

WHC and Route 3 to maintain present actual toll levels

The Government announced today (July 26) that, notwithstanding the new statutory tolls of the Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) and Route 3 (Country Park Section) (Route 3) coming into effect on July 31 and August 1 respectively, the current actual toll levels payable by motorists will remain unchanged as the tunnel companies will continue to offer concessions to all types of vehicles.

The toll adjustment mechanisms for the WHC and Route 3 are specified in the Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance (Cap. 436) and the Tai Lam Tunnel and Yuen Long Approach Road Ordinance (Cap. 474) respectively. The franchisees of the WHC and Route 3 can effect statutory toll increases under the law if the companies' actual net revenues fall short of the minimum estimated net revenues specified in the law.

A spokesman for the Government said, "The two franchisees recently notified the Government of the dates on which they would like the new statutory toll levels to take effect. However, the two companies will continue to offer concessions to all types of vehicles so that current actual toll levels payable by motorists will remain unchanged."

The Commissioner for Transport will publish notices in the Gazette tomorrow (July 27) on the new statutory tolls of the WHC and Route 3. The relevant Legislative Council Briefs are at Annexes 1 and 2 respectively.