
L.N. 64 of 2017**Road Traffic (Expressway) (Amendment) Regulation
2017****Contents**

Section	Page
1.	CommencementB2739
2.	Road Traffic (Expressway) Regulations amendedB2739
3.	Regulation 2 amended (interpretation)B2739
4.	Regulation 8 amended (general driving rules)B2743
5.	Regulation 11 amended (restriction on vehicles using offside lane)B2745
6.	Regulation 11A addedB2747
11A.	Right-driving expressway: restriction on vehicles using left most laneB2747
7.	Regulation 12 amended (traffic confined to nearside lane)B2751
8.	Regulation 12A addedB2753
12A.	Right-driving expressway: traffic confined to right most laneB2755
9.	Regulation 13 amended (overtaking)B2757
10.	Regulation 13A addedB2759
13A.	Right-driving expressway: overtakingB2759

Road Traffic (Expressway) (Amendment) Regulation 2017

L.N. 64 of 2017
B2737

Section	Page
11. Regulation 23 amended (exemptions in connection with expressway works, inspection, breakdown, etc.)	B2759
12. Regulation 26 amended (offences and penalties)	B2759
13. Schedule 1 amended (traffic signs)	B2761
14. Schedule 2 amended (road markings)	B2763

Road Traffic (Expressway) (Amendment) Regulation 2017

(Made by the Secretary for Transport and Housing under section 131
of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374))

1. Commencement

This Regulation comes into operation on 15 December 2017.

2. Road Traffic (Expressway) Regulations amended

The Road Traffic (Expressway) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. Q) are amended as set out in sections 3 to 14.

3. Regulation 2 amended (interpretation)

(1) Regulation 2, Chinese text, definition of *路邊*—

Repeal the full stop

Substitute a semicolon.

(2) Regulation 2—

Repeal the definitions of *nearside lane* and *offside lane*.

(3) Regulation 2—

Add in alphabetical order

“*left most lane* (最左線), in relation to a carriageway, means the traffic lane of the carriageway that, when facing in the direction of traffic flow of the traffic lane—

(a) is bound on the right-hand side by another traffic lane; and

(b) is bound on the left-hand side—

(i) for a left-driving expressway—

- (A) by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 505, 512, 606 or 607 in Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G) or in Figure No. 951 in Schedule 2; or
 - (B) in the absence of any such road marking, by a kerb, barrier fence or works area; or
- (ii) for a right-driving expressway—
- (A) by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 505 or 607 in Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G); or
 - (B) in the absence of any such road marking, by a kerb, barrier fence or works area;

left-driving expressway (靠左駛快速公路) means an expressway that is not a right-driving expressway;

right most lane (最右線), in relation to a carriageway, means the traffic lane of the carriageway that, when facing in the direction of traffic flow of the traffic lane—

- (a) is bound on the left-hand side by another traffic lane; and
- (b) is bound on the right-hand side—
 - (i) for a left-driving expressway—
 - (A) by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 505 or 607 in Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G); or

- (B) in the absence of any such road marking, by a kerb, barrier fence or works area; or
- (ii) for a right-driving expressway—
 - (A) by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 505, 512, 606 or 607 in Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G) or in Figure No. 951 in Schedule 2; or
 - (B) in the absence of any such road marking, by a kerb, barrier fence or works area;

right-driving expressway (靠右駛快速公路) means the section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Link Road that is designated as an expressway under section 123(1) of the Ordinance;”.

4. Regulation 8 amended (general driving rules)

Regulation 8—

Repeal paragraph (a)

Substitute

- “(a) must, when entering, or proceeding along, the carriageway of an expressway that is contiguous to a central reservation, drive a motor vehicle in such a direction that the central reservation is at all times—
- (i) if the expressway is a left-driving expressway—on the right-hand side of the vehicle; or
 - (ii) if the expressway is a right-driving expressway—on the left-hand side of the vehicle;”.

5. Regulation 11 amended (restriction on vehicles using offside lane)

- (1) Regulation 11, heading—

Repeal

“**Restriction on vehicles using offside lane**”

Substitute

“**Left-driving expressway: restriction on vehicles using right most lane**”.

