

Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 15 December 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 May 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. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

safety of franchised bus operation.

9. 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 Administration undertook to separately examine this proposal in detail.

10. 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.

12. Private Driving Instructor's Licences

To be confirmed

The item was discussed by the Panel on 4 November 2005. Mr WONG Kwok-hing suggested that the subject should be further discussed by the Panel and the relevant trade associations should be invited to present views to the Panel.