

Adjustment of the First Train Arrangements of the West Rail and Tuen Ma Line Phase 1 to facilitate the Tuen Ma Line Full Line Train Tests on 2 May 2021

Trial operations of the full Tuen Ma Line (“TML”) have entered the final stage and preparations are underway for the commencement of passenger service later this year. The MTR Corporation announced today (14 April 2021) that the first trains of West Rail Line (WRL) and TML Phase 1 on 2 May 2021 (Sunday) will be deferred to around 7:30am in order to facilitate the train tests as required for full TML commissioning. Affected passengers may consider using other transport services, or to travel on the free shuttle buses to be provided by the Corporation, which include cross-district express routes and other routes covering every station of WRL and TML Phase 1. The Corporation appeals to our passengers who need to travel in the early morning on that day to plan their journeys ahead and appreciates their understanding.

The purpose of the full line train tests due to take place in April to June is to ensure smooth integration with the existing railway lines, and to test train services as well as associated facilities in order to comply with approval conditions of relevant Government departments for the full commissioning. To avoid affecting our passengers, the Corporation has arranged for most of the full line train tests to be conducted during non-traffic hours of several nights. Since the testing in the early morning of 2 May will simulate the running of full TML under peak and non-peak hours, extra time will be required for preparation and testing, which will inevitably extend to part of the normal operating hour in the morning. The scope of this test and its special transport arrangements have been agreed with relevant Government departments.

“The full TML train testing is an important part of our trial operations, demonstrating that the hardware, software and services will seamlessly integrate with the existing railway. To minimise the impact to the passengers, our team has agreed with relevant Government departments that extra time is required for conducting the tests. The tests will be carried out in the early morning of 2 May. The Corporation will do its best to resume the services as soon as possible after completing the tests,” said Mr James Chow, Divisional General Manager - Projects Construction of MTR Corporation.

The following transport and relevant arrangements will be made during the affected period on 2 May,

1. Ten free MTR shuttle bus routes will start to run from around 5:15am at 2 to 10-minute interval on the day. These routes will connect to other railway lines direct, including East Rail Line, Tsuen Wan Line, Kwun Tong Line and Tung Chung Line. These 10 routes are:
 - Seven routes running express services, with some taking highways to shorten the bus journey. These routes will connect to East Rail Line and Tung

Chung Line. This can also facilitate passengers to travel on other public transport, and;

- Three routes covering every station on the WRL and TML Phase 1.
2. The Corporation has liaised with Transport Department to enhance other public transport services in the affected areas on the day so as to alleviate passenger flow.
 3. There will be prominent notices and public announcements at stations on the WRL and TML Phase 1 a week before the deferred commencement of service on 2 May. The Corporation will also disseminate service information in advance to passengers via different communication channels as well as through the notices and public announcements in stations.
 4. During the service adjustment on 2 May, there will also be notices at stations guiding passengers to continue their journeys with the free shuttle bus services. More than 300 additional staff will be deployed to provide assistance to passengers to use the free shuttle bus services or to continue their journeys with alternative railway routes.

Since the affected railway coverage is relatively large and the travel patterns vary, passengers are advised to plan in advance in regards of appropriate means for commuting, including the free shuttle buses provided by the Corporation. Moreover, considering the unpredictable road traffic conditions and lower capacity of shuttle buses compared to trains, passengers' journey time is expected to be longer.

"We appeal to our passengers to plan their journey ahead and allow enough time to travel. We understand the service adjustment on 2 May may inevitably cause inconvenience to some passengers. We will communicate closely with the relevant Government departments on providing appropriate assistance during the service adjustment and suitable measures will be taken to minimise the impact on passengers. We wish to thank passengers again for their cooperation and patience on these full TML tests," said Mr Sammy Wong, Chief of Operating of MTR Corporation.

Upon full commissioning, the TML will run approximately 56km serving 27 stations from Tuen Mun to Wu Kai Sha connecting the existing WRL and TML Phase 1 including 6 interchange stations. The full TML will connect the east and west of the New Territories and offer passengers enhanced connectivity with the rest of the city's railway network.

Please scan the below QR code or visit our Tuen Ma Line website for the details of the MTR special traffic and fare arrangements on 2 May.



(<https://mtr-tuenmaline.hk/en/news/train-service>)

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About MTR Corporation

Every day, MTR connects people and communities. 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 the Mainland of China. MTR strives to grow and connect communities for a better future.

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

*includes our subsidiaries and associates in Hong Kong and worldwide

Photo Caption

1. Mr James Chow, Divisional General Manager – Projects Construction (left), and Mr Sammy Wong, Chief of Operating (right), of MTR Corporation explain the full TML train tests and highlight the assistance and information to be provided to passengers during the service adjustment of WRL and TML Phase 1 on 2 May 2021. They also appeal to passengers to reserve enough time for their journey and make advance journey planning.

