

**Summary of Discussion of the 2nd Special Meeting of the
Traffic & Transport Committee (2014) of
Kwai Tsing District Council**

Date : 28 March 2014
Time : 2:30 pm – 5:40 pm
Venue : K&TDC Conference Room

Attendants	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure
Ms POON Siu-ping, Nancy, MH (Chairlady)	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr HO Siu-ping (Vice-Chairman)	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Siu Man, Simon	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Ms CHEUNG Wai-ching, Clarice	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman	2:50 pm	End of Meeting
Miss CHU Lai-ling	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr HUI Kei-cheung	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Ms LAM Chui-ling, Nancy, MH	Start of meeting	5:26 pm
Mr LAM Lap-chi	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LAM Siu-fai	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Ms LAU Mei-lo	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LAW King-shing, MH	Start of meeting	3:34pm
Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan, MH	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kwok-wah	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Wai-man, MH	Start of meeting	4:46 pm
Ms LO Wai-lan	Start of meeting	3:46 pm
The Honourable MAK Mei-kuen, Alice, JP	3:42 pm	End of meeting
Mr NG Kim-sing	2:55 pm	End of meeting
Mr POON Chi-shing	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Ms TAM Wai-chun, MH	Start of meeting	4:10 pm
Mr TANG Shui-wah	Start of meeting	4:22 pm
Mr TSUI Hiu-kit	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy	Start of meeting	4:53 pm
Mr WONG Bing-kuen	Start of meeting	3:48 pm
Mr WONG Yiu-chung, MH	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr WONG Yun-tat, Ivan	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Tik-yiu	2:43 pm	End of meeting
Mr LAI King-wai	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Ms LAM Ka-ka	2:53 pm	End of meeting
Mr LAU Wing-fai	2:43 pm	End of meeting

Ms LEUNG Ching-shan	2:41 pm	3:03 pm
Mr LEUNG Wing-kuen	Start of meeting	3:02 pm
Mr NG Ka-chiu	Start of meeting	End of meeting
Mr WONG Chiu-wah	Start of meeting	4:57 pm

In Attendance:

Mr WU Tin-yau, Gordon	Assistant District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office
Miss LAI Suet-yan, Janice	Senior Transport Officer (Kwai Tsing), Transport Department
Miss PO Pui-man, Karen	Senior Transport Officer, Bus, HK 1 Transport Department
Mr Alok JAIN	Head of Planning & Development, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Dennis LEE	Manager, Planning & Development, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Ms Peggy WONG	Assistant Manager, Planning & Development, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Danny SO	Principal Operations Officer, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Utan WONG	Senior Operations Officer, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Ken WONG	Senior Operations Officer, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Brian CHEUNG	Manager, Community Affairs (Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing and Tsuen Wan), The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Mr Frankie WONG	Manager, Community Affairs, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd
Miss HUNG Tsz-bun, Annie (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council) 1, Kwai Tsing District Office

Absent with Apologies:

Mr CHOW Yick-hay, BBS, JP	(without prior notice)
Mr LEUNG Chi-shing	(without prior notice)
Miss TSANG Tsz-wan, Mariana	(with prior notice)
Mr WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	(with prior notice)
Mr CHAM Yau-chung	(with prior notice)
Mr CHU Chik-ping	(with prior notice)
Mr LEUNG Chung-shum	(with prior notice)
Mr TSE Hoi-kin	(with prior notice)

Introduction/Consultation

Bus Route Development Programme 2014-15 of Kwai Tsing District

(Proposed by the Transport Department)

(TTC Paper Nos. 4-4y/2014)

1. Representatives of the Transport Department (“TD”) and the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”) attended the meeting to hear and respond to Members’ comments.
2. Members expressed their comments and concerns regarding the Bus Route Development Programme 2014-15 of Kwai Tsing District (“the Programme”):
 - (i) it aimed at cutting down bus services and increasing fare in the name of service rationalization and environmental protection;
 - (ii) savings to be achieved in terms of resources would not be ploughed back into improving services for the benefits of Kwai Tsing residents;
 - (iii) it did not come up with any solutions to the problems associated with traffic congestion, lost bus trips and service shortfalls; and
 - (iv) it failed to put up any improvement proposals to optimize the existing services and cope with the future demands.
3. Moreover, Members pointed out specifically the problems with the Programme:
 - (i) the proposed relocation of the termini of Route No. 41, No. 42, No. 44 and No. 45 would cause inconvenience to passengers;
 - (ii) the proposed service changes, e.g. re-routing, reduction of bus fleet size and change of headways, to Route No. 31, No. 33A, No. 40X, No. 42 and No. 45 would adversely affect the quality of services;
 - (iii) the proposed cancellation of Route No. 38A, No. 242X, No. 264M, etc. would deprive passengers of convenient transport options;
 - (iv) the problem of lost trips was obvious in Route No. 31, No. 33A, No. 34, No. 37, No. 41, No. 42 and No. 45;
 - (v) low frequency of service was noted in Route No. 31M, No. 34, No. 42A, No. 42M, No. 43A and No. 248M; and
 - (vi) the proposed interchange arrangements would only cause inconvenience to passengers, and the absence of additional ancillary interchange facilities would leave passengers unsure of the bus routes to take.

