

**Shatin to Central Link provides a direct rail corridor  
from New Territories across the Harbour**

Rail passengers in the Northeast New Territories will have a much wider range of choices for their journey heading towards the Hong Kong Island when the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) opens for service in 2020. Among these is a direct rail corridor which will extend the current East Rail across the harbour to form the fourth rail harbour crossing.

To facilitate rail passengers from the Northeast New Territories to have a direct link across the Victoria Harbour to Hong Kong Island, new tracks will be built from the south of the Mong Kok East Station. This underground track section will run parallel to the eastern side of the existing East Rail Line. The new underground tracks will descend gradually down to meet the new platforms located 9 metres below ground at Hung Hom Station and continue into the rail harbour crossing tunnel. The construction work will be carried out right next to the existing East Rail Line while the normal operation and passenger services of the East Rail Line and the Intercity Through Train services will have to be maintained throughout the construction period.

“This is a challenging project as it involves a lot of interfaces with the existing railway lines,” said Mr Clement Ngai, Design Manager of Shatin to Central Link (North South Line). “by knitting up the railway network, it will only take 17 minutes to travel from Tai Wai to Admiralty and 50 minutes from Lo Wu to Admiralty.”

Exhibition Station will be the first station of the SCL on the Hong Kong Island. It will be located in the vicinity of the Wan Chai North waterfront underneath the existing public transport interchange at Convention Avenue. This will be the interchange station with the future North Island Line.

Entrances of the Exhibition Station will be connected to the existing footbridge and walkway system at Wan Chai North and their design will be integrated with the surrounding facilities. Escalators and lift will be provided for passengers to travel between the station concourse, the street level as well as the footbridge level with seamless connectivity. Members of the public can travel from the railway station to Wan Chai North and the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre with ease. The current road traffic congestion in the Wan Chai North area is expected to be relieved in due course.

Construction of the SCL is targeted to commence in 2012 following its gazettal on 26 November 2010. The Hung Hom to Admiralty Section of the SCL is expected to be completed in 2020 as it has to interface with a series of infrastructure projects such as Wan Chai Development Phase II and Central-Wan Chai Bypass. The other section of the SCL, Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section, is expected to be completed in 2018.

The 17-km long SCL is a strategic railway line comprising 10 stations, 6 of which are interchange stations. It will expand the existing railway network and form two strategic corridors, in which the Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section will link up the existing Ma On Shan Line with the West Rail Line to form the “East West Corridor”, and the Hung Hom to Admiralty Section will extend the existing East Rail Line from Hung Hom across the harbour to Wan Chai North and Admiralty to form the “North South Corridor”. Passengers will have a much wider range of options for their onward journeys when the SCL is completed.

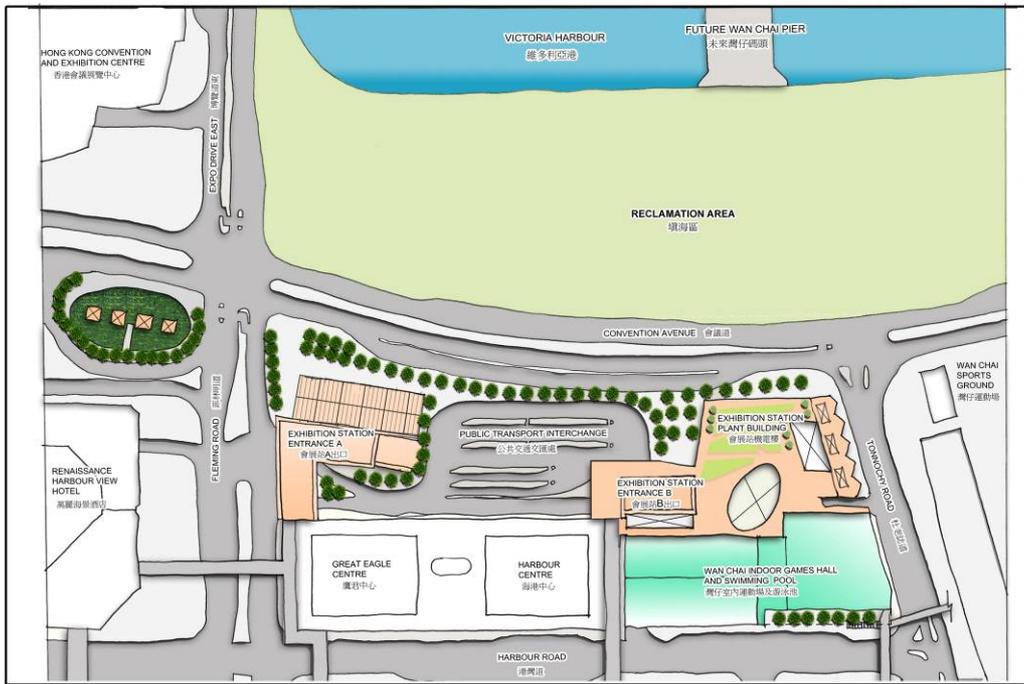
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Photo Captions:

1. Mr Clement Ngai, Design Manager of Shatin to Central Link (North South Line) says that with the extension of the East Rail Line to the Hong Kong Island, travel time from Tai Wai to Admiralty will be shortened to just 17 minutes.



- Entrances of the Exhibition Station will connect with the footbridge system in Wan Chai North. Passengers can access the waterfront, exhibition venue and the community with ease.



- An elevated garden connecting to the footbridge in the vicinity area providing a good vantage point for member of the public to enjoy the harbour.

