

Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 16 December 2003)

**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. Policy on non-franchised bus services

19 December 2003

Last discussed at the meeting on 23 May 2003. Members requested the Administration to rationalize the assessment criteria for vetting new and renewal applications for non-franchised bus services, in particular Employee Service and contract hire service. Members also requested the Administration to provide the number of applications made in the past three years for operation of new non-franchised bus routes and the results; and statistics on enforcement actions taken in the past six months against unauthorized non-franchised bus services.

3. 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 proposes that the item be deferred to a later meeting.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Report on Enhancement of Highway Safety

19 December 2003

Last discussed at the special meeting on 5 December 2003 where members were briefed about the key recommendations made by the Tuen Mun Road Traffic Incident Independent Expert Panel in its "Report on Enhancement of Highway Safety". The Panel agreed that it would follow up on the matter at the forthcoming meeting to be held on 19 December 2003. The Administration was requested to revert on its consideration of the Expert Panel's recommendations to improve highway safety and the proposed measures to take them forward.

Separately, members noted that the Highways Department had worked with the Expert Panel to identify a preliminary list of high priority locations that had characteristics similar to those of the section of Tuen Mun Road where the incident occurred. The Administration should brief members on the proposed safety enhancement measures for these priority locations as well as the progress of the on-going comprehensive safety review for Tuen Mun Road.

5. 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.

6. Reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road

Proposed by the Administration.

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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 7. Proposed regulatory scheme for the vehicle maintenance trade** 30 January 2004

Proposed by the Administration.
- 8. 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.
- 9. Citybus/New World First Bus (NWFB)'s service rationalization plan** 27 February 2004

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 any joint venture or change of bus network of Citybus and NWFB.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. Improvements to San Tin Public Transport Interchange

28 May 2004

Proposed by the Administration.

16. 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

17. Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge (Progress update)

26 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.

18. Northwest New Territories Transport Review

26 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

19. 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. 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.

20. 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.

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

Instead of providing an information paper to the Panel as originally proposed, the Administration now proposes to discuss the item at the meeting on 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

Proposed by the Administration.

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

23. Western Coast Road

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

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