementation of screening by use of tree and shrub planting along both sides of the road, on all new slopes and within any available amenity areas in the section between Lei Yue Mun Point and Chiu Keng Wan;
9. screening and use of tree and shrub planting to all amenity strips, central medians and the roundabout island adjacent to Cha Kwo Ling; and
10. vetting of the design of the bridge structure, including noise barriers, by the Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures during the detailed design.

7.2.3

All proposed mitigation measures should be developed at the detail design stage a landscape architect should be employed to ensure the appropriate required quality is achieved for both hard and soft proposals the planting design should ensure that all areas where mitigation planting is proposed is addressed with appropriate plant selection and specification. As the proposed alignment will be coastal and for a large section located on marine sand fill, species selection and soil amelioration should be carefully considered to ensure rapid and successful plant establishment. Typical plant species should include:-

<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Size (mm)</i>	<i>Spacing (mm)</i>	<i>Quantity %</i>
<u>Whips</u>			
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	900 (min)	1000	10%
<i>Casuarina stricta</i>	900 (min)	1000	10%
<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i>	900 (min)	1000	10%
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	900 (min)	1000	10%
<i>Bischofia trifoliata</i>	900 (min)	1000	10%
<i>Cerbera manghas</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Schefflera octophylla</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<u>Large Shrubs</u>			
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	900 (min)	1000	5%
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	500 x 500	1000	5%
	500 x 500	1000	5%
	500 x 500	1000	5%