

### **Hundreds of Trees Planted at High Speed Rail Station to provide a Green Oasis in the community**

Around 100 students and District Council representatives from the communities along the Hong Kong Section of High Speed Rail joined hands today (5 May 2018) to plant courtyard greenery at Hong Kong West Kowloon Station, where a welcoming green environment is being created around the Station for the public's enjoyment upon the commissioning of High Speed Rail services this September.

Secretary for Transport and Housing Mr Frank Chan Fan; Principal Government Engineer of the Railway Development Office of the Highways Department Mr Jimmy Chan; Chief Executive Officer of MTR Corporation Mr Lincoln Leong; Corporate Affairs Director of MTR Corporation Ms Linda So and General Manager-XRL of MTR Corporation Mr Simon Tang joined the community representatives for the greening event at the Green Plaza in front of the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station Entrance Building.

Mr Frank Chan Fan said that high-speed rail is a new mode of green transport that will create opportunities for generations. He was so honoured to attend the planting event today with District Council representatives, teachers and students, and leave a historic mark together at this epochal architecture for all Hong Kong citizens. He wished that all youngsters who joined the event today may revisit the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station in future – to witness how the seedlings have grown tall just like them and to embark on new life journeys through high-speed rail.

"The Corporation has always been committed to preserving and creating a green environment as far as possible when building new railways. With Hong Kong West Kowloon Station set to become an iconic new structure for the city, we have made every effort to provide spacious, attractive and publicly accessible open areas with considerable amount of trees and plants to create an urban oasis for leisure and relaxation in the heart of Hong Kong," said Mr Lincoln Leong, Chief Executive Officer of the MTR Corporation.

"Soft landscaping works commenced last December with more than 700 trees and shrubs suitable for local weather, such as Autumn Maple, White Orchid and Tabebuia Chrysantha, are selected to be planted to form this more than three-hectare green area atop and surrounding the Station and the adjacent West Kowloon Station Bus Terminus. This will serve as a barrier-free pedestrian corridor at the ground level, and provide a convenient and pleasant walking environment connected to nearby developments for the community's enjoyment," Mr Leong added.

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In parallel with the planting of greenery, the remaining works inside and around the Station are in full swing and the overall project completion had reached 99.4% as of end-March 2018. Trial operations for the High Speed Rail are underway and the Corporation will continue to make every endeavour to achieve the targeted commissioning in September this year. Upon service commencement, the High Speed Rail will not only provide a safe, convenient and comfortable new option for cross-boundary travel, but also help to reinforce Hong Kong's connectivity with the Mainland thus strengthening exchanges and fostering collaboration between Hong Kong and major Mainland cities.

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#### About MTR Corporation

MTR Corporation is regarded as one of the world's leading railway operators for safety, reliability, customer service and cost efficiency. In its home base of Hong Kong, the Corporation operates ten commuter railway lines, a Light Rail network and a high-speed Airport Express link on which about 5.8 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 6.5 million passenger trips are made on the rail services it operates outside Hong Kong in the Mainland of China, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Australia. In addition, the Corporation is involved in a range of railway construction projects as well as railway consultancy and contracting services around the world. Leveraging on its railway expertise, the Corporation is involved in the development of transit-related residential and commercial property projects, property management, shopping malls leasing and management, advertising media and telecommunication services.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit [www.mtr.com.hk](http://www.mtr.com.hk).

## Photo captions

1. (From left) Secretary for Transport and Housing Mr Frank Chan Fan; Vice-chairperson of the Traffic, Transport and Housing Committee under Yau Tsim Mong District Council Ms Kwan Sau-ling; Chairman of the Traffic and Transport Committee under Kwai Tsing District Council Mr Tsui Hiu-kit; General Manager–XRL of MTR Corporation Mr Simon Tang; Vice-chairman of Tuen Mun District Council Mr Lothar Lee; Principal Government Engineer of the Railway Development Office of the Highways Department Mr Jimmy Chan; Corporate Affairs Director of MTR Corporation Ms Linda So; Chairman of Tuen Mun District Council Mr Leung Kin-man and Chief Executive Officer of MTR Corporation Mr Lincoln Leong join together for the greening event at the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station.



2. Around 100 students from the communities along the Hong Kong Section of High Speed Rail plant trees and shrubs to beautify the environment surrounding the Station.



- Secretary for Transport and Housing Mr Frank Chan Fan and Chief Executive Officer of MTR Corporation Mr Lincoln Leong share their knowledge and experiences in planting with the students.



- Students learn techniques and gain knowledge about planting.



5. A welcoming green area spanning over three hectares will be formed around the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station to serve as a barrier-free pedestrian corridor connecting nearby tourist spots and developments.

