

Summary of Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (2014-2015)

Meeting

The Traffic and Transport Committee (“TTC”) held its 3rd meeting on 14 March 2014.

Widening of Castle Peak Road – Castle Peak Bay

2. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, the representatives of the Highways Department (“HyD”) and its consultant briefed Members on the residents’ views collected, explained how to deal with the tree problems and presented the latest progress of the project. A number of Members expressed their views about noise barrier construction, junction design and tree relocation, etc. After discussion, the Chairman asked the Working Group on Traffic Problems within Tuen Mun District to follow up on this item, and asked the HyD to explain in detail at the next TTC meeting how to deal with the tree problems.

Request the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”) to Take Immediate Follow-up Action on Problem of Lost Bus Trips

3. A number of Members expressed concern about the report released by the Office of The Ombudsman (“Ombudsman”) on its direct investigation into the mechanism of the Transport Department (“TD”) for monitoring the frequencies of franchised bus services, and expressed their views about the definition of lost bus trips, the calculation of lost trip rates and the system of sanctions, etc. The representative of the TD responded that direct investigation into the bus companies’ service standards had been conducted, and independent research companies had also been commissioned to assist in the monitoring work. The TD had also studied the Ombudsman’s recommendations with the bus companies, and would report the results to the Legislative Council. The Chairman asked the TD to report regularly on lost bus trips in Tuen Mun District to the TTC every three months.

“Universal Accessibility” Programme Provision of Barrier-Free Access Facilities at Three Footbridges

4. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, the representatives of the HyD and its consultant briefed Members on the design of the project. Members expressed their views about lift location, costs and work schedule, etc. After discussion, the Chairman asked the HyD and its consultant to consider Members’ views.

“Universal Accessibility” Programme Provision of Lifts at Two Footbridges and One Pedestrian Subway in Tuen Mun District

5. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, the representatives of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) and its consultant briefed Members on the background and design of the project. Members expressed their views about support measures, construction safety and lift design, etc. The Chairman concluded that the TTC supported this project, and asked the CEDD to carry out related work as soon as possible.

Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road – Sam Shing Hui Section (Contract No.: HY/2008/11)
Temporary Traffic Arrangements for Installation of Gantry Signs

6. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, the representatives of the HyD and its consultant briefed Members on the temporary traffic arrangements of the project. Members expressed concerns about the work progress and road traffic sign design, and reminded the HyD to reopen the affected road sections as scheduled. After discussion, the Chairman asked the HyD to consider Members' views, enhance publicity, and inform the TTC prior to project commencement.

Calling for Provision of Parking Spaces for Heavy Vehicles at Hung Kiu

7. The Member who submitted the paper said that she hoped to find another location in the area to compensate for the loss of parking spaces for goods vehicles in the former Kwong Choi Market. The representative of the TD responded that the TD had liaised with the Member who submitted the paper and DC Member of the constituency concerned, and proposed to provide three parking spaces for goods vehicles at Tseng Choi Street near Florence Mansion. After discussion, the Chairman asked the TD and the Working Group on Traffic Problems within Tuen Mun District to follow up on this item.

Calling for Installation of Closed Circuit Television Cameras and Crossing Warning Signs at Junction of Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road and Pui To Road

8. The Member who submitted the paper said that a fatal traffic accident had occurred at the aforesaid location. According to her site inspection, the bridge column at that location might obstruct the sightline of drivers, so she suggested the installation of closed circuit television cameras to alert the drivers. The representative of the TD responded that the TD would consider the provision of appropriate facilities at that location upon completion of the Police's investigation report. The Chairman asked the TD and the Working Group on Traffic Problems within Tuen Mun District to follow up on this item.

Calling for Provision of Octopus Add-value Service at Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange ("BBI")

9. The representative of the KMB responded that the company would actively study the provision of a kiosk for manual Octopus add-value service at Tuen Mun Road BBI similar to the proposed one to be provided at Tai Lam Tunnel Bus Interchange. However, as Tuen Mun Road BBI was located on government land, the Government's land zoning had to be observed. Therefore, it might be technically difficult to provide the facilities likewise at Tuen Mun Road BBI. After discussion, the Chairman said that he would write to the KMB and Octopus Holdings Limited to express Members' views, and asked the Working Group on Tuen Mun External Traffic to follow up on this item.

Calling for Improvement to Interchange Concession for Buses Running Between Tuen Mun and Sai Kung

10. The Member who submitted the paper hoped that the KMB could include routes no. 61X, 62X and 96R in its interchange discount scheme, and operate a new bus route between Tuen Mun and Sai Kung. The representative of the KMB responded that since the introduction of interchange discount for three-leg journeys in September 2013, passengers

could take routes no. 60M, 60X, 61X or 263 from Tuen Mun Town Centre to Tuen Mun Road BBI, interchange routes no. 258D or 259D there, and then interchange route no. 92 to Sai Kung. The KMB had also noted Members' views. The Chairman asked the TD and the Working Group on Tuen Mun External Traffic to follow up on this item.

Calling for Review of Safety Measures of Tuen Mun Road for Purpose of Reducing Traffic Accidents

11. The Members who submitted the paper said that they had often received complaints from members of the public against frequent traffic accidents on Tuen Mun Road. Currently, the constantly changing locations of water-filled barriers used in the widening of Tuen Mun Road were confusing for drivers. The Police and the TD had also failed to divert traffic flow promptly after an accident. The representative of the Hong Kong Police Force ("HKPF") responded that at present, the Police could arrive at the incident site within five minutes, and divert traffic flow soon after completion of preliminary investigation. The representative of the TD added that the Emergency Transport Coordination Centre of the TD, which operated 24 hours a day, would discuss contingency plans with public transport service operators and tunnel companies if any incident occurred, and disseminate relevant messages through the media. The HyD also required contractors for each project to have contingency measures in place. The Chairman asked the HKPF, the TD and the HyD to consider Members' views.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

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