

政府總部  
運輸及房屋局  
運輸科



**Transport and  
Housing Bureau**  
**Government Secretariat**  
**Transport Branch**

香港添馬添美道 2 號  
政府總部東翼

East Wing, Central Government Offices,  
2 Tim Mei Avenue,  
Tamar, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref. THB(T)CR 2/1016/2016

電話 Tel.: 3509 8173

來函檔號 Your Ref. CB4/PL/TP

傳真 Fax.: 2509 8828

Email and Fax  
ssylau@legco.gov.hk  
Fax No. : 2840 0716

27 September 2018

Panel on Transport  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms Sophie Lau)

Dear Ms Lau,

**Panel on Transport**  
**Motion on Operating Arrangements for the**  
**Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link**  
**at the special meeting on 31 August 2018**

At the special meeting of the Panel on Transport on 31 August 2018, a motion moved by Hon Chan Han-pan was passed. This letter informs Members of the progress of the follow-up actions.

**Train services**

Upon commissioning of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong

Express Rail Link (XRL), the train schedule for weekdays, weekends<sup>1</sup> and peak periods<sup>2</sup> for short-haul trains would be different, having regard to the expected build-up process for patronage during the early stage of commissioning and time-varying passenger demand. The short-haul trains will be operated by both the Hong Kong and Mainland operators, while the long-haul trains will be operated by the Mainland operator only. According to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Arrangements for Preparation of Key Operational Issues for the XRL signed between the Administration and the China Railway Corporation (CR) on 29 January this year, subject to market demand, the train schedule can be suitably adjusted based on patronage.

## **Destinations**

As earlier announced, the XRL trains will run between the West Kowloon Station (WKS) and 44 Mainland destinations, including Futian, Shenzhen North, Humen, Guangzhou South, Beijing, Shanghai, Kunming, Guilin, Guiyang, Shijiazhuang, Zhengzhou, Wuhan, Changsha, Hangzhou, Nanchang, Fuzhou, Xiamen and Shantou stations. The train schedule for short-haul and long-haul trains upon the commissioning of the XRL are set out in Annex.

Upon arrival at these destinations, passengers may also transfer to other cities by taking high-speed rail (the main short-haul interchange stations are Shenzhen North and Guangzhou South) or local transport mode. After the commissioning of the XRL, we will continue to explore with the CR additional direct train services to more Mainland cities.

## **Concessionary fares**

As the XRL connects with the national high-speed rail network, the concessionary fares must align with that of the Mainland high-speed rail. As in the case of the national high-speed rail network, half-price children fares will be offered to passengers whose height does not exceed 150cm<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Weekends include Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays for train scheduling purpose.

<sup>2</sup> “Peak periods” include the general holidays of Hong Kong and public holidays in the Mainland, summer holidays during July and August every year, and the Spring Festival travel seasons in the Mainland, which account for around 130 days in a year (about one-third of a year).

<sup>3</sup> Every fare-paying adult passenger can travel with a child under age of 18 whose height is under 120cm for free on the XRL so long as the child does not take up a seat.

Separately, discounted tickets will be provided to Hong Kong students who are studying in tertiary institutes approved by the Ministry of Education. Eligible Hong Kong students are entitled to purchase four single-trip Second Class tickets at a 25% discount between the location of their education institutes and Hong Kong during the summer and winter holidays. In addition, in response to the market demand in non-peak hours and non-peak periods for travelers, discounted fares for selected 11 trains (9 for southbound and 2 for northbound) are offered to passengers to Humen, Qingsheng and Guangzhou South. The implemented fares for Second Class ticket for these three destinations are RMB155, 161 and 187 respectively (i.e. about HKD178, 185 and 215 respectively). This is to allow more passengers to experience high-speed rail services. We will continue our discussion with the CR on concessionary fares.

