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MTR Kwun Tong Line Extends to Ho Man Tin and Whampoa Stations From 23 October 2016

Commuters travelling to and from Ho Man Tin and Whampoa will be able to enjoy the convenience of MTR railway service from Sunday, 23 October 2016. The MTR Corporation announced today the starting date for commencement of passenger service of the extended Kwun Tong Line to the new Ho Man Tin and Whampoa stations. Meanwhile, final inspections and extensive pre-opening trials and testing are being conducted in advance of the opening.

“The opening of the extension of Kwun Tong Line will bring greater convenience for passengers travelling to and from Ho Man Tin and Whampoa and its vicinity, providing them with seamless connections to MTR’s integrated Hong Kong railway network. With the new rail service coming into this area, road traffic congestion is also expected to ease, bringing reduced direct travel times to the whole community,” said Mr Adi Lau, Operations Director of MTR Corporation.

In preparation for the new railway service, trial train operations according to the timetable, and stress tests on the railway systems and station facilities such as platform screen doors, ticket machines and gates will continue with a view to ensuring smooth and reliable station operations.

“Leading up to the opening in a month, over a hundred colleagues are conducting the last of their tests of different station facilities. Altogether, over 550,000 cycles of testing will have to be carried out on a total of 120 sets of platform screen doors at the two new stations. We look forward to welcoming Ho Man Tin and Whampoa residents on the MTR to enjoy fast and convenient rail services,” added Mr Lau.

Construction of the Kwun Tong Line Extension commenced in mid-2011 and the new railway tunnel broke through in December 2014. During the works, the construction team had to overcome various challenges, including complicated ground conditions and severe space limitations in the densely populated area.

“We are very excited that the local community will soon be able to enjoy MTR’s safe, reliable and efficient railway service. We would like to extend our warm thanks to the community for the immense support and patience to the project. Our gratitude also goes to over 700 engineering specialists and about 2,800 workers for the dedication throughout the planning and construction of this 2.6 km railway extension,” said Dr Philco Wong, Project Director of MTR Corporation.

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Train Service

When the new service begins, Whampoa Station will become the terminal station of the Kwun Tong Line. The frequency of train service during peak periods¹ for Ho Man Tin Station will be approximately 2 minutes while that for Whampoa Station will be approximately 4 minutes. During weekday non-peak periods, the average train service frequency will be 3 minutes for all Kwun Tong Line stations including Ho Man Tin and Whampoa.

The estimated journey time between Whampoa and Yau Ma Tei stations will be approximately 5 minutes. As some trains will terminate at Ho Man Tin Station, passengers traveling toward Whampoa Station should pay attention to the information displayed on platforms, as well as station and in-train announcements.

As is the case for all new railways, teething problems and fine-tuning adjustments are expected in the initial period of operations. The MTR Corporation will closely monitor the performance of the train service and station facilities to minimise any inconvenience caused.

Prior to the commencement of the extended railway service, open days will be held on 15 October and 22 October at Ho Man Tin Station and Whampoa Station respectively for local residents and members of the public to visit the stations and get familiarised with the new facilities, allowing the community to share the excitement of the upcoming opening of the new extension with the Corporation.

Fares and Concession

Fares for the new extension will be set according to the existing distance-based fare structure of MTR lines (Please refer to Annex I for “Examples of Kwun Tong Line Extension Fares”). The fares will be comparable to those of other road transport and passengers will enjoy reduced travelling time. For example, a trip from Whampoa to Admiralty will take approximately 15 minutes whilst with peak hour congestion will take approximately 45 minutes by road transport² currently.

Detailed fare information is available on the MTR website:

For Octopus fares

http://www.mtr.com.hk/en/customer/tickets/octopus_fares.html

For Single Journey fares

http://www.mtr.com.hk/en/customer/tickets/train_service_index.html

“To encourage commuters living and working in the vicinity to use the new rail service at Ho Man Tin Station, there will be special offers for the enjoyment by passengers connecting to and from the station,” said Ms Jeny Yeung, Commercial Director of MTR Corporation.

