

LC Paper No. CB(4)187/15-16 (These minutes have been seen by the Chairman)

Ref: CB4/PS/3/12

**Panel on Transport** 

# Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways

# Minutes of meeting on Friday, 23 October 2015, at 9:30 am in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present	:	Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP (Chairman) Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH (Deputy Chairman) Hon James TO Kun-sun Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP Hon Claudia MO Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Dr Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
Member absent	:	Hon LEE Cheuk-yan Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung Hon WONG Yuk-man Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

Clerk in attendance :	Mr Anthony CHU Chief Council Secretary (4)1
Staff in attendance :	Ms Angela CHU Senior Council Secretary (4)1
	Miss Katherine CHAN Council Secretary (4)6
	Ms Prima LAI Legislative Assistant (4)1
	Mr Griffin FUNG Legislative Assistant (4)8

#### Action

# I. Election of Chairman (if necessary)

<u>Members</u> decided that it was not necessary for the re-election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Subcommittee. <u>Mr CHAN Han-pan</u> and <u>Mr WONG Kwok-hing</u> agreed to continue to serve as the Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively.

#### II. Proposed schedule of meetings for the 2015-2016 session

2. <u>Members</u> noted the proposed schedule of meetings for the 2015-2016 session which was tabled at the meeting. <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> suggested re-scheduling the regular meeting proposed to be held on 26 February 2016, as the meeting of the Panel on Transport would also be held on the same date at a later time slot. In addition, he suggested extending the ending time of regular meetings from 12:45 pm to 1:30 pm so as to allow more time for discussion. <u>Members</u> raised no objection to Mr TIEN's suggestions.

3. <u>The Chairman</u> added that special meetings would be arranged to discuss any urgent matters where necessary.

(*Post-meeting note*: The regular meeting originally scheduled for 26 February 2016 was subsequently re-scheduled to 22 February 2016. The revised meeting schedule for the 2015-2016 session was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)97/15-16 on 26 October 2015.)

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III.	Items for discussion at future meetings			
	LC Paper No. CB(4)81/15-16(01)	—List of outstanding items for discussion		
	LC Paper No. CB(4)81/15-16(02)	—List of follow-up actions		
	LC Paper No. CB(4)24/15-16(01)	—Letter dated 2 October 2015 from Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki regarding restrictions imposed by the MTR Corporation Limited on the size of objects which can be carried into the railway network (Chinese version only)		
	LC Paper No. CB(4)74/15-16(01)	—Administration's response to the letter from Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki regarding restrictions imposed by the MTR Corporation Limited on the size of objects which can be carried into the railway network		

4. <u>The Subcommittee</u> deliberated (Index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

5. <u>The Chairman</u> drew members' attention to the Administration's written reply to three items on "List of follow-up actions" of the Subcommittee, namely, "Capacity and loading of MTR trains", "Outcome of the independent expert review of the MTR Corporation Limited's overhead line system as a result of the insulator incidents in February 2014" and "Report on stray dog incident on the East Rail Line on 20 August 2014", which was tabled at the meeting. Regarding the item on "Capacity and loading of MTR trains", <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> requested the Administration/the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL") to provide figures on the patronage of different railway lines during peak hours.

(*Post-meeting note*: Administration's response to three items on "List of follow-up actions" of the Subcommittee was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)98/15-16 on 26 October 2015.)

6. <u>Members</u> agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting to be held on Friday, 4 December 2015, at 10:45 a.m.:

- (a) Progress update on the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link;
- (b) Progress update of the construction of the Shatin to Central Link; and
- (c) Progress update of the construction of the West Island Line, South Island Line (East) and Kwun Tong Line Extension.

7. <u>Members</u> agreed to include the following items in the list of outstanding items for discussion by the Subcommittee:

- (a) Review of Mass Transit Railway By-laws (Cap. 556B) and Mass Transit Railway (Northwest) By-law (Cap. 556H) ("the two sets of by-laws");
- (b) Restrictions on the size of personal objects that can be carried into stations and trains;
- (c) Railway Development Strategy 2014;
- (d) Future development of Light Rail; and
- (e) Construction of a fifth cross-harbour railway system.

8. Regarding item (a) above, <u>Mr James TO</u> said that, in the interim before a meeting could be scheduled to discuss the item, the Administration should be requested to provide a paper setting out its plan to review the two sets of by-laws and the reasons of not implementing the proposed amendments to the two sets of by-laws put forward by MTRCL to the Subcommittee at the meeting on 4 June 2010.

9. In respect of Mr WONG Kwok-hing's suggestion to discuss Fare Adjustment Mechanism of MTRCL and fare concessions and promotional schemes offered by MTRCL, <u>the Chairman</u> said that according to the terms of reference of the Subcommittee, matters relating to fares of MTRCL should be dealt with by the Panel on Transport. In this regard, he would discuss with the Administration on the appropriate forum for following up the item.

