



Submission by

Clear the Air LegCo Transport Panel
Regarding the MTRC West and South Island Lines, and Route 4
May 28, 2004

Honorable members of LegCo, fellow speakers:

Everyone business today seems to want a big, empty, open road just for them. We already have one. It is called the Western Harbour Crossing. And it has not solved any traffic problems. That is because roads do not solve traffic problems. Traffic management solves traffic problems.

What questions must we consider when looking at the traffic problems of West and South Hong Kong?

1. Do you want more roads, and more traffic jams, next year and beyond? Then build Route 4.
2. Do you want more air pollution in Pok Fum Lam and Aberdeen, near hospitals and schools? Then build Route 4.

But,

- a. If you want less traffic and cleaner air for Hong Kong - then build the MTR.
- b. If you want to remove the most polluting public transport vehicles that on the road today - then build the MTR.
- c. If you want the 93% of the people who do not own a private car, to be able to get from Aberdeen to Central in 12 minutes – guaranteed – now and in 10 years time - build the MTR.
- d. If you want car owners to leave their cars at home and prevent rush hour traffic jams - then build a fast, efficient, clean MTR.
- e. If you want more room on existing roads for taxis, minibuses, goods vehicles and tour buses - then build the MTR.
- f. And if you really want to reduce the polluting traffic jams from Aberdeen to Central, Wanchai and Causeway Bay, then manage traffic by implementing Electronic Road Pricing and start building the MTR West and South Island lines today.

Thank you.

"Traffic congestion, in Hong Kong, is a serious problem and is unlikely to be solved by adding more road capacity."

Hong Kong
Government
Consultant on
Electronic Road
Pricing

1st Asian
EMME/2 Users
Conference

Shanghai

August 23-24,
1999