



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MTR ISLAND LINE AREA PLAN AVAILABLE
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THE MTR ISLAND LINE RAILWAY AREA PLAN FOR THE SECTION BETWEEN WESTERN MARKET AND VICTORIA PARK (THE ROUTE OF WHICH GENERALLY FOLLOWS DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, QUEENSWAY AND HENNESSY ROAD) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

COPIES OF THE PLAN MAY BE SEEN DURING OFFICE HOURS AT THE ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, GROUND FLOOR- THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, OR AT ANY CITY DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE PLAN HAS BEEN DEPOSITED IN THE LAND OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE.

IT SHOWS THE AREAS IN WHICH LAND MAY BE RESUMED OR EASEMENTS CREATED FOR BUILDING AND RUNNING THE RAILWAY, AND THE PROPERTIES WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED. UNDER THE ORDINANCE, OWNERS OF LAND AND PROPERTY ACTUALLY AFFECTED BY THE RAILWAY MAY CLAIM COMPENSATION.

THE ISLAND LINE PROPOSAL, RUNNING INITIALLY FROM WESTERN MARKET TO CHAI WAN, HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION. THE UNDERGROUND SECTION OF THE RAILWAY WILL MOSTLY BE BUILT IN BORED TUNNEL, WITH STATION CONCOURSES LOCATED IN ADJACENT DEVELOPMENT SITES. THIS WILL MINIMISE DISRUPTION OF THE MAJOR THOROUGHFARES DURING CONSTRUCTION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE ALIGNMENT OF THE RAILWAY AND THE LOCATION OF BUILDINGS CONNECTED WITH IT HAVE BEEN CHOSEN WITH GREAT CARE, AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE MODIFIED INITIAL SYSTEM AND THE TSUEN WAN EXTENSION, SO THAT THE EFFECT ON PROPERTY IS LIMITED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE+.

IT IS THE INTENTION THAT, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, THE OWNERS OF AFFECTED PROPERTIES WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REDEVELOP THEIR PROPERTIES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MTR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME, SO THAT NOT ALL THE AFFECTED SITES WILL NEED TO BE RESUMED.

HOUSEHOLDERS OF PROPERTIES WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR RAILWAY PURPOSES WILL, WHERE ELIGIBLE, BE OFFERED ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

THE ORDINANCE, AS WELL AS GIVING THE GOVERNOR THE POWER TO ORDER RESUMPTIONS OR EASEMENTS, EMPOWERS THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO REQUIRE THE OWNER OF ANY BUILDING IN THE RAILWAY AREA TO REMOVE ANY OBJECT OR STRUCTURE WHICH IS ATTACHED TO, OR PROJECTS FROM, THE BUILDING IF HE CONSIDERS ITS REMOVAL NECESSARY.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY DOES NOT MEAN THAT REDEVELOPMENT OF SITES ADJACENT TO THE RAILWAY AREA WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE +FROZEN+. IN ALL BUT A FEW CASES, REDEVELOPMENT CAN BE PERMITTED, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

HOWEVER, AS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RAILWAY WORKS AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, THROUGH THE BUILDING AUTHORITY, HAS THE POWER TO REFUSE APPROVAL TO BUILDING PLANS IF HE CONSIDERS THEY ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY.

OWNERS MAY ESTABLISH CLAIMS TO COMPENSATION WHERE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REQUIRES LEGAL STRUCTURES TO BE REMOVED, OR THE BUILDING AUTHORITY REFUSES TO APPROVE BUILDING PLANS.

A NUMBER OF TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT STREET ALTERATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAILWAY, AND WHEN DETAILS OF THESE ARE FINALISED, ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

BUSINESS OWNERS WILL BE ENTITLED TO SUBMIT CLAIMS FOR BUSINESS LOSS. AS WITH THE MODIFIED INITIAL SYSTEM AND THE TSUEN WAN EXTENSION, OPERATORS OF SMALL SHOPS AND BUSINESSES WHOSE TRADE IS AFFECTED BY THE WORKS CAN APPLY FOR MONTHLY PAYMENTS UNDER AN ADVANCE PAYMENT SCHEME.

ALL CLAIMS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. THE TIME LIMIT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS IS IN MOST CASES ONE YEAR, AS LAID DOWN IN THE ORDINANCE. GENERAL ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE RAILWAY AREA PLAN SHOULD BE ADDRESSED FIRST TO CITY DISTRICT OFFICES.

