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3 February 2017

Secretary General
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

(Attn.: Ms Sophie Lau)

[Fax no.: 2978 7569]

Dear Ms LAU,

Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Follow-up Actions of Meeting on 20 January 2017

New Franchise for the Bus Network of
the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited

At the Panel meeting on 20 January 2017, the Secretary for Transport and Housing mentioned that the Government would provide supplementary information on the two fare concession initiatives (i.e. offering more bus-bus interchange concessions and aligning the fares for short-haul trips on cross-district routes and shuttle bus routes) which the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”) has committed to introduce under its new franchise. Details of the two initiatives are set out at [Annex](#) for reference.

Meanwhile, there was an enquiry at the Panel meeting on why the fares of comparable bus routes by different franchised bus operators are not completely on par with each other. In accordance with the established practice, the Transport Department (“TD”) invites tenders for new routes where appropriate such that the fares and service levels of the new routes will be competitive. The routes of franchised bus operators are classified into different route groups and are subject to the respective scales of fares (“SoFs”) promulgated by the Executive Council. Individual routes within the same route

group are further categorised according to the journey distances and their fares shall not exceed the maximum fare levels of the respective distance bands. There are currently six franchises for bus services in Hong Kong operated by five operators on commercial principles. Since the business models, operating circumstances, service levels and network coverage vary among these franchises, each franchise has its own applicable SoF. Moreover, the SoFs only stipulate the maximum fare levels. There is some flexibility for the bus operator to take into account the actual situation in setting the actual fare for an individual route. There are thus variations among the fares of comparable routes under different franchises. The actual fares of all franchised bus routes are subject to TD's approval to ensure that they are in compliance with the stipulated levels under the respective SoFs.

Regarding the two examples mentioned at the Panel meeting, namely KMB Route No. 968 (Yuen Long (West) Bus Terminus – Causeway Bay (Tin Hau)) and Citybus Route No. 969 (Tin Shui Wai Town Centre – Causeway Bay (Moreton Terrace)), both routes operate between Yuen Long District and Eastern District, whereas their fares are \$23.4 and \$21.4 respectively. Their journey distances fall under the same distance band (of not exceeding 47 kilometres). Since the maximum fare level for such distance band under Citybus's SoF is lower than that under KMB's SoF, the fare of Citybus Route No. 969 is lower. As mentioned above, the fares for comparable routes by various operators are not necessarily the same as their operating circumstances are different.

We should be grateful if you can relay the above supplementary information to Members of the Panel on Transport for their reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Louis Leung)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.:

Commissioner for Transport (Attn.: Miss Rachel Kwan)

Table 1 : Detailed information of routes to be covered under new bus-bus interchange (“BBI”) concession schemes within KMB’s network (78 routes)

Group	Routes involved in new BBI concession scheme		Direction of destination	Proposed interchange location	Discount
	First leg	Second leg			
1	28B	38, 40, 42C, 62X, 258D, 259D, 268C, 269C	New Territories West	Kwun Tong Road (Millennium City)	\$4.2
		74A, 74X, 80, 80X, 83A, 83X, 89, 89B, 89C, 89D, 89X, 277E, 277P, 277X	New Territories East	Kwun Tong Road (Millennium City) / Wang Chiu Road (near Lam Wah Street)	
	38, 40, 42C, 62X, 258D, 259D, 268C, 269C	28B	Kwun Tong / Kowloon City	Kwun Tong Road (Ngau Tau Kok Station) / Ngau Tau Kok Road (Lotus Tower)	
				Kwun Tong Road (Ngau Tau Kok Station) / Ngau Tau Kok Road (Lotus Tower) / Wang Chiu Road (near Lam Wah Street)	
74A, 74X, 80, 80X, 83A, 83X, 89, 89B, 89C, 89D, 89X, 277E, 277P, 277X					
2	17	15, 16, 16M	Lam Tin	Kwun Tong Town Centre	\$4.2
	15, 16, 16M	17	Ho Man Tin		
3	219X	1, 1A, 2, 6, 7	Kowloon West	Nathan Road (near Middle Road)	\$4.2
	1, 1A, 2, 6, 7	219X	Laguna City		
4	5M	1A, 3D, 11B, 11C, 11D, 14, 15, 16, 17	Kwun Tong / Lam Tin	Kwun Tong Road (Kowloon Bay Station)	\$4.2
	1A, 3D, 11B, 11C, 11D, 14, 15, 16, 17	5M	Kai Tak		\$3.8
5	24	1, 1A	Tsim Sha Tsui	Prince Edward Road West (Heep Woh Primary School)	\$4.2
	1, 1A	24	Kai Yip	Sai Yee Street (Queen Elizabeth School)	
6	211, 2F, 3C	38, 40, 42C, 62X, 69C, 74A, 80, 80P, 89, 89B, 258D, 258P, 258S, 259D, 268C, 269C	Kwun Tong	Lung Cheung Road (Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre / Shatin Pass Road)	\$4.2
		61X, 75X, 85X	Kowloon City		
		84M	Lok Fu		
	38, 40, 42C, 62X, 69C, 74A, 80, 80P, 89, 89B, 258D, 258P, 258S, 259D, 268C, 269C	211, 2F, 3C	Chuk Yuen / Tsz Wan Shan	Lung Cheung Road (Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre / Shatin Pass Road)	\$3.8
61X, 75X, 85X					
84M					

