

Your Reference: CB4/SS/5/15

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Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

Re: Subcommittee on Road Traffic (Parking) (Approved Cards) (Amendment) Notice 2016

On behalf of HKT, I am thankful and appreciate that you have invited our organization to give views on Road Traffic (Parking) (Approved Cards) (Amendment) Notice 2016 (“the Notice”). We are fully aware of the initiative by the Transport Department to develop New Parking Meter System. This initiative is very exciting and encouraging to Hong Kong especially when the leading cities of the world today are all dedicated to developing a Smart City by utilizing cutting edge IoT (Internet of Things) technologies, wireless communication technologies, artificial intelligence and battery advancement.

With reference to the Notice, we see that it shall be a breakthrough to have the new parking meters accepting more payment options such as “MasterCard Contactless”, “UnionPay QuickPass” and “Visa payWave” and going online for better user experience and efficient administration. However, we believe that new parking meters supporting only offline transaction is the major drawback. In the payment card industry of MasterCard, UnionPay and Visa, there are many available products and some of them require online transaction. Most importantly, the coming mobile payment services being launched by several key handset brands shall require online transaction and yet these services will be excluded from the approved cards and devices for use at parking meters or pay and display machines. As the choice, availability and convenience of mobile payment services in the Hong Kong market generally increases, it shall not be difficult to imagine the frustration of the general public to experience that some of the MasterCard/UnionPay/Visa products they are

carrying cannot be used to pay at the new parking meters. This shall create a significant impact to user-friendliness of the new system and create a bad image of the city towards Smart City.

We do not see there is any technology constraint for the new parking meters to support online transaction and therefore we do not understand why mobile payment services requiring online transaction should be excluded, particularly as this is likely result in confusion and inconvenience for the general public. Through the proposed and planned pilot, we hope Transport Department, Legislative Council and some other concerned departments shall consider a more open approach to adopt and try better technologies and solutions.

Yours faithfully,



For and on behalf of HKT Limited

Alex Kun

Senior Vice President

Product Development & Management

Wireless Business