Panel on Transport

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 15 May 2017)

Items

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Public Transport Strategy Study ("PTSS")

June 2017

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to report to the Panel the outcome of the PTSS.

At the meeting on 28 October 2016, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung and Dr KWOK Ka-ki respectively requested the Administration to report on the effectiveness of bus route rationalization and to discuss the criteria for issuing non-franchised bus licence for residents' service. On 1 November 2016, the Administration advised that the above issues would be discussed under the topic of PTSS.

2. Proposed retention of three supernumerary posts; and extension of internal redeployment of one permanent post in the Hong Kong—Zhuhai—Macao Bridge Hong Kong Project Management Office of the Highways Department

June 2017

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to consult members on the staffing proposals for the retention of one civil service ("CS") Principal Government Engineer Post and two CS Chief Engineer ("CE") Posts; and extension of the redeployment of one CS CE Post in the Hong Kong—Zhuhai—Macao Bridge Hong Kong Project Management Office of the Highways Department.

3. Strategic studies on railways and major roads beyond 2030

June 2017

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to consult members on the funding application for commencing strategic studies on railways and major roads beyond 2030 in the light of "Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030".

Proposed timing for discussion

4. Replacement of power supply system of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel and Kai Tak Tunnel, and fire alarm system of Kai Tak Tunnel and Cheung Tsing Tunnel

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to seek support for the funding application for taking forward the replacement of power supply system of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel and Kai Tak Tunnel, and fire alarm system of Kai Tak Tunnel and Cheung Tsing Tunnel.

[Note: On 15 May 2017, the Administration proposed to delete this item.]

5. Review of highway roadworks safety requirements

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to report to members the progress of the review of highway roadworks safety requirements.

July 2017

July 2017

6. Legislative amendments on the Central—Wan Chai Bypass Tunnel

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the legislative proposals in relation to the new Central-Wan Chai Bypass Tunnel.

7. Replacement of traffic control and surveillance system in Tsing Ma Control Area

July 2017

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration plans to seek support for the funding application for taking forward the replacement of traffic control and surveillance system in Tsing Ma Control Area.

8. Review on fare adjustment arrangement for franchised buses

To be confirmed

The Administration has advised that a review on the fare adjustment arrangement for franchised buses is being taken forward under PTSS, the finding of which will be reported to the Legislative Council by mid-2017.

At the meeting on 28 October 2016, Mr LAU Kwok-fan suggested to discuss the matters on bus fares, in particular introduction of sectional fares and provision of more fare concessions for residents living in remote areas.

Proposed timing for discussion

9. Cycling safety and consultancy study on cycling networks and parking facilities in existing new towns

The Administration advises that it has commissioned a consultancy study on improving the cycle track network in the nine new towns in the New Territories. As part of the study, the Transport Department ("TD") has drawn up a list of about 900 potential improvement sites. The first batch of improvement works for about 100 sites have started in 2016 in phases, with a target for completion in two years. TD is working on the remaining improvement proposals and will implement them in phases. The Administration plans to brief the Panel of the findings of the consultancy study upon its completion.

At the Panel meetings on 7 November 2011 and 16 October 2012 respectively, members considered that the issue of "cycling safety" should be revisited by the Panel and the Administration should consider formulating a policy to promote the use of bicycles as a means of transport in Hong Kong. The Administration advises that due to road safety considerations, the use of bicycle as a transport mode in urban areas is not encouraged because roads in these areas are usually narrow and crowded. The Administration will continue to foster a "bicycle-friendly" environment in new towns and new development areas by improving the cycle tracks and ancillary facilities.

On cycling safety, the Administration is revising the Road Users' Code, to provide, inter alia, updated guidelines to cyclists and other road users on safe cycling. The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the revised Code once the updating is completed.

Mr LAU Kwok-fan wrote to the Panel Chairman on 8 May 2017 requesting discussion of the "bicycle-friendly" policy (LC Paper No. CB(4)1012/16-17(01)) at a Panel meeting. On the instruction of the Chairman, the Administration has been requested to provide a written response to the letter.

The Administration advised that it would provide an information paper on the issue.

Proposed timing for discussion

10. Traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings

Within 2017-2018 legislative session

Proposed by Mr LAM Cheuk-ting and Mr Jeremy TAM at the meeting on 28 October 2016. 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. The Administration has undertaken to revert to the Panel on Transport in 2017-2018 on the proposal regarding traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings.

11. Measures to tackle traffic congestion problem in Hong Kong

To be confirmed

Proposed by Mr LAU Kwok-fan and Dr Elizabeth QUAT at the meeting on 28 October 2016. Mr LAU requested the Administration to review the existing road network such as Tolo Highway near Sha Tin. Dr QUAT 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 also expressed concern that there were inadequate transport facilities for the increased population in Tseung Kwan O.

At the meeting on 28 October 2016, Ms Tanya CHAN and Mr Charles MOK also proposed to discuss the Electronic Road Pricing ("ERP") scheme as a means to tackle traffic congestion. The Administration has already in principle accepted the recommendations of the Transport Advisory Committee in December 2014 on measures to tackle road traffic congestion, including an ERP pilot scheme. Proposals, when ready, will be presented to the Legislative Council.

12. Introduction of a smart transport system

To be confirmed

Proposed by Dr Elizabeth QUAT at the meeting on 28 October 2016. Dr QUAT was concerned over the Administration's plan to introduce a smart transport system which was essential for development of a smart city. Both Dr QUAT and Mr Charles MOK would like to discuss the provision of electronic payment services for

Proposed timing for discussion

using transport facilities. Mr Charles MOK would like to discuss the policies of the Administration and those of public transport organizations on opening up transport-related data.

On 1 November 2016, the Administration advised that the smart city policy was spearheaded by the Innovation and Technology Bureau and therefore the matter should be referred to the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting.

13. Setting up a pedestrian street in Central

To be confirmed

Proposed by Mr Charles MOK at the meeting on 28 October 2016. Dr YIU Chung-yim requested the Administration to brief the Panel on its policy on giving priority to pedestrians in certain public space.

On 1 November 2016, the Administration advised that the application on setting up a pedestrian precinct zone in Des Voeux Road Central was being processed by the Town Planning Board under section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131). A number of bureaux and departments such as Police, Fire Services Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Transport Department, and Environmental Protection Department had already given their comments on the application.

14. Relaxation of the traffic restriction in South Lantau and the related transport facilities and arrangements

To be confirmed

Proposed by Dr KWOK Ka-ki at the meeting on 28 October 2016. On 1 November 2016, the Administration advised that the Transport Department was conducting a survey to collect users' views on the Driving on Lantau Island Scheme. The Administration would keep in view the situation and inform the Panel as appropriate.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
15 May 2017