Group	Routes involved in new BBI concession scheme		Direction of destination	Proposed interchange location	Discount
	First leg	Second leg			
7	2F, 3C	211	Chuk Yuen	Lung Cheung Road (Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre / Shatin Pass Road)	\$3.8
	211	2F, 3C	Tsz Wan Shan		\$4.2
8	203C	2D, 12A, 6D, 87D, 281A	Kwun Tong / Kowloon City / Tsim Sha Tsui	Boundary Street (Caritas Lodge) / Prince Edward Road West (Diocesan Boys' School)	\$4.2
9	91P	91M	Diamond Hill Station	Clearwater Bay Road (Choi Hung Station)	\$6.1
10	98A, 296A	88X, 89, 89B	Sha Tin	Kwun Tong Road (Millennium City) / Kwun Tong Road (Ngau Tau Kok Station)	\$4.2
	88X, 89, 89B	98A, 296A	Tseung Kwan O	Kwun Tong Road (Ngau Tau Kok Station)	
11	290, 290A	57M, 58M, 58P, 59M, 60M, 61M, 66M, 67M, 260C	Tuen Mun	Chung On Street / Castle Peak Road (Tsuen Wan Station)	\$4.2
	57M, 58M, 58P, 59M, 60M, 61M, 66M, 67M, 260C	290, 290A	Tseung Kwan O	Chung On Street	
12	288	81K	Sun Tin Wai / Sui Wo Court	Sha Tin Town Centre	\$4.2
		82K	Mei Lam / Wong Nai Tau		
	81K	288	Shui Chuen O	Sha Tin Town Centre	
	82K			Pok Hong	
13	B1	276B	Tin Shui Wai North	Lok Ma Chau (San Tin) Public Transport Interchange	\$4.9

Table 2: Detailed information of cross-district routes and shuttle routes with fares for short-haul trips to be aligned (72 routes)

District	Routes involved	Road section with fare for short-haul trips to be aligned		Existing fare	Reference route within district for determining the new fare	New fare		
Wong Tai Sin	11C	From	Fung Tak Road (Fung Tak Park)	to	Chuk Yuen Estate	\$5.8	211	\$3.8
	2F, 3C	From	Lung Cheung Road (Wong Tai Sin Shopping Centre)	to	Tsz Wan Shan	\$5.1	3M	\$4.3
Kwun Tong	38	From	Kwun Tong Road (Yue Man Square)	to	Ping Tin	\$6.4	15, 15A, 16M	\$4.5
	11C, 1A	From	Kwun Tong Road (Yue Man Square)	to	Sau Mau Ping	\$4.5	13M	\$4.3
	23M	From	Mut Wah Street	to	Shun Lee	\$4.9	23	\$4.5
	26M	From	Tung Yan Street	to	Shun Lee	\$4.9	23	\$4.5
Sha Tin	49X, 86	From	Sha Tin Centre Street (Sha Tin Central Bus Terminus)	to	Wong Nai Tau	\$5.8	83K	\$4.5
	46X, 286X	From	Mei Tin Road (Tai Wai Station)	to	Hin Keng	\$5.8	88K	\$4.7
	80, 82K	From	Mei Tin Road (Holford Gardens)	to	Mei Lam	\$5.6- \$5.8	88K	\$4.7
	85K	From	Hang Shun Street (Chevalier Garden)	to	Heng On / Yiu On	\$5.1	81C, 43X, 89C	\$4.3
	40X, 85M, 85X, 86C, 86K, 87D, 89D, 286M, 86S, 286C	From	A Kung Kok Street (Tsung Tsin Secondary School)	to	Wu Kai Sha	\$6.1- \$6.4	87K	\$4.3
Tai Po	72X, 73X, 74X, 74B, 74P, 75X, 271, 274X	From	Tai Po Road (Kwong Fuk Estate)	to	Tai Po Centre / Fu Heng	\$5.1	71K	\$4.7
	72, 74A	From	Tai Po Road (Kwong Fuk Estate)	to	Tai Wo	\$5.8	71K	\$4.7
	72A, 265S	From	Tai Po Road (Kwong Fuk Estate)	to	Tai Po Industrial Estate	\$5.1- \$15.1	73	\$4.7
	274P	From	Kwong Fuk Road (Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School)	to	Tai Po Industrial Estate	\$7.9	73	\$4.7
North	277X, 279X	From	San Wan Road (Fanling Town Centre)	to	Luen Wo Hui	\$4.7	278K	\$3.5

