立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)82/16-17 (These minutes have been cleared with the Chairman)

Ref: CB4/PL/TP/1

Panel on Transport

Minutes of meeting held on Friday, 28 October 2016, at 9:45 am in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present: Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP (Chairman)

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Deputy Chairman)

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP

Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP

Hon Alvin YEUNG

Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin

Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP

Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon HO Kai-ming

Hon LAM Cheuk-ting

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding

Hon SHIU Ka-chun

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH

Hon CHAN Chun-ying

Hon Tanya CHAN

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon LUK Chung-hung

Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH

Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho

Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim

Members absent

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

Hon CHU Hoi-dick

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan

Hon HUI Chi-fung

Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, MH, JP

Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Hon KWONG Chun-yu

Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung

Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

Clerk in attendance: Ms Sophie LAU

Chief Council Secretary (4)6

Staff in attendance: Mr Matthew LOO

Assistant Secretary General 4

Ms Macy NG

Senior Council Secretary (4)6

Miss Katherine CHAN Council Secretary (4)6

Miss Winnie CHENG

Senior Legislative Assistant (4)1

Ms Carmen HO

Senior Legislative Assistant (4)2

Ms Emily LIU

Legislative Assistant (4)6

Mr Griffin FUNG

Legislative Assistant (4)8

Miss Ariel SHUM Clerical Assistant (4)5

Action

I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman

Mr James TO, member present who had the highest precedence presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel on Transport ("Panel") of the 2016-2017 session.

2. <u>Mr James TO</u> informed members that the proceedings of the election of the Chairman had started at the Panel meeting on 18 October 2016. Two members, namely Mr CHAN Han-pan and Dr LAU Siu-lai, were nominated for the office. The nomination procedure had not been

- completed. Due to time constraints, the election was suspended and would be continued at today's meeting.
- 3. <u>Mr James TO</u> called for other nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel. Dr KWOK Ka-ki was nominated by <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> and the nomination was seconded by <u>Mr Kenneth LEUNG</u>. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> accepted the nomination. <u>Mr James TO</u> called for other nominations.
- 4. <u>Mr CHAN Hak-kan</u> stated that as Dr LAU Siu-lai had not re-taken the oath, he objected to allowing Dr LAU to stand for election as the Chairman of the Panel and attend the meeting.
- 5. As there was no other nomination, <u>Mr James TO</u> announced a vote by secret ballot. After all members had cast their votes, <u>Mr James TO</u> invited Mr Frankie YICK, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr LAM Cheuk-ting who had nominated/seconded the three candidates to monitor the counting of votes.
- 6. <u>Mr James TO</u> announced that a total of 32, 1 and 12 members voted for Mr CHAN Han-pan, Dr LAU Siu-lai and Dr KWOK Ka-ki respectively. <u>Mr James TO</u> declared Mr CHAN Han-pan elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session. Mr CHAN then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

- 7. <u>The Chairman</u> called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session. Dr KWOK Ka-ki was nominated by <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> and the nomination was seconded by <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u>. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> accepted the nomination.
- 8. As there was no other nomination, <u>the Chairman</u> declared Dr KWOK Ka-ki elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2016-2017 session

9. <u>Members</u> agreed that the monthly regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the third Friday of each month at 10:45 am except for February 2017, which was proposed to be held on 24 February 2017 at 10:45 am. <u>Members</u> noted and endorsed the proposed meeting schedule which was tabled at the meeting.

10. <u>Members</u> agreed that in case the Council meeting held on Wednesday was extended to Friday of the same week, the Panel meeting would have to be rescheduled.

(*Post-meeting note*: The meeting schedule of the Panel on Transport was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)44/16-17 on 28 October 2016.)

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

11. <u>Members</u> noted the "List of issues suggested to be considered" and the "List of follow-up actions" prepared by the Secretariat and tabled at the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: The "List of issues suggested to be considered" and the "List of follow-up actions" were issued to members vide LC Paper Nos. CB(4)46/16-17(01) and (02) on 28 October 2016.)

- 12. <u>Members</u> agreed that the following items be discussed at the regular meeting on 18 November 2016 at 10:45 am
 - (a) 6101TX "Universal Accessibility" Programme; and
 - (b) Outlying island ferry services.

(*Post-meeting note*: Item (b) above was subsequently revised to "Special Helping Measures for six major outlying island ferry routes for the next three-year licence period 2017-2020" by the Administration.)

13. <u>Members</u> then suggested items to be discussed at meetings of the 2016-2017 session.

Road transport

General

14. <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> was concerned over the recent fatal accidents involving road maintenance and repair works. He requested the Panel to discuss the matter.

