

香港特別行政區政府
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

政府總部
運輸及房屋局
運輸科

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Transport and
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Government Secretariat

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20 June 2017

Ms Doris LO
Clerk to Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms LO,

Panel on Transport

Motion on “Legislative amendment relating to the Government’s takeover of Tate’s Cairn Tunnel” passed at the meeting on 19 May 2017

Thank you for your letter of 22 May 2017 to the Secretary for Transport and Housing on the subject motion passed at the meeting on 19 May 2017. Our response is set out below.

The rationalisation of traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings (“RHCs”) (namely, Cross-Harbour Tunnel (“CHT”), Eastern Harbour Crossing (“EHC”) and Western Harbour Crossing (“WHC”)) impacts on the usage of the three land tunnels between Kowloon and Sha Tin (namely, Tate’s Cairn Tunnel (“TCT”), the Lion Rock Tunnel (“LRT”), and the Eagle’s Nest Tunnel and Sha Tin Heights Tunnel (“Route 8K”)), and vice versa. According to the preliminary analysis by the Transport Department (“TD”), at present about 15% of the

cross-harbour traffic also uses one of the three land tunnels, and such traffic constitutes about 20% of the total traffic of the three land tunnels. Because of the geographical locations of the tunnels, there is a natural pairing effect on the use of the RHCs and the three land tunnels. TD's analysis shows that the majority of the cross-harbour traffic coming through LRT prefers CHT over EHC or WHC. A similar tendency is also observed in the eastern areas pairing TCT and EHC, and in the western areas pairing Route 8K and WHC.

As explained at the meeting on 19 May 2017, the Government has commenced the study on the rationalisation of traffic distribution among the three RHCs and the three land tunnels between Kowloon and Sha Tin. We will formulate toll adjustment proposals for rationalising the traffic distribution among the six tunnels (including TCT) in a holistic manner. The Government has undertaken earlier to submit toll adjustment proposals for discussion at the Legislative Council Panel on Transport within the 2017-18 legislative year. We therefore consider that toll levels of TCT should remain unchanged for the time being upon the Government's takeover.

Yours sincerely,

(Tony LI)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP (Chairman of Panel on Transport)
Transport Department (Attn: Ms Stella LEE)