



地鐵公司
MTR Corporation

HEC Sub-Committee on WDII Review
c/o Civil Engineering & Development Dept
13/F North Point Government Offices
333 Java Road
North Point
Hong Kong

Our Ref. : C/CDM/NW/F1500/15
Fax No. : 27502982
Date : 26th August 2005

[By Post & Fax 2576-9792]

Dear Sirs,

**Harbour-Front Enhancement Review for Wanchai, Causeway and Adjoining Areas
Expert Panel Forum on Sustainable Transport Planning**

I refer to your letter ref. HKI 2/4/50 HER dated 12 August 2005.

The Corporation has already given its opinions on the Harbour Planning Principles in our letter of 6th July 2005 (copy attached for easy reference), suggesting how railways can improve accessibility to the waterfront.

Regarding the Central-Wanchai Bypass (CWB), the Corporation's view is that the traffic congestion in the Central and Wanchai districts is mainly a result of the inability of the local distributors in accommodating the traffic volume, the unbalanced traffic flow in the three road harbour crossings and the lack of a mass transit service for the areas north of Gloucester Road. These issues are unlikely to be tackled by building the CWB. The construction of the North Island Line and the Shatin to Central Link will help to relieve traffic demand and should be taken in account in the discussion on sustainable transport planning for the harbour-front.

Yours faithfully



Encl.

AMG/JW/jc/164

地鐵有限公司
MTR Corporation Limited

香港九龍彌敦道33號
德輔廣場地庫大廳
香港郵政總局信箱 9916 號
電話 : (852) 2993 2111
傳真 : (852) 2798 8822
網址 : www.mtr.com.hk

MTR Tower, Telford Plaza,
33 Wai Yip Street,
Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.
GPO Box 9916, Hong Kong.
Telephone : (852) 2993 2111
Facsimile : (852) 2798 8822
Website : www.mtr.com.hk

HEC Sub-Committee on WDI Review
c/o Civil Engineering & Development Dept
13/F North Point Government Offices
333 Java Road
North Point
Hong Kong

Our Ref. : C/CDM/NW/F1500/15
Fax No. : 27502982
Date : 6th July 2005

Dear Sirs,

**Harbour-Front Enhancement Review
Wanchai, Causeway and Adjoining Areas Envisioning Stage**

In response to your invitation for views in respect of the captioned review, the Corporation would like to express the following opinions:

1. The Corporation supports the eight "Harbour Planning Principles" stated in the Public Engagement Kit and would like to put forward the view that good accessibility is a pre-requisite for a world class and vibrant harbour. Harbour-front activities must be designed to be viable 7 days a week, not just weekends, and therefore the harbour-front needs to be integrated into the fabric of daily activity.
2. Most parts of the waterfront of Wanchai and Causeway Bay are within walking distance from the nearby MTR stations. Access to the waterfront can be greatly improved by the introduction of footpaths or footbridges connecting the waterfront and the nearby MTR stations. The MTR-plus-pedestrianization concept will ensure the development of the waterfront will not generate excessive traffic demand on the road network.
3. The proposed North Island Line, will run on the seaward side of the existing Island Line on an almost parallel alignment between Central Station and Fortress Hill Station and will have stations located even closer to the waterfront. Its presence will, in addition to the relief of congestion on the Island Line, help bring the waterfront closer to the community. Consideration needs to be given to constructing this line at the same time as other improvements to the waterfront, in order to avoid major disruption at a later date.

.....Page 2

- 4. Similarly the proposed Shatin to Central Link will be another significant item of infrastructure which will improve accessibility, but will also require consideration of implementation issues.

Yours faithfully



AMG/PHTjc/141/EPSC/1609