

Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 24 June 2009)

	Proposed timing for discussion
<p>1. Kowloon Southern Link progress update and fares</p> <p>Proposed by the Administration.</p>	17 July 2009
<p>2. Legislative proposals to combat drink driving</p> <p>Proposed by the Administration.</p>	17 July 2009
<p>3. Safety of taxi drivers and installation of safety devices in taxis</p> <p>Proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing. In view of the increase in attacks and robberies of taxi drivers, Mr WONG would like to discuss the item as soon as practicable. To facilitate the Panel's discussion, he would also like the Administration to provide an information paper on statistics of criminal cases in this regard, and on the feasibility of installing safety devices in taxis.</p>	17 July 2009
<p>4. Regulation of charging taxi fares according to meters</p> <p>Last discussed at the meeting on 22 May 2009. As proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing, members agreed to invite deputations from the taxi trade to give views on the subject.</p>	17 July 2009
<p>5. Proposed creation of one permanent Principal Transport Officer post in the Bus and Rail Branch of Transport Department</p> <p>Proposed by the Administration. The proposal is to create one permanent Principal Transport Officer post in the Railway Division of the Bus and Railway Branch of the Transport Department to enhance both its planning function in connection with new railways and its monitoring of railway operations.</p>	2 nd Quarter 2009

6. MTR Corporation Limited's commitment not to increase fares

Last discussed at the special Panel meeting on 8 January 2009. Noting that the effective period of MTRCL's commitment not to increase fares would expire in June 2009, members would like to further follow up with MTRCL concerns in this regard nearer the time.

At the meeting on 24 April 2009, members further agreed that to facilitate their consideration of the need to hold a special meeting for discussion of relevant issues, the Administration should be requested to coordinate a written confirmation with MTRCL on whether MTRCL had plans to increase fares after 30 June 2009 and to continue the provision of the East Rail and West Rail Lines Monthly Pass. The Administration's paper in this regard was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1582/08-09 on 14 May 2009.

Item proposed to be deleted.

7. Operation of outlying island ferry services

Proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing and Mr IP Wai-ming at the meeting on 14 October 2008, and by Ms Miriam LAU at the meeting on 22 May 2009. In consideration of the great difficulty in operating outlying island ferry services due to high fuel cost and shrinking island populations, the members saw a need to follow up measures to tackle the difficulties, so as to enhance the financial viability of the services while keeping fare and service levels reasonable. In particular, Ms LAU would like to follow up the measures being implemented to increase the non-fare box revenue of the ferry operators concerned, which as she understood were making little progress due to the lack of co-ordination among the bureaux and departments concerned.

October 2009

At the meeting between Duty Roster Members and 三島聯盟 on 3 March 2009, views about the policy on outlying island ferry services were expressed. The memo from the Complaints Division referring relevant issues to the Panel for consideration was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1) 1075/08-09 on 17 March 2009.

Proposed timing for discussion

8. Circumvention problem in the service of summonses issued under the Road Traffic (Driving-offence Points) Ordinance (Cap. 375)

When the Road Traffic (Driving-offence Points) (Amendment) Bill 2009 was scrutinized by the relevant Bills Committee, the Administration undertook to review the effectiveness of the Bill in tackling the circumvention problem in the service of summonses issued under the Road Traffic (Driving-offence Points) Ordinance (Cap. 375) in about six months after its implementation and to report the outcome of the review to the Panel.

November 2009

9. PWP Item 6579TH - Central – Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link

Proposed by the Administration. Timing of discussion is subject to the objection handling progress of the gazetted amendment road scheme.

To be confirmed

10. Sha Tin New Town, stage 2 - Trunk Road T4

Proposed by the Administration. The Traffic and Transport Committee of Sha Tin District Council passed a motion requesting Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) to put on hold the project until after the commissioning of Trunk Road T3 and Route 8. Trunk Road T3 and Route 8 (Cheung Sha Wan to Sha Tin) were opened in March 2008. CEDD and the concerned department will examine the actual traffic flow and review the need for the project. Funding application would not be submitted in the 2008-2009 session.

To be confirmed

11. Vehicle maintenance requirements on non-franchised bus operators

Proposed by Mr LAU Kwong-wah. When the Panel discussed "Enhancement of the safety of long downhill roads" at the meeting on 30 June 2008, Mr LAU stressed the need to ensure the vehicle examination frequency of non-franchised bus operators was comparable to that of franchised buses. He requested the Administration to follow up the vehicle maintenance requirements on non-franchised bus operators, and report back on the developments in the 2008-2009

To be confirmed

Proposed timing for discussion

legislative session.

12. Safety of reversing goods vehicle

Proposed by Mr Andrew CHENG. Last discussed at the meetings on 24 October 2006 and 25 May 2007. Mr CHENG would like to follow up progress in this regard after the two meetings.

The Administration will provide an information paper to brief members on the related matters

13. Regulation of cargo compartments casually placed at roadsides

Proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing. He was concerned about the safety risks caused by cargo compartments for storing construction wastes casually placed at roadsides. He took the view that proper enforcement actions and legislative measures should be put in place to ensure that the contractors concerned would install flashlights, lighting systems or other appropriate devices, so that at night or under poor lighting conditions, motorists could be made aware of such compartments being placed at roadsides in order to ensure road safety.

The Administration will provide an information paper to brief members on the related matters

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

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.

The Administration will provide an information paper to brief members on the related matters