

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 148/08-09

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Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 14 November 2008

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 19 November 2008

**Proposed amendments to motion on
“Concern about the cross harbour tunnels failing
to divert traffic flows effectively and their high tolls”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 119/08-09 issued on 6 November 2008, Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah and Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon CHAN Hak-kan's motion on “Concern about the cross harbour tunnels failing to divert traffic flows effectively and their high tolls” scheduled for the Council meeting of 19 November 2008. As directed by the President, Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah's and Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo's amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. To assist Members in debating the above motion and the two amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) Hon CHAN Hak-kan moves his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon CHAN Hak-kan's motion, and orders a joint debate;
- (c) the President calls on the two Members, who intend to move amendments, to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah; and
 - (ii) Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo;

- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) joint debate on the motion and the two amendments follows thereafter;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon CHAN Hak-kan to speak for the second time on the two amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) again to speak;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the two Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on the amendment;
- (i) after Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo's amendment to the motion; and
- (j) after Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo's amendment has been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon CHAN Hak-kan to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon CHAN Hak-kan's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion debate on
“Concern about the cross harbour tunnels failing
to divert traffic flows effectively and their high tolls”
to be held at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 19 November 2008

1. Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s original motion

“That, as presently the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) and Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) have failed to achieve the function of diverting cross-harbour traffic flows effectively, and their tolls are on the high side, imposing a heavy burden on vehicle owners and the general public, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) discuss with the management of EHC and WHC for the provision of more toll concessions, such as offering lower tolls during non-peak hours and half tolls for commercial vehicles which do not carry passengers or goods;
- (b) actively discuss with the two tunnel companies and various bus companies to make more room for reduction in cross-harbour bus fares through the offer of toll concessions by the two tunnel companies to the bus companies, thereby bringing down cross-harbour bus fares;
- (c) actively study the buying out of EHC and WHC or the extension of their franchises, so as to lower the tolls of these two tunnels to reasonable levels; and
- (d) improve the connecting road networks for EHC and WHC, including expeditiously constructing the Central-Wan Chai Bypass,

so as to attract more vehicle owners and members of the public to use EHC and WHC, and improve the current traffic congestion at the Cross Harbour Tunnel in Hung Hom, with a view to achieving the objectives of reasonable distribution of traffic among the three tunnels and alleviating the burden of travelling expenses on vehicle owners and the general public.”

2. Motion as amended by Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah

“That, as presently *the tolls of* the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) and Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) *are on the high side, they* have failed to achieve the function of diverting cross-harbour traffic flows effectively, ~~and their tolls are on the high side,~~ imposing a heavy burden on vehicle owners and the general public *while at the same time incurring heavy economic and social costs; as such,* this Council

urges the Government to:

- (a) discuss with the management of EHC and WHC for the provision of more toll concessions, such as offering lower tolls during non-peak hours and half tolls for commercial vehicles which do not carry passengers or goods;
- (b) actively discuss with the two tunnel companies and various bus companies to make more room for reduction in cross-harbour bus fares through the offer of toll concessions by the two tunnel companies to the bus companies, thereby bringing down cross-harbour bus fares;
- (c) actively study the buying out of EHC and WHC or ~~the extension of their franchises, so as to lower the tolls of these two tunnels~~ *the option of 'joint operation of the three tunnels', so as to adjust the tolls and traffic flows of the three tunnels* to reasonable levels; and
- (d) improve the connecting road networks for EHC and WHC, including expeditiously constructing the Central-Wan Chai Bypass,

so as to attract more vehicle owners and members of the public to use EHC and WHC, and improve the current traffic congestion at the Cross Harbour Tunnel in Hung Hom, with a view to achieving the objectives of reasonable distribution of traffic among the three tunnels and alleviating the burden of travelling expenses on vehicle owners and the general public.”

Note: Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo

“That, as presently the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) and Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) have failed to achieve the function of diverting cross-harbour traffic flows effectively, and their tolls are on the high side, imposing a heavy burden on vehicle owners and the general public, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) discuss with the management of EHC and WHC for the provision of more toll concessions, such as offering lower tolls during non-peak hours and half tolls for commercial vehicles which do not carry passengers or goods;
- (b) actively discuss with the two tunnel companies and various bus companies to make more room for reduction in cross-harbour bus fares through the offer of toll concessions by the two tunnel companies to the bus companies, thereby bringing down cross-harbour bus fares;

- (c) ~~actively study the buying out of EHC and WHC or the extension of their franchises, so as to~~ lower the tolls of these two tunnels ***EHC and WHC*** to reasonable levels ***by way of buying out, 'offering shares in exchange for the tunnel ownership' or extending the franchises of these two tunnels;*** and
- (d) improve the connecting road networks for EHC and WHC, including expeditiously constructing the Central-Wan Chai Bypass,

so as to attract more vehicle owners and members of the public to use EHC and WHC, and improve the current traffic congestion at the Cross Harbour Tunnel in Hung Hom, with a view to achieving the objectives of reasonable distribution of traffic among the three tunnels, ***improving air pollution*** and alleviating the burden of travelling expenses on vehicle owners and the general public.”

Note: Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo's amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.