

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)2167/04-05
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/SS/10/04

**Subcommittee on Proposed Resolution under
Section 22 of the Tung Chung Cable Car Ordinance**

**Meeting on
Thursday, 21 July 2005, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, SBS, JP

Members absent : Hon Howard YOUNG, SBS, JP
Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon Albert Jinghan CHENG

**Public Officers
Attending** : Ms Maisie CHENG
Deputy Commissioner for Tourism
Economic Development and Labour Bureau

Miss Patricia SO
Assistant Commissioner (Tourism) 2
Economic Development and Labour Bureau

Mr Raymond CHAN
Senior Assistant Law Officer (Civil Law)
Department of Justice

Attendance by invitation : Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited

Ms Teresa CHEUNG
Legal Manager General

Skyrail-ITM (Hong Kong) Limited

Mr David CLARE
General Manager

New Lantao Bus Co (1973) Ltd.

Mr Matthew WONG
Managing Director

Clerk in attendance : Ms Anita SIT
Senior Council Secretary (1)9

Staff in attendance : Miss Anita HO
Assistant Legal Adviser 2

Mrs Queenie YU
Senior Council Secretary (1)5

Action

I Confirmation of minutes and matters arising
(LC Paper No. CB(1)2074/04-05 - Minutes of meeting held on 6 July 2005)

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2005 were confirmed.

II Meeting with the deputations/the Administration
(LC Paper No. CB(1)2109/04-05(01) - Submission from Ocean Park)
— proposed resolution under Section 22 of the Tung Chung Cable Car Ordinance (Cap. 577) moved by the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour;
— the Legal Service Division Report;
— information paper for the Economic Services Panel meeting held on 2 June 2005; and
— minutes of meeting of the Economic Services Panel meeting held on 2 June 2005.

Action

2. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex A**).
3. The Chairman informed members that an invitation notice had been posted on the website of the Legislative Council and a press release had been issued to invite the public to give views on the proposed resolution under Section 22 of the Tung Chung Cable Car Ordinance (Cap.577). For this purpose, invitation letters had also been sent to the 18 District Councils, relevant Rural Committee and other organizations suggested by members. As of date, the Subcommittee had received a written submission from the Ocean Park Corporation. In addition, the Managing Director of the New Lantau Bus Co (1973) Ltd. (NLB) would present views to the Subcommittee at the meeting.
4. The Subcommittee noted that the Government had entered into a Project Agreement with the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) in 2003 based on a Build-Operate-Transfer model for the Tung Chung Cable Car System (the Cable Car System) linking Tung Chung and Ngong Ping on the Lantau Island. The project was in good progress and was expected to complete in early 2006. MTRCL had appointed Skyrail-ITM (Hong Kong) Ltd, which had rich experience in operating a similar facility in Australia, to operate and manage the project. MTRCL estimated that there would be a patronage of 1.5 million in the first year of operation.
5. The Subcommittee also noted that the Cable Car System would become a major tourism facility of the Lantau Island. It was important for the Bylaw to be enacted before the opening of the Cable Car System. The proposed Tung Chung Cable Car Bylaw was to achieve the following purposes –
 - (a) to provide safety precautions to passengers on the Cable Car System and people in the Cable Car System area;
 - (b) to avoid causing any inconvenience or nuisance to other passengers by authorizing MTRCL to manage certain conduct of passengers on the Cable Car System;
 - (c) to provide a system for the effective management of the Cable Car System such as the ticketing arrangement and the handling of property found on the Cable Car System and in the Cable Car System area; and
 - (d) to provide for proper traffic management in the Cable Car System area such as dealing with vehicles left there and regulating the conduct of drivers and vehicles in the Cable Car System area.
6. Members expressed concern about the impact of the Cable Car System on the operational viability of the existing public transport services (including franchised bus, ferry and taxi services), and this in turn would affect the provision of public transport services for local residents in Lantau. They were also of the view that proper arrangements should be in place to ensure that the Cable Car System would not adversely affect but would contribute to the tourism development in other parts of

Action

Lantau. The Administration indicated that the overall policy for developing the Cable Car Project was to further develop Lantau as a tourism node. With the operation of the Cable Car, visitors to Lantau would increase which would promote the tourism development at locations other than Ngong Ping, e.g. Tai O, Mui Wo. As the pie grew bigger, it should be a win win situation for existing operators. In fact, MTRCL was discussing with NLB and other public transport operators on possible cooperative arrangements. Members urged the Tourism Commission and the Transport Department to play an active role in facilitating the discussions with a view to formulating appropriate arrangements that would achieve the objectives pertinent to tourism development in Lantau and avoid the Cable Car System causing adverse impact on the operational viability of existing public transport operators. The Government, however, should not interfere with the detailed arrangements between MTRC and other transport operators as they were commercial agreements.

