香港特別行政區政府

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The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

政府總部 環境運輸及工務局

香港花園道美利大廈



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17 November 2006

Mr Andy Lau Clerk to Panel on Transport Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lau,

Liaison Mechanism between Transport Advisory Committee and the Transport Trades

At the Panel meeting on 22 July 2005, Members discussed ways to strengthen communication between the Transport Advisory Committee (TAC) and the transport trades. We have further examined the issue and would like to report progress in this respect.

We earlier put forward the idea of co-opting two representatives of the transport trades into the Road Safety & Traffic Management (RSTM) Sub-Committee of the TAC, given that road safety and traffic management are of common concern to all members of the trades. However, in examining the idea in further detail, we found that with the large number of trade associations and drivers' unions, it would be extremely difficult to identify two representatives who can represent all the trades.

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- 2 -

In view of this problem, we consider it more practicable to set up a liaison group that would comprise representatives of urban taxis, New Territories taxis, Lantau taxis, green minibuses, red minibuses, cross-boundary coaches, goods vehicles, non-franchised buses, school buses and franchised bus companies. The liaison group will provide a forum for exchange of views between the transport trades and the RSTM Sub-Committee on road safety and traffic management issues, and the Sub-Committee will meet the liaison group when there are proposals in this regard.

We have sought initial views of the transport trades on the proposed liaison group, and they are generally supportive of the idea. We will thus proceed to request the trades to nominate representatives to the liaison group. We aim to set up the group in early 2007.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Annie Choi)

for Secretary for the Environment,

Transport and Works