

Legislative Council Panel on Transport

Permitted Operating Areas for New Territories Taxis

PURPOSE

This paper sets out the proposal to revise the permitted operating areas of New Territories (“NT”) taxis to enable them to operate at –

- (a) Hong Kong Disneyland,
- (b) new air passenger terminal at the SkyPlaza of the Airport,
and
- (c) Hang Hau MTR Station in Tseung Kwan O,

which are currently outside the permitted operating areas for NT taxis.

BACKGROUND

2. At present, there are 2,838 NT taxis serving designated areas in the NT. NT taxis were first introduced in 1976 with specified permitted operating areas to serve the remote and rural areas in the NT where residents were not adequately served by ordinary taxi services and other forms of public transport. Their permitted operating areas are specified in Schedule 7 to the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374E). These permitted operating areas are kept under review and, where appropriate, adjusted to suit changing circumstances such as opening of new roads, major changes in land use, having regard to adequacy of public transport services and other factors affecting travel demand.

3. At present, the permitted operating areas for NT taxis are confined mainly to the north-eastern (i.e. north of Sha Tin) and north-western (i.e. north of Tsuen Wan) parts of the NT. NT taxis are also permitted to go to certain locations in Sha Tin and Tsuen Wan to provide NT residents with easy access to certain public facilities or selected public transport interchanges (e.g. Tsuen Wan MTR Station). With the opening of the new Airport at Chek Lap Kok and the Airport

Express Line in 1998, NT taxis were permitted access to the new Airport and Airport Express Line Tsing Yi Station under specified routes. The existing permitted operating areas for NT taxis are shown in **Annex 1**.

PROPOSAL

4. In the light of the opening of the MTR Tseung Kwan O Line and forthcoming opening of major public infrastructure within the NT such as the Hong Kong Disneyland and new air passenger terminal at SkyPlaza of the Airport, Transport Department has reviewed the permitted operating areas for NT taxis and proposed to revise them to enable NT taxis, under specified routes, to access -

- (a) Hong Kong Disneyland to provide a wider choice of public transport services for this new large-scale recreational attraction within the NT and to meet public expectation for a direct taxi service to serve the theme park. NT taxis will be permitted to use Tsing Yi North Coastal Road, a connecting road in Tsing Yi already open to other vehicles, to access Hong Kong Disneyland and Lantau;
- (b) the departure area of the new air passenger terminal at SkyPlaza of the Airport to facilitate NT taxis passengers to depart from the new passenger terminal; and
- (c) a new NT taxi stand in close proximity to the Hang Hau MTR Station to facilitate NT taxis passengers from Sai Kung District to interchange with the MTR Tseung Kwan O Line.

5. The specified routes for NT taxis to access Hong Kong Disneyland, SkyPlaza and Hang Hau MTR Station are at **Annex 2**. The relevant road maps are at **Annex 3**.

