The Shatin to Central Link (SCL) is a strategic territory-wide railway line which will connect Exhibition Station and Admiralty Station on Hong Kong Island with the existing East Rail Line at Hung Hom Station via the fourth cross-harbour rail tunnel.

Upon completion of the North South Corridor of the SCL, passengers will be able to travel directly from Admiralty and the Wan Chai North commercial district to Hung Hom. By interchanging at Hung Hom, they could then reach Kowloon and the New Territories through the SCL East West Corridor, greatly enhancing the convenience of travel and connectivity between the urban districts and the New Territories.

Exhibition Station will be located underneath the existing Wan Chai Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange, Harbour Road Sports Centre and Wan Chai Swimming Pool.

The civil engineering contract for the construction of Exhibition Station and approaching tunnels was awarded to Leighton-China State Joint Venture in early 2015. With the award of the contract, the construction of Exhibition Station commences.

To facilitate the construction of Exhibition Station, the Wan Chai Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange (PTI) is temporarily relocated on 17 May 2015. To provide convenient drop off and pick up points, temporary bus stops are added along Convention Avenue, Hung Hing Road, Fleming Road, Harbour Road and Expo Drive East. Upon completion of the relocation, advance works including ground investigation works will be commenced by our Contractor at the existing PTI.

Since early 2015, the Corporation’s project team has been consulting the community widely via different channels to ensure that temporary traffic arrangements can meet the needs of passengers. Liaison meetings to discuss progress updates and traffic arrangements have been held with different stakeholders and relevant government departments. In addition, large-sized banners and signage have been posted up and leaflets are being distributed to inform the public of the latest traffic arrangements. Caring ambassadors have been deployed to assist passengers before and after the relocation of the PTI. Relevant materials have been uploaded in the SCL website and a 24-hour hotline is set up for public enquiries.

The PTI will be reinstated upon the completion of SCL.

The SCL comprises different sections in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories. Construction commenced in mid-2012 and is now getting into full swing. The advance SCL works on Hong Kong Island started in mid-2013.

Wan Chai North is an important commercial district which also serves as a transport hub on Hong Kong Island. It is always a great challenge to construct large-scale infrastructure in busy areas such as this with many high-rise buildings. With the award of the civil engineering contract for Exhibition Station in early 2015, works are commencing to relocate the existing public transport interchange to facilitate construction of the new station. A thorough planning and close collaboration among government departments and other relevant parties are required to put forward the relocation smoothly and to minimize the impact on the community.

Despite challenges which we have encountered, our projects team will continue to work closely with the contractors to overcome the difficulties and challenges and to maintain close communication with the Government in order to complete the construction as far as practicable. We strive to provide our community with fast and convenient new rail services.

General Manager – SCL
MTR Corporation
**Construction Progress**

**Exhibition Station**

Temporary Traffic Management Schemes

During the construction of the underground station, large construction vehicles such as trench cutter will be used for which an expanded site area is required. To facilitate the construction works, temporary traffic management arrangements will be implemented at part of Tonnochy Road; Convention Avenue and Fleming Road. Traffic lanes will be temporarily diverted while the existing number of traffic lanes will remain unchanged. Prior to its implementation, the Corporation will closely communicate with local residents, management offices of commercial buildings and the public regarding the traffic arrangements through various channels, such as leaflets, notices and in the SCL website.

**Construction Method**

Large-scale excavation close to the ground surface is required during the construction of Exhibition Station; hence, the cut-and-cover construction method will be used. Diaphragm walls will be constructed along sides of the station and then excavation of the ground will be started from the ground surface within the diaphragm walls to facilitate construction of the station structure. The excavated area will be reinstated upon the completion of construction.

A trench cutter is used to excavate soil and rocks in underground stratum for the construction of diaphragm walls. During excavation, the trench cutter will continuously filter out slurry and the excavated materials to minimise the construction nuisance such as noise and dust, etc.

