

# Temporary traffic and transport arrangements for tram track renewal works in Central District from this Saturday

The Transport Department (TD) today (December 10) reminded the public that to facilitate tram track renewal work at Des Voeux Road Central and Cleverly Street, the following temporary traffic and transport arrangements will be implemented from about 10am this Saturday (December 14) to 6am on December 16 (Monday).

## (A) Traffic lane closure

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Part of the left lane of Cleverly Street southbound near Des Voeux Road Central will be temporarily closed.

## (B) Banning of turning movement

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All vehicles exceeding 7 metres in length will be temporarily prohibited from turning left from Cleverly Street southbound onto Des Voeux Road Central.

## (C) Traffic diversion

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Vehicles exceeding 7 metres in length on Cleverly Street southbound heading for Des Voeux Road Central will be diverted via Bonham Strand and Morrison Street.

## (D) Bus diversion

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Citybus routes No. 1, 5B and 10 will be diverted via Connaught Road West and Rumsey Street starting from the first departures on December 14 until the last departures on December 15, before resuming their original routings.

## (E) Bus stop arrangements

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The bus stop of Citybus routes No. 1, 5B and 10 at Des Voeux Road Central outside Wing On Centre will be temporarily relocated to Des Voeux Road Central outside Infinitus Plaza Shopping Arcade.

Appropriate traffic signs and road markings will be erected on-site to guide motorists. The public transport operators will display notices to advise passengers of the above temporary arrangements.

The TD anticipates that the traffic in the vicinity of the above road sections will be relatively busy. Motorists should exercise tolerance and patience in case of traffic congestion. Public transport commuters are advised to pay attention to the arrangements of suspension or relocation of stops. Members of the public are advised to stay alert to the latest traffic news or the department's website ([www.td.gov.hk](http://www.td.gov.hk)).

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## Government extends third stage public consultation period for new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan

The Labour and Welfare Bureau announced today (December 10) that the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee (RAC) will extend the third stage (Consensus Building Stage) public consultation period for a new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan (RPP) by six weeks, from the original end date on December 20, 2019 to January 31, 2020. The third stage public consultation period will therefore be extended to a total of 12 weeks.

With the assistance of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University Consulting Team, the RAC has arranged a series of public engagement activities under the Consensus Building Stage for a new RPP, including four public consultation sessions and 16 thematic seminars between November 5 and December 20, 2019.

Taking account of stakeholders' views, the RAC will arrange three additional public consultation sessions in the regions of Kowloon, Hong Kong Island and New Territories West respectively in January 2020 for members of the public and stakeholders to provide their views on the strategic directions and recommendations of the new RPP. The arrangements are set out as follows:

Session	Date and Time	Venue
Session Five Kowloon	January 4 (Saturday) 3pm to 5.30pm	Hall, Kwun Tong Community Centre, 17 Tsui Ping Road, Kwun Tong
Session Six Hong Kong Island	January 14 (Tuesday) 10am to 12.30pm	Hall, 1/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai
Session Seven New Territories West	January 16 (Thursday) 3pm to 5.30pm	Hall, Tseng Choi Street Community Hall, 27 Tseng Choi Street, Tuen Mun

Note: To be conducted in Cantonese, with Hong Kong sign language interpretation.

Please visit the Consulting Team's website ([www.rs.polyu.edu.hk/rpp](http://www.rs.polyu.edu.hk/rpp)) for registration arrangements of the public consultation sessions and methods for submitting views. Members of the public who have any views or enquiries may send an email to the Consulting Team ([rs.rpp@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:rs.rpp@polyu.edu.hk)).

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## **Government to further reduce emissions from power plants**

A Government spokesman said today (December 10) that the Eighth Technical Memorandum for Allocation of Emission Allowances in Respect of Specified Licences (the Eighth TM), which will result in further emission reduction from the power plants of the two power companies (the Hongkong Electric Company, Limited and CLP Power Hong Kong Limited), has been approved by the Legislative Council on November 27.

The Eighth TM was issued under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO) to cap the annual emission allowances of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and respirable suspended particulates (RSPs) from the power generation sector from 2024 and onwards at 3 150 tonnes, 12 430 tonnes and 391 tonnes respectively. As compared with the emission allowances for the power generation sector for 2022 set under the Seventh TM, the Eighth TM will tighten the emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and RSPs by 40 per cent, 29 per cent and 20 per cent respectively. This will further improve the air quality in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region.

In order to meet the new emission allowances, the two power companies are building new gas-fired generating units for completion in or before 2024. By then, the local gas generation will be around 57 per cent of the total fuel mix for electricity generation. The NO<sub>x</sub> emission performance and thermal efficiency of existing gas-fired generating units will also be improved and more electricity intake from renewable energy sources will be introduced.

In accordance with the APCO, the emission allowances for power plants stipulated in the Eighth TM will come into effect on January 1, 2024. The Environmental Protection Department will conduct a further review by 2021 to ensure timely revision of the emission allowances.

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## **Red flag hoisted at Clear Water Bay**

## **Second Beach**

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (December 10) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

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## **Key statistics on service demand of A&E Departments and occupancy rates in public hospitals**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

During the winter surge, the Hospital Authority is closely monitoring the service demand of Accident and Emergency Departments and the occupancy rates in public hospitals. Key service statistics are being issued daily for public information. Details are in the appended table.