

Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 27 January 2004)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Staffing matters related to Highways Department

To be confirmed

Proposed by the Administration. Originally scheduled for discussion at the special meeting on 5 December 2003, the Administration subsequently advises that the item will be deferred since the Administration intends to absorb the work through redeployment first before making any establishment changes.

2. Provision and operation of tunnels and tollways

To be confirmed

Last discussed at the meeting on 25 April 2003. Members requested the Administration to formulate concrete proposals to improve the uneven distribution of traffic among the three road harbour crossings. To this end, the Administration should re-open discussions with the two "Build-Operate-Transfer" harbour crossing companies.

Originally scheduled for discussion on 19 December 2003, but the Administration subsequently proposed that the item be deferred to a later meeting.

3. Traffic impact on Tuen Mun Road upon the commissioning of Shenzhen Western Corridor (SWC)/Deep Bay Link (DBL)

30 January 2004

Proposed by the Administration. In discussing a related item on North West New Territories Transport Review on 29 September 2003, the Administration undertook to revert to the Panel on its negotiation with Route 3 (CPS) Company for toll concessions to attract motorists to use Route 3 in the context of relieving the additional traffic load at Tuen Mun Road generated by SWC/DBL.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Proposed regulatory scheme for the vehicle maintenance trade

30 January 2004

Proposed by the Administration.

5. Establishment of a cross-boundary ferry terminal in Tuen Mun

30 January 2004

At the meeting held on 26 April 2002, members agreed to keep the matter under review.

The Government now intends to report the outcome of the tender exercise and the programme of the project at the Panel meeting in January 2004.

6. Report on the progress of the review of speed limit

27 February 2004

Proposed by the Administration. Last progress report was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)975/02-03(01) on 25 February 2003.

7. Citybus/New World First Bus (NWFB)'s service rationalization plan

Proposed by the Administration. A related item was discussed at the meeting on 27 June 2003 where the Administration was requested to consult the Panel on proposals involving changes of bus networks of Citybus and NWFB.

Originally scheduled for 27 February 2004, the Administration now advises that it will revert to the Panel after any proposals involving changes of bus networks have been received from the companies.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

8. Measures to curb taxi touting activities

26 March 2004

Referred to the Panel for follow up by the Subcommittee on Road Traffic (Temporary Reduction of New Territories Taxi Fares) Regulation 2003 and Road Traffic (Temporary Reduction of New Territories Taxi Fares) (No. 2) Regulation 2003 in the context of the New Territories temporary taxi fare concession. The Administration was requested to consider introducing legislative amendments to address the anomaly with fare-bargaining by the passengers, as well as issuing guidelines to taxi operators on the distribution of name cards to passengers.

9. Measures to enhance safety of school transport vehicles

23 April 2004

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration's related proposal was last discussed at the meeting on 22 February 2002.

10. Parking Demand Study

23 April 2004

Proposed by the Administration. Last progress report was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2050/02-03(01) in June 2003.

11. Interchange discount between West Rail (WR)/MTR

23 April 2004

Last discussed at the meeting on 1 August 2003 where members agree to follow up on the offer of WR/MTR interchange discounts after WR's opening.

12. Reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road

23 April 2004

Proposed by the Administration.

Originally scheduled for discussion on 30 January 2004, the Administration subsequently proposed that the item be deferred to the meeting on 23 April 2004.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 13. Transport and traffic arrangement at Lok Ma Chau, Man Kam To and Sha Tau Kok control points** 28 May 2004
- Proposed by the Administration. Related issues were last discussed at the joint meeting with the Security Panel on 14 January 2003. Members generally opined that as a matter of policy, the Administration should make provision for 24-hour public transport services at all existing and future boundary control points to ensure choice and convenience for the passengers.
- 14. Improvements to San Tin Public Transport Interchange** 28 May 2004
- Proposed by the Administration.
- 15. Route 7, South Hong Kong Island Line (SIL) and West Hong Kong Island (WIL)** 28 May 2004
- Last discussed at the meeting on 24 October 2003. The Administration will brief members again after considering the project proposal on SIL/WIL to be submitted by MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) by the second quarter of 2004.
- Members also agreed to follow up on the employment-related issues arising from the proposed implementation of SIL/WIL at a joint meeting to be scheduled with the Panel on Manpower.
- 16. Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge (Progress update)** 25 June 2004
- Proposed by the Administration. Last discussed at the meeting on 24 October 2003.
- Addressing the concern raised by members when the relevant funding proposal was considered by the Public Works Subcommittee on 29 October 2003, the Administration undertook vide PWSCI(2003-04)29 to report to the Panel the outcome of the sustainability assessment as part of the investigation study for the Hong Kong Section of the Bridge and its connecting infrastructure.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

17. Northwest New Territories Transport Review

25 June 2004

Last discussed at the special meeting on 29 September 2003 where the Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on its progress in taking forward the Strategy before the current legislative session. Subject to the implementation of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the Panel will follow up on the matter by way of half-yearly progress updates from the Administration.

18. Fare adjustment mechanism

To be confirmed

- Fares of Lantau franchised bus services
- Review on fare scales of franchised bus companies

Last discussed at the meeting on 1 August 2003. The Administration is developing the details of the proposed fare adjustment mechanism and will revert to members in due course.

At the Panel's Policy Briefing held on 14 January 2004, the Administration advised that the relevant study was near completion. Discussion would be held with the Panel after the findings had been compiled.

In this connection, the Administration suggests that two outstanding items in relation to fares of Lantau franchised bus services and Review on fare scales of franchised bus companies be discussed together.

At the meeting on 28 November 2003, members agreed that the Panel would keep in view the Administration's progress in following up on the motion "Improving public transport fare system" passed by the Council on 12 November 2003, in particular regarding the ways to improve the existing fare structures of franchised bus operators, including the setting of full and sectional fares of each bus route according to the distance of the journey.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

19. MTRCL/KCRC merger

To be confirmed

Last discussed at the meeting on 25 October 2002. The Administration will arrange to brief members as soon as its study on the pros and cons of merging MTRCL and Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation is completed.

At the Panel's Policy Briefing held on 14 January 2004, the Administration advised that the Financial Services and Treasury Bureau and the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau would strive to complete the merger study and announce the decision as soon as practicable.

20. Report on the progress of the project on electronic audible traffic signals

The Administration intends to provide an information paper to members in February 2004.

Proposed by the Administration.

21. Western Coast Road

The Administration intends to provide an information paper to members within the current legislative session.

The Panel would like to be briefed on the latest position of the project.

22. Policy on non-franchised bus (NFB) services

To be confirmed

Last discussed at the meeting on 19 December 2003. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the findings and recommendations of the review undertaken by the Transport Advisory Committee's working group in relation to the regulatory framework and licensing system for NFB operation. The review was expected to be completed in six months' time.