Passengers can obtain 50-cent interchange discounts if they start their journeys from or travel to Ho Man Tin Station on three Green Minibus (GMB) routes from 23 October 2016. (Details in Annex II)

¹ Peak hours on weekdays (7:00am to 9:30 am and 4:30pm to 7:00pm), 7:15am to 8:00pm on Saturdays, 8:40am to 8:00pm on Sundays and public holidays.

² Estimate based on the travelling time during peak hours

To celebrate and share the happiness of the successful extension of the Kwun Tong Line, a special "Kwun Tong Line Extension" Souvenir Ticket Set will be made available to passengers after the opening of new service. Details of the ticket set will be announced closer to the opening date.

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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 nine commuter railway lines, a Light Rail network and a high-speed Airport Express link on which more than 5.5 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 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.

Photo Caption:

1. (From left) Dr Philco Wong, Projects Director, Ms Jeny Yeung, Commercial Director and Mr Adi Lau, Operations Director of MTR Corporation announce that MTR Kwun Tong Line service will be extended to Ho Man Tin and Whampoa on 23 October.



2. (From left) Mr Adi Lau, Operations Director, Dr Philco Wong, Projects Director, Ms Jeny Yeung, Commercial Director and Mr Alan Cheng, Head of Operating-South Region of MTR Corporation are very excited that the local community will soon be able to enjoy MTR's safe, reliable and efficient railway service and extend their warm thanks to the community for the immense support and patience to the project.



3. Mr Alan Cheng, Head of Operating-South Region introduces the new model of Self Service Point machines at the West Concourse of Whampoa Station.



Examples of Kwun Tong Line Extension Fares

From/ to Whampoa	Octopus				Single Journey Ticket	
	Adult	Child	Elderly/ Eligible Persons with Disabilities [^]	Student (Promotional fare)*	Adult	Concessionary
Yau Ma Tei	\$4.5	\$2.9	\$2.0	\$2.9	\$4.5	\$3.0
Tsim Sha Tsui	\$5.3	\$2.9	\$2.0	\$2.9	\$5.5	\$3.0
Kowloon Tong	\$6.7	\$3.4	\$2.0	\$3.4	\$7.5	\$3.5
Mei Foo	\$8	\$3.7	\$2.0	\$3.7	\$9	\$4
Tsuen Wan	\$10.1	\$4.5	\$2.0	\$4.5	\$11.0	\$4.5
Wu Kai Sha	\$12.9	\$6.5	\$2.0	\$6.5	\$14.0	\$6.5
Sheung Shui	\$13.5	\$6.6	\$2.0	\$6.6	\$14.5	\$7.5
Tung Chung	\$16.9	\$8.5	\$2.0	\$8.5	\$19.5	\$9.0
Tuen Mun	\$21.0	\$10.7	\$2.0	\$10.7	\$23.0	\$11.5
Cross-harbour journeys						
Admiralty	\$11.9	\$5.9	\$2.0	\$5.9	\$13.5	\$6.0
Chai Wan	\$14.2	\$6.7	\$2.0	\$6.7	\$14.5	\$7.5

[^] Promotional fares in accordance with the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities

* Using Personalised Octopus with "Student Status"

Interchange Discount between MTR and GMB

During the promotion period, Adult Octopus users interchanging between MTR and three designated GMB routes at Ho Man Tin Station can enjoy a 50-cent fare discount.

GMB				
Route no.	Route	Interchange Station	Fare (Sep of 2016)	Discount to Adult Octopus users
8M	Ho Man Tin (Sheung Wo Street) ↔ Ho Man Tin Station	Ho Man Tin	\$4.5	\$0.5
28MS	Kowloon City (Wyler Gardens) ↔ Ho Man Tin Station	Ho Man Tin	\$4.6	\$0.5
27M	Lok Man Sun Chuen (Maidstone Road) ↔ Mong Kok Station	Ho Man Tin	\$4.6 (Section fare*) \$6.9 (Full fare)	\$0.5

* Interchange Discount is only applicable to sectional fare and interchanging with MTR at Ho Man Tin Station.