

(Translation)

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee
7th Term of Wan Chai District Council
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Date: 30 July 2024 (Tuesday)
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Venue: District Council Conference Room, Wan Chai District Office, 21/F
Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong

Present

Arrival

Departure

Chairperson

Mr LAM Wai-kong, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Vice-chairperson

Mr SUN Tao-hung, Stanley, JP

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Members

Mr NG Chak-sum, Sam

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Mr LEE Man-lung, Joey, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Ms LEE Pik-yee, Peggy, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Dr CHOW Kam-wai, BBS, MH

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Mr LAM Wai-man, Anson

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Ms MOK Ruby

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Mr MUK Ka-chun

3:03 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Co-opted member

Mr WONG Chau-hing

3:00 p.m.

3:28 p.m.

Representatives of Core Government Departments

Mr CHEUNG Ho-yat, Steven

Assistant District Officer (Wan Chai),
Home Affairs Department

Ms YAN Yuet-han, Fion

Senior Liaison Officer (Building
Management)2/Wan Chai, Home Affairs
Department

Mr CHENG Siu-ping, Jessica

Principal Estate Officer/Hong Kong East

Mr LI Wing-yip, Foreaf	(District Lands Offices), Lands Department District Operations Officer (Wan Chai), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr AU YEUNG Leung	Officer-in-charge, District Traffic Team (Wan Chai), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim	District Engineer/Wan Chai, Highways Department
Miss TANG Ka-yuet, Annie	Engineer/Wan Chai 1, Transport Department
Mr WONG Chun-man, Edmond	Engineer/Wan Chai 3, Transport Department
Mr WONG Pak-lim	Engineer/Special Duties, Transport Department
Miss LEUNG Hoi-kei, Christina	Senior Transport Officer/Wan Chai, Transport Department

Secretary

Miss YAU Tim-yi, Chloe	Executive Officer (District Council) 4, Wan Chai District Office, Home Affairs Department
------------------------	---

Opening Remarks

The Chairperson welcomed all Members and representatives of government departments to the 4th meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (“TTC”) of the 7th Wan Chai District Council (“WCDC”).

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Wan Chai District Council (WCDC)

2. The Chairperson said that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendments from Members before this meeting.

3. The minutes of the 3rd meeting were confirmed by the Committee with a motion moved by Mr LAM Wai-man, Anson and seconded by Dr CHOW Kam-wai.

Item 2: Summary of Temporary Traffic and Transport Arrangements in Wan Chai District (TTC Paper No. 15/2024)

4. The Chairperson asked the representative of Transport Department (“TD”) to introduce Paper No. 15/2024.

5. Miss LEUNG Hoi-kei, Christina, Senior Transport Officer/Wan Chai of TD, introduced the paper.

6. There being no questions from Members, the Chairperson invited Members to note the above paper.

Item 3: Major Small-scale Traffic Improvement Works Completed, Underway or being Planned in Wan Chai District by Transport Department/Highways Department in the Past Two Months and their Schedules
(TTC Paper No. 16/2024)

7. The Chairperson asked the representatives of Transport Department (“TD”) and Highways Department (“HyD”), to introduce Paper No. 16/2024.

8. Mr WONG Pak-lim, Engineer/Special Duties of TD and Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD introduced the paper.

9. Members had the following questions:

- (i) Regarding the progress of the three projects mentioned in the document, which were scheduled to commence on 1 August 2024; and
- (ii) Had any projects by the HyD been affected by financial issues of certain contractors?

10. Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD responded as follows:

- (i) One of the projects listed in the document had started ahead of schedule, while the other two would commence as planned in August 2024; and
- (ii) HyD had mechanisms in place to monitor the performance and financial status of contractors, and so far, the progress of the related projects had not been affected.

11. The Chairperson invited Members to note the above paper.

**Item 4: Summary of Traffic and Transport Works in Wan Chai District
(TTC Paper No. 17/2024)**

12. The Chairperson asked the representative of HyD to introduce Paper No. 17/2024.

13. Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD introduced the paper.

