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By email (ssylau@legco.gov.hk)

3 March 2021

Ms Sophie Lau
Clerk to Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Lau,

Re: Panel on Transport

**Submission from members of the public on
the extension of the coverage of "Parking Certificate for Drivers Who
Carry People with Mobility Disabilities" to on-street parking spaces
designated for disabled drivers**

I refer to your three letters dated 25 and 26 January 2021 respectively inviting the Administration's response to submissions from members of the public, including the Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth, on the captioned subject. Our bilingual response is at Annex.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Tiana WONG)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.: Commissioner for Transport

**The Administration's response to
submissions from members of the public on the extension of the
coverage of "Parking Certificate for Drivers Who Carry People with
Mobility Disabilities" to on-street parking spaces designated for
disabled drivers**

Background

At present, disabled drivers issued with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit (DPPP) are exempted from parking fees when they park at metered parking spaces. They can also park at on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled free of charge, and enjoy a half-price concession when using designated parking spaces in government multi-storey car parks managed by the Transport Department (TD) (i.e. designated parking spaces for the disabled). TD also issues Parking Certificates for Drivers Who Carry People with Mobility Disabilities (Parking Certificates) to enable holders of such Parking Certificates to park their vehicles at designated parking spaces for the disabled in government multi-storey car parks managed by TD when carrying people with lower limb mobility disabilities. Disabled drivers with DPPP and holders of Parking Certificates may also park at parking spaces designated for the disabled in some government and private car parks. They can approach individual car parks for the terms and conditions of use before parking, and relevant information is also available at TD's website.

Public complaints received by TD

2. From time to time, TD receives complaints from persons with disabilities who are unable to drive, expressing that they are unable to use on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled as they do not meet the eligibility requirements for a DPPP; and that this has deprived them of the equal opportunities in using the parking spaces designated for the disabled and caused discrimination among disabled persons. In fact, as persons with paralysis/lower limb mobility disabilities need to use wheelchairs as an aid and rely on other people to drive them around, there is a practical need for them to use parking spaces designated for the disabled which provide extra space.

Extending the coverage of Parking Certificate

3. TD has studied the matter and considered that there is room for opening up on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled to Parking Certificate holders, with a view to facilitating them to carry persons with lower limb mobility disabilities. To tie in with the new arrangement, TD has started replacing the traffic signs concerned at on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled since 29 January 2021, and it is anticipated that the replacement works will be completed by 31 July 2021. New Parking Certificates were sent by post to Parking Certificate holders on 22 January 2021. TD has reminded certificate holders in its approval letters that their vehicles must be used to carry persons with lower limb mobility disabilities when they use the Parking Certificates, and that they should pay attention to whether the traffic signs concerned have been replaced. Parking Certificate holders may also visit TD's website for information on whether the traffic signs concerned for on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled have been modified.

Way forward

4. TD understands that the opening up of on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled to holders of Parking Certificates will increase the demand for such parking spaces. TD has therefore taken proactive steps to review the parking demands for different types of vehicles in various districts, as well as to increase both normal on-street parking spaces and designated parking spaces for the disabled at suitable locations, with a view to increasing the overall number of designated parking spaces. Based on TD's initial review, it is expected that the number of on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled can be increased by about 10% to 20%. TD will commence the relevant work, including carrying out consultations for districts and relevant stakeholders. If members of the public have any views on the number or location of on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled in a particular district/street, they are welcome to reflect their views to TD. TD will consider their views carefully and follow up in a timely manner.