

## **Information Paper**

### **Legislative Council Panel on Transport AsiaWorld-Expo Station**

#### **Purpose**

To cope with the opening of the AsiaWorld-Expo, a new exhibition centre in the Hong Kong International Airport, the Airport Express Line (AEL) will be extended to the new AsiaWorld-Expo Station (AWE), which is expected to commence operation by end 2005. This paper briefs Members on the railway service and fares of AWE.

#### **Background**

2. The AsiaWorld-Expo is located at the northeast corner of the Hong Kong International Airport in Chek Lap Kok, which is a world-class exhibition and event venue offering over 70,000 square metres of floor area designed for trade fairs, conventions, concerts, sports and entertainment functions. It could be further expanded to 100,000 square metres of exhibition area to meet future market demand.

3. The AsiaWorld-Expo is developed and operated by Hong Kong IEC Limited, a joint venture formed by the Government, the Airport Authority and IEC Holdings Ltd. It is the world's first exhibition and event venue that is fully integrated with an international airport and an in-venue railway station. In 2004, MTRCL reached an agreement with Hong Kong IEC Limited for the design, construction, financing and operation of a new AEL station to serve the AsiaWorld-Expo. Construction works of the station commenced in June 2004. The works are anticipated to complete by end 2005 to tie in with the opening of the AsiaWorld-Expo.

## **AsiaWorld-Expo Station (AWE)**

4. AWE, which is a new AEL station located approximately 1 km away from the Airport Station, will become the new terminus of AEL. The railway network will provide convenient connections between the new exhibition venue and various districts in Hong Kong.

5. AWE is a two-storey at-grade structure, with a platform of 230 metres in length. The station will be air-conditioned and equipped with platform screen doors.

## **Service Information**

6. AWE is expected to commence service by the end of this year to tie in with the opening of the AsiaWorld-Expo. With the AWE in service, AEL trains from city, after calling at the Airport Station, will continue to move on to AWE.

7. In anticipation of the increase in AEL patronage arising from the operation of AWE, the 7-car AEL trains (including 1 baggage car) are being converted to 8-car trains in batches from September 2005 to December 2005.

8. AEL currently operates daily in a 12-minute headway from 0550 hours to 0115 hours on the following day, with a carrying capacity of 3,500 passengers per hour.

9. During major events, exhibitions and shows, the Corporation will enhance its train service by deploying additional AEL trains and, if situation requires, MTR trains of larger capacity, to serve passengers at AWE. Train frequency could be further enhanced to 7-minute headway to meet passenger

demand following some major shows/concerts.

## **Fares**

10. To support Hong Kong becoming a hub of world-class event venues for exhibitions, conventions, concerts, and sports and entertainment events, and taking into account the nature of train journeys to and fro AWE, the Corporation has decided to offer special discounts to AWE users. The same discounts will also apply to children.

11. Since AWE is an extension of AEL, the existing AEL fare structure will apply (See **Appendix 1**). Adult single journey from Airport Station to AWE, and vice versa, will cost \$5.

### Special Discount for Octopus cardholders

12. A 30% special discount on the AEL fare will be offered to Adult Octopus cardholders who travel to AWE by AEL, stay for a minimum period of two hours, and make a return trip on the same day. This means a round trip Adult Octopus fare on the same day of \$72 from Hong Kong Station, \$64 from Kowloon Station and \$42 from Tsing Yi Station. At the same time, passengers will also be entitled to enjoy free MTR connection.

13. The example in this paragraph shows how the special discount will work. Full fares will first be deducted from the Adult Octopus card upon entry at any in-town stations for a journey to AWE. On the return trip, an appropriate amount will be rebated upon exit at the in-town stations. For instance, a passenger travelling with an Adult Octopus card from Tsuen Wan to AWE via Tsing Yi will first be deducted a fare of \$3.8 for his MTR journey from Tsuen Wan upon exit at MTR Tsing Yi Station. An amount of \$56.2 will be deducted upon his entry at AEL Tsing Yi Station for his AEL journey (i.e. \$3.8 for the MTR journey from Tsuen Wan to Tsing Yi is rebated for the \$60

AEL journey from Tsing Yi to AWE). Upon his return journey to Tsing Yi, after staying at AWE for two hours or more, \$14.2 will be rebated to his Octopus card. He could also enjoy free MTR connection on his return trip from AWE. If he returns to Tsuen Wan via Tsing Yi, no amount will be deducted upon his exit at Tsuen Wan. In other words, the round trip from Tsuen Wan to AWE materially costs the passenger \$42.

Special Discount for overseas passengers without Octopus

14. To attract overseas visitors to travel to the AisaWorld-Expo by AEL, the Corporation will join hand with Hong Kong IEC Limited to provide competitive bulk purchase package to event organizers and their clients.

**Journey Time**

15. The journey time between Airport Station and AWE is around 2 minutes. An AEL journey from AWE to Hong Kong Station, or vice versa, will take 28 minutes. The table below provides an indication of the travelling time between major MTR destinations and AWE:

<i>Destinations</i>	<i>Journey Time</i>
Hong Kong Station	28 minutes
Kowloon Station	24 minutes
Kowloon Tong	35 minutes
Tsuen Wan	30 minutes
Wanchai	40 minutes

16. **Appendix 2** shows the MTR system map with AWE incorporated and the approximate journey time between AWE and major locations in Hong Kong. **Appendix 3** is a location map of AWE.

