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(By Fax: 2866 6118)

14 October 2019

Dr Venus Yuen-ha LUN
President
The Chartered Institute of Logistics and
Transport in Hong Kong
7/F, Yue Hing Building
103 Hennessy Road
Wan Chai
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Dear Dr LUN,

Road Safety Concerns

Thank you for your letter of 9 July 2019 to the Secretary for Transport and Housing, setting out the views and suggestions of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong for enhancing road safety.

All along, the Government attaches great importance to safeguarding the safety of road users. To this end, we have adopted a multi-pronged approach, including amending legislation, stepping up enforcement, improving transport infrastructure, use of technology, publicity and education, etc. There is also cross-agency collaboration and co-ordination of efforts. The Road Safety Council ("RSC") serves as a useful platform for relevant government departments to exchange views with and tap the wisdom of professional bodies and other stakeholder groups in devising the strategies and measures for promotion of road safety.

Specifically, the Transport Department ("TD") has been closely monitoring the traffic accident trends and analysing traffic accident statistics, as well as keeping abreast of the practices and experiences in other jurisdictions, in order to formulate and implement appropriate road safety strategies and measures. Earlier this year, TD has set up a dedicated team to oversee the implementation of road safety audit for new road projects. There is also in place a road safety compliance check system to ensure that district traffic improvement works would follow applicable prevailing standards. For existing roads, the Highways Department is conducting a consultancy study to review and enhance the roadside safety of all public roads in Hong Kong through comprehensive and systematic safety check. In addition, TD has introduced a bus-friendly traffic measure since September 2019 to encourage motorists to give way to buses for easier exiting from bus bays to join adjacent traffic lanes.

On the public education front, TD has launched earlier this year an announcement of public interest ("API") on "Consider yourself and others when taking public transport" while the RSC has launched an API on the theme of "One good turn deserves another". These APIs aim at reminding passengers, drivers and pedestrians to be responsible road users and enhancing public awareness of good attitude and behaviour. TD also conducts the Safe Driving and Health Campaign for commercial vehicle drivers to disseminate safe driving and health messages, and provides free health checks. TD and the Hong Kong Police Force ("Police") will continue to work in collaboration with RSC to disseminate different road safety messages to road users through various publicity channels with a view to encouraging courteous and safe driving attitudes of drivers and passengers' respect to drivers.

On the other hand, the Police have been taking enforcement actions against improper behaviour of road users, with particular focus on selected offences including illegal parking, jaywalking, not wearing seatbelts, careless driving, careless cycling, etc. Statistics on enforcement and traffic accidents are analysed from time to time with a view to identifying areas for improvement insofar as enforcement strategies are concerned.

With the concerted efforts of various parties, the total number of serious and fatal accidents reduced by about 30% between 2015 and 2018, and the accident rate per 1 000 licensed vehicles also reduced by about 9% during the same period. In the first half of 2019, the numbers of fatal accidents and fatalities reduced by about 18% and 37% respectively, comparing with the figures in the same period in 2018. Please rest assured

that the Government will continue its efforts to enhance road safety. We will also review the effectiveness of the measures from time to time.

Over the years, the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong has been a close partner of the Government in the promotion of road safety. We look forward to the Institute's continued support and valuable advice for the benefit of road users in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Winnie WY WONG)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

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