

Interdepartmental working group on festival arrangements releases latest information and appeals to public and visitors to plan cross-boundary trips in advance for Tuen Ng Festival long weekend of Mainland

The interdepartmental working group on festival arrangements, led by the Chief Secretary for Administration, released the following information today (May 29) on the traffic and public transport arrangements for the upcoming Tuen Ng Festival long weekend of the Mainland.

During the Tuen Ng Festival long weekend of the Mainland, in anticipation of a large number of Mainland visitors and cross-boundary vehicles travelling between the Mainland and Hong Kong via various land-based boundary control points (BCPs), particularly on the first day (May 31) and the last day (June 2), the Transport Department (TD) urged travellers to plan their trips in advance and allow sufficient travelling time.

For public transport services, the TD has co-ordinated with local and cross-boundary public transport operators (PTOs) to enhance their capacity and reserve sufficient vehicles and manpower to meet the travel needs of passengers, including:

- increasing the frequency of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) shuttle bus (Gold Bus) to within one minute during peak hours;
- increasing the frequency of the Lok Ma Chau-Huanggang cross-boundary shuttle bus (Yellow Bus) to about two minutes at its highest frequency;
- increasing the quota of cross-boundary coaches to strengthen services;
- increasing the frequency of local franchised bus B routes connecting various land-based BCPs to a level higher than that of normal weekends or Sundays during the peak hours;
- the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) will enhance the train services of the East Rail Line between Admiralty and Lo Wu/Lok Ma Chau at different times. Relevant telecommunication network operators and the MTRCL have also enhanced the mobile network and Wi-Fi capacity at cross-boundary stations to provide convenient access to the network for passengers in need; and
- local public transport services for various tourist hotspots will also be strengthened.

It is anticipated that the waiting time for public transport services, including the Gold Bus, may be longer. Passengers should make their journeys during non-peak hours, observe order while queuing and heed advice from on-

site Police and staff of PTOs concerned. Passengers of cross-boundary coaches are also advised to reserve their coach tickets in advance.

Motorists are advised that, subject to actual traffic conditions, special traffic arrangements may be implemented at the Lok Ma Chau Control Point and the Shenzhen Bay Port from May 31 to June 2 to allow smooth access of public transport vehicles to the above control points. Cross-boundary private cars may need to queue up for crossing the BCPs. Motorists should pay extra attention to variable message signs and traffic signs along the roads. In case of traffic congestion, they should remain patient and follow the instructions of on-site Police.

For the HZMB, to plan their journeys ahead, members of the public can make use of the TD's HKeMobility mobile app or the TD's website (hkemobility.gov.hk/en/traffic-information/live/cctv) to access snapshots of traffic conditions at inbound and outbound vehicle plazas of the HZMB Hong Kong Port. They can also check real-time situations of the vehicle clearance plaza of the Zhuhai Port through WeChat official accounts "hzmbzhport" or "zhuhaifabu" (traffic-info.gzazhka.com:5015/#/) (Chinese only), and check the forecasts of peak hours of inbound and outbound vehicles at the HZMB Zhuhai Port through the WeChat official account of the HZMB integrated information dissemination platform (mp.weixin.qq.com/s/QA0TRVe3lJFFqEK1lmVUWw) (Chinese only). Moreover, motorists are reminded to always comply with the traffic control measures implemented by the Zhuhai authority when driving on the HZMB Main Bridge. Vehicles shall not occupy the emergency lane unless instructed by the Zhuhai authority.

The TD's Emergency Transport Co-ordination Centre will continue to operate 24 hours to closely monitor the traffic conditions and public transport services of different districts including various BCPs and major stations. The TD will disseminate the latest traffic information through various channels. Members of the public are advised to check the latest traffic news through radio, television broadcasts, and the HKeMobility application.

The interdepartmental working group on festival arrangements is tasked with holistically co-ordinating and steering the preparatory work of various government departments for welcoming visitors to Hong Kong during the Tuen Ng Festival long weekend of the Mainland, as well as strengthening information dissemination to enable the public and visitors to plan their itineraries according to the latest situation.