

Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 21 November 2005)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Alignment for North Lantau Highway Connection and update on Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge

1st Quarter 2006

The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the outcome of the second round consultation on the North Lantau Highway Connection alignment options, and the progress of the planning and implementation of Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge including the construction cost, financial arrangements, toll determination mechanism and traffic flow projections etc.

2. Legislative amendments relating to lighting, reflectors and markings of vehicles

1st Quarter 2006

The Administration expects that the draft legislation will be ready by early 2006. It will consult the Panel before the legislation is tabled at LegCo for negative vetting.

3. Expansion of the Journey Time Indication System to Kowloon

1st Quarter 2006

The Administration intends to consult the Panel before putting the funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration in February 2006.

4. Road P1 advance works at Sunny Bay

28 April 2006

The Administration intends to consult the Panel before putting the funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration in May 2006.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

5. Reconstruction and Improvement to Tuen Mun Road

28 April 2006

The Administration intends to consult the Panel before putting the funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration in May 2006.

6. Northwest New Territories Traffic and Infrastructure Review

28 July 2006

The item was discussed on 22 April 2005. Members noted the merits of different packages of highway projects and urged the Administration for timely delivery of the highway projects.

7. Possible Merger of MTR Corporation Limited and Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation

To be confirmed

Last discussed at the Panel meeting on 27 February 2004, following the announcement by the Administration on 24 February 2004 that the two railway corporations would be invited to commence negotiations on a possible merger.

A joint report was submitted to the Government on 16 September 2004 by the two railway corporations regarding the possible merger of the two corporations. The Government is studying the report carefully and further discussions between the Government and the two corporations on the details are required before the Government would be able to take a view on the way forward.

8. Review of the Build-Operate-Transfer mode for delivery of transport infrastructure projects and measures to improve the distribution of traffic among the three road harbour crossings and to enhance the utilization of Route 3

To be confirmed

The motion on “Reviewing the mode of construction and operation for transport infrastructure” moved by Hon LAU Kong-wah, as amended by Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee and Hon Andrew CHENG Ka-foo, was carried at the Council meeting commencing on 6 July 2005. The Council urges the Administration to put up, in six months’ time, specific proposals for improvement to enhance the distribution of traffic among various tunnels, among other things.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

The Subcommittee to Study Tate's Cairn Tunnel Ordinance (Replacement of Schedule) Notice 2005 and Tai Lam Tunnel and Yuen Long Approach Road Ordinance (Replacement of Schedule 1) Notice 2005 also urges the Administration to report to the Panel before the end of 2005 the progress of its discussion with Route 3 Company on possible measures to enhance the utilization of Route 3. The Administration should also continue to urge Route 3 Company to disclose relevant financial information to the Council and the public.

The Research and Library Services Division of the LegCo Secretariat is conducting a relevant research study on the mode of construction and operation for transport infrastructure. The study is expected to be completed by late 2005.

9. Employment arrangements for franchise bus drivers and safety of bus operation

To be confirmed

This item is proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing. In recent years, with the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited taking the lead, some franchised bus operators have changed the employment terms for their bus drivers to contract terms and in some cases, the contract period only lasts for one year. Further employment of bus drivers upon expiry of their employment contracts is subject to review, resulting in a lack of job security for bus drivers. Mr WONG is concerned that the new employment arrangements would pose immense psychological pressure on bus drivers, which in turn would directly affect the safety of franchised bus operation.

10. Exemption from regulation 53(2) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G) for vehicles used for canvassing activities

To be confirmed

At the Subcommittee to Study Four Items of Subsidiary Legislation under the Road Traffic Ordinance, some members of the Subcommittee considered that the Administration should take a broader view and the proposed Amendment Regulations should aim at facilitating not only the float parades to be held at the Hong Kong Disneyland but also canvassing activities during elections. The Administration was of the view that the safety requirements for standing passengers on such vehicles went beyond the ambit of the then legislative amendments, but the

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Administration undertook to separately examine this proposal in detail.

11. Review of legislation governing failure to comply with traffic signals

Outside 2005-06
legislative session

At the Subcommittee on Proposed Resolutions under the Road Traffic (Driving-offence Points) Ordinance (Cap. 375) and the Fixed Penalty (Criminal Proceedings) Ordinance (Cap. 240), some members suggested and the Administration agreed to review the relevant legislation governing failure to comply with traffic signals after the new penalties had been effected. The Administration aims to complete the review by the end of 2006.