



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1989

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RELIEF IN ROAD CONGESTION IN SIGHT
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WAS TOLD TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THERE WOULD SOON BE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONGESTION PROBLEM ON SOME OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR ROADS FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF NEW ROAD AND TUNNEL PROJECTS AS WELL AS THE WIDENING, NOW IN PROGRESS, OF SOME KEY ROADS.

DURING A VISIT TO THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT THIS AFTERNOON, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT THE OPENING THIS SUMMER OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE WOULD DO MUCH TO EASE THE PRESSURE ON THE EXISTING CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AS WELL AS ON MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATIONS ALONG THE NATHAN ROAD CORRIDOR.

IN ADDITION, THE OPENING OF ROUTE 5 FROM SHA TIN TO TSUEN WAN, AND THE COMPLETION OF THE TAI PO ROAD WIDENING PROJECT AT THE END OF THE YEAR, WOULD PROVIDE SOME RELIEF TO THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, ALTHOUGH THE PROBLEM OF CONGESTION THERE WOULD NOT FULLY BE RESOLVED UNTIL THE OPENING OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL IN 1991.

IN THE BRIEFING GIVEN BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR JAMES SO, SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT SUCH RELIEF WOULD, HOWEVER, BE SHORT-TERM.

LONG TERM PLANS FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM OF TRANSPORT CONGESTION WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AS PART OF THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY.

AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN THIS PROCESS WAS THE SECOND COMPREHENSIVE STUDY (CTS-II), WHICH WOULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, AND WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A GREEN PAPER SETTING OUT PROPOSALS ON TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND POLICIES.

SIR DAVID SAID HE HOPED THE PUBLIC WOULD STUDY THE GREEN PAPER CAREFULLY AND PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS ON ALL PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN IT.

THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED ON THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN ITS CAPABILITY IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION FOLLOWING ITS RE-ORGANISATION IN MAY.

HE COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT AREA OF THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK AND ONE WHICH ATTRACTED MUCH PUBLIC ATTENTION AND INTEREST.

SIR DAVID EXPRESSED KEEN INTEREST IN THE PLANNED COMPUTERISED VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE TO BE BUILT ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE AT KOWLOON BAY.

THE NEW CENTRE WOULD PROVIDE EXTRA CAPACITY FOR WIDENING THE INSPECTION SCHEME TO COVER ALL GOODS VEHICLES AT ANNUAL INTERVALS AFTER FIRST REGISTRATION.

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HE HOPED THAT THIS CENTRE, WHEN COMPLETED, WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF GOODS VEHICLES USING OUR ROADS.

VISITING THE LION ROCK TUNNEL, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT AN ORDER HAD BEEN PLACED FOR A HEAVY RECOVERY VEHICLE, WITH 40 TONNES RECOVERY CAPABILITY, FOR DELIVERY IN AUGUST THIS YEAR.

THIS WOULD HELP REDUCE CONGESTION SHOULD THERE BE ANY BREAKDOWN OF A CONTAINER VEHICLE IN THE TUNNEL.

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DFCC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR SINGAPORE
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ACTION TAKEN AT COMMUNITY LEVEL TO HELP PREVENT CRIME IN SINGAPORE WILL BE STUDIED BY A DELEGATION FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE (DFCC), MR WU CHOR-NAM, SAID THIS BEFORE DEPARTING FOR SINGAPORE THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

"WE WILL VISIT THE SINGAPORE POLICE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT WHERE OFFICIALS WILL BRIEF US ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS WORK," MR WU, WHO IS LEADING THE DELEGATION, SAID.

HE SAID THE DELEGATION WOULD ALSO VISIT A POLICE STATION.

"VIEWS WILL BE EXCHANGED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS SINGAPORE ORGANISATIONS ON CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES ORGANISED AT DISTRICT LEVELS," MR WU ADDED.

THE FOUR-DAY VISIT INCLUDES A VISIT TO SINGAPORE AIRLINES AND A SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE DELEGATION INCLUDES FIVE MEMBERS FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DFCC AND A DISTRICT EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

TWO STUDENTS AND TWO RESIDENTS FROM THE DISTRICT, WHO CAME TOP IN THE RECENT GOOD STUDENT/GOOD CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME, ARE ALSO IN THE GROUP.

