

Panel on Transport

Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 29 April 2005)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Northern Link

July 2005

Last discussed at the Subcommittee meeting on 29 June 2004.

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 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 May 2005. The Administration would arrange to brief the Subcommittee on the details of the project proposal.

2. Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link

July 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 REL 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

and commercial viability of ERL.

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

3. 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 Subcommittee will discuss the item on 6 May 2005.

4. Port Rail Link

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.

To be confirmed