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**Transport and
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28 December 2016

Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong
(Attention: Ms. Sophie LAU)

Dear Ms. LAU,

Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council
Comments of the Hon CHU Hoi-dick on MTR fares and introduction of
feeder bus service for Tung Chung Line

I refer to your letter of 12 December 2016. With regard to the issues mentioned in Hon CHU Hoi-dick's letter, I attach the response of the MTR Corporation Limited for Members' reference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Donald LAM', written over a light blue grid background.

(Donald LAM)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.
MTR Corporation Limited (Attention: Mr Eric Lee)

**MTR Corporation Limited’s response to
Hon CHU Hoi-dick’s comments on MTR fares
and introduction of feeder bus service for Tung Chung Line**

The East Rail Line (“ERL”), commissioned in as early as 1910, is a railway line comprising both domestic and cross-boundary services, running from Kowloon to Lo Wu via the New Territories. The Lok Ma Chau Spur Line was also commissioned in 2007. Along the line, fares of the cross-boundary section are significantly higher than those of the domestic section. As regards the Tung Chung Line (“TCL”) and West Rail Line (“WRL”) commissioned in 1998 and 2003 respectively, they only provide domestic train service. The TCL also provides cross-habour service. The fare structures of the three railway lines are therefore different.

To address the need and affordability of frequent medium- and long-distance MTR passengers, the MTRCL offers monthly passes and various kinds of fare concessions for passengers, including “Tuen Mun – Nam Cheong Monthly Pass” and “Tuen Mun – Hung Hom Monthly Pass” for WRL passengers, and “Tung Chung – Hong Kong Monthly Pass” and “Tung Chung – Nam Cheong Monthly Pass” for TCL passengers. To address passengers’ requests, the MTRCL enhanced the above monthly passes in 2013 and launched the “Monthly Pass Extras”. A 25% discount is offered for connecting domestic journeys beyond the specified stations on top of the unlimited rides between specified stations within the month purchased. These monthly pass schemes enable passengers to enjoy an average fare discount of about 35%. Together with other on-going fare promotion schemes for various passenger groups, including other interchange discounts and fare concessions for children, students, persons with disabilities and the elderly, the on-going fare promotions offered by the MTRCL amount to over \$2.4 billion every year. The MTRCL will review the effectiveness of the fare promotions from time to time and introduce suitable fare promotions as far as possible having regard to the financial prudence required of the Corporation as a listed company.

Currently, there are a number of franchised bus routes providing feeder service to and from the MTR Tung Chung Station for residents of Tung Chung North and Yat Tung Estate. Some private housing estates in the district also operate non-franchised residents’ bus service. These feeder bus services facilitate residents of these housing estates to interchange to MTR at the Tung Chung Station. The MTRCL and New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited (“NLB”) jointly offer interchange fare discount of \$1 per journey for passengers who interchange to five NLB routes at Tung Chung Station (please refer to **Annex** for details). After applying the discount, the actual fares of

these bus routes are equivalent to 22% - 32% off the original fares. Passengers are entitled to the fare discount for journeys interchanging from MTR to NLB, and vice versa. The MTRCL will review these interchange discounts with the franchised bus operators from time to time.

MTR Corporation Limited
December 2016

**NLB routes covered by the interchange fare discount
jointly offered by the MTRCL and NLB**

Route No.	Destinations	Full fares*
37	Yat Tung Estate – Tung Chung North (Caribbean Coast)	\$3.2
37M	MTR Tung Chung Station – Ying Tung Road (The Visionary) (circular route)	\$3.2
38	Yat Tung Estate – MTR Tung Chung Station (circular route)	\$3.1
38X	Yat Tung Estate (Chung Yan Road) – MTR Tung Chung Station	\$3.1
N38 (overnight service)	Yat Tung Estate – MTR Tung Chung Station	\$4.5

* before the interchange discount