

Government urges public again to avoid grave sweeping on day of Ching Ming Festival

In view of the current severe epidemic situation, a Government spokesman today (April 3) strongly appealed to members of the public again to refrain from going out unnecessarily and to defer their plans to go grave sweeping on the day of the Ching Ming Festival tomorrow as far as possible to avoid the crowded peak period of the festival. Doing so can lessen crowd conditions and reduce close contact, thereby reducing the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus through social contact.

The Government reminded grave sweepers to avoid group gatherings when grave sweeping, maintain an appropriate social distance with others at all times, and avoid meal gatherings with relatives and friends at worship sites.

The spokesman said, "The Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) came into effect on March 29. The Regulation prohibits group gatherings with more than four people in public places, and grave sweeping is not exempted. Therefore, members of the public have to abide by the group gathering regulation by having not more than four people together during grave sweeping, unless they are living in the same household. In addition, a distance of at least 1.5 metres should be maintained between grave sweeper groups."

For members of the public visiting cemeteries and columbaria to pay respects to ancestors during the Ching Ming Festival, the spokesman reminded that they should seek medical advice promptly and refrain from going grave sweeping if they have fever or respiratory symptoms. Grave sweepers should maintain good personal hygiene, wear surgical masks and always keep their hands clean. They are also reminded to keep flammable items (e.g. alcohol antiseptic sprays and alcohol-based hand sanitisers) away from ignition sources, incense and candles, and furnaces for the sake of safety.

The spokesman particularly reminded members of the public wishing to go to the Mainland to pay respects to their ancestors to consider postponing their trips in light of the latest epidemic prevention, control and quarantine measures (including compulsory quarantine) implemented by various provinces and cities in the Mainland for arriving travellers.

The spokesman stressed, "At this critical moment when the epidemic situation remains severe, members of the public should co-operate and work together to fight the virus. They should seriously consider postponing grave sweeping activities to avoid the crowded times during the Ching Ming Festival so as to prevent and protect themselves and their family members from infection, thereby preventing the spread of the virus in the community."

Special traffic arrangements for Ching Ming Festival

Police will implement special traffic arrangements in various districts to facilitate grave sweepers, and to ensure smooth vehicular traffic movements and pedestrian safety during Ching Ming Festival.

Hong Kong Island

(1) Chai Wan

A. Road closure

Phase I

Vehicles will be allowed to use Cape Collinson Road east of Lin Shing Road from 7am to 7pm daily on April 18, 19, 25, 26 and 30, and May 2 and 3. Special traffic arrangements in Phase II may be implemented when necessary.

Phase II

The following roads will be closed between 7am and 7pm daily on April 10 to 13, and May 1:

- The slip road leading from Cape Collinson Road to the Garden of Remembrance and Crematorium, except for hearses and funeral vehicles;
- The slip road leading to Chai Wan Chinese Permanent Cemetery;
- Wan Tsui Lane;
- Cape Collinson Road east of Lin Shing Road, except for green minibus (GMB) route 18M, hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit;
- Cape Collinson Road west of Lin Shing Road, except for franchised buses, GMB routes 16A, 16M and 16X, hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit;
- Southbound Lin Shing Road, except for franchised buses, GMB routes 16A, 16M, 16X and 18M, hearses, funeral vehicles, vehicles with permit, and vehicles heading to Wan Tsui Estate; - Northbound Lin Shing Road, except for GMB route 18M, hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit; and
- If necessary, the leftmost lane of northbound Wan Tsui Road between Chai Wan Road and Fei Tsui Road.

Depending on traffic condition, taxis and public light buses (PLBs) may be allowed to enter Lin Shing Road and turn right to Cape Collinson Road.

Special traffic arrangements in Phase III may be implemented when necessary.

Phase III

The following roads will be closed between 7am and 7pm daily on April 4 and 5:

- The slip road leading from Cape Collinson Road to the Garden of Remembrance and Crematorium, except for hearses and funeral vehicles;
- The slip road leading to Chai Wan Chinese Permanent Cemetery;
- Wan Tsui Lane;
- Cape Collinson Road east of Lin Shing Road, except for hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit;
- Cape Collinson Road west of Lin Shing Road, except for franchised buses, GMB routes 16A, 16M and 16X, hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit;
- Southbound Lin Shing Road, except for franchised buses, GMB routes 16A, 16M and 16X, hearses, funeral vehicles, vehicles with permit, and vehicles heading to Wan Tsui Estate; and
- If necessary, the leftmost lane of northbound Wan Tsui Road between Chai Wan Road and Fei Tsui Road.

B. Traffic diversions

In connection with the above road closures, the following roads will be re-routed:

- Cape Collinson Road between its slip road to Crematorium and Shek O Road will be re-routed one-way westbound; and
- Eastern section of Wan Tsui Road between Chai Wan Road and Fei Tsui Road will be re-routed one-way westbound.