THE RAILWAY AREA PLAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE ISLAND LINE IS UNDER PREPARATION, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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HONG KONG/US TEXTILES AGREEMENT * * * * *

MR LAWRENCE MILLS, ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES ON AN ARRANGEMENT MODIFYING THE TERMS OF THE HK/US TEXTILES AGREEMENT FOR 1981.

+THE CONSULTATIONS WERE FIRST HELD IN HONG KONG ON FEBRUARY 24 AND RESUMED IN GENEVA LAST WEEK. THE OUTCOME REPRESENTS A BALANCED PACKAGE AND AS SUCH CONTAINS PLUSES AND MINUSES FOR BOTH SIDES,+ SAID MR MILLS.

+WE HAVE SECURED USEFUL INCREASES IN A NUMBER OF CATEGORIES WHERE WE THINK WE ARE GOING TO DO QUITE WELL IN 1981.

+IN RETURN WE HAVE AGREED NOT TO USE CARRYOVER OR CARRYFORWARD IN THIS YEAR IN 9 CATEGORIES. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE AGREED TO LIMIT OUR USE OF SWING PROVISION IN THESE 9 CATEGORIES TO NOT MORE THAN 5 PER CENT. WE HAVE ALSO AGREED NOT TO USE CARRYOVER IN 3 CATEGORIES AND NOT TO USE CARRYFORWARD IN ANOTHER TWO.

+IN ARRIVING AT THESE ARRANGEMENTS WE WERE CONCERNED NOT TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT PREJUDICE HONG KONG'S POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF THE MFA RENEWAL. IN OUR VIEW WE SUCCEEDED IN DOING THIS AND WE ARE NOW ABLE TO GO FORWARD INTO THE MFA RE-NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIS CLOUD BEHIND US.+

/MR MILLS

MR MILLS ADDED THAT DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN RELEASED TO THE TRADE SEPARATELY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE MODIFICATIONS:

THE ACTUAL EFFECT OF THE REVISION IS EXPECTED TO BE SLIGHT. THE REVISION AFFECTS THE SO-CALLED FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS (I.E. SWING, CARRYOVER AND CARRYFORWARD) OF A NUMBER OF CATEGORIES. ON THE OTHER HAND THE BASIC LIMITS OF TWO OTHER CATEGORIES WILL BE INCREASED IN 1981.

AS PART OF THE ARRANGEMENT, THE RESTRAINT LIMIT ON CATEGORY 640 (SHIRTS, NOT KNIT, MMF) HAS BEEN REMOVED AND THE ITEM HAS BEEN DROPPED INTO THE APPAREL BASKET.

IN RESPECT OF CATEGORIES, NAMELY 331 (GLOVES, COTTON), 333/4/5 (COATS, COTTON), 338/9 (SHIRTS AND BLOUSES, KNIT, COTTON), 338/9(1) (TANK TOPS, KNIT, COTTON), 340 (SHIRTS, NOT KNIT, COTTON), 341 (BLOUSES, NOT KNIT, COTTON), 347/8 (TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SHORTS, COTTON), 633/9 (SHIRTS AND BLOUSES, KNIT, MMF) AND 641 (BLOUSES, NOT KNIT, MMF), SWING IS TO BE REDUCED FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL RANGING BETWEEN 6 PER CENT-7 PER CENT TO 5 PER CENT AND THERE IS TO BE NO CARRYOVER FROM 1980 INTO 1981 OR CARRYFORWARD FROM 1982 FOR THESE CATEGORIES.

THERE IS TO BE NO CARRYOVER FROM 1980 INTO 1981 FOR CATEGORIES 337 (PLAYSUITS, ETC, COTTON), 342 (SKIRTS, COTTON) AND 635 (COATS, WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS', MMF) AND NO CARRYFORWARD FROM 1982 FOR CATEGORIES 345 (SWEATERS, COTTON) AND 648 (TROUSERS, SLACKS AND SHORTS, WOMEN'S GIRLS' AND INFANTS', MMF) BUT THE OTHER FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THESE CATEGORIES WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

THE FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THE APPAREL GROUP AS A WHOLE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

FURTHERMORE, THERE WILL BE INCREASES, FOR 1981 ONLY, OF 2.834 MILLION SQUARE YARDS AND 13 894 DOZENS IN CATEGORIES 317 (TWILLS AND SATEENS, COTTON) AND 336 (DRESSES, COTTON) RESPECTIVELY. THE 1981 SUB-LIMIT FOR CATEGORY 333/4 (COATS, MEN'S AND BOYS', COTTON) WILL ALSO BE INCREASED BY 10 269 DOZENS.