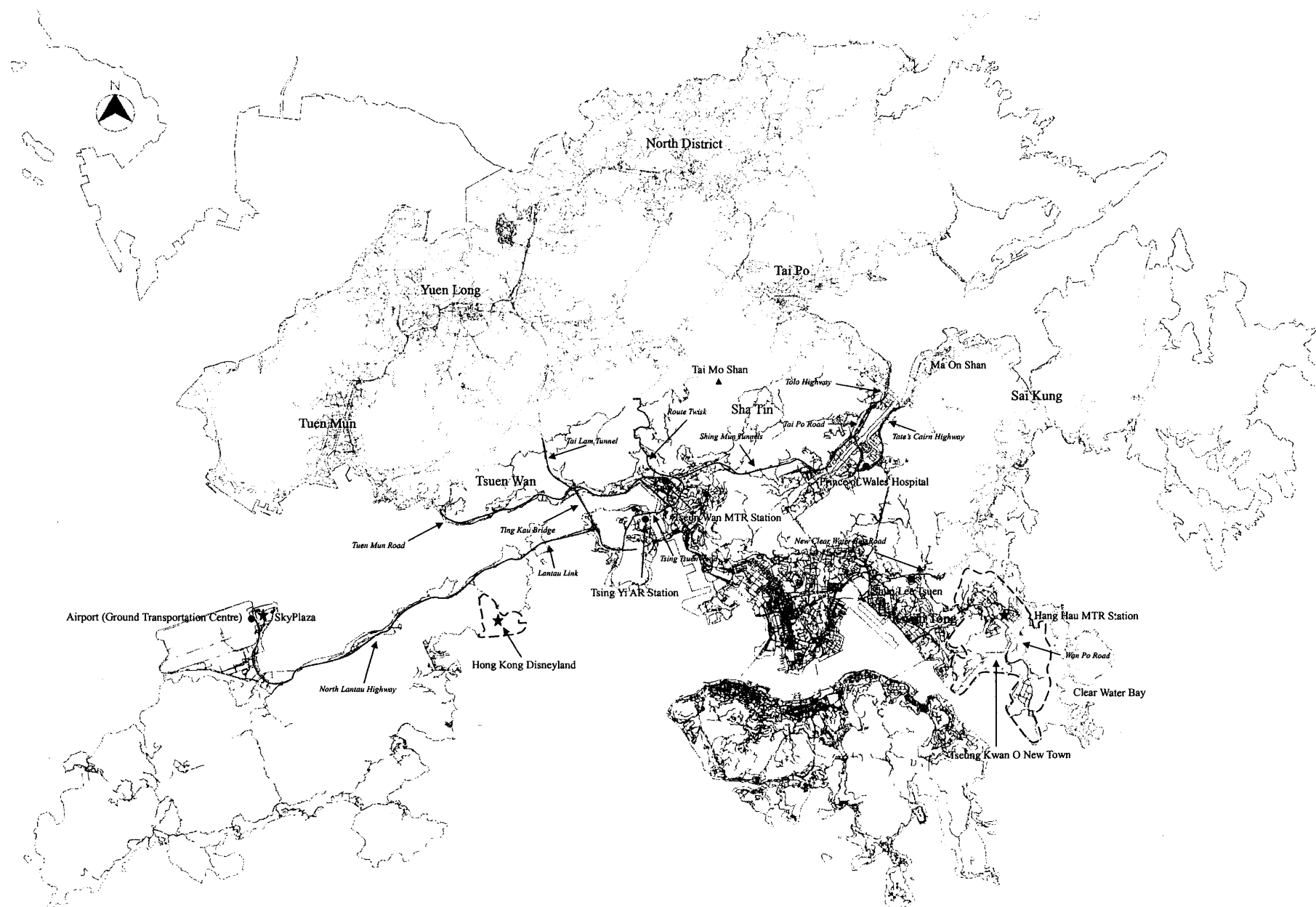
6. The urban, NT and Lantau taxi trades were consulted on the proposal at the respective Taxi Conferences of Transport Department in November 2004. The NT taxi trade supported the proposals and the urban and Lantau taxi trades did not raise any objection.

WAY FORWARD

7. Under section 6 of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374), the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works is empowered to amend Schedule 7 to the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations to revise the permitted operating areas for NT taxis. It is expected that the amendment regulations will be gazetted in April 2005. The proposal regarding Hang Hau MTR Station will be implemented first. The other two proposals are planned to take effect taking into account the opening of Hong Kong Disneyland in September 2005 and SkyPlaza tentatively in mid-2006.