- (2) Regulation 11(1)—

Repeal

“to—”

Substitute

“to the driving of the following motor vehicles on a left-driving expressway—”.

- (3) Regulation 11(2)—

Repeal

“no person shall drive a motor vehicle to which this regulation applies in the offside lane of the carriageway of an expressway”

Substitute

“a person must not drive a motor vehicle referred to in subregulation (1) in the right most lane of the carriageway of a left-driving expressway”.

- (4) Regulation 11(2)(a) and (b)—

Repeal

“offside”

Substitute

“right most”.

(5) Regulation 11(3)—

Repeal

everything after “(2),”

Substitute

“the left most lane ceases to be considered as such—

- (a) where its right-hand boundary is marked by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 951 in Schedule 2; or
- (b) where it is designated as a bus lane within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G) during the prescribed time as defined in regulation 12(4) of those Regulations.”.

6. Regulation 11A added

After regulation 11—

Add

“11A. Right-driving expressway: restriction on vehicles using left most lane

- (1) This regulation applies to the driving of the following motor vehicles on a right-driving expressway—
 - (a) a medium goods vehicle;
 - (b) a heavy goods vehicle;
 - (c) a private bus;
 - (d) a public bus;
 - (e) a motor vehicle towing a trailer or another vehicle;

- (f) a motor vehicle in respect of which a permit is issued under regulation 50A of the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. E);
 - (g) a recovery vehicle;
 - (h) any vehicle referred to in regulation 4(2)(c)(i) or (ii); and
 - (i) a motor cycle, motor tricycle, private car or light goods vehicle driven by a person who is authorized to drive it by a probationary driving licence.
- (2) Subject to subregulation (3) and regulation 23, a person must not drive a motor vehicle referred to in subregulation (1) in the left most lane of the carriageway of a right-driving expressway where 3 or more traffic lanes are open for use by traffic proceeding in the same direction unless—
- (a) there is a traffic sign indicating that the left most lane joins a diverging lane; and
 - (b) it is necessary for the vehicle to be driven in the left most lane in order to proceed to that diverging lane.
- (3) For the purpose of determining the number of traffic lanes under subregulation (2), the right most lane ceases to be considered as such—
- (a) where its left-hand boundary is marked by a road marking of the type shown in Figure No. 951 in Schedule 2; or

- (b) where it is designated as a bus lane within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G) during the prescribed time as defined in regulation 12(4) of those Regulations.”.

7. Regulation 12 amended (traffic confined to nearside lane)

- (1) Regulation 12, heading—

Repeal

“Traffic confined to nearside lane”

Substitute

“Left-driving expressway: traffic confined to left most lane”.

- (2) Regulation 12(1)—

Repeal

everything after “(2),”

Substitute

“the driver of a motor vehicle on a left-driving expressway must drive the vehicle only in the left most lane of the carriageway of the expressway.”.

- (3) Regulation 12(1A)(a)—

Repeal

“nearside” (wherever appearing)

Substitute

“left most”.

- (4) Regulation 12(1A)(a)—

Repeal

“bus lane a”

Substitute

“bus lane within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G), the”.

- (5) Regulation 12(2)(a), Chinese text—

Repeal

“超越”

Substitute

“越過”.

- (6) Regulation 12(2)—

Repeal

“nearside lane of”

Substitute

“left most lane of”.

- (7) Regulation 12(2)—

Repeal

“nearside lane as”

Substitute

“left most lane, as”.

8. Regulation 12A added

After regulation 12—

Add**“12A. Right-driving expressway: traffic confined to right most lane**

- (1) Subject to subregulations (2), (3) and (4), the driver of a motor vehicle on a right-driving expressway must drive the vehicle only in the right most lane of the carriageway of the expressway.
- (2) Where the right most lane is designated as a bus lane within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G), the driver of a motor vehicle other than a permitted user must, during the prescribed time, drive the vehicle only in the lane immediately to the left of the right most lane.
- (3) Subregulations (1) and (2) do not apply—
 - (a) where the vehicle is overtaking another vehicle or vehicles; or
 - (b) where one or more traffic lanes merge with, or diverge from, other traffic lanes.
- (4) In a case described in subregulation (3)(a) or (b), the driver must, as soon as reasonably practicable and without prejudicing the safety of other users of the expressway, move the vehicle back to the right most lane of the carriageway of the expressway or the lane immediately to the left of the right most lane, as the case may be.
- (5) In subregulation (2)—
permitted user (許可使用者) has the meaning given by regulation 12(4) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G);

prescribed time (訂明時間) has the meaning given by regulation 12(4) of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. G).”.

