

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This project is one of the improvement schemes recommended in 1996 under the Comprehensive Traffic Review for East Kowloon (CTREK), which concluded that the local network in the vicinity of Lei Yue Mun Road would be saturated beyond the year 2001 and the traffic conditions would further deteriorate due to the intake of population from the development of Ko Chiu Road Estate and Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) housing site, and the redevelopment of Yau Tong Estate and Lei Yue Mun Housing site in the area. The proposed project will support the development / redevelopment of the housing sites as well as create opportunities to enhance the Yau Tong urban restructuring. Figure 1.1 shows the location of the site.

The preliminary project feasibility study (PPFS), completed in December 1997, was conducted to examine the alignment of the vehicular underpass and the layout of the associated road improvement scheme. A Preliminary Environmental Review (PER) was also carried out in conjunction with the PPFS to identify the potential environmental concerns related to the implementation of the project. The results of the PER indicated that during the construction stage, precautionary measures might be required as the works limit of the Project is located within the Consultation Zone of Sai Tso Wan Landfill. During the operation stage, noise and air pollution impacts from vehicular traffic, and water quality impact such as runoff from the site could be expected.

The proposed works have been identified as a Designated Project under Schedule 2, Part (A.1) of the EIA Ordinance, so an Environmental Permit is required prior to the construction and operation of the project. As the proposed works are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment, the Study Brief requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study to determine the nature and extent of environmental impacts arising from the construction, operation of the proposed road and all related activities taking place concurrently.

1.2 The Approach

The report was prepared in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process. This covers relevant project information and legislation, existing environmental conditions, assessment criteria and methods, assessment findings and proposed mitigation measures.

The EIA Study was carried out based on information available at the time. Relevant reports and drawings have been reviewed and findings have been incorporated where appropriate in the EIA Report. For example, the findings of the following studies have been reviewed:

- *Preliminary Environmental Review for Lei Yue Mun Road Underpass, Roundabout at Junction with Yau Tong Road and Associated Improvement Works* (September 1997)
- *Environmental Assessment for Ko Chiu Road/Yau Tong/Lei Yue Mun Comprehensive Development* (April 1998)
- *Final Environmental Assessment Study for Potential Public Housing Sites East of EHC, Lei Yue Mun* (December 1998)

In accordance with the requirements of the EIA Study Brief, the EIA is to cover the following aspects of impact assessment:

- Noise impacts
- Air quality impacts
- Landfill gas hazards
- Water quality impacts
- Landscape and visual impacts

The assessment results were used to evaluate potential impacts to both existing and planned developments and other sensitive sites. Locations where acceptable limits could be exceeded were identified and appropriate mitigation measures were specified.

Considering the nature and environment of the project, impacts arising from construction waste, ecology and cultural heritage would be minimal, which is the reason they were not included in the EIA Study Brief. No assessment was therefore required.