14. There being no questions from Members, the Chairperson invited Members to note the above paper.

Item 5: Any Other Business

15. Members' opinions and questions regarding other business were consolidated as follow:

- (i) A large number of vehicles frequently parked near Braemar Hill Nursery School and St. Paul's Convent School to pick up and drop off students, causing traffic congestion. It was suggested that the police strengthen traffic management around these schools on school days, particularly during drop-off and pick-up times;
- (ii) At the intersection of Harbour Road and Fleming Road, there were serious issues with drivers violating lane regulations. According to the traffic signs, vehicles in the left lane were required to turn left into a branch road, while vehicles in the right lane should proceed straight. However, many vehicles in the right lane made a left turn into the intersection, disregarding the signs and increasing the risk of traffic accidents.
- (iii) Vehicles driving through the intersection of King's Road and Tin Hau Temple Road often travelled at high speeds, posing a potential risk to pedestrians. Besides adding double yellow lines, Members inquired whether the TD had any additional measures to further protect pedestrian safety. Since many students passed through this area,

Members suggested that pedestrian traffic lights be installed;

- (iv) There were severe water accumulation issues in several sections of the district, including the pedestrian crossing near Matheson Street by Times Square and the road near Moreton Terrace on Causeway Bay Road. Additionally, the road outside Thompson Building, located at 93-103 Thomson Road, often experienced serious water accumulation, which prevented large vehicles from the nearby building materials company from parking there, forcing them to park in the middle of the road, obstructing traffic. Furthermore, water frequently accumulated on the Moreton Terrace Flyover even on dry days, causing passing vehicles to splash water onto the bus terminal underneath. These water accumulation issues might be related to the road's slope or blocked drains. Members requested that the Department resolve the water accumulation problems as soon as possible to improve overall traffic conditions;
- (v) An inquiry was made about the progress and quality of inspection for the roadworks related to Hopewell Centre Phase 2;
- (vi) There were homeless individuals living under the flyover on Gloucester Road near the Causeway Bay Police Officers' Club, and pedestrians often crossed the road illegally in this area. Members requested that the police strengthen enforcement actions;
- (vii) Since the Hong Kong Stadium stop on Citybus Route 5B did not have a shelter, passengers tended to wait at other covered areas. As the stop is close to Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, many of the passengers were patients and elderly people. Most elderly passengers were not familiar with the bus company's mobile app and thus missed the actual arrival times and schedules of buses. Some Members suggested installing a real-time bus arrival information system at the stop to help passengers track the estimated arrival times of buses; and
- (viii) During peak hours, Green Minibus (GMB) Route 24M was scheduled not to pass through Shiu Fai Terrace, but some drivers still passed through Shiu Fai Terrace Station, which was not on the designated route. Additionally, drivers of the last trip to Mount Butler often skip entering

the Mount Butler terminus and drop off passengers outside the gate in order to finish their shifts early. At the same time, this route frequently experienced lost trips, with buses not arriving according to the scheduled times, causing passengers to wait for extended periods.

16. Miss LEUNG Hoi-kei, Christina, Senior Transport Officer/Wan Chai, Miss TANG Ka-yuet, Annie, Engineer/Wan Chai 1 of TD, and Mr WONG Pak-lim, Engineer/Special Duties of TD consolidated their responses as follows:

- (i) The TD had discussions with Members and relevant stakeholders regarding the installation of a shelter at the Hong Kong Stadium bus stop for Citybus Route 5B. The bus company conducted site investigations and found that the area contains numerous underground channels and pipelines, leaving insufficient space to construct the foundation for the shelter, making it difficult to proceed with the installation. The TD would communicate with the bus company to request that bus drivers pay extra attention to passengers boarding near the terminus. Drivers should provide assistance to those who need it, to minimise the chances of passengers missing their buses;
- (ii) In general, minibus drivers should follow the approved driving routes. The TD would investigate issues regarding the last trip of GMB Route 24M not stopping at the terminus and passing through Shiu Fai Terrace between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Department would also dispatch staff for on-site investigations. In addition, a shortage of drivers at present in the minibus industry was one of the reasons for the frequent lost trips. The operator of GMB Route 24M had been trying to retain drivers by offering salary increases and recruiting through various channels. The TD will continue to work with the minibus operator to address issues related to GMB Route 24M;
- (iii) According to the reply from Hopewell Centre, the roadworks for Hopewell Centre Phase 2 had been completed and were in the inspection phase. After inspections by TD and HyD, some areas were identified as needing repairs. As a result, Hopewell Centre would continue to implement temporary traffic arrangements, including partial road closures. TD and HyD would continue to follow up on the inspection process;