9. Regulation 13 amended (overtaking)

- (1) Regulation 13, heading—

Repeal

“Overtaking”

Substitute

“Left-driving expressway: overtaking”.

- (2) Regulation 13—

Repeal

“A driver of a motor vehicle on an expressway shall”

Substitute

“The driver of a motor vehicle on a left-driving expressway must”.

- (3) Regulation 13, English text—

Repeal

“nearside”

Substitute

“left-hand side”.

- (4) Regulation 13, Chinese text—

Repeal

“超越” (wherever appearing)

Substitute

“越過”.

10. Regulation 13A added

Part III, after regulation 13—

Add

“13A. Right-driving expressway: overtaking

- (1) The driver of a motor vehicle on a right-driving expressway must not, without reasonable excuse, overtake any other vehicle or vehicles on the right-hand side of the vehicle or vehicles being overtaken.
- (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply if—
 - (a) where there is a traffic sign indicating that the traffic lanes diverge, the overtaking vehicle and the vehicle or vehicles being overtaken are proceeding towards different carriageways of the divergence; or
 - (b) the vehicle or vehicles being overtaken are stationary.”.

11. Regulation 23 amended (exemptions in connection with expressway works, inspection, breakdown, etc.)

Regulation 23(3)—

Repeal

“8 and 11(2) shall”

Substitute

“8, 11(2) and 11A(2) do”.

12. Regulation 26 amended (offences and penalties)

Regulation 26(1)—

Repeal

“12(1), 13, 15, 16(4), 17(2), 20(1) or (2) or”

Substitute

“11A(2), 12(1), 12A(1), 13, 13A(1), 15, 16(4), 17(2), 20(1) or (2).”

13. Schedule 1 amended (traffic signs)

- (1) Schedule 1, Chinese text, Figure No. 905—

Repeal

“右綫”

Substitute

“向右”.

- (2) Schedule 1, Chinese text, Figure No. 905—

Repeal

“左綫”

Substitute

“向左”.

- (3) Schedule 1, Figure No. 905—

Repeal

“THE LEFT-HAND SIDE”

Substitute

“TO THE LANE ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE IF THE DIRECTION OF THE ARROW IS REVERSED”.

- (4) Schedule 1, Figure No. 906—

Repeal

“ON THE RIGHT AHEAD”

Substitute

“ON THE RIGHT AHEAD IF THE DIRECTION OF THE ARROW IS REVERSED”.

14. Schedule 2 amended (road markings)

- (1) Schedule 2—

Repeal

“[regs. 2, 11,”

Substitute

“[regs. 2, 11, 11A,”

- (2) Schedule 2, Figure No. 951, before “LONGITUDINAL”—

Add

“IF THE EXPRESSWAY IS A LEFT-DRIVING EXPRESSWAY,”.

- (3) Schedule 2, Figure No. 951—

Repeal

“TRAVEL IS NOT PART OF THE MAIN CARRIAGEWAY.”

Substitute

“TRAFFIC FLOW IS NOT PART OF THE MAIN CARRIAGEWAY.”

IF THE EXPRESSWAY IS A RIGHT-DRIVING EXPRESSWAY, LONGITUDINAL MARKING UNDER REGULATION 11A(3) TO INDICATE THAT THE TRAFFIC LANE TO THE RIGHT OF THE MARKING VIEWED IN THE DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC FLOW IS NOT PART OF THE MAIN CARRIAGEWAY.”.

Road Traffic (Expressway) (Amendment) Regulation 2017

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Anthony B. L. CHEUNG
Secretary for Transport and
Housing

18 April 2017

Explanatory Note

This Regulation is to amend the Road Traffic (Expressway) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. Q) to provide for certain driving rules and restrictions for driving on the section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Link Road that is designated as an expressway under section 123(1) of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) and to make consequential amendments.