4. Members made the following requests:

- (i) KMB should retain Route No. 35S;
- (ii) KMB should enhance the frequency of Route No. 46;
- (iii) KMB should expand the bus fleet size of Route No. 37;
- (iv) KMB should convert Route No. 40P, No. 249X, etc. into whole-day routes;
- (v) KMB should introduce double-decker buses for Route No. 34 in place of single-decker buses;
- (vi) KMB should offer appropriate interchange concessions;
- (vii) KMB should provide justifications for increasing bus fare;
- (viii) TD should provide information on the contribution of buses to air pollution;
- (ix) TD should commence transport planning as early as possible having regard to the possible demands arising from future residential developments in the district;
- (x) TD and bus companies should tackle the problem of lost trips rather than simply focusing on the optimisation of resources;
- (xi) TD should review the “rail-based” strategy, and to consider adopting a “two-pronged” approach in enhancing bus services in the district; and
- (xii) TD and KMB should revise the Programme based on the comments received from Kwai Tsing District Council and all the parties concerned for consultation again.

5. Responses of TD representatives were summarized as follows:

- (i) TD had strived to make better use of resources, streamline the bus network, address the problems of air pollution and traffic congestion, and achieve sustainable development;
- (ii) The Programme would involve adjustments/revisions of a number of bus routes, and the alternative services to be provided would lead to changes in the travel pattern of passengers;
- (iii) An “Area Approach” was to be adopted in rationalising bus services, which would involve substantial changes to bus routes. After collecting Members’ views, TD and KMB would examine if there was room for adjustments and improvements;
- (iv) Detailed proposals on the three bus routes running between Kwai Tsing and Sha Tin, i.e. 40X, 47X and 294X, would be given to Members as soon as possible. After collecting Members’ views, TD and KMB would consider if there was room for improvements and Members’ concerns over bus fare; and
- (v) TD was aware of the opinions of Members and local residents, and would explore possible ways to improve the Programme.

6. Responses of KMB representatives were summarised as follows:
- (i) The Programme aimed to enhance the stability of bus services and make appropriate adjustments to the bus routes in a bid to meet increasing passenger demands and increase transit efficiency; and
 - (ii) After collecting Members' views, KMB would revise and fine-tune the Programme as far as practicable.
7. The Chairman read a provisional motion as follows:

Moved by: Ms LAU Mei-lo, Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis and the Honourable MAK Mei-kuen, Alice, JP

Seconded by: Ms CHU Lai-ling

“The Traffic & Transport Committee of Kwai Tsing District Council expresses deep regret over the Transport Department and KMB for not mentioning the improvement to the services of Bus Route Nos. 34 and 37 in the Bus Route Development Programme 2014-15 of Kwai Tsing District, and strongly requests KMB to increase the number of buses for Bus Route No. 37 from 10 to 13 and replace all single-decker buses of Bus Route No. 34 with double-decker buses.”

The motion was endorsed unanimously.

8. The Chairman read a provisional motion as follows:

Moved by: Mr WONG Yun-tat, Mr LEUNG Kam-wai and Mr CHOW Wai-hung

Seconded by: Mr HUI Kei-cheung, Mr LAM Lap-chi, Mr LAM Siu-fai, Mr LEUNG Kwok-wah, Mr NG Kim-sing and Mr CHAN Siu-man

“The Kwai Tsing District Council strongly requests the shelving of the Bus Route Development Programme 2014-15 of Kwai Tsing District and re-examination of the bus services. The Council also requests the Transport Department to review the ‘rail-based’ policy and adopt a ‘two-pronged’ approach, by assisting in the development of bus services, to enhance and improve the bus services in the district.”

The motion was endorsed unanimously.