(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of Traffic and Transport Committee

Date: 17 January 2023 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:00 p.m.

Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,

14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Present

Chairman

Ms WONG Chau-ping

Vice-Chairman

Mr HO Siu-kei

Members

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP (Arrived at around 2:20 p.m.)

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH

Mr HO Chun-fai

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr FONG Lung-fei

Ms LAU Shun-ting

Attendance by Invitation

Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1,

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

In Attendance

Mr LI Ho, Thomas Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office

Mr CHAN King-sze, Gavin Senior Engineer/Islands, Transport Department

Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan Senior Transport Officer/Islands 1, Transport Department Ms FUNG Sin-yee, Mini Senior Transport Officer/Islands 2, Transport Department

Mr WEN Jinxing, Terry Engineer/22 (Lantau),

Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr LUE Yat-fung District Operations Officer (Lantau District),

Hong Kong Police Force

Mr IP Ngai-chung Assistant District Operations Officer (Lantau District),

Hong Kong Police Force

Mr HO Lee-yip Manager, District Relations,

New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited

Mr Peter TSANG Senior Manager - Transportation,

Discovery Bay Transportation Services Limited

Ms Anthea CHAU Senior Corporate Communications Manager,

Sun Ferry Services Company Limited

Secretary

Ms CHEUNG Hoi-kam, Nicole Executive Officer (District Council)3,

Islands District Office

Absent with Apology

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Welcoming remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Members, representatives of government departments and organisations to the meeting and introduced the following representatives of government departments who attended the meeting:

- (a) Ms CHEUNG Hoi-kam, Nicole, Executive Officer (District Council)3 of the Islands District Office, who succeeded Ms CHAN Hoi-ching, Mandy as the Secretary of the Committee;
- (b) Mr WEN Jinxing, Terry, Engineer/22 (Lantau) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), who succeeded Ms WONG Wing-ying, Chloe;
- (c) Mr CHAN King-sze, Gavin, Senior Engineer/Islands of the Transport Department (TD), who stood in for Ms HUI Shuk-yee.
- 2. Members noted that Mr Ken WONG was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 21 November 2022

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the captioned draft minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by the government departments, guests and Members, and had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.
- 4. Members voted by a show of hands and the minutes were endorsed unanimously.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Ms WONG Chau-ping, the Vice-chairman Mr HO Siu-kei, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Ms LAU Shunting.)

II. Question on the obstruction of traffic on the southbound lane of Yu Tung Road (the section from Tung Chung Police Station to Yu Tai Court) caused by various works projects

(Paper T&TC 1/2023)

- III. Question on the frequent occurrence of traffic accidents in Tung Chung (Paper T&TC 5/2023)
 - 5. <u>The Chairman</u> said that as Items II and III were related, it was decided that the two agenda items would be discussed together. The Chairman welcomed Mr WEN Jinxing, Terry, Engineer/22 (Lantau) of the CEDD and CHAN King-sze, Gavin, Senior Engineer/Islands of the TD to the meeting to respond to the questions.
 - 6. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> and <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> briefly presented the questions respectively.
 - 7. <u>Mr Terry WEN</u> briefly presented the written reply of the CEDD.
 - 8. <u>Mr Gavin CHAN</u> briefly presented the written reply of the TD.
 - 9. Mr Eric KWOK said that the increase of the vehicular green time of the traffic light at the junction of the southbound lane of Yu Tung Road and Chung Yan Road had relieved the traffic congestion at the above location, but led to worse congestion of the vehicular traffic turning left from Chung Yan Road into the Tung Chung Town Centre, especially during the morning rush hours. He said that the main cause of the problem was that two works projects were being carried out on the southbound lane between the Tung Chung Police Station and Yu Tai Court in parallel. According to his observations, the two contractors were both understaffed and the projects were put on hold from time to time. He suggested that resources and manpower should be focused on completing the works next to Yu Tai Court first, so as to avoid road blockage caused by the two projects taking place in parallel.
 - 10. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) After the commencement of the works project of the CEDD, the roads in the vicinity of Yat Tung Estate were often congested and the traffic queues even extended to Yat Tung Street. The TD conducted site visits during Christmas and the Lunar New Year holidays. As the students were on holiday and the traffic demand was reduced during the period, the department might not have perceived the seriousness of the problem. When the students were back to school, the traffic would be congested