District	Routes involved	Road section with fare for short-haul trips to be aligned		Existing fare	Reference route within district for determining the new fare	New fare		
	261, 277E, 277P	From	San Wan Road (Sheung Shui Station)	to	Tin Ping	\$4.7	270	\$3.5
Tsuen Wan	36	From	Wo Yi Hop Road (Ho Fung College)	to	Lei Muk Shue	\$4.3	36M	\$4
	36A, 36B	From	Wo Yi Hop Road (Wo Yi Hop Road Sports Ground)	to	Lei Muk Shue	\$5.6-\$5.8	36M	\$4
	30, 39A, 30X	From	Castle Peak Road (Fu Wah Street)	to	Allway Gardens	\$4.3-\$6.4	39M	\$3.5
	34, 48X, 234X	From	Castle Peak Road (Kin Ming Street)	to	Bayview Garden	\$5-\$6.4	34M	\$3.8
Kwai Tsing	37, 38, 47X	From	Tai Wo Hau Road (Kwai Hong Court)	to	Kwai Shing	\$4.3	37M	\$3.8
	34	From	Kwai Shing Circuit (Lam Woo Memorial Secondary School)	to	Kwai Shing	\$5	37M	\$3.8
	235	From	Wo Yi Hop Road (Lei Muk Road Park)	to	On Yam	\$4.3	235M	\$4
	35A	From	Wo Yi Hop Road (near Ta Chuen Ping Street)	to	On Yam	\$5.6	235M	\$4
	31	From	Castle Peak Road (near Ping Lai Path)	to	Shek Lei	\$4.3	31M	\$4
	68E, 279X	From	Tsing Yi Road West (opposite to Ching Wah Court)	to	Tsing Yi Station	\$11.1-\$15	249X	\$4.3
Tate's Cairn Tunnel	74B, 74P, 74X, 75X, 274X	From	Tate's Cairn Tunnel Toll Plaza	to	Tai Po Centre	\$10.1	72	\$9.6
	74D	From	Tate's Cairn Tunnel Toll Plaza	to	Kau Lung Hang	\$14.8	277X	\$12
Lion Rock Tunnel	72X	From	Lion Rock Tunnel Toll Plaza	to	Tai Po Centre	\$10.1	72	\$9.6
	74A	From	Lion Rock Tunnel Toll Plaza	to	Tai Wo	\$10.5	72	\$9.6
Tai Lam Tunnel Bus Interchange	978	From	Tai Lam Tunnel Bus Interchange	to	Wah Ming	\$18	279X	\$15

District	Routes involved	Road section with fare for short-haul trips to be aligned	Existing fare	Reference route within district for determining the new fare	New fare
Tuen Mun Road Bus Interchange	57M, 58M, 58P, 61M, 61X, 67M, 258D, 259D, 263, 960, 961	From Tuen Mun Road Bus Interchange to Tuen Mun	\$9.1-\$16.6	59M, 59X, 60M, 60X, 66M, 66X, 67X, 260X	\$8.4
	960A, 960B	From Tuen Mun Road Bus Interchange to Hung Shui Kiu	\$15.2	63X	\$8.7