

新聞稿

Press Release

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MTR Donates Two Retired Mid-Life Refurbishment Train Cars to Provide A New Landmark for Leisure on Wan Chai Harbourfront

Since 2021, the MTR Corporation has been promoting the “Legacy Train Revitalisation Programme” (“LTRP”) to give retired trains a “second life” and continue serving the public in different forms. The Corporation today (4 September 2023) announced that two retired Mid-Life Refurbishment train (MLR train) cars from the East Rail Line, also known as “Fly Head” trains, will be donated to the Development Bureau. The trains cars will be relocated on the Wan Chai waterfront as an exhibition and event space for the enjoyment of the public.

MTR and the Bureau will co-ordinate to transfer these two cars, both with a driver's cabin, to Phase 4 of the Water Sports and Recreation Precinct in Wan Chai by sea in the near future. Fitting out works with the design discussed and agreed by MTR will then be carried out. It is expected that the two train cars will be officially opened to the public by the end of this year, becoming a new landmark of the precinct.

In preparation for the arrival of the two train cars, the MTR team has already kicked off preliminary work, including laying tracks, sleepers and ballast at the designated location in the precinct. Besides the fitting out works, the teams of both parties will also carry out a safety inspection for the train cars. The MTR team will keep close contact with the Bureau and provide advice regarding the on-going upkeep of the train cars as well.

Dr Tony Lee, Operations Director of MTR Corporation, said, “MTR fully supports this project and hopes to provide usable space and beautify the harbourfront by making good use of the retired trains. This initiative also commemorates the successful extension of the East Rail Line across the harbour, serving Hong Kong Island directly and making it the fourth cross-harbour railway in Hong Kong. Although the 'Fly Head' trains were retired in May last year, we are delighted that these two train cars can cross the harbour in another way, allowing the public, especially the younger generation, to understand the contributions of the 'Fly Head' trains to Hong Kong's railway service.”

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MTR Corporation always supports the handling of retired trains in a resource-utilising and socially caring manner. Since the launch of the LTRP in 2021, initiatives include preserving whole train cars as well as recycling or upcycling train compartments and components have been carried out to give retired trains a “second life” and continue serving the public in different forms.

As of today, MTR has cooperated with more than 20 non-government organisations, social partners and government departments, jointly turning over 500 pieces of decommissioned train parts into different uses. For example, passenger seats have been donated to senior centres, schools, and the public community as recreational facilities. Some train parts were also transformed into arm-stretching equipment, which was installed by the MTR volunteer teams in homes for the elderly, and some were even used in creating train-themed classrooms. Train cars were also donated to school campuses and transformed to learning points. MTR will continue to collaborate with suitable partners to explore more win-win solutions, jointly promoting environmental protection, conservation, and revitalisation of retired trains and components, while passing on invaluable stories about the city’s railway development.

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About MTR Corporation

To Keep Cities Moving, MTR makes encounters happen and rendezvous for a more connected tomorrow. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with more than 40 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 40,000 dedicated staff*, MTR carries over 13 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and Mainland China. Together, we Go Smart and Go Beyond.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit www.mtr.com.hk.

*includes our subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in Hong Kong and worldwide

Photo Caption:

1. The MTR Corporation donates two retired Mid-Life Refurbishment train (MLR train) cars from the East Rail Line, also known as “Fly Head” trains, to the Development Bureau. The train cars will then be transformed into a new landmark of Phase IV of the Water Sports and Recreation Precinct in Wan Chai.



2. The MTR team has kicked off preliminary work, including laying tracks, sleepers and ballast at the designated location in the precinct.



3. The MLR train cars will be used for providing usable space and beautifying the harbourfront. (Photomontage by the Development Bureau)