- again. He said that the implementation of multiple works projects on the road section at the same time had caused traffic congestion. He hoped the TD would come up with a solution.
- (b) The workers did not place the warning signs at the prominent positions of the construction sites. In addition, the signs and traffic cones placed were not in a sufficient number nor at a safe distance. At present, the traffic cones placed by the workers were only about two metres away from the construction sites. He suggested that at least two traffic cones that were three and six metres away from a construction site respectively should be placed to increase the buffer distances and reduce the chances of accidents. In addition, he hoped the TD would provide advice on safety measures to the relevant parties.
- 11. Mr HO Siu-kei said that the road section concerned was often congested during rush hours. In addition to the fatal traffic accident in December 2022, minor collision accidents also occurred from time to time. He did not want any more traffic accidents to occur. He asked the Police if they could provide the investigation report on the traffic accident, so that Members could learn more about the causes of the accident and then discuss with the TD and the Police how to prevent similar accidents from happening again. He said a number of works projects would be launched in Tung Chung West. He opined that the relevant departments should discuss with Members on the maintenance of traffic order and safety.
- 12. <u>Ms LAU Shun-ting</u> said that with the increasing infrastructure projects, population and traffic flow in Tung Chung and Lantau Island, the chances of traffic accidents would also increase accordingly. She suggested that the departments should review the traffic planning of the entire Tung Chung Town Centre.
- 13. <u>Mr Terry WEN</u> noted the views of Members and would discuss them with the relevant departments after the meeting.
- 14. <u>Mr Gavin CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) Before carrying out road works, government departments had to provide the relevant information to the TD for audit. The CEDD had provided a traffic impact assessment report on the works project. Upon receipt of the report, the TD had conducted a site visit and the traffic flow of the road section concerned was found to remain at an acceptable level for most of the time. The TD also noticed that there might be traffic congestion at the location during rush hours, therefore it had adjusted the traffic signal timings. The TD would review with the CEDD whether further adjustments to the temporary traffic arrangement were necessary in the light of latest traffic situation.
 - (b) The Code of Practice for the Lighting, Signing and Guarding of Road Works (COP) provided guidance on the implementation of temporary

- traffic arrangement (including the placement of traffic cones) to warn drivers of the obstruction on the carriageway in advance for works on or near the road or in the case of street cleaning.
- (c) As for the development projects and traffic planning of Tung Chung in the future, the project proponents would conduct traffic and transport impact assessments during the planning process to ensure that the traffic facilities were sufficient to cope with the anticipated additional traffic flow.
- (d) The CEDD had conducted a traffic and transport impact assessment for the Tung Chung New Town Extension project. With reference to the recommendations in the assessment report, the CEDD had included in the works contracts some junction improvement works, including the improvement works for the junction of Chung Yan Road and Yu Tung Road and the junction of Ying Tung Road and Yi Tung Road. Currently, some of the works had commenced. It was expected that after the completion of the works, the road network in Tung Chung would be sufficient to meet the traffic demand brought by the future development of the district.
- 15. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> hoped the CEDD would consider his suggestion. If the department decided to complete the works project next to Yu Tai Court first, he asked the department to give the timetable to the Secretariat for forwarding to Members.
- 16. <u>Mr Terry WEN</u> noted the views of Members and would have discussions with the relevant departments accordingly.
- 17. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) There was frequent traffic congestion on Yu Tung Road and Chung Yan Road, which affected the traffic across South Lantau from time to time. He opined that one of the causes of traffic congestion was the narrow road surface, and he asked the CEDD about the improvement measures.
 - (b) As for the COP, he understood that guidelines had already been provided to the contractors by the departments, but the frontline workers might not implement them strictly. He hoped the relevant departments could carry out inspections and supervision at the relevant locations so as to prevent the occurrence of accidents.
- 18. <u>Mr HO Siu-kei</u> asked the Police to give a brief account of the causes of the serious traffic accident on Yu Tung Road in December 2022.
- 19. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Members had also discussed the relevant issues at a meeting of the community liaison group for the Tung Chung New Town Extension project earlier. During the meeting, the CEDD said it would expedite the works next

to Yu Tai Court. She asked if the CEDD had reviewed the progress of the works project.