- (iv) Within 100 meters of the intersection of Tin Hau Temple Road and King's Road, there were already two sets of pedestrian traffic lights. The TD believed that adding another pedestrian traffic light might affect traffic flow and would need further evaluation. According to the Department's records, this location was not classified as a traffic accident blackspot. The TD had already proposed, and was consulting on, a series of improvement measures. These included installing a "Reduce Speed Now" sign at the intersection of Tin Hau Temple Road and King's Road to remind drivers to slow down, and extending the double white and yellow lines between the first and second left lanes to improve pedestrian visibility. Once the improvement works were completed, the Department would closely monitor the road conditions and assess whether additional pedestrian traffic lights would be necessary; and

17. Mr LI Wing-yip, Foreaf, Officer-in-charge, District Operations Officer (Wan Chai), Hong Kong Police Force (HKPC) responded as follows:

- (i) During the summer holidays, Wan Chai District Police Community Relations Office would maintain close communication with schools and suggested that schools remind parents to use public transport for picking up and dropping off their children, to reduce traffic congestion. The police would also strengthen patrols and enforcement in school zones;
- (ii) Regarding the issue of vehicles changing lanes when turning left from Harbour Road onto the Fleming Road flyover, the police would enhance traffic control operations and work with relevant departments to study road improvement projects to prevent vehicles from changing lanes in front of the traffic lights; and
- (iii) The police would assess the situation of homeless individuals living under the Gloucester Road flyover and seek assistance from other departments if necessary. In response to illegal road crossings at Gloucester Road, the police would post warning signs at the location and strengthen enforcement.

18. Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD responded

that the Department had always enhanced inspections and cleaning of its drains and culverts before the rainy season and after heavy rains. Regarding the issue of road flooding in Wan Chai District, the HyD would work with the Drainage Services Department to investigate whether the flooding was related to blocked drains or insufficient drainage capacity and would report back to Members after assessing the situation. The HyD had also noted the water accumulation issue at the Moreton Terrace flyover and would study possible solutions.

19. Members continued to provide the following comments on the above matters:

- (i) The road flooding near Thomson Road and Times Square was not caused by blocked drains. There were drainage grates near the flooded area on Thomson Road, but because the middle of the street was sunken, the water cannot drain into the roadside drainage grates. In the area near Times Square, the flooded section had no drainage grates, so the issue was not likely related to blocked drains.
- (ii) The nearest pedestrian traffic lights to the intersection of King's Road and Tin Hau Temple Road were located at Queen's College, Kiu Hing Mansion, and Dragon View Garden, which were some distance from the intersection. Additionally, vehicles at this intersection were required to turn left onto Tin Hau Temple Road, thus installing pedestrian traffic lights at this location would be unlikely to cause congestion on King's Road.

20. Mr CHEUNG Man-chung, Tim, District Engineer/Wan Chai of HyD responded that parts of the road near Thomson Road and Times Square were privately owned, so the HyD cannot install drainage at these locations.

21. Mr WONG Pak-lim, Engineer/Special Duties of TD noted Members' comments regarding the installation of pedestrian traffic lights at the intersection of King's Road and Tin Hau Temple Road and would review the issue.

Item 6: Date of Next Meeting

22. The Chairperson announced that the next meeting would be held on 15 October

2024 (Tuesday) at 3:00 p.m.

23. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Wan Chai District Council Secretariat
September 2024