

## Amendments to Kwun Tong Line Extension gazetted

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The Government published in the Gazette today (June 25) under section 7 of the Railways Ordinance the proposed amendments to the Kwun Tong Line Extension (KTE) scheme.

The KTE scheme gazetted in November 2009 includes an approximately 2.6 kilometres long railway extending from Yau Ma Tei Station on the existing MTR Kwun Tong Line with two new railway stations in Ho Man Tin and Whampoa. Passengers can interchange at the proposed Ho Man Tin Station for the future Sha Tin to Central Link. The extension will provide convenient railway services to the residents of the Ho Man Tin, Hung Hom and Whampoa areas. The KTE will help reduce traffic on the roads in the Ho Man Tin and Whampoa areas. Passengers from Ho Man Tin and Whampoa will be able to reach Mong Kok within five minutes, compared with more than 25 minutes by using road-based transport between Whampoa and Mong Kok during rush hours.

The Government and the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) have been keeping close contact with the major stakeholders in reviewing the scheme design and will continue to keep the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council and the Kowloon City District Council abreast of the scheme development.

"Some of the proposed amendments gazetted are to address concerns of the public expressed after the proposed KTE scheme was gazetted in November 2009 while others are to accommodate the latest changes and improvement measures proposed by the MTRCL which has been carrying out the detailed design of the KTE," a government spokesman said.

The Government and the MTRCL will continue to engage the local community closely on the KTE. Subject to the authorisation of the KTE scheme by the Chief Executive in

Council, the MTRCL will start the construction works in 2011 for completion in 2015.

Under the Railways Ordinance, members of the public have the right to lodge objections to the amendments to the KTE scheme gazetted today from now until August 24, 2010. Any person who has a compensatable interest can claim compensation under the provisions of the Ordinance.

The amendments to the scheme and the relevant plans are available for public inspection at the Central and Western District Office, Kowloon City District Office, Yau Tsim Mong District Office, Sai Kung District Office, the District Lands Office of Kowloon East and Kowloon West, and the District Lands Office of Sai Kung, during office hours.

A copy of the Amendments to Scheme and the Amendment Plans may be purchased from the Railway Development Office of the Highways Department. Enquiries on purchasing details can be made to the Highways Department at telephone number 2762 3976. The electronic version of the Amendments to Scheme and the Amendment Plans are viewable on the Highways Department's website ([www.hyd.gov.hk/eng/major/road/rail/index.htm](http://www.hyd.gov.hk/eng/major/road/rail/index.htm)).

Further enquiries regarding the amendments to the scheme can be addressed to the Highways Department at telephone number 2762 4030 or to the Transport and Housing Bureau at telephone number 2189 2132 during office hours.

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