

(Translation)

Minutes of the 18th Meeting of Traffic and Transport Committee (2/2023)

Date: 19 June 2023

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, BBS, MH (Chairman)

Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio

Mr WONG Ka-wa

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH

Government Representatives

Mr LEE Soeng-him, Sean

Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan),
Tsuen Wan District Office

Ms YEUNG Wai-han

District Operations Officer (Tsuen Wan) (Acting),
Hong Kong Police Force

Mr KWAN Lam

Assistant District Operations Officer (Tsuen
Wan), Hong Kong Police Force

Mr LAM Chi-chung

Officer-in-Charge, District Traffic Team (Tsuen
Wan), Hong Kong Police Force

Miss CHENG Wing-yin

Senior Transport Officer/Tsuen Wan,
Transport Department

Mr CHAN Yee-hing, Paul

Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1, Transport Department

Mr LEE Huen-yiu

District Engineer/Tsuen Wan,
Highways Department

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Mr LIM Kuen

Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Tsuen Wan District Office

Miss MAK Wing-yan, Wendy

Executive Officer (District Council)3,
Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr NG Cheuk-pong, James
(Secretary)

Executive Officer (District Council)4,
Tsuen Wan District Office

Attendance by Invitation:

For discussion of item 3

Mr CHEUNG Ka-leung, Tony	Project Manager/Major Works, Highways Department
Mr FUNG Ho-tak, Chris	Senior Engineer 2/Route 11, Highways Department
Mr LO Wai-kei	Senior Engineer 3/Route 11, Highways Department
Mr TONG Kwan-shing, Tommy	Senior Engineer/Major Projects 2, Transport Department
Mr CHO Wing-hin, Isaac	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2, Transport Department
Mr KWAN Chi-fai	Project Manager, Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited
Mr Henry YEUNG	Senior Engineer/Transportation, Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited

Absent:

Mr LAU Cheuk-yu

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from the government departments to the 18th meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC), and introduced:

- (1) Ms YEUNG Wai-han, District Operations Officer (Tsuen Wan) (Acting) (DOO(TW) (Atg.)), Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), who attended this meeting on behalf of Mr CHOW Ching-chi, Alfred.

2. The Chairman stated that according to section 28 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders, unless otherwise specified, Members who submitted a paper might have up to 1.5 minutes to introduce the paper and 1 minute to make supplementary remarks for each agenda item. Other Members might speak once for up to 1.5 minutes. A maximum of four Members could speak for each agenda item. If more than four Members spoke on an agenda item, he would shorten the speaking time of each Member. The representatives of the departments might have up to 3 minutes to give response.

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 17th Meeting held on 17.4.2023

3. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received one proposed amendment from Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio prior to this meeting. The proposed amendment was set out as follows:

- (1) Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio proposed that in line 14 of paragraph 12(1) of the captioned minutes, “、加強 930X 號線班次” (, enhance the service frequency of route no. 930X) should be added after “的安排” (the arrangement of).

4. The Chairman asked whether Members endorsed the captioned minutes and the proposed amendment. Members unanimously endorsed the captioned minutes and the proposed amendment.

III Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

5. The Chairman said that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: Route 11 (Section between Yuen Long and North Lantau)

(T&TC Paper No. 7/2023)

6. The Chairman said that the Highways Department (HyD) submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHEUNG Ka-leung, Tony, Project Manager/Major Works (PM/MW), HyD;
- (2) Mr FUNG Ho-tak, Chris, Senior Engineer 2/Route 11 (SE2/R11), HyD;
- (3) Mr LO Wai-kei, Senior Engineer 3/Route 11 (SE3/R11), HyD;
- (4) Mr TONG Kwan-shing, Tommy, Senior Engineer/Major Projects 2, Transport Department (TD);
- (5) Mr CHO Wing-hin, Isaac, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2, TD;
- (6) Mr KWAN Chi-fai, Project Manager, Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited (OAP); and
- (7) Mr Henry YEUNG, Senior Engineer/Transportation, OAP.

