MTR reply to Legislative Council Subcommittee on Improving Barrier

Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities of the Panel

on Welfare Services on retrofitting lifts at existing stations and facilities for wheelchair users

(I) <u>Latest progress of retrofitting lifts at existing MTR stations</u> (as at 8 February 2012)

Station	Progress
Wong Tai Sin	Opened for public use on 21 December 2011
Lai Chi Kok	Works contract was awarded at the end of 2011
Cheung Sha Wan	Work in progress
Sham Shui Po	Work in progress
Shek Kip Mei	Work in progress
Yau Ma Tei	MTR originally suggested to retrofit an external lift at Yau Ma Tei Station entrance D. However, Transport Department expressed reservations on the proposed temporary traffic arrangements required during the works period. Upon the District Council's counter proposal to retrofit the lift at Waterloo Road near Lai Kee Mansion, MTR conducted a trial run of the temporary traffic arrangement with Transport Department at the said location. Transport Department is now considering the feasibility of the

	proposal.
Jordan	Work in progress
Tsim Sha Tsui	Expected to commence work in 2nd Quarter 2012
Sai Wan Ho	Contract awarded at the end of 2011
Prince Edward	Contract awarded at the end of 2011
Sheung Wan	Work in progress
Admiralty	Design in progress

(II) Passengers using wheelchair aid and stair lift

At present, all MTR stations are equipped with at least one designated barrier free access, including lift, wheelchair aid, stair lift or ramp. MTR had communicated with concerned disabled groups before retrofitting barrier free accesses. MTR aims at, as far as practicable, providing one external lift at every station to connect station concourse area with the street level.

In fact, stair lifts are designed to allow wheelchair users to operate on their own by using common operating keys. The keys are distributed to mobility-impaired passengers via Mobility-impaired Disabled Groups.

Persons with disabilities can seek assistance from station staff if they need to use the wheelchair aid or require other assistance. Station staff will endeavour to provide prompt assistance. However, there may be circumstances when station staff are engaged in other activities, hence requiring passengers to wait for a short while. Therefore, we would appeal to passengers to call the concerned station prior to their arrival so as to facilitate arrangement with a view to minimising the waiting time for passengers.

The Corporation has been closely monitoring the

operation of station facilities. It is observed that the existing barrier free accesses and facilities are able to meet the needs of passengers. The Corporation will continue to monitor the situation to seek continued improvement.

MTR Corporation February 2012