

16 October 2002

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, JP
Chairman of Legislative Council House Committee

Dear Mrs CHOW,

**Proposed invitation to the Financial Secretary
to attend a meeting of the House Committee
to explain the funding policy on public works projects**

At the meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee held today, members of the Subcommittee raised concern about the comments made recently by the Financial Secretary (FS) regarding the need to review the priority order among public works projects. Members noted that according to FS's comments, the primary consideration in prioritizing public works projects was whether and to what extent individual projects would benefit the Hong Kong economy. Members expressed concern whether this represented a change to existing Government policy on public works projects and how such change would affect the implementation of certain public works projects, which were required to meet the needs of the community but would not directly generate economic benefits.

In view of the importance of the implementation programme of public works projects to the community, members of the Subcommittee consider it necessary for FS to clarify and elaborate his comments in respect of these projects, and to explain whether there has been any change to the relevant Government policy, with particular regard to the setting of priority among different projects for funding allocation. In this regard, the Subcommittee passed the following motion at today's meeting -

“本小組委員會向內務委員會提出邀請財政司司長出席內務委員會會議解釋工務工程政策”。

I should be grateful for your agreement to allow the above matter to be considered at the House Committee meeting to be held on 18 October 2002.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Raymond HO)
Chairman
Public Works Subcommittee

c.c. Dr Hon Philip WONG (Chairman of Finance Committee)