THE TRIP IS AMONG VARIOUS ACTIVITIES THE DFCC HAS ORGANISED IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR IN SUPPORT OF THE FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN.

THE DFCC IS THE FIRST IN HONG KONG TO HAVE ORGANISED AN OVERSEAS STUDY TOUR.

THE DELEGATION WAS SEEN OFF BY THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS JOEY LAM, WHO PRESENTED A PENNANT TO THE GROUP.

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DB COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME
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THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME APPLIED TO FRANCHISED BUS COMPANIES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

A COMMITTEE MEMBER WILL ASK, AMONG OTHER QUESTIONS, WHEN WILL THE NEXT REVIEW OF THE SCHEME BE MADE BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

THE COMPLETION DATE OF THE GREEN ISLAND RECLAMATION PROJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY WILL BE CONSIDERED.

MEMBERS WILL BE CONSULTED ON THE FORMATION OF A DISTRICT BOARD ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE TO ORGANISE THE ANNUAL ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW IN ROOM 1416, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE TO MOVE
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THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE OFFICE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD, CURRENTLY HOUSED IN TUNG WAH MANSION, WILL MOVE INTO NEW PREMISES ON THE 21ST FLOOR OF SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE, NOW SITUATED AT 201 HENNESSY ROAD, WILL BE RELOCATED TO THE GROUND FLOOR OF SOUTHORN CENTRE. ITS TELEPHONE NUMBER WILL BE 5-8352008 WHILE THE 24-HOUR HOTLINE FOR THE "MEET THE PUBLIC" SCHEME WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT 5-8933292.

THE NEW OFFICE WILL BE OPERATIONAL FROM FRIDAY (MARCH 31).

A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE NEW OFFICE WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 10.

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WAN CHAI PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY YESTERDAY (TUESDAY) DECLARED NOS. 5 AND 7 LI CHIT STREET IN WAN CHAI TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

NOS. 1, 3, 18 AND 20 OF THE SAME STREET, AS WELL AS THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR LEVELS OF NO. 16, WERE DECLARED LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THESE THREE STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS WERE CONSTRUCTED OF TIMBER UPPER FLOORS AND ROOFS ON LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE END BEAMS AT THE FRONT AND REAR. THE ROOF OF NO. 20 WAS RE-CONSTRUCTED OF REINFORCED CONCRETE SLAB.

GENERALLY, VERTICAL CRACKS WERE FOUND AT THE MAJORITY OF THE WALLS AND CONCRETE SPALLING WAS NOTED AT THE SLABS OF THE KITCHEN BLOCKS, THE BALCONIES AND THE CONCRETE BEAMS.

THE TIMBER FLOOR JOISTS AND BOARDING HAD REACHED AN ADVANCED STAGE OF DECAY.

PART OF THE ROOF OF NO. 7 HAD ALREADY COLLAPSED AND FURTHER COLLAPSE WAS IMMINENT.

NOS. 1, 3 AND 5 WERE IN A SIMILAR CONDITION. THE SECOND FLOOR OF NO. 5 WAS UNOCCUPIED, PRESUMABLY DUE TO THE ADVERSE CONDITION OF THE ROOF AND NOS. 1 AND 3 WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SAFELY WITHSTAND THE EFFECT OF DEMOLITION OF NOS. 5 AND 7.

NUMEROUS FRACTURES WERE FOUND ON THE PARTY WALL BETWEEN NOS. 18 AND 20 EXTENDING FROM THE SECOND FLOOR DOWN TO THE UNDERSIDE OF THE ARCH OPENING OVER THE COMMON STAIRCASE AT THE FIRST FLOOR LEVEL.

THERE WAS A POTENTIAL DANGER OF COLLAPSE DUE TO FURTHER MOVEMENT OF THE PARTY WALL.

AS FOR THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AT THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR LEVELS OF NO. 16, THEY WOULD BE DEPRIVED OF SUPPORT FROM THE PARTY WALL BETWEEN NOS. 16 AND 18.

