

政府總部
運輸及房屋局
運輸科
香港花園道美利大廈



**Transport and
Housing Bureau**
Government Secretariat
Transport Branch
Murray Building, Garden Road,
Hong Kong

Our Ref. THB(T)CR 27/1017/99
Your Ref. CB1/PL/TP

Tel: 2189 2199
Fax: 2537 5246

By Fax
(2121 0420)

28 August 2009

Clerk to Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attention: Ms Joanne Mak)

Dear Ms Mak,

Fares of Kowloon Southern Link

Thank you for your letter of 21 July 2009 addressed to the Secretary for Transport and Housing. We have followed up with MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) on the motion regarding the fares of Kowloon Southern Link (KSL) passed by Members at the meeting of the Panel on Transport on 17 July 2009 and reply as follows.

KSL is an extension of the West Rail Line (WRL) and extends the WRL from Nam Cheong Station to Hung Hom Station via the new Austin Station. MTRCL has set the fares of KSL according to the existing fare structure. Given the proximity of Austin Station to Kowloon Station, the fares for Austin Station to/from other stations are the same as those for Kowloon Station. The fares of the rest of the network have not been changed.

In setting fares, MTRCL has all along considered factors such as market circumstances and competitiveness. Regarding fares of the

WRL, when the pre-merger Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC) was setting the intra-urban West Rail fares in 2003, reference was made to the then MTR fares. During the rail merger, MTRCL integrated the two fare structures of the pre-merger KCRC and MTR networks and came up with the current fares after fare reduction. The existing fares have not changed as a result of the opening of KSL.

The Government has always encouraged MTRCL to take into account its operational situation, market circumstances and passenger needs etc in considering, from time to time, providing various promotional offers to the public. We understand that MTRCL has taken into consideration public views and introduced the "Tuen Mun - Hung Hom Monthly Pass" so that passengers may travel to areas like Tsim Sha Tsui, Hung Hom etc at the centre of Kowloon in a faster and more convenient way on the WRL at a price of \$70 more than the original monthly pass. If passengers do not need to travel to Austin, East Tsim Sha Tsui and Hung Hom Stations with the monthly pass, MTRCL has also maintained the monthly pass for travel between Tuen Mun and Nam Cheong Stations, so that passengers may continue to use the service between these two stations at the original price.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Hedy Chu)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. : MTRCL (Attention: Ms Ida Leung)