- 20. <u>Mr Terry WEN</u> noted the views of Members, and would relay the views to the responsible section of the CEDD for follow-up after the meeting and provide supplementary information to Members in a timely manner.
- 21. Mr LUE Yat-fung responded that causes of traffic accidents could be classified into human factors, vehicle failure factors and road condition factors. The fatal traffic accident involving the collision of three vehicles on Yu Tung Road earlier was under the investigation by the Special Investigation Team of Traffic, New Territories South. He would convey Members' concerns about the case to the officer in charge after the meeting, so that the officer could release the investigation progress or results to the relevant parties in a timely manner.
- 22. <u>The Chairman</u> asked Mr Eric KWOK at which period of time the traffic congestion on the road section concerned was the most serious.
- 23. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> responded as follows:
 - (a) The traffic congestion was the most serious at dusk, followed by lunch time, because many people working in the Tung Chung Town Centre and the airport would go to Yat Tung Estate for lunch.
 - (b) At the last meeting of the community liaison group for the Tung Chung New Town Extension project, Members had suggested to the CEDD that resources should be concentrated to complete the works next to Yu Tai Court first, so as to avoid traffic congestion caused by the simultaneous implementation of the two works projects. The CEDD then responded that it would consider the suggestion. He hoped that Mr WEN could have internal communications within the CEDD after the meeting and study the feasibility of expediting the works.
- 24. The Chairman requested the CEDD to expedite the progress of the works next to Yu Tai Court and give the project timetable to the Secretariat in writing after the meeting. She also suggested that the Secretariat should arrange site visits for Members and departmental representatives during peak hours to understand the seriousness of the problem. She hoped the department could solve the problem as soon as possible.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The CEDD, the TD and the Hong Kong Police Force conducted a site visit to the junction of Chung Yan Road and Yu Tung Road together with four Members on 23 February 2023. The Secretariat had forwarded the CEDD's written reply to Members via an email on 3 March.)

IV. Question on the progress of the addition of en-route stops at Yat Tung Estate for the

New Lantau Bus route no. B6 (Paper T&TC 2/2023)

- 25. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan, Senior Transport Officer/Islands 1 of the TD and Mr HO Lee-yip, Manager, District Relations of the New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited (NLB) to the meeting to respond to the question.
- 26. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> briefly presented the question.
- 27. Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan said that prior to the meeting, the TD had once again requested the NLB to actively examine the feasibility of the proposal. The department had also conducted a site visit during off-peak hours. It was preliminarily estimated that the addition of an en-route stop on Chung Yan Road (northbound) near Mei Yat House would increase the journey time by about four to five minutes. She added that during the rush hours in the morning and lunch time, or when there was congestion at the bus stop outside the North Lantau Hospital, the journey time would further increase. She asked the representative of the NLB to comment on the impact of the increased journey time on service frequency, vehicle deployment and arrangement of captains.
- 28. Mr HO Lee-yip said that the NLB had conducted a site visit on the road section concerned prior to the meeting and found that the passenger flow was low. He pointed out that if the NLB route no. B6 was to route via Chung Yan Road during peak hours, the journey time would increase by at least four to five minutes. As a result, there was a need to increase more buses and captains, but such arrangement was not cost-effective at the moment. He said that the NLB had been providing interchange concession to facilitate the residents of Yat Tung Estate. On the whole, the NLB had no immediate plan to add en-route stops for route no. B6.
- 29. Mr Eric KWOK said that the proposal was put forward in 2018, and the NLB and the TD responded positively to the proposal in 2020. However, no action had been taken so far and a negative response was even made at the current meeting. He emphasised that many residents of Yat Tung Estate worked in the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) or travelled to the Mainland via the port. In addition, the epidemic situation had started to stabilise and the border would be fully re-opened. It was expected that the demand for the relevant bus services would increase in the future. He opined that franchised bus companies had the responsibility to improve bus services and should not be profit-oriented. He hoped the department would monitor the implementation of the timetable for the addition of en-route stops for route no. B6 by the NLB.
- 30. Ms LAU Shun-ting said with the population in-take of Yu Nga Court in Tung Chung, the NLB would operate route no. 37A between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. from Monday to Friday. However, residents were concerned that the arrangement could not meet the demand of the increased population. They suggested increasing the service frequency of route no. 37M, enhancing the service of route no. 37A throughout the day, and enhancing the shuttle bus services of Century Link and The Visionary, so as to share the traffic demand of Tung Chung North.

31. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Ms LAU Shun-ting's comments were not within the scope of discussion of the question. She asked the Secretariat to take note of the Member's comments and refer them to the relevant departments for follow-up after the meeting.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The Secretariat had referred Ms LAU Shun-ting's comments to the TD for follow-up on 8 February 2023.)