Environment, Transport and Works Bureau
January 2005

Permitted Areas for NT Taxis



Legend:

- Existing permitted areas for NT taxis
- Existing NT taxi permitted routes

**NT Taxi Specified Routes to Hong Kong Disneyland, the New Air
Passenger Terminal (SkyPlaza) and Hang Hau MTR Station**

(I) Hong Kong Disneyland

To Hong Kong Disneyland

- (a) From Ting Kau Bridge to Hong Kong Disneyland
via Ting Kau Bridge, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Lantau Link, North Lantau Highway, slip road and Penny's Bay Highway.
- (b) From Tsing Tsuen Road to Hong Kong Disneyland
via Tsing Tsuen Road, Tsing Yi North Coastal Road, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Lantau Link, North Lantau Highway, slip road and Penny's Bay Highway; or

via Tsing Tsuen Road, Tam Kon Shan Interchange, Fung Shue Wo Road, Tsing Yi Road West, slip road, Cheung Tsing Highway, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Lantau Link, North Lantau Highway, slip road and Penny's Bay Highway.
- (c) From Airport to Hong Kong Disneyland
via Airport Road, North Lantau Highway, slip road and Penny's Bay Highway.

From Hong Kong Disneyland

- (a) From Hong Kong Disneyland to Ting Kau Bridge
via Penny's Bay Highway, slip road, North Lantau Highway, Lantau Link, North West Tsing Yi Interchange and Ting Kau Bridge.
- (b) From Hong Kong Disneyland to Tsing Tsuen Road
via Penny's Bay Highway, slip road, North Lantau Highway, Lantau Link, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Tsing Yi North Coastal Road and Tsing Tsuen Road; or

via Penny's Bay Highway, slip road, North Lantau Highway, Lantau Link, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Cheung Tsing Highway, slip road, Tsing Yi Road West, Fung Shue Wo Road, Tam Kon Shan Interchange and Tsing Tsuen Road

(c) From Hong Kong Disneyland to Airport

via Penny's Bay Highway, slip road, North Lantau Highway and Airport Road.

Remark:

NT taxis will be permitted to use the following roads inside Hong Kong Disneyland: Magic Road, Fantasy Road, Inspiration Drive, Long Yan Road, Chak Yan Road and Sea Point Road.

(II) New Air Passenger Terminal (SkyPlaza)

To SkyPlaza

(a) From North Lantau Highway to SkyPlaza

via North Lantau Highway, Airport Road, Airport South Interchange, Airport Road and SC03 Road.

(b) From Airport (Taxi Stand) to SkyPlaza

via SC08 Road, Airport North Interchange, Airport Road, Airport South Interchange, Airport Road and SC03 Road.

From SkyPlaza

(a) From SkyPlaza to Airport (Taxi Stand)

via SC03 Road, SC04 Road, Airport Road, Airport North Interchange, Cheong Tat Road and SC09 Road.

(b) From SkyPlaza to North Lantau Highway

via SC03 Road, Cheong Wong Road, Airport Road and North Lantau Highway.

