

Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme **monthly threshold relaxation to** **continue till June 30 next year**

The Transport Department today (December 31) reminded members of the public that the monthly public transport expenses threshold of the Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme will continue to be relaxed from \$400 to \$200 till June 30 next year.

To alleviate commuters' fare burden during the epidemic, the Government introduced a special measure to temporarily relax the monthly threshold of public transport expenses from \$400 to \$200 between July and December this year. "The Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address" announced that the measure will be extended for six months. From January 1 to June 30, 2021, the Government will continue to provide a subsidy amounting to one-third of the monthly public transport expenses in excess of \$200, subject to a maximum of \$400 per month for each Octopus.

For details of the Scheme, please visit the website (www.ptfss.gov.hk). Commuters can also check their record of public transport expenses and subsidy amounts through the Octopus App or the Scheme hotline 2969 5500.

Proposed boardwalk underneath Island **Eastern Corridor gazetted**

The Government gazetted today (December 31) the proposed provision of a boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor (IEC), serving as a pedestrian walkway and a cycleway, to enhance the connectivity along the North Point waterfront by linking the harbourfront in Causeway Bay and Quarry Bay.

The proposed boardwalk comprises the western and eastern sections. The western section will run from Oil Street to Tong Shui Road (approximately 0.7 kilometre long), while the eastern section will run from Tin Chiu Street to Hoi Yu Street (approximately 1.1km long). The alignment works to utilise the shelter of the IEC as far as possible, so as to minimise the impact of the boardwalk on the Victoria Harbour. The boardwalk will maintain a width of at least 10 metres to allow sufficient space for the safe and conflict-free shared use among different users including pedestrians, joggers, cyclists and other user groups.

On top of the four access points at both ends of the two boardwalk sections, five access points will also be provided to enhance the connectivity with the hinterland. The proposal also includes three movable bridges to allow vessels to access the coastal waters bounded by the proposed boardwalk when required. The gradient of the boardwalk will also be lowered, thereby a more pleasant experience will be created and water-friendliness enhanced.

In addition, water supply, drainage and utilities will also be provided to facilitate the provision of ancillary facilities such as toilets, drinking fountains and kiosks, etc. Six viewing platforms will be constructed by utilising the space above the existing IEC piled dolphins, for public enjoyment of the panoramic views of Victoria Harbour. A fishing platform will also be constructed to benefit anglers.

Details of the proposal are set out in the Annex. The plans and scheme of the works are available for public inspection at the following government offices during office hours:

Central and Western Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Eastern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Eastern Law Courts Building,
29 Tai On Street, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong

District Lands Office, Hong Kong East,
19/F, Southorn Centre,
130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

The gazette notice, scheme, plans, resumption plan, plan for Creation of Easements and Other Permanent Rights, plan for Creation of Rights of Temporary Occupation of Land and location plan are available at www.thb.gov.hk/eng/psp/publications/transport/gazette/gazette.htm.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use, or both, is required to address to the Secretary for Transport and Housing an objection in writing, which can be submitted via the following means:

- By post or by hand to the Transport and Housing Bureau's drop-in box No. 6 located at the entrance on 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. The box is available for use between 8am and 7pm from Monday to Friday (except public holidays);
- By fax to 2868 4643; or
- By email to gazettethb@thb.gov.hk.

A notice of objection should describe the objector's interest and the manner in which he or she alleges that he or she will be affected by the works or the use. Objectors are requested to provide contact details to facilitate communication. A notice of objection should be delivered to the Secretary for Transport and Housing not later than March 1, 2021.

Appointment to Hong Kong Tourism Board announced

The Government announced today (December 31) the appointment of Ms Vanessa Cheung Tih-lin as a member of the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) for a term of two years from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.

Ms Cheung is the founder of The Mills and the Group Managing Director of Nan Fung Development Limited.

Welcoming Ms Cheung to the HKTB, a spokesman for the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau said that the Board would no doubt benefit from Ms Cheung's experience, expertise and wise counsel in promoting Hong Kong worldwide as a premier tourist destination.

The spokesman also thanked Mr Thomas Jefferson Wu, the outgoing member, for his contribution to the work of the Board in the past six years.

Appointments to the HKTB are made by the Financial Secretary in exercise of the powers delegated to him by the Chief Executive and pursuant to section 9 of the Hong Kong Tourism Board Ordinance (Chapter 302).

The membership of the HKTB commencing January 1, 2021, will be as follows:

Dr Pang Yiu-kai (Chairman)
Commissioner for Tourism (Deputy Chairman) with Deputy Commissioner for Tourism as alternate member
Mr Abraham Chan
Ms Sonia Cheng Chi-man
Ms Vanessa Cheung Tih-lin
Mr Fong Lik-sun
Ms Margaret Fong Shun-man
Dr Allen Fung Yuk-lun
Ms Mary Huen Wai-yi
Ms Rebecca Kwan Shuk-wah
Ms Alice Kwok Yim-ming
Ms Lavinia Lau Hoi-zee
Mr Clarence Leung Wang-ching
Mr Jason Shum Jiu-sang
Mr Ricky Szeto Wing-fu
Ms Joyce Tam Joy-yee
Mr James Wong Cheuk-on
Mr Jason Wong Chun-tat
Mr Simon Wong Kit-lung
Mrs Carrie Yu

Re-appointments to Transport Advisory Committee

The Government announced today (December 31) that the Chief Executive has re-appointed two incumbent members, namely Mr Wilson Tam Wai-shun and Mr Hugh Tong Chun-wai, to the Transport Advisory Committee (TAC).

The re-appointments are for a term of one year and nine months with effect from January 1, 2021.

The TAC is a key advisory body to the Government on broad issues of transport policy and major transport-related proposals. Currently, the TAC comprises 16 non-official members including the Chairman and three ex-officio members. Its membership and terms of reference are available at www.thb.gov.hk/eng/boards/transport/land/tac.htm.

Appointments to Youth Square Management Advisory Committee

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) announced today (December 31) the re-appointment of four incumbent members and the appointment of two new members to the Youth Square Management Advisory Committee (MAC) for a two-year term from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.

The Chairperson and non-official members of the MAC are as follows:

Chairperson

Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs(1)

Ex-officio members

Vice-Chairperson of the Youth Development Commission, or a representative
Chairperson of the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, or a
representative

Representative from the Eastern District Council

Representative from the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent
Cemeteries

Newly appointed members

Miss Debbie Cheung Sui-ki
Dr Wilson Choo Ming-yin

Re-appointed members

Mr Dave Ho
Ms Lo Kam-ping
Mr Poon Siu-chi
Mr Yeung Hok-lam

Existing members

Mr Allen Che Wai-hang
Mr Stefan Chui Kai-hin
Mr Victor Lam Tsz-hung
Mr Jan Noel Shih

The MAC also includes representatives from the HAB, the Education Bureau and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department as members.

A spokesman for the HAB thanked the outgoing members, Ms Christina Chan Sye-min and Mr Angus Ho Kwok-lai, for their support since their appointment to the MAC.

The MAC is a non-statutory advisory body to advise the Government on matters pertaining to the operation of Youth Square, including the overall strategy and objectives of Youth Square; themes and contents of youth development programmes; the use, allocation, leasing and charging arrangements of various facilities; the evaluation of the effectiveness of the use of Youth Square in promoting youth development programmes and monitoring the performance of the operator.