

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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Transport and
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28 June 2013

Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn : Ms Sophie Lau)

Dear Ms Lau,

Motion on

“Proposed measures to improve the traffic distribution among the road harbour crossings” passed by the LegCo Panel on Transport at the meeting on 22 February 2013

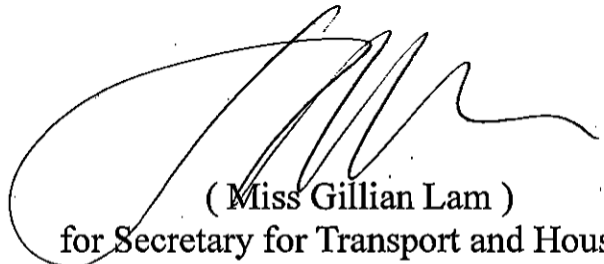
At the meeting on 22 February 2013, the LegCo Panel on Transport discussed the Government’s proposed measures to improve the traffic distribution among the road harbour crossings and passed a motion urging the Government to examine the feasibility of constructing the fourth road harbour crossing or a cross-harbour bridge. The Administration’s response is set out below –

The Government has put forward three toll adjustment options on 8 February 2013 as proposed measures to improve the traffic distribution among the road harbour crossings (RHCs) for a three-month public consultation. All the three options involve different degrees of downward toll adjustments at the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) and upward toll adjustments at the Cross Harbour Tunnel (CHT) for diverting some traffic from the CHT to the EHC, thereby improving the traffic distribution among the RHCs.

As for the suggestion of constructing a fourth RHC or a cross-harbour bridge, a number of factors have to be considered. First, we would need to secure land for the provision of the entrance/exit of the new crossing/bridge to connect with the existing road system, and assess whether the existing roads to be connected have spare capacities to cope with the traffic generated by the new crossing/bridge. This will not be an easy task. The construction work involved will also create environment-related issues such as reclamation and air/noise impacts on the neighbouring areas. A project of such kind requires a long lead time for planning and implementation, and therefore would be unable to provide a timely solution to address the long-standing congestion problem at the CHT. We believe that the proposed toll adjustment options, which could reduce the traffic queue at the CHT by 30% to 40% during rush hours, would be a more effective and timely solution to address the congestion problem at the CHT and achieve the objective of rationalising the traffic distribution among the RHCs.

The public consultation of the proposed measures to improve the traffic distribution among the RHCs ended on 7 May 2013. The Transport and Housing Bureau are consolidating and analysing the views and comments collected. We will put forth a final toll adjustment option in due course with a view to conducting a 12-month trial scheme in the second half of 2014 for testing its effectiveness.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Gillian Lam)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

C for T (Attn: Ms Annisa NG)

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