



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, August 28, 1973

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TRANSPORTATION STUDY STARTS NEXT MONTH

A small army of trained interviewers will next month begin a major survey to find out the travelling habits of thousands of people to help in the planning of future transportation requirements up to the year 1991.

Announcing this today at a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club Island East, Mr. Pang Hau-chung, acting Senior Engineer of the Public Works Department underlined the importance of the study which, he said, would provide vital information for designing "a comprehensive transport plan" to meet Hong Kong's requirements.

Mr. Pang said the major factors affecting studies of this type, such as population projections and distributions, planned road construction and mass transit construction programmes, transportation policies and future land-use patterns, would all be taken into consideration.

The information of personal travel would be collected through four major interview surveys -- a household interview, a roadside interview, a hotel interview and a taxi driver interview.

In order to facilitate the analysis and the presentation of the data collected, the study area had been divided into some 370 traffic zones on the basis of topography, population, land use, transport facilities and traffic conditions, he said.

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The household interviews will be based on 25,000 selected households. Starting next month, interviewers will call on them and ask questions of all the journeys each member of that household made on a particular day. This will include trip origins and destinations, purpose and time of trips, and mode of transport used.

The roadside interviews will be conducted at selected locations on some major traffic routes. Similar questions will be put to motorists interviewed as well as questions on parking conditions.

"The information so collected will help the consultants to understand more about the choice of route by the motorists and the relationship between the travel cost and travel time," Mr. Pang explained.

He continued: "The hotel interview will yield information on the trips made by the tourists during their stay in Hong Kong, and hence their transport demand, while the taxi interview will reveal the characteristics of taxi trips made in Hong Kong."

The information collected will be processed by computers.

Mr. Pang said the recommendations arising from the study would cover all forms of transport -- road, underground as well as water transport.

"In some cases, if the planned population distribution and land use will impose very difficult traffic and transport problems, then the traffic consultants may recommend early revision of the long term town plan," he added.

"This is in fact an iterative process which will be performed until a set of satisfactory results is obtained."

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SPECIAL LIGHTING FOR NIGHT FIRE FIGHTING

The Fire Services Department is to order six high intensity lighting tenders to facilitate fire fighting and rescue operations at night.

Each tender will comprise a van equipped with a diesel generator, an extending flood light mast, three 220-volt lighting units capable of generating their own electricity, and a radio telephone.

A Fire Services spokesman said that these tenders would form part of the standard attendance to incidents occurring during the night.

"These lighting tenders are capable of illuminating a very large area and should make fire fighting and rescue operations at night much easier, especially in cases of serious fires when the power supply of a whole locality may be temporarily cut, and in cases of serious accidents in the New Territories," he said.

"They are also light in weight, about 80 pounds, and can be easily carried away from the van by two men to the most strategic spots in an emergency area."

The new appliance should also prove useful during rescue operations in day time when a large supply of electricity is needed to operate heavy equipment like power saws, the spokesman added.

He said that designs of the new appliance had been finalised and they were expected to be placed in commission by next year's typhoon season.

"By then, two emergency lighting tenders will be posted at each of the Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Territories Fire Commands," he said.

The total cost of the new appliances is estimated to be about \$380,000.

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DRAW FOR SIXTH GOVERNMENT LOTTERY

Winning numbers of the current government lottery, the sixth in this year's series will be drawn by four popular Radio Hong Kong entertainers in the City Hall Concert Hall on September 15.

They are Mr. Lau Yat-fan, Mr. Hung Tak-shing, Miss Kimmy Got Kam-ching and Miss Catherina Tsang Lai-chun.

Announcing this at a press conference today, the Chairman of the Government Lottery Management Committee, Mr. Kai-yin Chau, said this would be one of the last two opportunities this year for members of the public to buy a ticket and win a prize of over half a million dollars and at the same time make a contribution to the community welfare.

Tickets are already on sale at all Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club selling booths and more than 280 banks and ferry piers.

As part of the promotion campaign programme, the four radio entertainers will accompany the press this weekend on a visit to a welfare organisation which is aided by the Lotteries Fund.

On September 10, they will help sell tickets at a special selling booth in Statue Square.

Immediately after the lucky draw on September 15, there will be a one-hour Cantonese opera programme given by the Lung Cheung Dramatic Troupe.

This will be followed by a public auction of special car registration numbers held by the Transport Department. All proceeds will go to the Lotteries Fund for charitable purposes.

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SHAM SHUI PO RECLAMATION

An area of 30 acres will be reclaimed to the north of the existing Sham Shui Po Ferry Pier to provide land for roadworks and community facilities.

The reclamation and seawall will extend about 1,000 feet from the present seawall along Tung Chau Street.

One major feature to be constructed on the future reclamation is a waterfront road which will form a part of the West Kowloon Corridor road project.

A new passenger ferry pier with a substantial concourse area will be built at a later stage to replace the existing pier.

Sites will also be reserved for government, institutional and community uses, and for the construction of a cargo handling area.

Reclamation work is expected to start in November and should be completed by mid-1975.

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RESITING OF PLAYGROUND

The children's playground between Prince Edward Road and Sai Yee Street will shortly be moved to the junction of Sai Yee Street and Flower Market Road.

The reprovisioning is to facilitate roadworks connected with the widening of Sai Yee Street to improve traffic flow in the area.

Swings, see-saws and slides will be provided in the playground. There will also be sitting-out areas, a pavilion, flower beds, trees and lawns.

Work is expected to begin towards the end of September and should be completed at the end of the year.

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Release time: 7.45 p.m.