

**AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES (AQO) REVIEW WORKING GROUP
ROAD TRANSPORTATION SUB-GROUP**

**Digest of the 1st Meeting
held on 24 June 2016 (Friday) at 2:30pm
in Conference Room, 33/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road,
Wanchai**

Present:

Ms. Christine LOH

Under Secretary for the Environment
(**Chairperson**), Environment Bureau
(ENB)

Mr. Roger LEE

Mr. Paul LI

Mr. Aaron NG

Mr. LING Chi Keung

Ir Dr. David HO

Mr. Matthew WONG

Mr. Stanley CHAING

Dr. Ringo LEE

Mr. Daniel NG

Dr. HUNG Wing Tat

Ir FUNG Man Keung

Hon CHAN Choi Hi

Hon KWAN Sau Ling

Ms. Suzanne Kit Yi CHEUNG

Mr. Patrick FUNG

Mr. MOK Wai Chuen

Assistant Director of Environmental Protection
(Air Policy), Environmental Protection
Department (EPD)

Mr. Dave HO

Principal Environmental Protection Officer
(Mobile Source), EPD

Mr. LAU Jun Yan, Alex

Assistant Secretary for Transport & Housing
(Transport) 2B, Transport and Housing Bureau

Mr. LEE Wai Man

Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure
Coordination) 1, Development Bureau

Mr. Ricky LAU

Deputy Head of Civil Engineering Office (Port
& Land), Civil Engineering and Development
Department

Ms. Rachel KWAN	Assistant Commissioner/Bus and Railway, Transport Department
Ms. LAU Bo Yee, Winnie	Chief Town Planner (Strategic Planning), Planning Department

Absent with Apologies:

Mr. Andrew LAI	Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (3) (Vice-chairperson), EPD
Mr. SO Sai Hung	
Mr. Madison TANG	
Mr. TUNG Ching Leung	
Mr. Evan AU YANG	

In Attendance:

Ms. HO Wing Kam, Josephine	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Policy) 1, EPD
Ms. LAM Wai Yin, Lilian	Environmental Protection Officer (Mobile Source) 12, EPD
Mr. IP Ho Yin, Nelson	Environmental Protection Officer (Mobile Source) 13, EPD
Mr. LAM Cheuk Fung, Simon	Environmental Protection Officer (Air Policy) 11, EPD
Dr. NG Wai Yin, Jackie	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (Air Policy) 12, EPD

Chairperson's Remarks

1. The Chairperson welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Road Transportation sub-group.

Agenda Item 1: Guidelines on Declaration of Interests

2. The Chairperson reminded Members that they should make disclosure of their interests if any issues discussed are found to have potential conflict with their own interests.

Agenda Item 2: Terms of reference and work plan of the sub-group

3. The Administration briefed Members on the terms of reference and work plan of the

Road Transportation sub-group and stressed that the sub-group's work was to identify new practicable air quality improvement measures regardless of their performance on emission reduction. The sub-group should come up with a draft proposal on the new air quality improvement measures in the meeting of November 2016 (i.e. the fourth meeting) and further prioritize the measures based on their feasibility with a view to completing the works of the sub-group by March 2017.

Agenda Item 3: Overview of the roadside air quality and the relevant control measures

4. The Administration briefed Members on the existing roadside air quality and the implementation of vehicle emission control measures. The objective of this meeting was to brainstorm new air quality improvement measures for road transportation. The Secretariat will consolidate the measures proposed by Members for further discussions on the practicability of the measures as well as relevant issues in subsequent meetings.

Agenda Item 4: Exploring air quality improvement measures for road transportation

5. The Chairperson invited Members to make suggestions on the air quality improvement measures for road transportation.
6. Some members enquired whether the implementation time and effectiveness of measures should be considered before making suggestions. The Chairperson responded that to ensure more comprehensive consideration of various measures, no prerequisite was imposed for Members to make suggestions at the meeting.
7. The new air quality improvement measures suggested by Members are summarised as follows:

(1) Tunnel payment policy and toll collection method

- i) Review the tunnel payment policy and the tunnel tolls (e.g. the Government to buy back the ownership of tunnels) to prevent drivers from taking a longer route for saving tolls, thereby reducing the travel distance and vehicular emissions.
- ii) Consider full implementation of automatic electronic toll collection system to enable drivers to pay tolls without stopping, thereby mitigating traffic congestion at the tunnel entrances and reducing unnecessary vehicular emissions.