7. PM/MW and SE3/R11 of the HyD introduced the paper.

8. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he strongly supported the captioned project because Route 11 would reduce the utilisation rate of Tuen Mun Road (TMR) and provide a more convenient access for vehicles travelling from Yuen Long to Tsing Yi and urban areas via Tuen Mun town centre, TMR and Ting Kau Bridge at present. He enquired whether Route 11 would

- be connected to Lantau Link and was concerned about the impact of this route on the ancestral graves situated at North Lantau near Tsing Chau Tsai (Mr YAU Kam-ping);
- (2) he opined that the proposed “Tai Lam Chung Tunnel” had a similar name to the existing but fairly distant “Tai Lam Tunnel”. As it might cause confusion easily, he suggested the HyD consider renaming the proposed tunnel. He also reflected residents’ concern over the possible escalation in the number of traffic accidents as a consequence of the increase in cross-boundary vehicular traffic upon the commissioning of Route 11, since some drivers might not be familiar with the traffic rules in Hong Kong (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);
 - (3) he supported the captioned project and hoped that the HyD would commence the works as soon as possible. He enquired whether the project design would take into account the possibility for the proposed bridge to carry rail traffic in the future by reserving space and load-carrying capacity. At present, traffic congestion often occurred at a number of slip roads turning into TMR (including the location off Lung Mun Oasis and the two-lane carriageway of one-way traffic in Lam Tei near the petrol filling station where vehicles would turn into Lam Tei Quarry Interchange), forcing some drivers to travel via other less preferable roads (such as Tuen Mun - Chek Lap Kok Link). He therefore hoped that the HyD would improve the road design and ancillary facilities, as well as consider connecting Route 11 to Castle Peak Road (Tsuen Wan bound) (Mr WONG Ka-wa); and
 - (4) he enquired whether the commissioning of Route 11 in 2033 could tie in with other major road projects. Besides, as the erection of bridge piers at the coastal waters off Tsing Lung Tau was required for the construction of Tsing Lung Bridge, he enquired if the works would adversely affect fishermen operating at Ma Wan and other inshore areas. He also hoped that the HyD would monitor the impact of the works on the fairways for large vessels during the construction period (the Chairman).

9. PM/MW of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) in addition to Route 11, the HyD was carrying out a number of complementary road improvement works (including the widening of Yuen Long Highway (section between Lam Tei Quarry and Tong Yan San Tsuen)). Moreover, the proposed Tuen Mun Bypass would divert the southbound traffic from the Mainland to the Hong Kong International Airport in Chek Lap Kok and Lantau Island via Shenzhen Bay Bridge in the future. Being a four-lane carriageway, Tsing Lung Bridge would become the widest cross-harbour bridge in the territory linking up various locations (such as facilitating the traffic to Lantau Island via North Lantau Highway, to Tsing Yi and urban areas in Kowloon via Lantau Link or the proposed Tsing Yi – Lantau

Link (TYLL), as well as to the Kau Yi Chau Artificial Islands under planning and Hong Kong Island West via TYLL);

- (2) with respect to Tsuen Wan district, drivers in Sham Tseng would be able to travel to various locations by directly turning into Tsing Lung Bridge via TMR in the future. Besides, some drivers could use other roads for travelling to urban areas via Tsuen Wan when traffic was congested at Ting Kau Bridge. The completion of Route 11 and Tsing Lung Bridge constructed therewith would provide an alternative route for drivers that would improve the traffic conditions on the major roads linking the Northwest New Territories with urban areas and on Lantau Link, thereby relieving the traffic pressure in Tsuen Wan district;
- (3) “Tai Lam Chung Tunnel” was an tentative name used during the construction period. The official name would be finalised before the commissioning of the tunnel. The HyD would convey Members’ views to the department concerned for consideration;
- (4) the HyD would ensure that the design of Route 11 conformed to all relevant standards required by the TD; and
- (5) the HyD aimed to complete a series of road works (including Route 11, TYLL, Tuen Mun Bypass and the widening of Yuen Long Highway (section between Lam Tei Quarry and Tong Yan San Tsuen)) by 2033, with a view to maintaining smooth traffic flow and accommodating the demand arising from the future development of Hong Kong. The HyD planned to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council next year for the detailed design of Route 11.