## **Communications**

17. The Corporation and the AsiaWorld-Expo will organize a joint press conference on 10 October to announce details of AWE train service and its fares.

18. In the run up to the opening of the AsiaWorld-Expo, the Corporation will enhance its publicity through the mass media and in the MTR network to introduce service details of AWE.

## **Conclusion**

19. Members are invited to note the information set out in this paper.

MTR Corporation

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**Summary on AEL Fares to AWE**

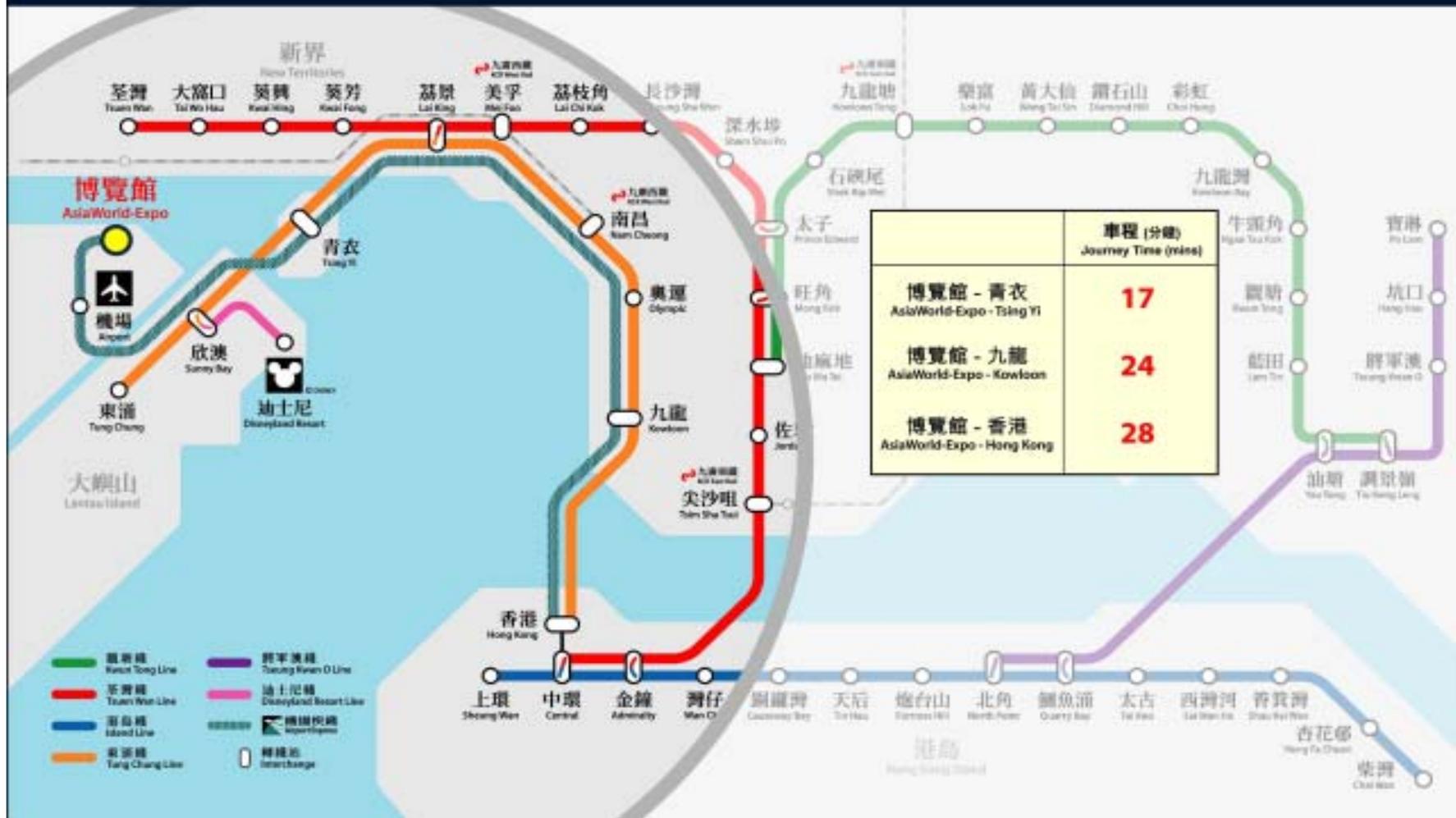
Card Type	Ticket/Trip Type		From AEL Stations				
			Hong Kong (\$)	Kowloon (\$)	Tsing Yi (\$)	Airport (\$)	
Octopus card	Adult <sup>1</sup>	Single Trip	100	90	60	5	
		Same Day AWE Promotional Discounted Price <sup>2</sup>	72	64	42	N/A	
		Child <sup>3</sup>	Single Trip	50	45	30	2.5
	Child <sup>3</sup>	Same Day AWE Promotional Discounted Price	36	32	21	N/A	
		Adult	Single Journey	100	90	60	5
			Same Day Return	100	90	60	N/A
Round Trip Ticket for 1 Month	180		160	110	N/A		
Magnetic Ticket	Child	Single Journey	50	45	30	2.5	
		Same Day Return	50	45	30	N/A	

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons aged 65 or above

<sup>2</sup> Only applied to the same Octopus card which is used for exit at AWE Station and re-entry at AWE station beyond two hours on the same day

<sup>3</sup> For children aged 3-11 and free for children aged under 3

# 地鐵路綫圖 MTR system map



# 博覽館站位置圖 Location Map of AsiaWorld-Expo Station