OWING TO THE AGE AND THE ADVANCED STAGE OF DILAPIDATION, THESE BUILDINGS WERE CONSIDERED TO BE BEYOND REASONABLE REPAIR. IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO CLOSE THEM FOR DEMOLITION.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS IN HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 27 THIS YEAR WERE POSTED ON ALL THE AFFECTED BUILDINGS EXCEPT NOS. 1 AND 5 WHICH HAD REVERTED TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THEREFORE NOTICES TO QUIT WOULD BE SERVED.

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PARKING METER OPERATIONS TO BE EXTENDED
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 1), THE PARKING METERS IN YAU YAT TSUEN WILL ALSO OPERATE ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THESE TWO-HOUR PARKING METERS ARE LOCATED IN OSMANTHUS ROAD, MARIGOLD ROAD, DIANTHUS ROAD, MAGNOLIA ROAD, PEONY ROAD, CASSIA ROAD, BEGONIA ROAD, WISTARIA ROAD, VERBENA ROAD AND FA PO STREET.

THEIR OPERATING HOURS WILL BE FROM 10 AM TO 10 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND FROM 8 AM TO MIDNIGHT ON WEEKDAYS.

THE PARKING CHARGE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT \$1 PER 30 MINUTES.

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WAI YIP STREET URBAN CLEARWAY
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (APRIL 1), WAI YIP STREET EASTBOUND IN KWUN TONG BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH TSUN YIP STREET AND A POINT 85 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY ROUND-THE-CLOCK.

THIS MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS FOR ROAD WORKS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR RUGBY TOURNAMENT
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN HAPPY VALLEY ON SATURDAY (APRIL 1) AND THE NEXT DAY FOR THE RUGBY TOURNAMENT AT THE HONG KONG STADIUM.

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL COME INTO EFFECT BETWEEN 8.30 AM AND 7.30 PM :

- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LINK ROAD AND STADIUM PATH WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND;
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE RESTRICTED TO VEHICLES REQUIRING LOCAL ACCESS;

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- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN COTTON PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD/PENNINGTON STREET WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND;
- * EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND; BUT VEHICLES WILL STILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL CARPARK FROM TUNG LO WAN ROAD;
- * LINK ROAD BETWEEN CAROLINE HILL ROAD AND HAPPY VIEW TERRACE WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY UPHILL. VEHICLES LEAVING FROM THE UPPER SECTION OF BROADWOOD ROAD, HAPPY VIEW TERRACE AND LEIGHTON HILL SHALL PROCEED DOWN VIA BROADWOOD ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD;
- * WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON HYSAN AVENUE WILL HAVE TO TURN LEFT TO EASTBOUND LEIGHTON ROAD.
- * SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON SUN WUI ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT TO WESTBOUND LEIGHTON ROAD.
- * TRAFFIC CONES WILL BE LAID ON THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD BETWEEN HYSAN AVENUE AND CAROLINE HILL ROAD FOR TWO-LANE EASTBOUND TRAFFIC.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE LAST MATCH, ONLY COACHES AND BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER NORTHBOUND EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD.

VEHICLES MAY BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING CAROLINE HILL ROAD FOR ACCESS TO LINK ROAD AT LEIGHTON ROAD/CAROLINE HILL ROAD JUNCTION.

ON COMPLETION OF THE MATCH, CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD, AND EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC IF NECESSARY.

MATHESON STREET, THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD SOUTH OF IRVING STREET, RUSSELL STREET AND SHARP STREET EAST WILL BE PROHIBITED TO LEARNER DRIVERS BETWEEN 7 AM AND 8 PM.

ALSO, LEARNER DRIVERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING LEFT-TURNS : FROM PERCIVAL STREET SOUTHBOUND TO LEIGHTON ROAD EASTBOUND AND FROM CAUSEWAY ROAD WESTBOUND TO TUNG LO WAN ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

PARKING SPACES ON SUN WUI ROAD, STADIUM PATH AND THE UNNAMED SERVICE ROAD AROUND THE STADIUM WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 7 AM TO 8 PM.

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