

**For Immediate Release****WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING FREEZES TOLLS**

28 July 2005

Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited (“WHTCL”) reaffirms that it has no intention to adjust its current tolls despite the fact that new tolls will be gazetted tomorrow.

According to the Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance, new tolls can be gazetted if WHTCL’s Net Revenue falls short of the specified level in the ordinance. Gazetting is therefore only a statutory procedure.

Category	Vehicle Type	Current Toll		New Toll effective from 31/7/05		Actual Increase
		Gazetted	Actual	Gazetted	Actual	
1	Motorcycles	\$30	\$22	\$35	\$22	Nil
2	Private Cars	\$60	\$40	\$70	\$40	Nil
2	Taxis	\$60	\$35	\$70	\$35	Nil
3	Public & Private Light Buses	\$70	\$50	\$80	\$50	Nil
4	Light Goods Vehicles	\$90	\$55	\$105	\$55	Nil
5	Medium Goods Vehicles	\$125	\$80	\$145	\$80	Nil
6	Heavy Goods Vehicles	\$185	\$110	\$215	\$110	Nil
7	Public & Private Single-decked Buses	\$70	\$70	\$80	\$70	Nil
8	Public & Private Double-decked Buses	\$100	\$100	\$115	\$100	Nil
	Each Extra Axle (Goods Vehicles only)	\$60	\$30	\$70	\$30	Nil

“We do not have any plan to change the actual tolls for the time being”, said Kenneth Pang, General Manager of WHTCL, “we shall monitor the financial situation of the Company and the market conditions before making such decision.”



We have been charging actual tolls which are much lower than the gazetted levels since 3 December 2000, and at the same time offered concessionary schemes such as “Midnight Empty Taxi Promotion” and the “Midnight Goods Vehicle Promotion”. “It is our endeavor to manage the tunnel in the utmost cost-effective manner,” said Kenneth Pang. “However, despite the many cost-saving measures we have introduced and further capital injections from shareholders to reduce financing costs, the Company is still under immense financial pressure.”

Since the commencement of its operation in 1997, the throughput at the Western Harbour Crossing has been consistently and significantly lower than the original projections. Consequently, WHTCL’s Net Revenue has substantially fallen short of the levels stipulated in the Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance.

For more information, please contact our 24-hour Customer Service Hotline at 2302 5888.

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