### **Ticket purchase arrangements**

Passengers who travel on trains running to and from the WKS and the 44 destinations (viz. cross-boundary journey tickets) may purchase tickets in advance from 10 September. Passengers may, by producing their Hong Kong and Macao Residents Entry and Exit Permits (i.e. Home Return Permits), purchase tickets through the Hong Kong ticketing system, including Hong Kong ticketing website ([www.mtr.com.hk/highspeed](http://www.mtr.com.hk/highspeed)), Hong Kong ticketing hotline (telephone number: 2120 0888), ticket office at B1 Level of the WKS, ticket vending machines at the WKS, as well as local travel agencies. Passengers may then collect their tickets at the ticketing office or ticket vending machines at the WKS by producing their Home Return Permits and booking numbers. The ticketing office at the WKS, with 23 counters, will handle cross-boundary journey ticketing matters, including buying, collecting, changing and returning of tickets for passengers. There will also be 39 ticket vending machines for passengers to purchase and collect their tickets. Passengers can pay by cash, credit card and Octopus. No service fee will be charged when buying or collecting cross-boundary journey tickets in Hong Kong. The Mainland high-speed rail operator will also sell cross-boundary journey tickets in the Mainland, and will do so through the existing sales channels and arrangements. As far as we understand, no service fee will be charged for purchases of train tickets at Mainland stations or through the Mainland website and ticketing hotline, and for the subsequent pick-up at ticketing counters or ticket vending machines at Mainland stations. The MTR Corporation Limited will continue to study other channel that will facilitate passengers to

---

purchase tickets, including purchasing tickets through smartphone application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Ng', written in a cursive style.

( Chris Ng )  
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

**Number of trains reaching each short-haul and long-haul destination  
(including a terminus station and an intermediate stop)**

Destinations	Number of train stops per day	
	Northbound trains departing from the WKS	Southbound trains arriving at the WKS
<b>Short-haul trains (for peak periods)</b>		
Futian	68	66
Shenzhen North	66	66
Guangmingcheng	2	5
Humen	20	18
Qingsheng	1	1
Guangzhou South	34	34
<b>Long-haul trains (for weekdays, weekends and peak periods)</b>		
<b>Destinations along the Beijing-Guangzhou Passenger Line</b>		
Beijing* <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Shijiazhuang <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Zhengzhou <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Wuhan <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Changsha* <sup>#</sup>	3	3
Zhuzhou West <sup>@</sup>	1	1
Hengyang East <sup>@</sup>	1	-
Chenzhou West <sup>@</sup>	1	1
Shaoguan <sup>@</sup>	2	2
<b>Destinations along the Shanghai-Kunming Passenger Line</b>		
Shanghai* <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Hangzhou <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Jinhua <sup>@</sup>	1	1
Shangrao <sup>@</sup>	1	1
Kunming* <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Nanchang <sup>#</sup>	1	1
<b>Destinations along the Guizhou-Guangzhou Passenger Line</b>		
Guiyang <sup>#</sup>	1	1
Guilin <sup>#</sup>	1	1

Destinations	Number of train stops per day	
	Northbound trains departing from the WKS	Southbound trains arriving at the WKS
<b>Destinations along the Hangzhou-Fuzhou-Shenzhen Passenger Line</b>		
Fuzhou*#	1	1
Putian@	1	1
Quanzhou@	1	1
Xiamen*#	3	3
Xiamen North@	1	1
Zhangzhou@	2	3
Jiaomei@	-	1
Zhangpu@	1	-
Yunxiao@	-	1
Zhao'an@	-	1
Raoping@	-	1
Shantou*#	8	9
Chaoyang@	4	2
Puning@	2	3
Kuitan@	1	-
Lufeng@	1	6
Shanwei@	4	2
Houmen@	2	-
Huidong@	1	1
Huizhou South@	5	5
Shenzhen Pingshan@	4	2

Legends:

- \* Destinations as terminus stations
- # Destinations included in the Memorandum of Understanding on the Arrangements for Preparation of Key Operational Issues for the XRL signed between the Government and the CR on 29 January 2018
- @ Destinations newly added based on actual train scheduling