

Summary of Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (2014-2015)

Meeting

The Traffic and Transport Committee (“TTC”) held its 7th meeting on 14 November 2014.

Bus Route Development Programme for Tuen Mun District (2014-2015)

2. The representative of the Transport Department (“TD”) briefed Members on the progress and follow-up action taken as at October 2014. After discussion and enquiry, the Chairman concluded that despite the endorsement of the stage one adjustment to routes no. 60M/66M/61X/66P at the last meeting, Members disagreed with the stage two plan on routes no. 59A, 259B/259C/259E/259X. Therefore, he asked the TD to put forward the plan for the TTC’s discussion after further consideration and modification.

Request for Suppression of Problem of Noise Nuisance at Traffic Interchanges

3. A Member pointed out that the TD had replied with the statistics of overnight bus parking, but no response had been made to the illegal parking of buses operated by the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”). The representative of the TD responded that applications were required for overnight parking at bus stops. After receiving applications, the TD would consult and collect views from the relevant government departments and residents nearby through the Tuen Mun District Office, and impose the approval conditions for overnight bus parking based on the views collected. A Member commented on the leasing of the KMB’s bus depots. After discussion, the Chairman said that he could write to the TD for enquiry if necessary.

Request Bus Routes No. B3X and B3M to Call at Hoh Fuk Tong Bus Stop

4. The Member who submitted the paper suggested the provision of additional alighting stops at Hung Kiu and Far East Consortium Tuen Mun Central Building to the aforesaid routes, after the TD had added northbound boarding stops at San Hui and Hung Kiu. The representative of the TD responded that the suggestion was welcomed, and would be studied with Citybus Limited (“Citybus”). The Chairman asked the TD and Citybus to test the calling of these routes at Hoh Fuk Tong bus stop first.

Request for Expeditious Construction of Route 10 (Northern Section)

5. The representative of the TD responded that the Government had from time to time reviewed with internal resources the needs for new strategic road infrastructure in response to new development in Hong Kong. The construction of the Tuen Mun – Chek Lap Kok Link and other projects were underway to develop an enhanced network for the Northwest New Territories (“NWNT”) development. Long-term highway infrastructure proposals would also be examined further to cater for the traffic demand generated by the NWNT development. The Strategic North-South Link of NWNT proposed in the findings of the “Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy” study published in 2007 had included an alignment covering Tai Lam Chung Tunnel and Tsing Lung Bridge, which had been renamed Route 11 recently. In the long run, Route 11 would be a possible alternative option to

accommodate the projected future traffic growth at Tai Lam Tunnel and Ting Kau Bridge, and its implementation and schedule would be subject to the actual progress of the NWNT development. After discussion, this item would be followed up by the Working Group on Development and Planning of Tuen Mun District.

Request for Provision of Aids for Wheelchair Users at Bus Stop of Routes No. B3/B3M/B3X at Tuen Mun Town Centre

6. The Member who submitted the paper said that a lot of residents nearby took route No. B3 series at Town Centre Stop to Shenzhen Bay, but the stop was inconvenient for wheelchair users. She requested Citybus to give clearer instructions for queuing, provide cover at the queuing area for wheelchair users and remove the rock column near the boarding area for easier boarding. The representative of the TD responded that after visiting the bus stop, the TD had requested Citybus to brief its drivers about attention to wheelchair users' needs, and provide additional instructions to remind passengers of making space for wheelchair users. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to arrange a site visit to explore the possibility of bus stop expansion.

Working Group on Traffic Problems within Tuen Mun District

7. A Member enquired of the Highways Department ("HyD") when the construction of minibus terminal at Area 44 would commence, as residents had been dissatisfied with the parking of minibuses outside Marina Garden since the enclosure of the original parking area, and minibus drivers had been prosecuted and fined repeatedly. The representative of the HyD responded that according to the TD's works order, the project had been scheduled to be carried out between April and October 2015. Preparations for preliminary work, land and fund application, and temporary diversion measures were underway. After discussion, the Chairman asked the TD to arrange another area for temporary minibus parking while the project was underway, and asked the HyD to follow up further.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

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