C. No parking

No parking will be permitted along the following roads:

- Cape Collinson Road;
- Lin Shing Road;
- Shek O Road between Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre and Tai Tam Road;
- Wan Tsui Road;
- The lay-by along Shek O Road; and
- The lay-by along Tai Tam Road between Shek O Road and Tai Tam Tuk Reservoir.

Taxis, PLBs and private cars cannot enter Lin Shing Road for Cape Collinson Road, except for vehicles gaining access to Wan Tsui Estate. They will be allowed to drop off passengers at the PLB stand on Fei Tsui Road near the junction with Wan Tsui Road.

PLBs cannot pick up/set down passengers along Wan Tsui Road between Chai Wan Road and Lin Shing Road.

Depending on traffic conditions, PLBs may not be allowed to enter Tai Tam Road from Chai Wan Road.

(2) Pok Fu Lam

Consort Rise between Victoria Road and Bisney Road will be re-routed one-way southbound from 7am to 5pm daily on April 4, 5, 11 and 12.

(3) Aberdeen

The following roads will be closed between 7am and 6pm daily on April 4, 5, 11 and 12:

- Peel Rise in the vicinity of the Aberdeen Chinese Permanent Cemetery; and
- The slip road from Shek Pai Wan Road leading to the Aberdeen Chinese Permanent Cemetery.

Kowloon

(1) Tseung Kwan O

The access road leading to Tseung Kwan O Chinese Permanent Cemetery will be closed from 5.30am to 6pm daily on April 10 to 13, except for special route No. 14S of Kowloon Motor Bus Company, hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit.

The above road will be closed from 5.30am to 8pm daily on April 4 and 5.

Grave-sweepers can go to the cemetery on foot via the access road on Ko Chiu Road or via the footpath with staircases opposite MTR Tiu Keng Leng Station. Those using wheel chairs are advised to enter the cemetery at Ko Chiu Road.

(2) Sai Kung

Mang Kung Wo Road leading to Kei Pik Shan Cemetery will be closed from 8am to 5pm daily on April 4 and 5, except for vehicles with permit.

(3) Diamond Hill

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 7am to 6pm daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 and 13:

A. Road closure

- The access road leading to the Diamond Hill Crematorium, except for hearses and funeral vehicles;
- The access road between the Diamond Hill Funeral Parlour and the China Light and Power (CLP) Sub-station, except for hearses and funeral vehicles;
- The access road adjacent to the Diamond Hill Funeral Parlour leading to Sze Chen Hall, except for hearses and funeral vehicles;
- Yuk Hok Lane, except for private cars and taxis; and
- Yuk Wah Street east of Tsz Wan Shan Road, except for private cars and taxis.

B. Traffic diversions

- Vehicles must follow southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill for entering or leaving Fung Shing Street or Fu Shan Estate car park;
- Vehicles must follow northbound Po Kong Village Road uphill for entering or leaving Grand View Garden car park;
- Vehicles from eastbound Po Kong Village Road can turn to westbound Yuk Wah Street via the easternmost traffic lane of Tsz Wan Shan (South) Bus Terminus;
- Traffic along westbound Fung Shing Street cannot turn right to northbound Po Kong Village Road uphill;
- Traffic along northbound Po Kong Village Road uphill cannot turn right to eastbound Fung Shing Street;
- Vehicles from Grand View Garden car park cannot turn right to southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill;
- Traffic along southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill cannot turn right to Grand View Garden car park;
- Vehicles from Fu Shan Estate car park cannot turn right to northbound Po Kong Village Road uphill;
- Traffic along northbound Po Kong Village Road uphill cannot turn right to Fu Shan Estate car park;
- Traffic along southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill cannot turn right to Po Kong Village Road School Village car park;
- Vehicles from Po Kong Village Road School Village car park cannot turn right to southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill;
- Traffic along southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill cannot turn right to the unnamed road opposite to Po Leung Lane;
- Traffic along the unnamed road opposite to Po Leung Lane cannot turn right to southbound Po Kong Village Road downhill;
- Vehicles from Tsz Wan Shan (South) Bus Terminus cannot turn right to eastbound Yuk Wah Street, except franchised buses; and
- Traffic along Yuk Wah Crescent cannot turn right to eastbound Yuk Wah Street.

C. Suspension of parking spaces

Parking spaces at the following locations will be suspended:

- Metered parking spaces on the unnamed road between the Diamond Hill Funeral Parlour and CLP Sub-station;
- Five metered parking spaces in Yuk Wah Street car park; and
- Motorcycle parking spaces at Yuk Wah Street near Yuk Hok Lane.

Po Kong Village Road School Village car park will be closed and designated as taxi and private car drop-off point from 7am to 6pm daily on April 4 and 5.