(III) Hang Hau MTR Station

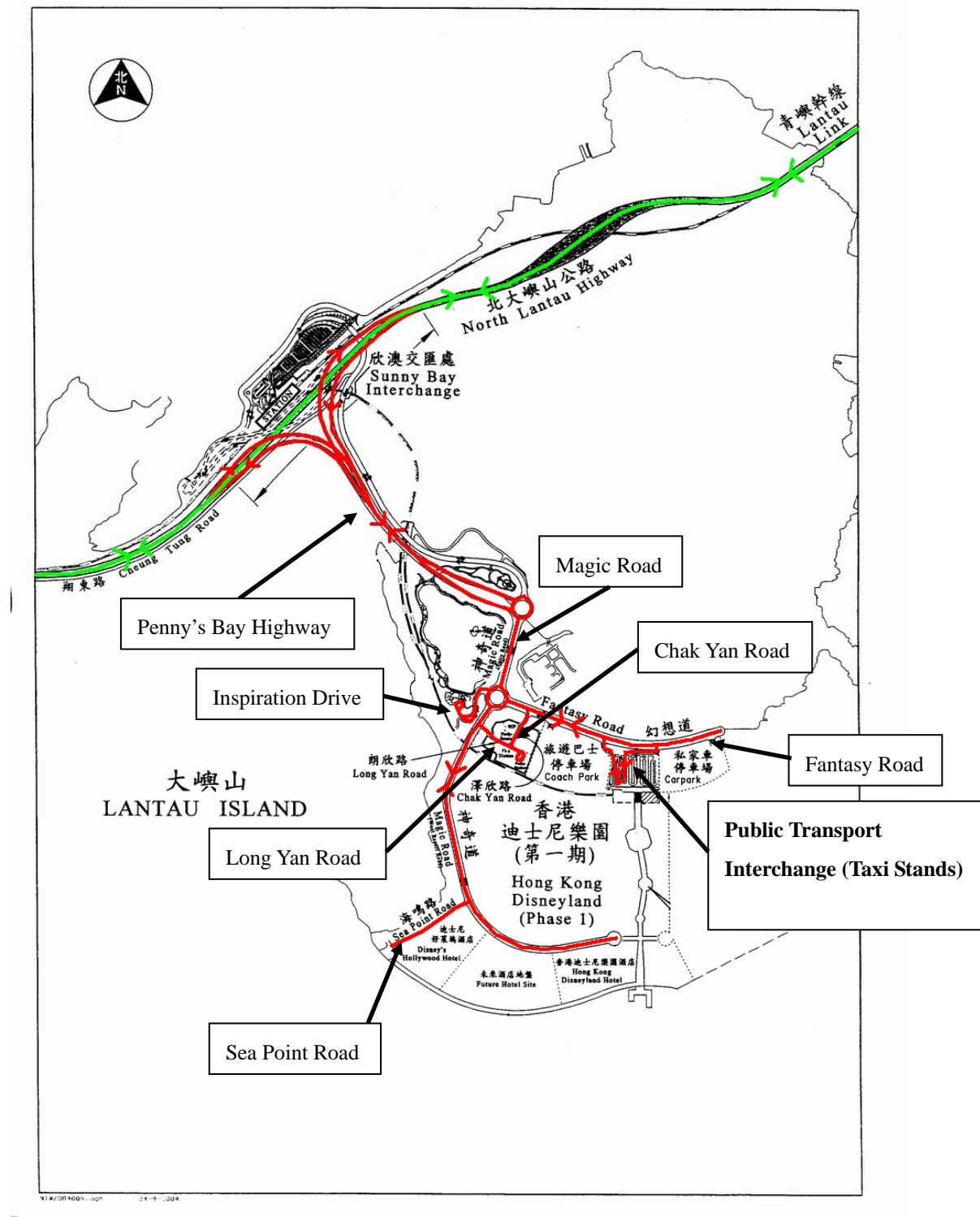
To Hang Hau MTR Station

- (a) From Clear Water Bay Road to Hang Hau MTR Station
via Clear Water Bay Road, Ying Yip Road, Sheung Ning Road, Chung Wa Road, Pui Shing Road and Ming Shing Street.
- (b) From Wan Po Road to Hang Hau MTR Station
via Wan Po Road, Chiu Shun Road, Ngan O Road, Pui Shing Road, Sheung Ning Road, Chung Wa Road, Pui Shing Road and Ming Shing Street.

From Hang Hau MTR Station

- (a) From Hang Hau MTR Station to Clear Water Bay Road
via Ming Shing Street, Sheung Ning Road, Ying Yip Road and Clear Water Bay Road.
- (b) From Hang Hau MTR Station to Wan Po Road
via Ming Shing Street, Sheung Ning Road, Chung Wa Road, Pui Shing Road, Ngan O Road, Chiu Shun Road and Wan Po Road.