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QUALITY OF LIFE AFFECTED BY POPULATION EXPLOSION
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THE FALL OUT OF PROBLEMS FROM THE EXPLOSION OF POPULATION HAS PLACED A GREAT STRAIN ON OUR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF LIFE, SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR AKERS-JONES, SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS, SAID IN SOME RESPECTS AND IN SOME AREAS, +WE SLIP BACKWARD+.

THERE WAS NO DOUBT, HE SAID, THAT THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THOSE IN MODERN PRIVATE APARTMENTS AND NEW PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING IN EASTERN HONG KONG WAS MUCH IMPROVED AND THE ADDITION TO THE QUANTUM OF HOUSING WAS VERY BENEFICIAL, BUT AN ALMOST INTOLERABLE BURDEN HAD BEEN PLACED ON THOSE WHO MUST TRAVEL OUT OF THE AREA TO WORK.

+THEY MUST WONDER WHETHER IT HAS ALL BEEN WORTH IT,+ HE SAID.

SIMILAR STRAINS WERE SHOWING ALONG MOST OF THE MAJOR TRAFFIC ROUTES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND ONLY DETERMINED ADHERENCE TO THE ROAD DEVELOPMENT PLAN OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WOULD PREVENT A NORTH POINT SITUATION OF EVEN WORSE MAGNITUDE FROM EMERGING ELSEWHERE.

+NUMBERS OF PEOPLE DENSELY CROWDED INTO OUR CITY, INCREASING PROSPERITY, THE USE OF NEW MATERIALS WHICH CANNOT BE RECYCLED, AND CHANGING ATTITUDES HAVE ADDED AN ENORMOUS BURDEN TO THE DAILY DEBRIS OF OUR CITY,+ HE SAID.

WE BURNED 2 100 TONS OF RUBBISH A DAY- WE DUMPED ANOTHER 4 300 TONS AND COMPOSTED 200 TONS. TONNAGE OF RUBBISH HAD INCREASED BY AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT PER CENT A YEAR OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

IN ONE RURAL AREA -- YUEN LONG -- THE PIG POPULATION HAD RISEN FROM 226 000 TO 328 000 IN THE PAST SIX YEARS, PRODUCING 1 400 METRIC TONS OF MANURE A DAY WHICH WAS DUMPED INTO THE STREAM COURSES.

IT HAD BEEN CALCULATED BY ONE OF OUR ADVISERS THAT THIS WAS AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO FILL THREE AND A HALF KILOMETRES OF QUEEN'S ROAD TO A DEPTH OF 14 METRES EACH YEAR!

+IN THE PAST 20 YEARS 4 000 HECTARES OF ARABLE LAND HAVE BEEN ABANDONED AND ANOTHER 3 000 HAVE BEEN COVERED WITH VARIOUS FORMS OF URBAN SPRAWL,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

+WHAT ONCE WAS GREEN AND LOVELY IS A MESS OF TIN SHEET AND FILTHY STREAMS.

+THESE ARE BUT SOME OF THE EXAMPLES OF QUANTITATIVE INCREASE THAT HAVE LED TO A QUALITATIVE DETERIORATION IN OUR LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

/+FORTUNATELY WE

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→FORTUNATELY WE HAVE TO SOME EXTENT REALISED WHAT IS HAPPENING.→

TRANSPORT STUDIES, PLANNING STUDIES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, LANDSCAPING WORK IN ALL URBAN AREAS, THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF 159 SQUARE MILES OF COUNTRYSIDE BY COUNTRY PARKS LEGISLATION, AND CAMPAIGNS TO COMBAT CRIME, DRUGS AND LITTER WERE ALL EVIDENCE OF A RESPONSE TO THIS CHALLENGE TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE BY THE QUANTITATIVE GROWTH OF HONG KONG.

→WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS NEVER-ENDING BATTLE AGAINST NUMBERS AND PARTICULARLY THE PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS YOUR OWN -- THE PLANNERS, THE ARCHITECTS, THE ENGINEERS, THE SURVEYORS, THE BUILDERS, THE MANAGERS -- ALL MUST CONTRIBUTE THEIR SKILLS AND EXERCISE THEIR POSITION AS LEADERS IN OUR COMMUNITY IN NEVER CEASING TO DEPLORE A LOWERING OF STANDARDS, A DETERIORATION IN OUR ENVIRONMENT AND BY TIMELY AND CONSTRUCTIVE ADVICE KEEP US POINTED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, IN GOOD HEALTH AND GOOD HEART TO MEET THE CONSIDERABLE AND EXCITING CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE.→

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BILL TO GIVE LEGCO POWER TO INCREASE FINES
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THE GOVERNMENT IS INTRODUCING A SIMPLER AND QUICKER METHOD TO MAINTAIN THE PUNITIVE AND DETERRENT EFFECTS OF STATUTORY PENALTIES.

