



Sha Tin District Council

Report on the enlarged meeting of the
Traffic and Transport Committee held on 5 May 2014

- (1) During the enlarged meeting, the councillors and Committee members discussed *Sha Tin District Bus Route Development Programme 2014/2015* submitted by the Transport Department, and passed the following provisional motion unanimously:

“In *Sha Tin District Bus Route Development Programme 2014/2015*, the Transport Department proposed to take an “Area Approach” in the rationalisation of bus routes serving Sha Tin. The original purpose was to make the best of the three interchange stations in Sha Tin, as well as optimise internal short-distance feeder routes and external long-distance routes. But it is found that for some of the routes to be rationalised, service will be less frequent and there will be indirect fare rise, not to mention that new bus services introduced are inadequate, and there is a lack of concessionary schemes (bus-bus interchange concession not included). It seems the Kowloon Motor Bus is reducing the frequency of service, frenetically raising the fares and decreasing their services in the name of bus route rationalisation, and both the public and the Sha Tin District Council are very dissatisfied with that. Therefore, the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Sha Tin District Council is strongly against Paper TT25/2014 submitted by the Transport Department and the Kowloon Motor Bus, and requests them to revoke the plan and listen carefully to the views of the public and the Council, and draw up anew a feasible plan that really benefits the public by providing convenient and efficient services as well as fare reduction.”

- (2) The Committee discussed the following:

- (i) reply of the Transport Department to the question on “Improvement of Road Traffic on Heung Fan Liu Street, Tai Wai”;
- (ii) replies of the Transport Department and the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC) to the question on “MTR Incidents and Passenger Flow”, and passed the following provisional motion unanimously:

“The Traffic and Transport Committee of the Sha Tin District Council requests the MTR Corporation Limited to replace the ageing cables and signalling

systems of the East Rail as soon as possible, re-examine and re-assess the carrying capacity of the East Rail, increase train frequency, improve services and increase the carrying capacity, so as to cope with increasing passenger flow.”;

- (iii) replies of the Transport Department, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (KMB), and the New World First Bus Services Limited and Citybus Limited (NWFB/CTB) to the question on “Planning, Operation and Contingency Arrangement of Bus and Minibus Services in Sha Tin”; and
- (iv) replies of the Transport Department, the Hong Kong Police Force, the MTRC, the KMB and the NWFB/CTB to the question on “Frenetic Increase in Fares and Substantial Decrease in Quality of Public Transport Services at Lok King Street, Fo Tan.”

(3) The Committee endorsed the following:

- (i) 2014-2015 work plans and funding applications of the Committee’s Working Group on Road Safety, Working Group on Development of Cycle Network, and Working Group on Development of Major Transport Infrastructures in Sha Tin District, details were as follows:

<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Amount applied for</u> (\$)
Working Group on Road Safety:	
(a) Sha Tin Road Safety Activities 2014-2015	80,000
Working Group on Development of Cycle Network:	
(a) Opinion Survey on Provision of Cycle Facilities on Cycle Tracks in Sha Tin	35,000
(b) Inspection of the Road Condition of Cycle Tracks in Sha Tin	25,000
(c) Guided Cultural Cycling Tours in Sha Tin 2014	60,000
Working Group on Development of Major Transport Infrastructures in Sha Tin District:	
(a) Study on Existing Bus Stop Facilities in Sha Tin	60,000 (2014-2015) 60,000 (2015-2016)
(b) Sha Tin to Central Link (Sha Tin Section) Consultation Forum	20,000

- (ii) motion requesting the conducting of studies on expansion of Shing Mun Tunnels Bus Interchange:

“To cope with increasing passenger flow at the Shing Mun Tunnels Bus Interchange and tie in with the future bus route rationalisation plan, as well as improve the supporting traffic facilities in Hong Kong, the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Sha Tin District Council strongly requests the tunnel operator, the Transport Department and the Highways Department to conduct a study on expansion of the Shing Mun Tunnels Bus Interchange immediately, so as to improve the cramped environment and resolve the overcrowding condition. The Committee also suggests that seats should be provided for the elderly or the disabled, bus route signs be optimised and increased, and electronic display of estimated bus arrival time be provided for passengers to select suitable bus routes, so that the space for queuing and the order of queuing could be further improved.” (Unanimously passed); and

- (iii) motion requesting a revised routeing and a more frequent service of bus route no. A41P:

“The Traffic and Transport Committee of the Sha Tin District Council strongly requests that the stations of airbus route no. A41P at Villa Athena and Saddle Ridge Garden on Sai Sha Road should be restored, so that the original passengers would not be affected, and a 30-minute frequency should be maintained.” (Unanimously passed).

(4) The Committee noted the following:

- (i) response of government departments and organisations to matters arising from the previous meeting;
- (ii) progress report submitted by the Transport Department;
- (iii) minutes of meetings of the Committee’s Working Group on Road Safety, Working Group on Development of Cycle Network, and Working Group on Development of Major Transport Infrastructures in Sha Tin District;
- (iv) 2014-2015 approved estimates of an Expenditure Head under the Committee;
- (v) report on the progress of works of the Highways Department;

- (vi) population of public housing estates and Private Sector Participation Scheme courts in Sha Tin District; and
- (vii) prosecution figures on traffic offences in Sha Tin town centre.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat

STDC 13/55/30

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