Admin 7. In view of the impending commissioning of the Cable Car System, members considered that concrete arrangements should be arrived at among the parties concerned as soon as possible and the Administration should report to the Subcommittee on the results of the discussions by early September 2005.

8. Members also requested the Administration to provide the following information –

(a) assessment on the impact of the future operation of the Cable Car System on existing public transport services with relevant quantitative information to substantiate the assessment; and

Admin (b) assessment on whether upon completion of the Tung Chung Road widening project, the bus journey time between North and South Lantau would be reduced and if so, the extent of reduction in journey time.

III Any other business

9. Members agreed that the next two meetings would be scheduled for Monday, 5 September 2005 and Thursday, 8 September 2005 at 10:45 am.

10. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:40 am.

(Post-meeting note: The written submission provided by NLB at the meeting was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2118/04-05 on 21 July 2005.)

**Proceedings of the first meeting of Subcommittee on
Proposed Resolution under Section 22 of the
Tung Chung Cable Car Ordinance (Cap. 577)
Thursday, 21 July 2005, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I – Confirmation of minutes and matters arising</i>			
000000-000150	Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirmation of minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2005 (LC Paper No. CB(1)2074/04-05) 	
<i>Agenda Item II – Meeting with the deputations/the Administration</i>			
000151-000449	Chairman Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written views from the Ocean Park Corporation - Briefings by the Administration on background information on the Tung Chung Cable Car Project, its current progress and the objectives of the Tung Chung Cable Car Bylaw 	
000450-001552	New Lantao Bus Co (1973) Ltd. (NLB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of views on the following issues – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) current bus services provided by NLB on the Lantau Island and NLB’s current practice of using profitable routes to cross-subsidize non-profitable routes; (b) attractive ticket prices and packages and journey time for passengers of the Cable Car System; (c) given the competitive setting, the Cable Car service would have detrimental effect on the operation of NLB including loss of income from the most profitable route, foreseeable reduction in services provided for the local residents and anticipated job loss of existing staff etc; and (d) concern on whether Skyrail-ITM (Hong Kong) (Skyrail) would collaborate with other transport service operators to increase the patronage for public transport to visit more tourist spots on the Lantau Island and the progress of discussions between Skyrail and NLB on viable business options such as interchange fare arrangements. 	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
001553-001753	Chairman Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Administration's confirmation that its general policy was to further develop other tourist attractions in Lantau as well. As the Cable Car Project would bring more visitors to Ngong Ping, it would create new opportunities for other transport operators such as NLB. The Administration supported in general the on-going discussion between MTRC/Skyrail and other transport operators on packaging. 	
001754-002446	Mrs Selina CHOW Chairman Admin MTRCL NLB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MTRCL's support for Skyrail to liaise with other transport operators on cooperative arrangements to promote other tourist attractions on the Lantau Island and the plan to finalize the cooperative arrangements and packages for passengers by October 2005. - NLB's suggestion of other possible areas of collaboration between Skyrail and NLB, for example, NLB to provide transportation for passengers outside the operation hours and service areas of the Cable Car System and/or in emergency situation, and to provide services for staff etc. 	
002447-003551	Mrs Selina CHOW NLB Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members' concern about the impact of the Cable Car System on the operational viability of the existing public transport service operators and local residents and the need for the Administration (including the Tourism Commission and the Transport Department) to play an active part in the discussions between MTRCL/Skyrail and NLB and other transport service operators to achieve a win-win situation. However, the Government should not interfere with the detailed arrangements between MTRCL and other transport operators as they were commercial agreements. - Development of tourism in other parts of Lantau. 	
003552-004554	Mr Albert CHAN Admin Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr CHAN's concern about the prices and packages for passengers of the Cable Car System and the Administration's role in formulating appropriate arrangements to avoid adverse impact on the operational viability of existing public transport operators and the tourism development in 	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>other parts of Lantau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Administration agreed that the Tourism Commission and the Transport Department would coordinate MTRCL/Skyrail and other public transport operators to work out cooperative arrangements between Skyrail and public transport operators. 	
004555-004857	Mr CHEUNG Hok-ming Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need to put in place concrete arrangements to address the concerns raised by NLB and other existing public transport operators. - Assessment on the competitiveness of the existing franchised bus service operators in terms of the bus journey time upon completion of the Tung Chung Road widening project 	
004858-010442	Mrs Selina CHOW Chairman Mr Albert CHAN NLB Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members' view on the need to arrive at appropriate arrangements that would achieve the objectives pertinent to tourism development in Lantau and avoid the Cable Car System causing adverse impact on the operational viability of existing public transport operators. - Members' request for information to be provided by NLB and the Administration 	<p>Admin to report the results of the discussions among the parties concerned by early September 2005</p> <p>Admin to provide information in para. 8 of the minutes by early September 2005</p>
<i>Agenda Item III – Any other business</i>			
	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW Mr Albert CHAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of next meeting 	