(2) Maintenance and repair of vehicle exhaust system

- i) Propose to use chassis dynamometer for testing vehicle tailpipe emissions.
- ii) Tighten the annual vehicle examination for private cars from over six years old to

over three years old.

- iii) Provide vehicle tailpipe emission testing equipment for rent by small and medium sized vehicle repair workshops.
- iv) Establish a maintenance information database of vehicle tailpipe emission system.
- v) Raise awareness on the importance of vehicle maintenance and repair.

(3) "Pedestrian friendly" and "bicycle friendly" environment

- i) Provide "pedestrian friendly" environment (such as widening of footpaths, construction of covered walkways and enhancing the pedestrian connections) to encourage people to walk.
- ii) Provide "bicycle friendly" environment and study into the provision of ancillary facilities for cycling (such as provision of cycling track network and bicycle parking spaces, park-and-ride facilities at public transport interchanges and bike-friendly policies to facilitate carriage of bicycles on public transport) to reduce the use of mechanised transport for short-distance commuting.
- iii) Set up cycling and walking shared space at harborfront areas, and study the health benefits of walking and cycling as well as its contribution to improve air quality to support the formulation of relevant policies.

(4) Promotion of low-emission transport mode

- i) Tram or electric bus interchange schemes at busy road sections (e.g. Nathan Road) or new development areas to replace the franchised bus services so as to reduce the number of buses and boarding/alighting passengers on the road section.
 - Consider using electric buses with ultra-fast charge or super-capacitor models for the interchange schemes.
 - Set up priority lanes for trams/electric vehicles within the pilot areas.
- ii) Electric vehicles pilot schemes - switching vehicle fleet of selected routes to electric vehicles
 - Targeting green minibus or franchised bus routes.
 - With the support of vehicle supplier, work out the best configurations for electric vehicles of the selected routes for the trial.
 - The scale of the pilot scheme must be large enough (15 vehicles or more) to attract vehicle suppliers to provide comprehensive technical and maintenance support.

- iii) Promotion of hybrid private cars.

(5) Use of intelligent transport systems

- i) Launch one-stop mobile app for the public to choose the most time-saving, economical and low-emission transportation mode.
- ii) Launch one-stop mobile app for the public to access real-time information on car parking vacancies which helps them choose the best parking location and shortening the driving distance.
- iii) Implement electronic road pricing scheme to tackle road traffic congestion at busy roads.

(6) Land use and transport infrastructure planning

- i) Conduct a comprehensive review on the development of road transportation infrastructure and networks (such as construction of new tunnels and roads) to cope with population growth and to tackle road traffic congestion.

(7) Road space management

- i) Raise the first registration tax of highly polluting vehicles as well as private cars and impose emission limits on vehicle licences to manage the growth of vehicles.
- ii) Enhance enforcement against illegal parking.
- iii) Review roadside parking fees.

(8) Other recommendations

- i) Provide information on the energy efficiency, emission performance and noise level of vehicles, etc. to facilitate the public to make a more environmentally-friendly choice.
- ii) Set out objectives/policies to support the use of cleaner vehicle fuels.
- iii) Extend the restriction of the existing low emission zones to cover other vehicle types.
- iv) Address the personal and operational needs of heavy vehicle drivers, such as provision of parking space and arrangement of meal and rest breaks at the Kwai Chung Container Terminals area, so as to reduce air pollution arising from idling engines.

- v) Set up priority lanes for public vehicles.
- vi) Raise public awareness on environmental protection, promote green living and encourage the public to use public transport systems as well as low emission transportation options.

(9) Recommendations outside the scope of road transportation

- i) Study the feasibility of the use of renewable energy, so as to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.
- ii) Conduct a comprehensive review on the scope of indoor air quality.

(Post-meeting note: Recommendations outside the scope of road transportation were referred to the relevant sub-groups or the Air Policy Group of EPD for consideration.)

Item 5: Any other business

- 8. The Chairperson thanked Members for their recommendations. If Members want to put up any proposal of new air quality improvement measures after this meeting, they could submit their proposals to the Secretariat.

(Post-meeting note: Air quality improvement measures submitted by Members after this meeting were incorporated in RT paper 3/2016)

Item 6: Date of the next meeting

- 9. The next meeting would be held on 28 July 2016 (Thursday) at 2:30pm
- 10. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.