- 32. <u>The Chairman</u> said that franchised bus companies had to fulfil their responsibility of serving the public.
- 33. Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan said that in response to the gradual re-opening of the border, the NLB route no. B6 had resumed most of the daytime service and the 24-hour service from 28 December 2022 and 8 January 2023 respectively. Currently, the headway was maintained at an interval of 30 minutes during most of the daytime. The TD noted the views of Members and the Chairman, and would continue to discuss the relevant solutions with the NLB after the meeting.
- 34. Mr HO Lee-yip said that as for the addition of en-route stops at Yat Tung Estate for route no. B6, the NLB needed to discuss with the TD the change of service time or service frequency, and then discuss the relevant arrangement with Mr Eric KWOK.
- 35. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that the NLB should submit the reply to the Secretariat, so that the Secretariat could forward it to Members.
- 36. Mr Eric KWOK said that the key point of the question was not the service frequency or the arrangement of overnight service of route no. B6, but the addition of an en-route stop at Mei Yat House for the trips bound for Mun Tung Estate and the addition of an en-route stop at the North Lantau Hospital for the trips bound for the Hong Kong Port of the HZMB. He hoped that the TD and the NLB would closely monitor the passenger flow at the Hong Kong Port and the future growth of the demand for bus services, and implement the solution within the year.
- Mr FONG Lung-fei said that the discussion under this agenda item was relevant to his question on the resumption of use of an abandoned bus stop (Item V). He suggested reusing the abandoned bus stop outside Hong Yat House as an en-route stop of route no. B6 for the convenience of the residents of Yat Tung Estate and Yu Tai Court. In addition, he found that a bus stop was being built outside Fuk Yat House, but he did not know whether it would be used as an en-route stop for route no. B6. He agreed that if route no. B6 routed via Chung Yan Road during peak hours, it would have a great impact on the journey time and the traffic. Since many Yat Tung Estate residents worked at the port, and they went out to work early in the morning and went back home late in the evening, he suggested that departures of route no. B6 bound for Mun Tung Estate should adopt two different routes during peak hours and off-peak hours respectively. During peak hours, en-route stops should be added at Fuk Yat

House and Hong Yat House to avoid the extra journey time of routing via Chung Yan Road, while during off-peak hours (after 6:00 p.m.), an en-route stop should be added on Chung Yan Road outside Mei Yat House for the convenience of the residents.

- 38. <u>The Chairman</u> hoped the TD and the NLB would actively conduct studies and explore the feasibility of the proposals.
- 39. <u>Mr HO Lee-yip</u> said he had conveyed to the company the proposal of adding an en-route stop for route no. B6 at the bus stop outside Hong Yat House.
- 40. Mr Eric KWOK agreed with Mr FONG Lung-fei's proposal to resume the use of the abandoned bus stop outside Hong Yat House and use it as an en-route stop for trips of route no. B6 bound for the Hong Kong Port of the HZMB, so as to provide convenience to the residents of Yat Tung Estate and Yu Tung Court. In addition, he hoped that the bus stop to be built on Yu Tung Road near Yu Tai Court would be used as an en-route stop for trips of route no. B6 bound for Mun Tung Estate. He also agreed to adopt different routings for route no. B6 during peak hours and off-peak hours respectively. During peak hours, the en-route bus stop outside Hong Yat House would be used, while during off-peak hours (from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.), the en-route bus stop outside Mei Yat House would be used.
- 41. <u>Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan</u> said that the TD would discuss the proposals put forward by Members with the NLB after the meeting, and would contact the Secretariat and Members to explain the proposals in detail in due course.
- 42. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that during the site visit for the traffic problems of the southbound lane of Yu Tung Road, an inspection should also be carried out at the bus stop outside Hong Yat House. She hoped that the TD and the NLB would actively consider and look into the feasibility of the proposals put forward by Members.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The TD and four Members conducted a site visit on 23 February 2023 and once again urged the NLB to look into the feasibility of the proposals.)

- V. Question on the resumption of use of a bus stop (Paper T&TC 4/2023)
 - 43. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1 of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan, Senior Transport Officer/Islands 1 of the TD to the meeting to respond to the question.
 - 44. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question.
 - 45. Mr Ric YAN briefly presented the written reply. He said that the FEHD would closely monitor the performance of the contractor in accordance with the contract terms.

