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)CR30/5591/75

來函檔號 YOUR REF.: CB4/PL/TP

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12 February 2018

Dear Ms LAU,

Panel on Transport

Motion on "Implementation of a New Generation of On-street Parking Meter System" Passed at the Meeting on 19 January 2018

Thank you for your letter of 23 January 2018 to the Secretary for Transport and Housing. Regarding the motion on "Implementation of a new generation of on-street parking meter system" passed at the captioned meeting, our reply is set out as follows.

1. The Government should aim at seeking more payment systems or means when selecting the "clearing service contractor" through open tender and should not give preference to bids charging low transaction fees, with a view to attracting more prospective bidders.

The Government plans to install a new generation of parking meters starting from 2019-20. In the discussion paper submitted to the Legislative Council Panel on Transport earlier on, the Government has indicated that the new generation of parking meter system will

provide motorists with multiple payment means. Besides, "clearing service contractors" will be selected through open tender in accordance with the established procedures, so as to ensure that the payment methods for the new parking meters can reflect the status of the electronic payment market and the latest technical developments.

When conducting the open tender for the selection of "clearing service contractors", the Transport Department (TD) will not select the successful tender based solely on the charging transaction fees. Bidders should set out in their tenders the means or systems through which payments will be accepted and the Government will take this factor into consideration when assessing the tenders. The Government may also select more than one contractor to provide the clearing service in respect of parking fees, so as to ensure that the new parking meters can accommodate more payment means or systems to facilitate motorists. During the tendering process, the Government will examine the technical and fee proposals of each bidder.

2. The Government should explore with the Police the installation of closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) to monitor vehicles with parking time expired and to take photographs of their licence plates for issuing fixed penalty tickets so as to enhance the deterrence and save police manpower, thereby increasing the turnover of parking spaces.

The relevant departments (including the Police and the TD) are now actively engaged in the smart city initiatives under Energising Kowloon East, with a view to exploring ways to enhance traffic management through the application of technology, including conducting field trials to monitor the traffic situation using CCTVs and examining how to make use of video analytics technology in the prosecution of traffic contraventions. These technical trials are mainly targeted at traffic contraventions such as unauthorised picking up/setting down passengers or loading/unloading goods and illegal parking.

Moreover, the new parking meters will each be fitted with a vehicle sensor to detect whether the relevant on-street parking space is occupied or not. The backend computer system of the parking meters will consolidate the utilisation situation collected by vehicle sensors and payment information and compile information on the locations of parking meters which are being occupied but without payment of parking fees. The information will enable the Police to deploy, as far as practicable, frontline law enforcement officers to the

concerned parking spaces to take enforcement actions. This will enhance the efficiency of enforcement actions, strengthen the deterrent effect on motorists in contravention of traffic regulations and increase the turnover of on-street parking spaces.

The Government will continue to explore ways to make better use of technology to enhance the efficiency of enforcement actions against traffic contraventions.

Yours sincerely,

(SOM Yee-man, Emily) for Secretary for Transport and Housing

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

Commissioner for Transport (Attn.: Mr Ken WONG) Fax no.: 2827 0759