



NEW LANTAO BUS Co. (1973) LTD.
新大嶼山巴士（一九七三）有限公司

Member of KWON CHUNG GROUP 冠忠巴士集團成員

**SUBMISSION TO THE PANEL ON TRANSPORT,
 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON 1 APRIL 2016 REGARDING
 TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENT OF THE
 HONG KONG – ZHUHAI – MACAO BRIDGE**

Background

New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited (“NLB”) is one of the Franchised Bus Operators in Hong Kong, operating 23 Franchised Bus Routes mainly in Lantau and Northwest New Territories with a fleet of 121 buses (as of 30 September 2015).

We wish to submit our view towards the role of Franchised Buses (“FB”) operated by NLB for services to the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (“HKBCF”) of the Hong Kong-ZhuHai-Macao Bridge (the “Bridge”).

Franchised Bus Service

We acknowledge that Transport Department (“TD”) will extend the “A” route network to HKBCF by arranging for the buses to observe a new stop at HKBCF, and that there will be an increase in journey time by approximately 5 minutes. The above is acceptable to our company’s Route A35 (Mui Wo (via Tong Fuk) – Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”)).

However, we will oppose to any new direct Franchised Bus Route between HKBCF and other urban areas without proper consultation with fellow Franchised Bus Operators; and any new routes in this respect should be tendered, similar to that of the Franchised Bus Routes catering for Shen Zhen Bay Port in 2007.

We have noted that TD will also arrange overnight bus services for HKBCF. We wish to stress again that any new Franchised Routes to HKBCF directly should be tendered accordingly.



Green Minibuses ("GMB")

We have noted that TD will introduce GMB service between the Public Transport Interchange ("PTI") of HKBCF and Tung Chung MTR Station.

We wish to advise that GMB's passenger capacity is only 16 passengers per bus, and there is no luggage compartment on board. Passengers travelling between Tung Chung MTR Station and the PTI are most likely in substantial number and carrying luggage; they will have difficulties carrying and storing luggage on board GMB.

To this effect we wish to propose that the GMB route to be rearranged to between PTI and AsiaWorld-Expo, and the Tung Chung MTR Station – PTI route be tendered for Franchised Bus Service, together with the HKBCF – HKIA and the HKBCF – Sunny Bay MTR Station routes.

Way Forward

We acknowledge that TD is planning to accept applications for new franchised bus and GMB routes later this year in view of the timing constrain to cope with the opening of the Bridge. As time is running out, while we wish to register our interest in applying for operating these routes, we urge for the Council's timely consideration of our submission on the above.

New Lantao Bus Co. (1973) Ltd.
31 March 2016