The Hong Kong E&M Contractors' Association Limited
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6 Feb 2020

Mr LAM Sai Hung, JP
Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Development Bureau, Works Branch
18/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

(By post and email: psw@devb.gov.hk)

Dear S.H.,

Construction Funding Approval

Further to the BCC meeting on 24 Jan 2020, EMCA express our serious concern of the continued delays to the approval of funding for new construction projects.

At present LegCo's Finance Committee has approved only HK$34 billion out of HK$200 billion of public works funding requests being submitted for the 2019-20 period. This follows the alarming trend of recent years where the number of new projects actually receiving funding approval from LegCo's Finance Committee is substantially less than that submitted by the Government for approval.

These delays have materially affected the delivery of Government projects which are for the benefit and wellbeing of the Hong Kong community as a whole and also essential to sustain and develop the Hong Kong construction industry.

The situation is now being compounded further by the coronavirus outbreak which is seriously affecting the Hong Kong construction industry's Mainland supply chain on which the Hong Kong construction industry is dependent and which, we fear, will have the inevitable consequence of further reducing private investment in our construction sector.

We urge you take our concerns seriously and request your assistance in ensuring that new construction projects, which the Government has committed to deliver, will receive the vital approvals from LegCo's Finance Committee in a timely manner to support the Hong Kong construction industry and benefit the Hong Kong community as a whole.

Yours faithfully,

Gilbert TSANG
President

cc Legco – Abraham Shek
HKFEMC – Rocky Poon
HKCA – Allan Chan