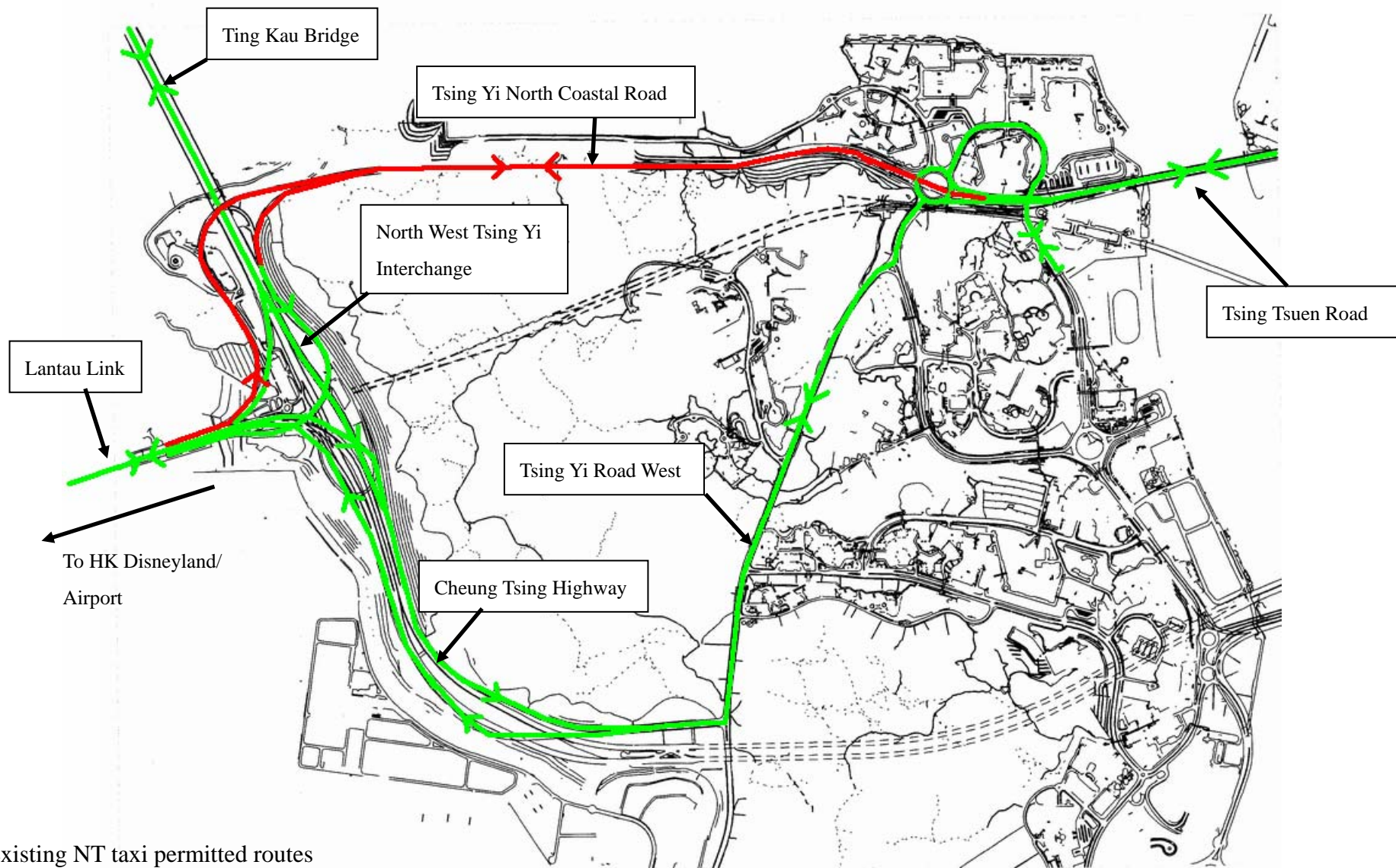
NT Taxi Specified Routes to Hong Kong Disneyland



Legend:

- Existing NT taxi permitted routes
- Proposed additional specified routes for NT taxis to access Hong Kong Disneyland