D. Passengers pick-up and drop-off points

The pick-up and drop-off points for taxis will be at westbound Fung Shing Street near Fu Yan House of Fu Shan Estate and westbound Yuk Wah Street near Yuk Hok Lane.

The pick-up and drop-off point for private cars will be at westbound Yuk Wah Street near Yuk Hok Lane.

(4) Cheung Sha Wan

A. Road closure

- The unnamed road leading from Wing Ming Street to the catholic cemetery will be closed from 7am to 7pm daily on April 4 and 5;
- Wing Ming Street will be closed from 7am to 7pm daily on April 4 and 5; and
- Entrance road to the catholic cemetery on Wing Tak Road will be closed from 7am to 5pm daily on April 4 and 5, except for hearses, funeral vehicles and vehicles with permit.

B. No stopping or parking

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented on April 4 and 5:

- Parking will be prohibited on Yu Chau West Street between Castle Peak Road and King Lam Street from 7am to 7pm daily;
- Vehicles are prohibited to drop off or pick up passengers along Yu Chau West Street near Wing Ming Street; and
- Stopping or parking will be prohibited on Ching Cheung Road from 7am to 7pm daily.

C. Suspension of on-street parking spaces

All parking spaces on Yu Chau West Street; Tai Nan West Street; and King Lam Street and Wing Hong Street between Yu Chau West Street and Tai Nan West Street will be suspended from 7am to 7pm daily on April 4 and 5.

Members of the public wishing to gain access to the catholic cemetery are advised to use the subway across Ching Cheung Road from the end of Wing Ming Lane. No parking facilities in the cemetery will be open to public use.

New Territories

(1) Wo Hop Shek

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19:

A. Road closure (daily from 6am to 5pm)

- Kiu Tau Road, except for hearses;
- Ming Yin Road, except for franchised buses;
- Wo Ka Lau Road; and
- All access roads within Wo Hop Shek Cemetery.

B. Traffic diversions

- Traffic along northbound Pak Wo Road near Fung Ying Seen Koon cannot turn right to southbound Pak Wo Road; and
- Traffic along southbound Pak Wo Road near MTR Fanling Station cannot turn right to the car park on Pak Wo Road near Fung Ying Seen Koon.

C. Suspension of parking spaces (daily from 7am to 5pm)

- The car park on Wo Hing Road near Ming Yin Road roundabout, except for taxis;
- The car park on Pak Wo Road near Fung Ying Seen Koon, except for the disabled parking spaces and public buses of the residents' service route NR112. Depending on prevailing situation, vehicles carrying elderly and disabled passengers may be allowed to use the car park for interchange with shuttle buses heading for the Wo Hop Shek cemetery; and
- Parking spaces on Wah Ming Lane.

(2) Sandy Ridge

The Frontier Closed Area from Lo Wu Station to Lo Wu Station Road will be open to grave-sweepers between 6am and 6pm daily until April 19.

The following roads will be closed between 6am and 6pm daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19:

- Lo Wu Station Road from its junction with Man Kam To Road to a point of about 280 metres west of the same junction, near the cemetery management office, except for vehicles of Lo Wu Village residents and vehicles that are allowed to park at the car park of MTR Lo Wu Station; and
- Sha Ling Road, except for vehicles of Sha Ling residents.

(3) Lau Fau Shan

The following special traffic arrangements will be implemented from 8.45am to 4pm daily on April 4 and 5:

- Deep Bay Road between Mong Tseng San Road and Lau Fau Shan roundabout will be re-routed to one-way eastbound;
- Mong Tseng San Road will be re-routed to one-way southbound;
- Traffic along Deep Bay Road from Sha Kiu Tsuen and Mong Tseng Tsuen towards Lau Fau Shan upon reaching Mong Tseng San Road must turn left to Mong Tseng San Road towards Tin Ying Road, except GMB route 35; and
- Traffic along Tin Ying Road cannot enter the slip road heading for Mong Tseng San Road.

(4) Tuen Mun

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented daily from 7am to 7pm on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19:

A. Intermittent road closure

- Tsing San Path; and
- The access roads leading to Ching Chung Koon and Ching Chung Sin Yuen.

B. Traffic diversions

- Tsing Chung Koon Road between Tsing Lun Road and San Fuk Road will be re-routed one-way northbound; and

– San Fuk Road between Leung Shun Street and Tsing Chun Koon Road will be re-routed one-way westbound.

C. Passengers pick-up and drop-off points

Three temporary pick up and drop off points will be set up at northbound Tsing Chung Koon Road opposite to Castle Peak Hospital, northbound Tsing Chung Koon Road opposite to Tuen Mun Hospital, and westbound Tsing Lun Road outside Tuen Mun Hospital.

