

Panel on Transport

Subcommittee on matters relating to railways

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 28 February 2005)

	Proposed timing for discussion
<p>1. Railway incidents and performance of the railway systems in Hong Kong</p> <p>At the meeting on 7 January 2005, members agreed to follow up on the matter, with particular emphasis on the need for introducing an additional performance indicator on train service disruptions to enhance railway safety and service performance, as well as the findings and recommendations of the independent review by Lloyd's Register Rail.</p>	4 March 2005
<p>2. Shatin to Central Link</p> <p>Deferred from the meeting on 7 January 2005.</p>	4 March 2005
<p>3. Ma On Shan Rail</p> <p>At the meeting on 7 January 2005, members agreed to follow up on the matter, with particular emphasis on the recent train service disruptions and overall service performance of the railway system, including the noise impact caused by the operation of the railway on near-by residents and remedial actions taken so far.</p>	4 March 2005
<p>4. Northern Link</p> <p>Last discussed at the Subcommittee meeting on 29 June 2004.</p> <p>The Northern Link (NOL) will provide a new boundary rail service for the New Territories. According to the Administration, the implementation of NOL would depend on the projected demand of cross-boundary passenger traffic and the programme of the new development areas in the New Territories. KCRC has recently conducted a preliminary study on the NOL indicating that the project would bring considerable transport benefits. To enable it to better assess the transport and economic case for the project, the</p>	April/May 2005

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Administration has asked KCRC to do further work on the technical, environmental and financial aspects of the project.

At the meeting on 20 October 2004, Mr TAM Yiu-chung requested that the Administration should also brief members as to whether a decision had been made to use the West Rail alignment for the Regional Express Line (REL) to connect with NOL for providing cross boundary rail services.

The Administration advised that KCRC would submit its project proposal for NOL/REL in March 2005. The Administration would arrange to brief the Subcommittee on the details of the project proposal.

5. Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link

April/May 2005

Last discussed at the Subcommittee meeting on 29 June 2004.

The Subcommittee noted that the Administration had set up a Joint Expert Group with the Ministry of Railways to take forward the strategic planning of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (ERL), of which Regional Express Line was the Hong Kong section. The Joint Expert Group had confirmed the strategic value of the rail link, and a study was now underway to establish the technical feasibility and commercial viability of ERL.

The Administration advised that KCRC would submit its project proposal for NOL/REL in March 2005. The Administration would arrange to brief the Subcommittee on the details of the project proposal.

6. Disneyland Resort Line (DRL)

Last discussed at the Subcommittee meetings in July 2002.

The rail link is scheduled for completion in 2005 to tie in with the opening of the Hong Kong Disneyland Theme Park.

The Administration proposed to discuss the item in Q2 2005 to tie in with MTR Corporation Limited's proposed commissioning of DRL by Q3 2005.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

7. Port Rail Link

To be confirmed

Last discussed at the Subcommittee meeting on 29 June 2004.

The proposed Port Rail Link will provide a freight rail corridor from Lo Wu to a new port rail terminal at Kwai Chung, via either East Rail or West Rail. According to the Administration, the timing for this rail line will depend on the build-up of rail freight demand. KCRC is now studying the feasibility of this rail link.

The Administration advised that it was still waiting for KCRC to revert on its proposal on the rail link.