UNDER THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1981 PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE ABLE TO REVISE THE FINES FOR STATUTORY OFFENCES BY RESOLUTION, INSTEAD OF BY WAY OF AN AMENDING BILL.

THIS PROCEDURE HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND WILL HELP TO KEEP PENALTIES AT A REALISTIC LEVEL.

THE AMENDING BILL ALSO RAISES THE CEILING OF FINES THAT GENERALLY BE IMPOSED BY SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION FROM \$2 000 TO \$5 000.

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HK'S POSITION IN THE WORLD OF MUSIC

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HONG KONG HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED FOR ITSELF A POSITION OF RESPECT IN MUSICAL COMPOSITION AND MUSIC MAKING, THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR MARTIN ROWLANDS, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

THIS IS IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT, COMPARED WITH MANY COUNTRIES, HONG KONG'S CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC LIFE IS QUITE A RECENT PHENOMENON.

MR ROWLANDS MADE THE REMARKS WHILE ATTENDING A CONCERT BY OUTSTANDING TRAINEES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

HE TOLD THE YOUNG MUSICIANS THAT THEY HAD A KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN MAKING HONG KONG A MUSIC CENTRE OF REAL DISTINCTION AND CONGRATULATED THE MUSIC OFFICE ON ITS RAPID PROGRESS AND EXCELLENT WORK IN PROMOTING MUSIC.

THE YOUNG PERFORMERS ALSO RECEIVED SOUVENIRS FROM MRS ROWLANDS.

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REMINDER TO ENROL IN CRAFT COURSES

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FORM III STUDENTS WHO WISH TO ENROL IN FULL-TIME CRAFT COURSES IN THE FIVE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IN THE 1981/82 ACADEMIC YEAR ARE REMINDED OF THE APPLICATION DEADLINE ON MARCH 25.

+ONLY THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COURSES SHOULD APPLY, AND APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE SCHOOLS,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

IF A STUDENT APPLIES FOR AND OBTAINS A PLACE IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES, AND THEN TURNS IT DOWN IN FAVOUR OF A SUBSIDISED FORM IV PLACE, IT WILL MEAN A DELAY FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FULL-TIME CRAFT COURSES, HE SAID.

SCHOOLS THAT HAVE NOT YET COLLECTED THE INFORMATION PAMPHLETS ON THE COURSES AND THE APPLICATION FORMS ARE URGED TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE STUDENTS.

+INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS APPROACHING THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES FOR APPLICATION FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCOMMODATED BECAUSE APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE SCHOOLS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT APPLICANTS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WILL STILL BE ALLOCATED AIDED FORM/MIDDLE IV PLACES IF FOUND ELIGIBLE UNDER THE JSEA SYSTEM.

+HOWEVER, IF AN APPLICANT IS ADMITTED TO A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND HE HAS ACCEPTED THE OFFER, HE WILL BE ALLOCATED TO THAT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND NOT TO AN AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOL,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE COURSES

THE COURSES OFFERED ARE IN COMMERCIAL STUDIES, CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, PRINTING, TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, CLOTHING INDUSTRIES, MARINE AND FABRICATION, AND DESIGN.

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CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES CLOSE IN NT NORTH DISTRICT
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A THREE-HOUR VARIETY SHOW TO CLOSE THE FIGHT CRIME AND ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGNS IN NORTH DISTRICT, NEW TERRITORIES, WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN SHEUNG SHUI.

OFFICIATING WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR PETER LEE.

THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE A BAND PERFORMANCE, SINGING, MAGIC AND ACROBATIC SHOWS AND CHINESE OPERA.

THERE WILL ALSO BE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS ALBERT AU AND SIMON CHUNG.

THE SHOW, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN SHEK WU HUI PUBLIC PLAYGROUND AT 7 PM, HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY NORTH DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE CAMPAIGNS STARTED LAST OCTOBER AND INCLUDED 16 EVENTS ATTENDED BY 20 000 PEOPLE. COSTS AMOUNTING TO \$55 000 WAS MET BY ACAN, NORTH DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AND PRIVATE DONATIONS.

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CITY HALL WALKWAY TO BE REBUILT
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO RECONSTRUCT THE CITY HALL ELEVATED WALKWAY WHICH WAS BUILT 18 YEARS AGO AS PART OF THE CITY HALL COMPLEX.

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ELEVATED WALKWAY WILL START IN APRIL AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN SEPTEMBER.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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