- 15. Mr Wilson OR and Mr LAM Cheuk-ting suggested that the Panel should discuss the transport services and facilities provided in the new development areas. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting would also like to discuss the measures to improve the traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings. Mr Jeremy TAM considered that the Administration should study the feasibility to buy back the Western Harbour Crossing after the commissioning of the Central-Wanchai Bypass.
- 16. The Deputy Chairman suggested discussing the criteria for issuing non-franchised bus licence for residents' service, and the Administration's policy of relaxing the traffic restriction in South Lantau as well as the related transport facilities and arrangements.
- 17. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> expressed concern that in early October 2016, a private car with a Mainland license plate was found to be driving around Hong Kong. He requested the Transport Department and the Police to follow up the case.
- 18. Regarding measures to solve the traffic congestion problem in Hong Kong, Mr LAU Kwok-fan requested the Administration to review the existing road network such as Tolo Highway near Sha Tin. Dr Elizabeth QUAT also expressed concern that there were traffic congestion problems at roads connecting the New Territories East to Kowloon, such as Clear Water Bay Road and New Clear Water Bay Road. She added that there were inadequate transport facilities for the increased population in Tseung Kwan O. Ms Tanya CHAN and Mr Charles MOK suggested discussing the Electronic Road Pricing scheme as a means to solve traffic congestion.
- 19. <u>Mr LEUNG Che-cheung</u> requested to arrange a site visit to the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge ("HZMB") Mainland section and to discuss the related transport arrangements. <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> added that apart from the transport arrangements, he had concern over the commissioning date of HZMB.

Public transport services

20. <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> and <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> would like to discuss the issue of premium taxis. <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> and <u>Mr Charles MOK</u> would also like to discuss hire car service.

- 21. As regards bus services and public light bus services, Mr Michael TIEN and Dr Fernando CHEUNG would like to discuss the renewal of the franchise for the bus network of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited and the proposal to increase the seating capacity of public light buses. Dr CHEUNG was concerned over the provision of barrier-free facilities in public transport modes, including the installation of lift for wheelchair at the back seat of public light buses.
- 22. <u>Mr LEUNG Che-cheung</u> would like the Administration to report on the effectiveness of bus route rationalization.

Parking policy

- 23. Noting that the Administration planned to report its review on parking policy to the Panel in May 2017, Mr Frankie YICK and Dr Helena WONG urged that the discussion should be advanced. Mr YICK explained that the recent large-scale enforcement actions against illegal parking had to a certain extent affected the operation of the transport trade.
- 24. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> pointed out that apart from provision of parking spaces for heavy and large vehicles, the Panel should also discuss the adequacy of parking spaces for private cars. In this connection, she urged the Panel to discuss the progress of the implementation of the Central Kowloon Route as the project would entail the need to dismantle the Yaumatei Carpark Building, which would further reduce the number of parking spaces. <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u> added that the matter on parking spaces for motorcycles should also be discussed.

Bicycle policy

- 25. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u>, <u>Mr WU Chi-wai</u>, <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u>, <u>Mr LAU Kwok-fan</u> and <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> would like to discuss the Administration's policy on bicycle.
- 26. <u>Mr LAU Kwok-fan</u> hoped the Administration would implement a "bicycle-friendly" policy. <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> was concerned over the provision of cycling facilities. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> would like to know whether the Administration would plan to provide designated bicycle paths in urban areas.
- 27. <u>Mr WU Chi-wai</u> opined that confining the improvement of cycling facilities in new towns and new development areas would not foster a

"bicycle-friendly" environment for the city as a whole. He expressed reservation on the Administration's views that the use of bicycle as a transport mode in urban areas was not encouraged due to the fact that roads in these areas were mostly narrow and crowded. He requested the Administration to provide more details about this to justify its views.

Sea and air transport

- 28. <u>Dr Priscilla LEUNG</u> suggested that the Panel should discuss how ferry services could be strengthened to complement road transport and harbourfront development.
- 29. Mr Steven HO pointed out that after the Lamma incident in 2012, the Marine Department had tightened the procedures for ship inspection and safety requirements which might be too stringent. He requested that the Panel should invite the Administration to discuss the matter and hold a public hearing in this regard. He also suggested inviting the Administration to explain the matter on upgrading the engine power of outboard open sampans (known as P4) to fishing sampan (known as C7) and the system of Authorized Surveyors.
- 30. <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> would like to discuss the suggestion of increasing the berthing/mooring space for vessels in Sai Kung and the related ancillary facilities.

(*Post-meeting note*: The items raised by Mr Steven HO and Dr Elizabeth QUAT were under the purview of the Panel on Economic Development and they were advised to raise the issues at the Panel on Economic Development.)