10. SE3/R11 of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) Tsing Lung Bridge would connect Lantau Link and the proposed TYLL;
- (2) the HyD would have a discussion with Members on matters related to the ancestral graves after the meeting;
- (3) an environmental impact assessment for the project was being conducted by the HyD and the preliminary results showed that the impact of the works on the fisheries industry in the vicinity would be minimal. The HyD would also closely monitor the situation of construction for minimising the impact on the fisheries industry;
- (4) the HyD would carry out a marine traffic impact assessment to ensure traffic safety in Ha Pang Fairway; and
- (5) the HyD would carry out the widening of Yuen Long Highway (section between Lam Tei Quarry and Tong Yan San Tsuen). After the completion of Route 11, drivers could directly travel to Yuen Long and other places along the trunk roads without having to go through the local roads in the district.

11. The Chairman concluded that Members unanimously supported the captioned project.

V Item 4: Exploring Ways to Improve the Alignment and Design of the Roads around Hoi Shing Road and Hoi Kwai Road

(T&TC Paper No. 8/2023)

12. The Chairman said that Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHAN Yee-hing, Paul, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1 (E/TW1), TD; and
- (2) Ms YEUNG Wai-han, DOO(TW) (Atg.), HKPF.

13. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio introduced the paper. He pointed out that vehicles were not allowed to make a left turn at the section of Hoi Kwai Road off the public car park of Skyline Plaza to go into Tai Ho Road at present. As a result, drivers who had to make a U-turn after finding the aforesaid car park full were forced to cross over the double white lines, running the risk of receiving penalty tickets and getting fined by the Police, as if they had fallen into an invisible trap. As far as he knew, the road alignment at the location concerned in the past was different from the present one. He therefore enquired when and why such alteration had been implemented.

14. E/TW1 of the TD responded that the TD noted Member's request for allowing vehicles on Hoi Kwai Road southbound to make a left turn for going into Tai Ho Road. The TD would conduct a feasibility study on the proposed design and, upon confirmation of its feasibility, conduct a local consultation through the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO). If positive responses were received in such consultation, the TD would issue a Works Request Form (WRF) to the works department concerned.

15. DOO(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF responded that no prosecution had been taken against drivers in regard to the aforesaid situation by the Tsuen Wan Police District in the past six months. The HKPF hoped that the TD would optimise the relevant road design, and would exercise discretion in handling the situation concerned before improvement to the road alignment was achieved.

16. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio enquired whether the TD would brief the T&TC on the proposed design in the future.

17. E/TW1 of the TD responded that for general traffic improvement projects at district level, the TD would directly conduct a consultation in the district through the TWDO after the feasibility of the project design had been confirmed.

VI Item 5: Request for the Government Departments and Hong Kong Police Force to Expedite the Implementation of the Enforcement Arrangement Involving the Use of the Average Speed Camera System

(T&TC Paper No. 9/2023)

18. The Chairman said that Mr LAU Cheuk-yu submitted the paper. As Mr LAU Cheuk-yu was unable to attend the meeting, he had asked Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio to introduce the paper on his behalf. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHAN Yee-hing, Paul, E/TW1, TD; and
- (2) Ms YEUNG Wai-han, DOO(TW) (Atg.), HKPF.

19. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio introduced the paper.

20. E/TW1 of the TD responded that the TD had already completed the Average Speed Camera System (ASCS) Trial Scheme, and such system had been installed and tested on Tsuen Wan Road westbound and West Kowloon Corridor westbound. Having shared the data and findings of the on-site technical tests with the HKPF in September 2022, the TD was making arrangements with the HyD for installing the relevant traffic signs to remind drivers that the ASCS were in operation for law enforcement. The installation works was anticipated to be completed in the third quarter of 2023. In the meantime, the TD was studying and discussing the application details of the ASCS with the HKPF at present.