**Advance Works of Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter to Admiralty Tunnels**

The SCL tunnels on Hong Kong Island will be mainly constructed by Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs). Prior to tunnel construction, launching shafts will be constructed at the starting point where parts for the TBMs will be transferred underground and assembled. The launching shafts for the SCL Hong Kong Section are located at the Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter and Fenwick Pier Street. To facilitate launching shaft construction, the Police Officers’ Club near the Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter will be closed and demolished in August 2015. Upon the completion of the SCL, the facility will be reinstated.

To facilitate tunnel boring works, underground obstacles and foundations conflicting with the tunnel alignment have to be removed, including underpinning of flyovers, box culverts, etc.

**Railway Know-it-all**

Do you know how to construct a cross-harbour railway tunnel? MTR Corporation will construct the 4th cross-harbour railway tunnel connecting Hung Hom to Hong Kong Island. The project team will use immersed tube tunnel method during the construction.

The immersed tube units will be lowered to the seabed. The project team will assemble the units one by one, just like playing puzzles, to form a complete tunnel. But first, a trench is required to be formed. Sepparated precast immersed tube units will be lowered and connected in the trench. The seabed will be backfilled later and then the immersed tube tunnel is completed.

We need to overcome many challenges during the construction. Bad weather and the situation under water may add difficulties to the assembling works under the sea. Besides, diversion of existing sea channel is required during the construction. Liaison and coordination works have to be done with relevant government departments and channel users to ensure marine safety and normal operation during the construction.

**Reprovisioning of Harbour Road Sports Centre and Wan Chai Swimming Pool**

Reprovisioning works for the Harbour Road Sports Centre and Wan Chai Swimming Pool are progressing. The super-structure for the new Wan Chai Swimming Pool is making steady progress and was topped-out in February 2015. The construction of the new swimming pool and sports centre are expected to be completed in the 1st quarter of 2016 and 2nd quarter of 2017 respectively. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will manage and operate the reprovisioned facilities. The existing facilities will be demolished after the new facilities are in service for the construction of Exhibition Station.

A section of water-pipe along Convention Avenue between Fenwick Pier Street and Expo Drive has been in use for a number of years. To avoid disruption of water supply in the nearby area during SCL construction, water-pipe replacement works will be carried out in the second quarter of 2015 and are expected to be completed in early 2016. Some of the traffic lanes will be temporarily narrowed or slightly diverted during the replacement works.

**Underpinning of flyovers and diversion of box culvert**

Construction of new foundations for bridges and the underground box culvert are now in progress at the rest garden near the approach to the Cross Harbour Tunnel and will be followed by the tunnel boring works. The rest garden will be reinstated upon the completion of the works.

**How do TBMs construct tunnels**

1. Excavation of the launching shaft
2. Assemble the TBM in the launching shaft
3. Tunnel construction
4. Disassemble the TBM in the completed tunnel
Happy Easter

To celebrate Easter, members of the SCL project team, together with representatives of the contractors, visited The Boys’ and Girls’ Club Association of Hong Kong Cheerland Kindergarten (Wan Chai) on 25 March 2015. Around 40 students were excited to learn more about the SCL project. The students and volunteers enjoyed a fun-packed afternoon including a DIY workshop to make bunny treats’ holders.

Community Liaison

The 3rd meeting of the Community Liaison Group for Exhibition Section was held on 1 April 2015. Progress of the construction works was presented at the meeting.

The Corporation will continue to maintain close communication with the community and listen to the public’s views through different channels.

Pre-construction Condition Survey

The MTR Corporation entrusted CBRE Limited to conduct a pre-construction condition survey by visual inspection of all common and private areas of premises along the SCL Hong Kong Island Section. This commenced in March 2014 and will continue.

For premises completed the survey, the survey reports have been sent to relevant households, incorporated owners and management offices.

For enquiries, please call:

MTR Projects Hotline: 2993 3333

Office Hours

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Calls will be transferred to a voice mailbox when the lines are busy or after office hours. Please leave your message and we will contact you as soon as possible.

SCL Information Centre

Shop No. 30A, Chi Kiang Street, To Kwa Wan, Kowloon (I-Feng Mansion)

Hotline: 2334 2201

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Closed on Sundays and public holidays

SCL Website: www.mtr-shatincentrallink.hk