31. Pointing out that there were some technical problems identified during the phased functional implementation of the new Air Traffic Management System ("ATMS"), Mr Jeremy TAM suggested holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Economic Development and inviting representatives of the Civil Aviation Department to brief members on the use and arrangements of the new ATMS. The Chairman said that it would be more appropriate for the Panel on Economic Development to discuss the subject matter because air traffic was under its purview.

<u>Transport fares</u>

32. Mr Michael TIEN and Mr WU Chi-wai would like to discuss the Fare Adjustment Mechanism ("FAM") of the MTR Corporation Limited

- ("MTRCL"). Mr TIEN was concerned over how the FAM would be linked to the profitability of MTRCL. Mr WU would like to know whether the Administration could deploy the dividends it received from MTRCL to subsidize the fares of all public transport modes.
- 33. Mr LAU Kwok-fan would like the Panel to follow up the matters on bus fares, in particular introduction of sectional fares and provision of more fare concessions for residents living in remote areas.
- 34. The Deputy Chairman noted that the Administration had been subsidizing provision of ferry services but not other public transport modes. He would like the Administration to explain its principle for providing subsidies on transport fares and selection of the recipients.

Railways matters

- 35. Mr Michael TIEN expressed concern over the issue of the co-location of customs, immigration and quarantine facilities of the Mainland and Hong Kong sections of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, estimated increase in the construction cost of the Shatin to Central Link, progress of arranging additional coupled-set Light Rail vehicles for various Light Rail routes during rush hours, and the commissioning date of the South Island Line (East) ("SIL(E)").
- 36. <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u> and <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> were also concerned over the commissioning date of SIL(E). <u>Ms CHAN</u> would like to be informed about the bus route rationalization plan after the commissioning of SIL(E).
- 37. <u>Dr Priscilla LEUNG</u> and <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> would like to discuss the public transport re-organization plan upon the commissioning of the Kwun Tong Line Extension. <u>Mr CHAN</u> also expressed concern over the railway incident relating to the Airport Express Line happened in October 2016.
- 38. Regarding the new railway lines proposed to be constructed, Mr Wilson OR and Mr LAU Kwok-fan were concerned over the implementation details of the East Kowloon Line and the Northern Link respectively.
- 39. <u>Mr LEUNG Che-cheung</u> urged the Administration to reconsider the proposal of constructing the Coastal Railway between Tuen Mun and Tsuen Wan (Tuen Mun to Tsuen Wan Link) which was strongly requested

by the relevant District Councils.

Other views

- 40. <u>Mr Charles MOK</u> would like to discuss the policy of the Administration and public transport organizations in opening up transport-related data. He would also like to discuss the policy of setting up a pedestrian street in Central.
- 41. <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> was concerned over the Administration's plan to introduce a smart transport system which was essential for development of a smart city. Both <u>Dr QUAT</u> and <u>Mr Charles MOK</u> would like to discuss the provision of electronic payment services for using transport facilities.
- 42. <u>Dr YIU Chung-yim</u> requested the Administration to brief the Panel on its policy on giving priority to pedestrians in certain public space, and the Administration's measures to promote the use of electric vehicles and related matters such as tax concession.

Work plan meeting

43. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he and the Deputy Chairman would meet with the Secretary for Transport and Housing ("STH") shortly to discuss the annual work plan of the Panel, and would discuss members' suggestions with STH.

IV. Any other business

Setting up of a subcommittee on matters relating to railways

44. Mr Frankie YICK pointed out that the Panel had set up the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways ("the Subcommittee") in previous legislative terms to monitor issues relating to railway projects and railway operation. He suggested that the Subcommittee should also be set up in the current term. Dr Helena WONG supported the above suggestion. As all other members agreed to set up the Subcommittee, the Chairman advised that the Clerk would draft the terms of reference and the work plan of the Subcommittee for consideration and endorsement of the Panel by circulation.

(Post-meeting note: The paper on setting up of the Subcommittee

on Matters Relating to Railways was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)43/16-17 on 28 October 2016.)

Visit to MTR Tsing Yi Operations Control Centre

45. The Chairman reported that he had just received a letter from the MTRCL inviting the Panel to visit the MTR Tsing Yi Operations Control Centre in the morning of 14 November 2016. Members noted that the Secretariat would issue a circular to members concerning the details of the visit. Members also agreed to invite non-Panel Members to join the site visit.

(*Post-meeting note*: The circular relating to the visit was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)51/16-17 on 31 October 2016.)

46. The meeting ended at 10:24 am.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
10 November 2016