21. DOO(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF responded that the Traffic Branch Headquarters of the HKPF was in active discussion with the TD on matters related to the operation of the ASCS and the integration between systems. It would inform Members of the application date of ASCS upon confirmation. The HKPF would also continue to combat the problems of illegally modified vehicles and illegal road racing.

22. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio requested the HKPF to conduct more roadblock checks to combat the problem of illegal road racing prior to the implementation of the ASCS.

23. DOO(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF said that she would relay Members' views to the Traffic New Territories South of the HKPF.

VII Item 6: Information Papers

(A) Traffic Enforcement Result in TWDIST between April and May 2023 Concerned Illegal Parking Location

(T&TC Paper No. 10/2023)

24. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio thanked the HKPF for its enforcement efforts, but pointed out that the problem of illegal parking remained severe at Yeung Uk Road (including the locations off H Cube and Indi Home, as well as the areas around Plaza 88 and Citywalk 2), resulting in obstruction to passengers boarding and alighting from public transport vehicles such as school buses, buses, minibuses and taxis. Besides, the traffic at Wang Lung Street and Ma Kok Street was blocked by illegally parked vehicles, often causing some drivers to sound their car horns in the morning. He therefore hoped that the HKPF would redouble its efforts in combating the problem of illegal parking.

25. DOO(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF responded that the HKPF had taken note of the situation at Yeung Uk Road, Wang Lung Street and Ma Kok Street, and would continue to take enforcement actions against illegal parking.

(B) Minor Traffic Improvement Projects Completed in the Past Two Months, in Progress and Planned to Commence by the Highways Department (Tsuen Wan District) and Timetables (as at 2 June 2023)
(T&TC Paper No. 11/2023)

26. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio pointed out that the Widening of Carriageway at Fui Yiu Kok Street under Project No. TW/18/01935-113 (Project No. TW/18/01935-113) was not a discussion item of the current-term Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) and enquired about the project details. Besides, a traffic accident in which a school child had been knocked down by a taxi had occurred near the bus terminus at Allway Gardens in the week before. He urged the HyD to expeditiously take forward the works of providing pedestrian crossing facilities at the bus terminus on Tsuen King Circuit near Allway Gardens.

27. District Engineer/Tsuen Wan (DE/TW) of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) Project No. TW/18/01935-113 had been gazetted in 2017-18 pursuant to the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370). It had gone through consultation with the then-TWDC and had been approved by the Executive Council. The works included narrowing the existing pavement situated at the north of Fui Yiu Kok Street from six metres to three metres and providing an additional loading/unloading bay next to the existing two traffic lanes, so as to alleviate the traffic congestion at the location concerned. The HyD was drafting the temporary traffic arrangement for the project. Regarding the traffic improvement project at Fui Yiu Kok Street, the works site was about 300 metres in length that covered the vehicular run-in/outs of three housing estates including Chelsea Court, H Cube and Indi Home. As the works involved alterations to public facilities such as substations, underground cables, gas pipes and water mains, etc., the HyD needed to

discuss the issues concerning the safety of means of access for firefighting and the relocation of the relevant facilities with various institutions, such as the Fire Services Department and CLP Power Hong Kong Limited. Since the project was relatively complex, it was expected to be completed in 2026; and

- (2) the HyD had received the WRF issued by the TD for the provision of additional pedestrian crossing facilities at the bus terminus on Tsuen King Circuit near Allway Gardens. The location of the pedestrian crossing concerned was currently a public light bus stand. The works would include excavation and formation of a section of the pavement to improve wheelchair accessibility. Nevertheless, the works would affect the structure of a set of rain shelters maintained by the TWDO. As the HyD and TWDO were not in favour of demolishing the rain shelters concerned, the TWDO was in examination of the technical details such as the feasibility of altering the base of the rain shelters. The HyD expected that the works could be completed in the first quarter of 2025.

28. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that he had submitted a paper at the 7th meeting of the Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee, requesting the HyD to suspend the works related to the provision of a loading/unloading bay at Fui Yiu Kok Street until the problem of noise nuisance occurring late at night could be resolved. He expressed doubt over the department's difficulty in restricting the use of the loading/unloading bay by goods vehicles, and its inability to control the noise generated by the loading/unloading activities of goods vehicles in the early hours. He had received a lot of objections from residents, pointing out that the Government had not consulted them on the project back then. As times had changed, he doubted whether there was still such a high demand for loading/unloading activities of goods vehicles at the location concerned and enquired whether the project had to be taken forward because it had already been gazetted.

29. DE/TW of the HyD responded that as the HyD was a works department, issues related to the necessity of and the problems arising from the project were handled by the department responsible for making respective policies. The HyD would convey Members' views to the TD for consideration.

30. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) the TWDO would convey Members' views to the departments concerned for consideration. If residents' views and requests concerning the problem of noise nuisance were received, the TWDO would also reflect them to the departments concerned; and

- (2) the TWDO would handle the relocation or demolition of facilities constructed with the District Council funds under the District Minor Works Programme in a prudent manner. As residents were already accustomed to the use of the facilities concerned, they would often indicate in the consultations that they wanted to retain such facilities or have such facilities provided again after the completion of the works. Regarding the provision of pedestrian crossing facilities mentioned by Members, the Works Section of the TWDO was in discussion with the relevant departments on the ways to handle the existing rain shelters concerned so as to facilitate the commencement of the works.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had conveyed Members' views to the TD and HyD in writing on 18 July 2023.)

31. Mr KOT Siu-yuen pointed out that the location of the Demolition of Railings on Tai Ho Road near Princess Alexandra Community Centre under Project No. TW/23/00935-497 (Project No. TW/23/00935-497) was close to school premises. Being concerned about the safety of school children, he enquired about the objectives of the project and whether the project aimed to tie in with his proposed installation of electronic display panels at the bus stops nearby.

32. E/TW1 of the TD responded that Project No. TW/23/00935-497 would only involve the demolition of some railings at the bus stop concerned to facilitate the boarding or alighting from buses by passengers. The project was not the works item mentioned by Members.

VIII Item 7: Any Other Business

33. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he had received an email from a resident, stating that the last departure of route no. 234C that travelled via Lei Muk Shue, Shek Wai Kok, Tsuen Wan West, Belvedere Garden and Sham Tseng would depart from Kwun Tong at 7:00 p.m.. Considering that the bus services were inadequate in the evening, the resident requested for enhancement of service frequency to the route concerned. He was aware of the low patronage of the bus route concerned in the evening, and suggested that the bus company concerned should consider providing an additional departure in the evening subject to the availability of resources (Mr YAU Kam-ping);
- (2) he enquired whether the accident involving the rollover of a coach at Texaco Road on 16 May 2023 was caused by human factors, vehicles or road markings (Mr KOT Siu-yuen); and
- (3) he thanked the departments concerned for carrying out improvement works to the traffic signs and road markings at the bus terminus at Shek Wai Kok Road.

However, he pointed out that the location off Shek Kwai House was often occupied by illegally parked public light buses during peak hours and asked the departments concerned to monitor the situation (Mr MAN Yu-ming).

34. Senior Transport Officer/Tsuen Wan of the TD said that the TD would follow up the matters related to route no. 234C with the bus company concerned.

35. E/TW1 of the TD responded that the TD had conducted a review after the aforesaid accident and found that all the traffic signs and road markings provided at the location concerned complied with the design standards. The TD would further study the traffic improvement measures to be taken.

36. DOO(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF said that the question raised by a Member concerning the rollover of a coach would be handed over to the Traffic Branch under the HKPF for follow-up.

37. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled on 21 August 2023 and the deadline for submission of discussion paper was 4 August 2023.

IX Adjournment of Meeting

38. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

3 July 2023