Continuous Public Involvement in EIA – Central Kowloon Route

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Outline of Presentation

- CKR - Project Scope
- Public Involvement at Pre-EIA Stage
- Statutory Public Involvement at EIA Stage
- Public Involvement after Statutory EIA Process
- Synergy of Non-Statutory and Statutory Public Engagement
- Win-Win-Win
CKR - Project Scope

4.7 km dual 3-lane trunk road with 3.9 km tunnel

Existing Gascoigne Road Flyover (Ferry Street to Kansu Street) will be demolished and re-provisioned.

Project Needs & Benefits – Save Journey Time

Existing major east-west corridors

About 30 min
(without CKR)

About 5 min

With CKR
**EIAO Implications**

- Designated project under the EIA Ordinance (EIAO)
- EIA report approved under the EIAO on 11 July 2013
- Environmental permit issued on 9 August 2013
- Key conclusion of the approved EIA report:
  - With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, the potential environmental impacts on all representative sensitive receivers (including Prosperous Garden (PG)) arising from the construction and operation of the CKR will meet the EIAO requirements.

**Public Involvement at Pre-EIA Stage**

- Public engagement activities
  - Public Forum in Yau Tsim Mong District
  - Focus Group Meeting
  - Participants took part in group discussion
  - Guided tour in Ma Tau Kok area
  - Dedicated project website
  - Newsletters
  - Channels for public comments
Public Involvement at Pre-EIA Stage – Outcomes

– Selected alignment to avoid environmental impacts
  • Minimum length of cut-and-cover tunnel
  • Minimum temporary reclamation for marine tunnel
  • Ventilation buildings further away from nearby residents
  • Preservation of historical building (Yau Ma Tei Police Station)

– Positive Environmental Outcomes
  ➔ Improvement in air and noise quality in East, West and Central Kowloon Areas
  ➔ Enhancement of landscape and visual quality
– Positive Environmental Outcomes (cont’d)

(i) Mainly in form of tunnel

→ Reduce no. of vehicles on roads and relieve traffic congestion

(ii) Air Purification Systems at all 3 ventilation buildings with 80% removal efficiency for NOx and RSP

→ Overall reduction in vehicular emissions along existing traffic routes at East-West Kowloon areas

– Positive Environmental Outcomes (cont’d)

(iii) Provision of about 1,140 m noise enclosure and 1,700 m noise barrier

→ Maximum traffic noise reduction of up to 10 dB(A) for a large number of residential buildings, including PG (around 700 dwellings), along the CKR alignment
– Positive Environmental Outcomes (cont’d)

( iv ) Provision of a landscaped deck at the western tunnel portal of the CKR tunnel (about 20,000 m²), planting of about 1,800 heavy standard trees, 685,000 shrubs (covering about 54,600 m² planting area)

→ Enhance landscape and visual quality

Statutory Public Involvement at EIA Stage

– 30-day public inspection period of EIA report

– Presentation of EIA to Advisory Council on Environment (ACE)

– EIA report approval conditions

• Set up community liaison groups and designated complaint hotlines

• Innovative designs and greening features in landscaped decks and ventilation buildings
Environmental Concerns from Residents of Prosperous Garden (during Planning/EIA Stage and after Statutory EIA Process)

Public Involvement after Statutory EIA process - Project Proponent’s Proposed Additional Noise Reduction Measures in response to concerns from Prosperous Garden Residents
Synergy of Non-Statutory and Statutory Public Engagement

Non-statutory public consultation
- More room for alternative/additional designs and mitigation measures

Consultation under statutory EIA process
- Gather further public views on environmental performance

Better environmental outcomes
Smoother funding approval of the project

Win-Win-Win

- Smoother implementation of CKR project
- Pre-emptive judicial review & better environmental outcomes
- Sustainable transport infrastructure

Continuous Public Involvement
Thank you