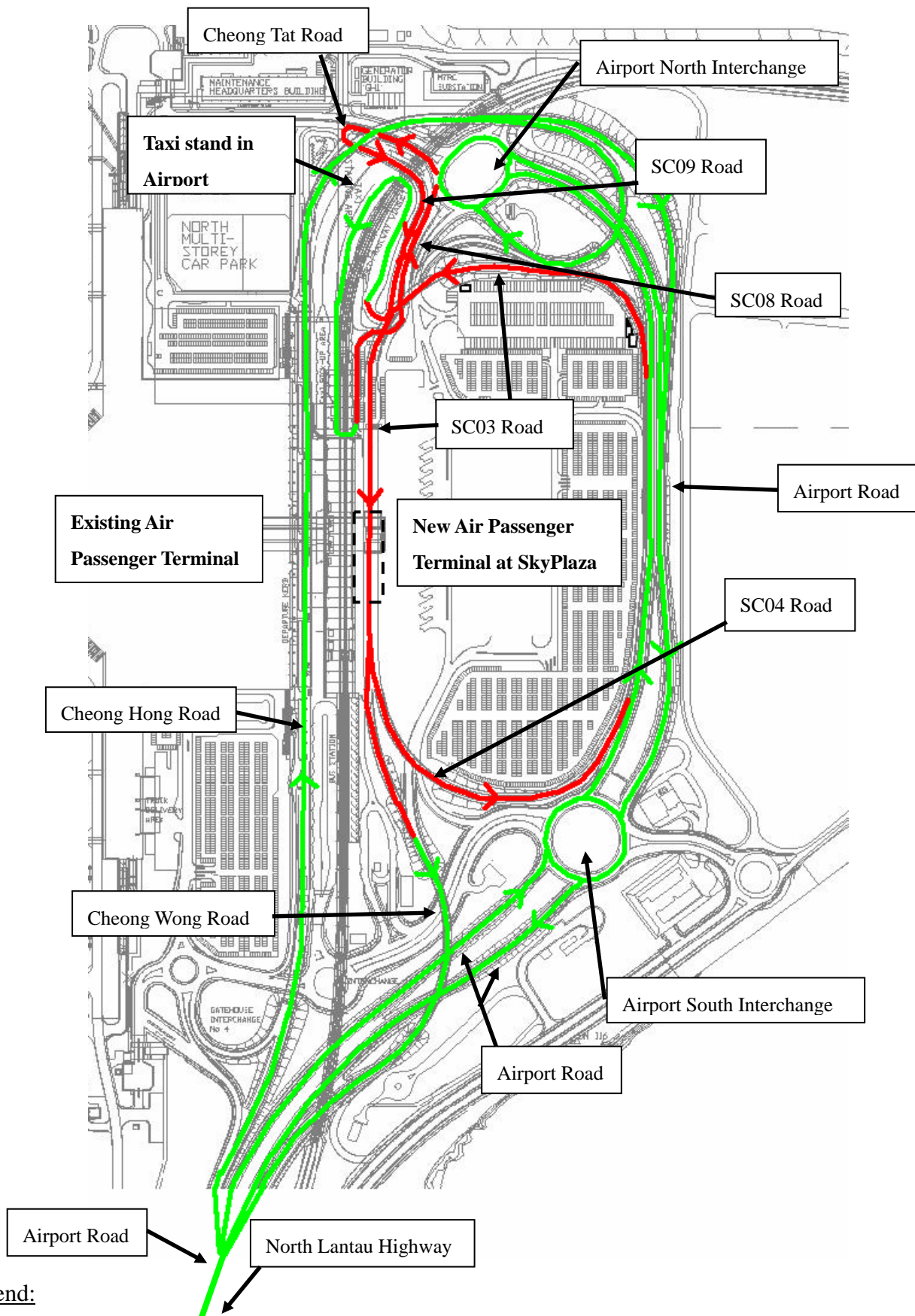
NT Taxi Specified Routes to Lantau in Tsing Yi



Legend:

- Existing NT taxi permitted routes
- Proposed additional specified route for NT taxis to access Lantau

