



"Gwyneth Pratt"

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Subject Additional Views on the Proposal to Amend Central-Mui Wo Ferry Service

Dear all

Please kindly distribute this message and its attachment to members of the Transport Panel for consideration in relation to the vital ferry link between Mui Wo and Central.

A fairly priced, regularly run, quality ferry service is required (in addition to the road infrastructure) to support the villages of South Lantau in order to maintain the position of the island as:

1. the home of choice for many working in Hong Kong and Kowloon
2. the holiday/day trip destination of choice for many living in Hong Kong and Kowloon
3. the tourist destination of choice for visitors to Hong Kong who want to see the open spaces as well as the city
4. the business site of choice for many small restaurants, local shops and building contractors
5. a continued viable choice for sustainable and suitable village housing renovation and development
6. the green and beach environment that provides the diversity for Hong Kong to fully function as a home to its residents and an interesting destination for tourists

I would like to add specific comments in relation to the attached paper from the Living Islands Movement:

- I am very supportive of the suggestion to organise the ferry schedule **by arrival times** and for these arrival times to be regularly spaced throughout the day, for example on the hour or on the half hour. This will assist all in planning their journeys and, hence, their days. The current schedule requires continual reference to the timetable as there is no fixed frequency or departure time.
- I also support the call to regulate the air conditioning in accordance with the external ambient temperature. Not only is excessive air conditioning a waste of power and cost, it also makes for very uncomfortable journeys and adversely affects the health of all, crew and passengers alike. As a 'world city' the government and business of Hong Kong should be familiar with and look to apply the ASHRAE standards:
<http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/548>.
- I would not object to a reasonable adjustment to fare prices, as long as the resultant service provides the required regularity and comfort. However, I am not supportive of higher fares charges on Sundays and Public Holidays. The fare should be set at the same consistent level. Weekend travellers should not be supporting weekday travellers and residents. Weekday travellers and residents should not be benefiting from visitors.
- I, and my family, are totally against the suggestion to merge the ferry with the Peng Chau service.
- It also appears that the result of the survey upon which some of the recommendations are based is probably not the best nor the best interpreted set of base data on which to act.

Any detrimental change to the ferry service will adversely affect those who live, work or visit within Lantau. I hope for an outcome which will suit regular users of this service, whether they travel in peak times or not, as well as visitors and tourists.

Kind regards
Gwyneth