- 46. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that there was always rubbish piled up at the bus stop, with the waste water seeping out from time to time. He hoped the FEHD could put an end to the problem after communicating with the contractor. In addition, as the bus stop outside Yung Yat House was often crowded with multiple buses at the same time, he suggested resuming the use of the abandoned bus stop at Hong Yat House to divert the buses currently using the three stops on Yu Tung Road (between Mun Tung Estate and Chung Yan Road). He said that after the occupation of the residential developments in Areas 42 and 46 in Tung Chung, the demand for bus service would further increase. The TD should plan for the effective diversion of bus routes to reduce traffic congestion and facilitate residents' use of bus services.
- 47. <u>Ms YEUNG Yuk-shan</u> said that the TD had conducted a site visit to the bus stop and preliminarily concluded it still suitable for use. The department would actively consider the resumption of use of the bus stop to relieve the load on the nearby bus stops and Chung Yan Road, as well as to provide convenience to the residents of Yat Tung Estate, Yu Tai Court and Ma Wan Sun Tsuen.
- 48. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Members would conduct a site visit together with representatives of the TD to learn more about the situation. She also said that the FEHD had been managing the environmental hygiene of Tung Chung effectively. She hoped the FEHD would continue to pay attention to the related issues.
- VI. Question on the safety of pedestrians crossing Chung Yan Road (Paper T&TC 3/2023)
 - 49. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1 of the FEHD to the meeting to respond to the question.
 - 50. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> briefly presented the question.
 - 51. Mr Ric YAN briefly presented the written reply of the FEHD. He said that the problem of placement of recycled articles at public places fell within the scope of street management and it needed to be jointly addressed by various government departments in accordance with their respective functions. The FEHD's primary concern was to maintain environmental hygiene. If the piling of recycled articles were detrimental to environmental hygiene or obstructed any refuse clearing work, appropriate actions would be taken. After advice was given, the persons concerned removed the recycled articles from the location.
 - Mr FONG Lung-fei agreed with the FEHD's approach. He said that apart from worrying about the impact of the accumulation of debris on environmental hygiene, he was more concerned about the road safety problem caused by debris. If the debris was blown to the road, it might cause injuries to pedestrians and even jeopardise the safety of drivers. In addition, since most of the persons who placed the debris were elderly people, he hoped the department could give advice to them before

taking any actions.

VII. Any Other Business

- (I) Question on the provision of pavements on the Pui O section of South Lantau Road on Lantau Island
- 53. The Chairman said that the District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC) held a meeting on 10 January this year to discuss the above question. At the meeting, further questions were raised by Members on the written reply of the TD, but the department did not send any representatives to the meeting that day. Given that the question also involved traffic and transportation matters, the Chairman agreed with Members' suggestion of inviting representatives of the TD to this meeting to respond to the concerns of Members in detail.
- 54. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr CHAN King-sze, Gavin, Senior Engineer/Islands of the TD to the meeting to respond to the question.
- 55. <u>Mr HO Chun-fai</u> briefly presented the question.
- Mr Gavin CHAN said that the TD and the relevant departments had inspected the section of South Lantau Road near lamp post no. FB0049 to lamp post no. FB0050. The location was a vehicular bridge and only the eastbound lane was provided with a pavement. After the inspection, the TD and the relevant departments found that there was not enough space on the westbound lane of the bridge for the provision of a pavement. The department had noticed the traffic safety problem and was also aware that there would be queues of passengers during the peak season in summer. The TD was working with the relevant departments to look for improvement measures, including the widening of the pavement next to the bus stop. The department would also discuss with the bus companies on the enhancement of bus services and the dispatch of staff to the bus stop to assist passengers in queuing when necessary. He suggested that Members and representatives of the department should visit the site and discuss improvement measures together.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The TD was arranging for a site visit and a discussion of improvement measures with the relevant departments and Members in the second quarter of 2023.)

