

LC Paper No. CB(1)87/01-02

Ref: CB1/PL/TP/1

# Legislative Council Panel on Transport

## Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 11 October 2001, at 10:30 am in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

Members present	:	Hon Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee, JP (Chairman) Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP (Deputy Chairman) Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, JP Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, JP Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP Hon LAU Kong-wah Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Non-Panel members attending	:	Hon SIN Chung-kai Hon LAW Chi-kwong, JP Hon Henry WU King-cheong, BBS
Members absent	:	Hon David CHU Yu-lin, JP Hon Albert HO Chun-yan Hon CHAN Kwok-keung Hon Andrew WONG Wang-fat, JP Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP Hon LEUNG Fu-wah, MH, JP Hon LEUNG Sing-chi Hon LAU Ping-cheung

Clerk in attendance	:	Mr Andy LAU Chief Assistant Secretary (1)2
Staff in attendance	:	Ms Pauline NG Assistant Secretary General 1
		Ms Mary TANG Senior Assistant Secretary (1)2
		Ms Alice AU Senior Assistant Secretary (1)5

Action

### I Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

<u>Mrs Miriam LAU</u> invited nominations for the chairmanship. <u>Mr LAU Chin-shek</u> nominated Mrs Miriam LAU and the nomination was seconded by <u>Ir Dr Raymond HO</u>. <u>Mrs LAU</u> accepted the nomination.

2. <u>Mr Abraham SHEK</u> took over the chair and presided over the election of Chairman. There being no other nominations, <u>Mrs Miriam LAU</u> was declared Chairman of the Panel.

3. <u>Mrs Miriam LAU</u> took over the chair and invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship. <u>Ir Dr Raymond HO</u> nominated Mr Abraham SHEK and the nomination was seconded by <u>Mr LAU Chin-shek</u>. <u>Mr SHEK</u> accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, <u>Mr Abraham SHEK</u> was declared Deputy Chairman of the Panel.

#### II Schedule of meetings for 2001-2002 session

4. <u>Members</u> agreed that regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the fourth Friday of each month at 10:45 am.

# III Discussion items for next meeting

5. <u>Members</u> agreed that the next Panel meeting would be held on Friday, 26 October 2001 to discuss the following:

- (a) Lok Ma Chau Spur Line project;
- (b) Shenzhen Western Corridor and Deep Bay Link; and

(c) Route 7.

Due to the heavy agenda, <u>members</u> agreed that the meeting would begin at 9:00 am and end at around 12:30 pm.

6. Referring to the Administration's practice of consulting the Panel before an item was submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) for consideration, both <u>Mrs</u> <u>Selina CHOW and Mr Albert CHAN</u> considered that the arrangement might need to be reviewed to ensure that discussion time of the Panel could be used more efficiently, bearing in mind discussions at Panels and PWSC might sometimes be repeated. <u>Mrs</u> <u>CHOW</u> also expressed concern that in order to cater for the business of the Panel, special meetings would need to be convened from time to time to deal with financial proposals.

7. <u>The Chairman</u> stated that starting from last session, the Administration had been requested to provide information papers for impending PWSC items to the Panel for information first. Subject to members' request, such items would then be put on the agenda for a regular or special meeting of the Panel for discussion. The practice had been working well and it had helped the Panel cope with the increasing workload. Nonetheless, she considered that the matter raised by the members was not confined to the Transport Panel and it would involve a wider issue on the working relationship between different committees of the Legislative Council (LegCo).

8. Ir Dr Raymond HO said that he did not agree with the Administration's practice of consulting the Panel on each and every PWSC item. He took the view that the Panel should only be consulted on more important items. <u>Mrs CHOW</u> however pointed out that it was at the request of LegCo Members that the Administration consulted the views of relevant Panels on legislative or financial proposals to be submitted. She suggested that joint meetings might be convened where necessary so that discussion on a specific PWSC item could take place among interested members in a single meeting.

9. <u>The Assistant Secretary General 1</u> (ASG1) informed members that according to an agreement between the House Committee and the Administration, the latter should consult the relevant LegCo Panels before a major legislative or financial proposal was formally introduced to the Council or Finance Committee. However, it had been observed that instead of making a judgement on which items would require Panel consultation, the Administration had chosen to leave the decision to the Panels. After deliberation, <u>members</u> considered it necessary to put the matter to the House Committee for further consideration. At the request of the Chairman, the Secretariat would examine whether better arrangements could be made to ensure more effective Panel consultation on PWSC items.

10. <u>Mr Abraham SHEK</u> opined that the Panel should adopt a more pro-active approach in monitoring the transport policies of the Government. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u>

Clerk

suggested that a review on the Transport Bureau's policy objectives should be conducted by the Panel at the end of a legislative session to take stock of the progress achieved by the Administration in key result areas. The <u>Chairman</u> said that Mr CHAN's suggestion could be further pursued in due course.

11. At the request of Mr Albert CHAN, <u>members</u> agreed that the following items would be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion:

- (a) Implementation of bus-bus interchange schemes in new development areas; and
- (b) Policy on non-franchised bus services.

# IV Continuation of the work of the Subcommittee on matters relating to the implementation of railway development projects

12. <u>Members</u> decided that the Subcommittee on matters relating to the implementation of railway development projects under the Panel should continue its work in the 2001-2002 session. <u>Members</u> agreed that the Subcommittee should re-open its membership and a circular would be issued by the Secretariat shortly. <u>Members</u> also agreed that the election for Chairman of the Subcommittee would be held at its first meeting to be scheduled.

(*Post-meeting note*: A circular inviting membership for the Subcommittee was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)41/01-02.)

#### V Any other business

13. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:55 am.

Legislative Council Secretariat 19 October 2001