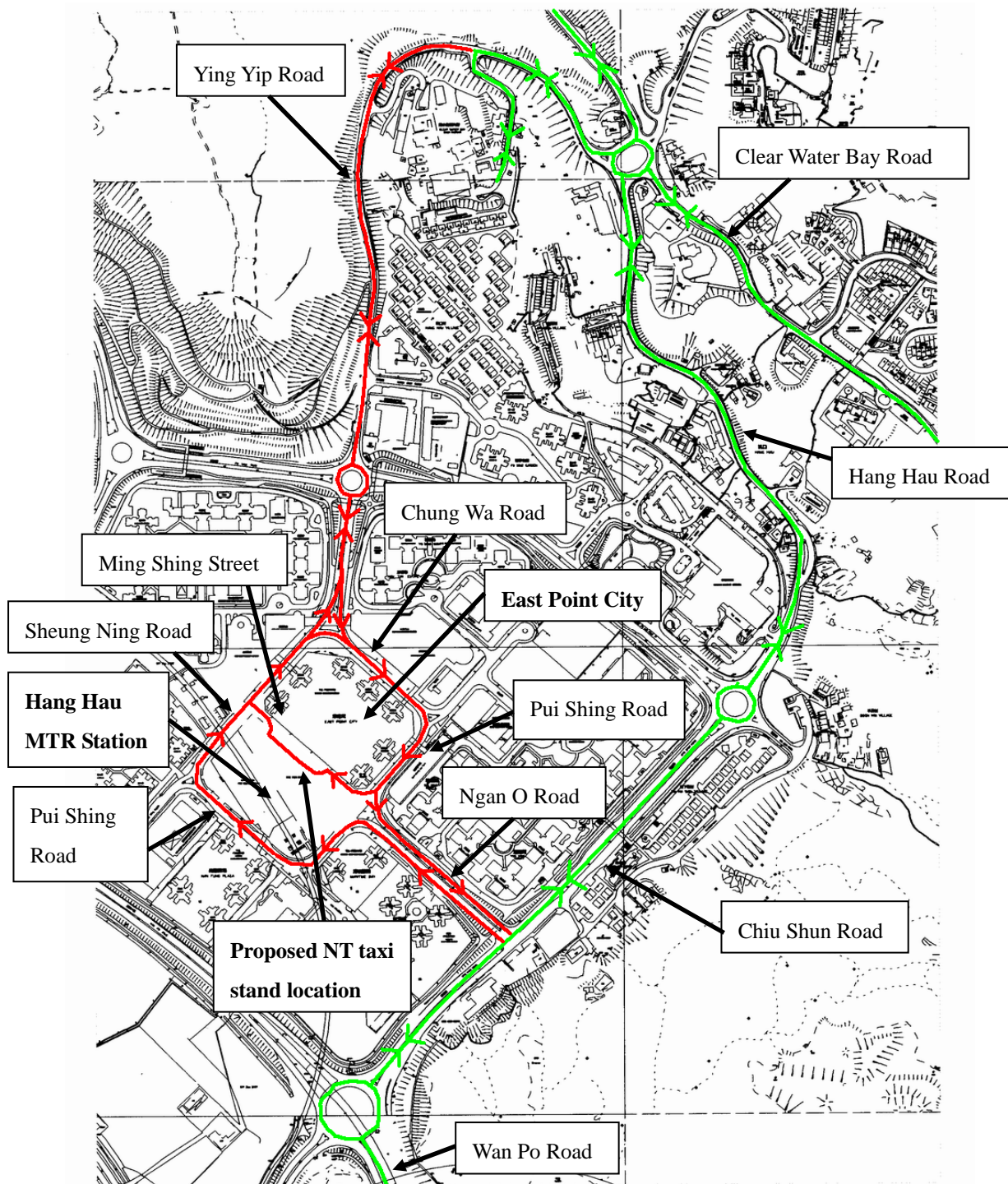
NT Taxi Specified Routes to the New Air Passenger Terminal (SkyPlaza)



Legend:

- Existing NT taxi permitted routes
- Proposed additional specified routes for NT taxis to access the New Air Passenger Terminal at SkyPlaza

NT Taxi Specified Routes to Hang Hau MTR Station



Legend:

- Existing NT taxi permitted routes
- Proposed additional specified routes for NT taxis to access Hang Hau MTR Station