- 57. Mr HO Chun-fai said that maybe the time when the TD conducted the inspection was not a peak period of passenger flow (for example, the first day and the fifteenth day of a lunar month). He said that when there was a heavy passenger flow, he would immediately notify the NLB and the NLB would quickly arrange extra departures to pick up the passengers. However, it still failed to ease the passenger flow. He opined that pavements should be provided on both sides of the road section to avoid passengers queuing on the road.
- 58. Mr Randy YU welcomed the cooperation between the TD and the NLB in

deploying staff to assist passengers in queuing during peak hours. However, he opined that it was only a temporary solution and long-term solutions had to be worked out. He agreed with the arrangement of a site visit by the department and Members together and suggested that works departments, including the Highways Department (HyD) and the CEDD, should be invited to discuss the feasibility of the works. He said that there were often cattle passing by the road section in Pui O and entering the road. It was very dangerous for cattle, tourists and vehicles to use the narrow road at the same time. He hoped the department would widen the pavements or build additional footbridges.

- 59. Mr Eric KWOK said that the TD's response to actively consider pavement widening was very positive. He said that if the works were confirmed, he hoped the department would provide the timetable and the expected completion date to Members. He said Members were unhappy with the written reply provided by the department to the DFMC and were also dissatisfied with the department's failure to send any representatives to the DFMC meeting on 10 January 2023. The department's sending of representatives to this meeting and its positive response were commendable.
- 60. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the TD's response at the meeting was much more positive than the written reply given earlier.
- Mr Gavin CHAN said the department would take short-term improvement measures in view of road safety, including looking into the widening of the pavement next to the bus stop. With regard to Mr Eric KWOK's suggestion, he said that after the inspection by the department and the relevant works departments, it was found that there were certain technical difficulties for the implementation of widening works on the bridge, but the department would continue to look for long-term improvement measures.
- 62. Mr Eric KWOK said that there were technical difficulties in every works project, but the departments had to attach importance to and give priority to people's livelihood issues.
- 63. Mr HO Chun-fai opined that the TD had to conduct a site visit to the road section together with Members. He said that if passengers wanted to go to the bus stop on the westbound lane, they needed to cross the road to reach the pavement along the eastbound lane and walk for about 30 metres, and then cross the road again to reach the bus stop. Therefore, the department should add a pavement to the westbound lane.
- Mr Randy YU understood that representatives of the TD might not be able to make any promises to Members on the spot. He pointed out that the department had proposed short-term improvement measures and was willing to conduct site visits and explore medium and long-term solutions. He opined that the purpose of the meeting had been achieved. He suggested that the responsible personnel of the TD, the HyD and the CEDD conduct a site visit together with Members to explore solutions.
- 65. Mr HO Siu-kei was very dissatisfied with the TD's written reply earlier, but

agreed that the department's response at the meeting had improved. He pointed out that the usage rate of the road was constantly increasing, so it was necessary to improve the facilities for the convenience of the public. He hoped the relevant departments could solve the problem.

- 66. The Chairman was very concerned about the traffic problems of Lantau Island. She had often travelled along the road section concerned and observed the situation. She asked whether the relevant departments had sent personnel to the bus stop to assist passengers in queuing, maintain order or seek assistance from the Police.
- 67. Mr Gavin CHAN said that the TD would pay special attention to the situation during the peak season in summer and would follow up with the bus companies. If necessary, the bus companies would strengthen their services and the department would also contact the Police for assistance in a timely manner.
- 68. <u>Mr LUE Yat-fung</u> said the Police noted the views of the Chairman and would follow up with the TD after the meeting.
- 69. <u>The Chairman</u> said that during the peak hours of passenger flow, the Police had to send officers to help maintain the queuing order.
- 70. Mr HO Chun-fai said that on every Sunday in summer, he and the manager of the NLB would go to the bus stop to assist passengers in queuing. However, he opined that the construction of a pavement was the only solution.
- 71. The Chairman urged the TD and the Police to pay attention to safety issues, and suggested that they should send personnel to assist Mr HO Chun-fai and the NLB in maintaining the queuing order during the peak periods of passenger flow.
- (II) Agenda of the next meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee Bus Routes Working Group
- 72. Mr FONG Lung-fei proposed to include the discussion on route nos. E11A and E11B into the agenda of the Traffic and Transport Committee Bus Routes Working Group meeting of 1 February 2023.
- 73. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to follow up with Mr FONG after the meeting.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The discussion on route nos. E11A and E11B had been included in the agenda of the Traffic and Transport Committee Bus Routes Working Group meeting of 1 February 2023.)

VIII. <u>Date of next meeting</u>

74. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m. The

next meeting was scheduled for 20 March 2023 (Monday) at 2:00 p.m.

($\underline{\text{Post-meeting note}}$: The next meeting would be held on 15 March 2023 (Wednesday) at 2:00 p.m.)

-END-