(5) Kwai Tsing

Wing Yin Street and Wing Hau Street will be closed from 7am to 5pm daily on April 10, 11, 13, 18 and 25, except for hearses and franchised buses.

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 7am to 5pm daily on April 4, 5, 12 and 19, and when necessary:

- Southbound Wing Tak Street between the entrance of City Point and Wing Shun Street, Wing Yin Street, and Wing Shun Street between Wing Tak Street and Kwai Hei Street will be closed, except for hearses, franchised buses, GMBs and taxis;
- Wing Chong Street, Wing Hau Street and Wing Lap Street will be closed; and
- Wing Kei Road between Kwai Hei Street and Wing Kin Road will be re-routed one-way southbound. Vehicles cannot travel via Kwai Hei Street for Wing Kin Road.

(6) Sha Tin

A. Road closure

The following roads will be closed between 7am and 6pm daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19:

- Lower Shing Mun Road between Yau On Street and Fu Shan Crematorium, except for hearses, funeral vehicles, GMB route 64K, and vehicles of residents of Pak Tin Areas 2 to 5 and Lakeview Garden; and
- Pai Tau Street west of its junction with Sheung Wo Che Road.

To Fung Shan Road north of its junction with Pak Lok Path will be closed between 9am and 5pm daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 and 13, except for vehicles serving residents and people working in To Fung Shan.

B. Suspension of parking spaces

All metered parking spaces on Yau On Street and Lower Shing Mun Road will be suspended from 7am to 6pm daily on April 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19.

(7) Tsuen Wan

Lo Wai Road between Lo Wai Pai Lau and Yuen Yuen Institute will be closed from 8am to 5pm daily on April 4 and 5, except for franchised buses,

taxis, GMB route 81 and vehicles with permit.

All metered parking spaces on Lo Wai Road near Yi Pei Chun Road, Lo Wai old bus terminus and outside Yuen Yuen Institute will be suspended from 8am to 5pm daily on April 4, 5, and 10 to 13.

(8) Lantau Island

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 6am to 6pm daily on April 4 and 5:

- The closed Tung Chung Road between Shek Mun Kap Road and South Lantau Road will be temporarily opened; and
- All others roads on south Lantau will remain closed, except for vehicles with permit.

Any vehicles found illegally parked within the precinct of the above areas may be towed away without prior notice.

Actual implementation of the traffic arrangements will be made depending on traffic and crowd conditions in the areas. Motorists are advised to exercise tolerance and patience and take heed of instructions of the Police on site.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Friday, April 3, 2020 is 109 (same as yesterday's index).

Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (April 3) released the latest grading of water quality for eight gazetted beaches (see Note).

Six beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1) and two as Fair (Grade 2).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Clear Water Bay Second Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach

Silver Mine Bay Beach
Silverstrand Beach

Repulse Bay Beach

Stanley Main Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Big Wave Bay Beach

Golden Beach

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note: To tie in with the response level under the Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance having been raised to the Emergency Response Level and to encourage people to avoid gathering, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department has announced that all beaches will continue to be temporarily closed until further notice.

[Draft Hoi Ha Outline Zoning Plan amended](#)

The Town Planning Board today (April 3) announced amendments to the draft Hoi Ha Outline Zoning Plan (OZP).

In response to the Court's rulings on a judicial review against the decision of the Chief Executive in Council made to approve the three draft OZPs for Pak Lap, Hoi Ha and So Lo Pun and the decision of the Board made to submit the three draft OZPs to the Chief Executive in Council for approval, the Board has reviewed the issues on the genuine need for Small House development and the accuracy of the map base in respect of the Hoi Ha OZP.

The Board has now made amendments to the Hoi Ha OZP as outlined in the Schedule of Amendments. The amendments mainly involve rezoning of an area to the west of the village cluster at Hoi Ha from a "Village Type Development" ("V") zone to "Green Belt (1)" and an area to the east of the village cluster at Hoi Ha from a "V" zone to "Coastal Protection Area". Opportunity is also taken to amend the Notes and Explanatory Statement of the OZP to reflect the above amendments and to update the general information of various land use zonings and the planning circumstances, where appropriate.

The draft Hoi Ha OZP No. S/NE-HH/3, incorporating the amendments, is now

available for public inspection during office hours at the Secretariat of the Board; the Planning Enquiry Counters of the Planning Department in North Point and Sha Tin; the Sha Tin, Tai Po and North District Planning Office; the Tai Po District Office; and the Sai Kung North Rural Committee.

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Any person may make written representation in respect of the amendments to the Secretary of the Board on or before June 3. Representations made to the Board will be available for public inspection.

Copies of the draft Hoi Ha OZP are available for sale at the Map Publications Centres in North Point and Yau Ma Tei. The electronic version of the OZP can be viewed at the Board's website (www.info.gov.hk/tpb).