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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本局檔號 OUR REF.: THB(T) L1/17/9 來函檔號 YOUR REF.: CB4/PL/TP



Transport and Housing Bureau Government Secretariat Transport Branch

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> > 10 March 2017

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

Dear Ms LO,

Panel on Transport

Letter from Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki on the illegal parking problem at bus stops on 23 February 2017

Thank you for your letter of 24 February 2017 to the Transport and Housing Bureau on the captioned matter. Regarding the letter from Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki, our reply is as follows.

The Government is very concerned about the illegal parking problem at bus stops. Such behaviour not only hinders the normal functions of bus stops, but also affects the safety of passengers. Last year, the Police stepped up enforcement actions by issuing penalty tickets against illegal parking, including illegally parked vehicles which hindered the normal functions of bus stops. Starting from 9 March this year, the Police will conduct a one-week territory-wide enforcement operation with a focus on the irresponsible behaviour of causing obstruction to the normal functions of bus stops. The Police will continue to take stringent enforcement actions and issue penalty tickets to drivers of illegally parked vehicles. Such vehicles will also be towed away if and when necessary.

The Police will maintain close liaison and co-operation with the Transport Department (TD) and other relevant departments to look into the causes of road traffic congestion and illegal parking at bus stops in individual locations and explore solutions to address the issue. They will also discuss with the District Councils concerned on the refinement proposals with a view to minimising the impact of the illegally parked vehicles at bus stops on the operation of buses. For instance, in response to the illegal parking problem at the bus stop outside Sogo Department Store at 555 Hennessy Road in Causeway Bay, the Police and the TD attended meetings of the Development, Planning and Transport Committee of the Wan Chai District Council on 14 February and 28 February this year to discuss the problem and refinement proposals. Moreover, the Government will strengthen publicity and public education to enhance the road safety awareness of road users so as to change the undesirable behaviour of road users that may cause traffic accidents or obstruct traffic flow.

Furthermore, we submitted a legislative proposal to the Legislative Council in February on raising the fixed penalty charges for congestion-related traffic offences, including the level of penalty for parking illegally at bus stops, by 50% in tandem with inflation, so as to restore their deterrent effect. We urge Members to support the legislative proposal as it can help to tackle the illegal parking problem at bus stops.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Winnie WY WONG) for Secretary for Transport and Housing

<u>c.c.</u>:

Commissioner of Police (Attn.: Mr Michael YIP) (Fax no.: 2200 4314) Commissioner for Transport (Attn.: Mr Tony CHEUNG) (Fax no.: 2824 0399)