

TD closely monitors the initial services of East Rail Line cross-harbour extension

The Transport Department (TD) today (May 13) said that in view of the commissioning of the MTR East Rail Line cross-harbour extension this Sunday (May 15), its Emergency Transport Coordination Centre (ETCC) will closely monitor the initial period of operation of the East Rail Line cross-harbour extension, rail feeder public transport services at the new railway station, namely the Exhibition Centre Station, and traffic conditions in Central and Wan Chai Districts. The TD will also maintain close liaison with the MTR Corporation Limited and relevant public transport operators.

To facilitate the commissioning of the East Rail Line cross-harbour extension, the Exhibition Centre Station Public Transport Interchange (EXC PTI) will commence operation tomorrow (May 14) to replace the existing Wan Chai North Temporary Public Transport Interchange on Hung Hing Road. Seventeen bus routes currently terminating at Wan Chai North Temporary Public Transport Interchange will be relocated to the EXC PTI tomorrow. Details of the bus routes are in the Annex. In addition, with effect from May 15, New World First Bus will operate a new route No. 1M (EXC PTI – Wong Nai Chung Gap (Circular)) providing feeder service at the EXC PTI. The existing cross-harbour bus route No. 301 (Hung Hom (Cross Harbour Tunnel Toll Plaza) to Sheung Wan), which almost completely duplicates the service area of the new railway service, will be cancelled.

As it is anticipated that there would be changes in the travelling patterns of passengers in the districts along the East Rail Line upon the commissioning of its cross-harbour extension, the TD has formulated a public transport service adjustment plan. The TD will closely monitor the actual changes in passenger demand of the affected public transport service routes and implement the adjustment proposals under the plan in phases according to the actual demand situation.

The TD reminded the travelling public to reserve sufficient time to familiarise themselves with the new railway station and new railway service arrangements, and pay attention to the latest traffic news. The TD's ETCC will enhance the monitoring of the transport and traffic conditions on the first normal working and school day after the commissioning of the East Rail Line cross-harbour extension (i.e. May 16).