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# **IV.** Any other business

10. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he and the Deputy Chairman would arrange a meeting with the Secretary for Transport and Housing to discuss the work plan of the Subcommittee for the 2015-2016 session.

11. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:51 am.

Council Business Division 4 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 6 November 2015

## **Panel on Transport**

## Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways

#### Proceedings of the meeting on Friday, 23 October 2015, at 9:30 am in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
Agenda Ite	em I – Election of Chairr	nan (if necessary)	
000111 – 000153	Mr CHAN Han-pan	Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman	
•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ings for the 2015-2016 session	L
000154 – 000210	Chairman	Discussion on the proposed meeting schedule for 2015-2016 session tabled at the meeting.	
Agenda Ite	em III – Items for discuss	sion at future meetings	I
000211 – 000505	Chairman Mr James TO Clerk	Mr James TO proposed that the Administration/the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL") should brief the Subcommittee on its plan to review the Mass Transit Railway By-laws (Cap. 556B) and the Mass Transit Railway (Northwest Railway) By-law (Cap. 556H) ("the two sets of by-laws"), and the reasons for not implementing the proposed amendments to the two sets of by-laws put forward by MTRCL to the Subcommittee at the meeting on 4 June 2010. The Administration was requested to provide a	Admin to take
000506 – 000624	Chairman Mr WONG Kwok-hing	paper on the matter in the interim before a meeting could be scheduled to discuss the item. Mr WONG Kwok-hing proposed discussing Fare Adjustment Mechanism of MTRCL and fare concessions and promotional schemes offered by MTRCL.	follow up action
		The Chairman said that it would be more appropriate to discuss the proposed item at the Panel on Transport because according to the terms of reference of the Subcommittee, matters relating to fares of MTRCL should be dealt with by the Panel. He would discuss with the Administration on the appropriate forum to follow up on Mr WONG's proposal.	
000625 - 000716	Chairman Mr Michael TIEN	Rescheduling the meeting originally scheduled for 26 February 2016.	
000717 - 000935	Chairman Mr KWOK Ka-ki	Mr KWOK Ka-ki referred to his letter [LC Paper No. CB(4)24/15-16(01)] regarding the restrictions	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		imposed by MTRCL on the size of objects which could be carried into the railway network. He suggested that MTRCL should brief the Subcommittee on the implementation details of the registration scheme for larger-sized musical instruments. He also proposed inviting members of the public to give views on the subject at the meeting.	
000936 – 001157	Chairman Mr Christopher CHUNG	Mr Christopher CHUNG proposed discussing the provision of barrier-free access and facilities in MTR stations. In addition, he opined that the number of exits in MTR stations should be increased to address the growing number of passengers. The Chairman said that Mr CHUNG's suggestion had already been included in the Subcommittee's list of outstanding items for discussion.	
001158 – 001339	Chairman Mr Gary FAN	Mr Gary FAN said that he supported the discussion on increasing barrier-free access and facilities in MTR stations. He considered it necessary to clarify with MTRCL whether there was a policy that any enhancement works to increase barrier-free access and facilities of a MTR station would be undertaken only when major construction works were to be carried out to the station.	
		He also suggested that the Administration should provide an update on its plans for implementing the proposed railway projects under the Railway Development Strategy 2014, including the results of the technical and financial feasibility studies conducted, if any, on the East Kowloon Line railway project.	
001340 – 001539	Chairman Ms Claudia MO	Ms Claudia MO supported that the Administration/MTRCL should conduct a review on the two sets of by-laws expeditiously.	
001540 – 002011	Chairman Mr Michael TIEN	<ul> <li>Mr Michael TIEN said that in view of the increasing demand for transport services in the New Territories West arising from population growth and new development projects, he suggested discussing the following two items at future meetings:</li> <li>(a) Construction of a fifth cross-harbour railway system; and</li> </ul>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		(b) Comprehensive review on the operation and development of the Light Rail network.	
		Noting the Administration's written reply to the Subcommittee's "List of follow-up actions" on the item regarding "Capacity and loading of MTR trains" tabled at the meeting, Mr TIEN said that the Administration should also provide the patronage figures during peak hours for different railway lines.	Admin to take follow up action
		Mr TIEN proposed extending the ending time of regular meetings from 12:45 pm to 1:30 pm so as to allow more time for discussion at each meeting.	
002012- 002118	Chairman	Members agreed that the following items would be discussed at the next regular meeting scheduled for 4 December 2015:	
		<ul> <li>(a) Progress update on the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link;</li> </ul>	
		(b) Progress update of the construction of the Shatin to Central Link; and	
		(c) Progress update of the construction of the West Island Line, South Island Line (East) and Kwun Tong Line Extension.	
Agenda Item IV – Any other business			
002119 – 002143	Chairman	The Chairman said that he and the Deputy Chairman would meet with the Secretary for Transport and Housing to discuss the work plan of the Subcommittee in the 2015-2016 session.	

Council Business Division 4 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 6 November 2015