

Web Version – To be posted on RSC Website
Summary of Discussion
133rd Road Safety Council Meeting held at 1000 hours on Wednesday 4 February 2009

Traffic Accident Situation

- Traffic accident statistics for the year of 2008 recorded a respective decrease of 6.7% and 6.4% for casualties and collisions when compared to 2007.
- The number of fatalities and fatal traffic accidents showed a respective decrease of 1.9% and 9.8%.
- The most common driver contributory factors were:
 - Driving too close to vehicle in front
 - Careless lane changing
 - Losing control of vehicle

Traffic Enforcement Situation

- The overall traffic enforcement figures on moving offences against drivers for 2008 showed a decrease of 5.9% while verbal cautions decreased by 14.7% when compared to 2007.
- Increased enforcement was taken against the following offences:
 - Using handheld mobile phone / telecommunications equipment while vehicle is in motion
 - Drink driving
 - Traffic sign offence
 - Dangerous driving
 - Careless driving
- Prosecutions against cyclists decreased by 32.8%. Prosecutions against pedestrians showed an increase of 14.2%, while verbal cautions decreased by 6%.
- Stringent enforcement action would continue to be maintained, targeting offences which were causes or likely causes of traffic accidents.

Road Safety Research Committee Report

(a) **Introduction of “Alberta” Markings at Roundabouts**

- The research team is carrying out analysis of the questionnaire and video survey results which would be available later this year for developing the way forward.

(b) Improvement to Emergency Openings (EOs) on Expressways and Trunk Roads

- With the coordination of the Steering Committee and Working Group on EOs, HyD is taking follow-up actions on the installation of the 8 m Movable Steel Barriers (MSBs) at EOs retained on various routes.
- It is suggested to use 2-linked modules of 8 m MSBs at selected emergency openings on Tuen Mun Highway and North Lantau Highway to serve the dual purpose of emergency openings and crossings for contingency traffic diversions.
- The first milestone at this stage is to complete the improvement works of about 100 EOs (i.e. about half of all existing EOs) by end 2011.

(c) Vehicle Reversing

- All new government goods vehicles had been equipped with RVDs and departments are urged to install RVDs on GVs as far as possible. In general, the heavy goods vehicles trade are more willing to install RVDs. TD would update the RVD guidelines and uploaded them onto TD's homepage. Meanwhile, TD would continue to liaise with the trade on the subject.

(d) Use of Daytime Running Lamps (DRLs) on Vehicles

- DRLs can help increase the conspicuity of motor vehicles during daytime. Yet, they are mainly adopted in the northern countries while no countries in the tropical zone impose mandatory use of DRLs on all motor vehicles. Having considered overseas practices, RSRC agreed that there has not yet been a strong case to justify compulsory DRLs on all motor vehicles in Hong Kong and supported that: (a) the existing regulations governing the use of head lamps shall remain unchanged; (b) mandatory use of DRLs on vehicles other than motor cycles and motor tricycles shall not be required at this stage; and (c) vehicles installed with DRLs shall be allowed.

(e) Review on Identification of Traffic Accident Black Sites

- RSRC agreed that the threshold criteria adopted now are simple and useful. Meanwhile, joint efforts with the academics would be made to see if any changes to the current practice are warranted.

Road Safety Campaign Committee Report

(a) **Road Safety Campaign**

1. **Update on mounting of additional parking meter stickers (泊車咪表貼紙
宣傳有關已修訂的酒后駕駛法例)**

(Shown by PowerPoint)

- A total of 1,962 anti drink driving stickers have been mounted on parking meters all over the territory since November 2008.

2. **Commercial Radio programme to promote the revised drink driving legislation (商業電台，馬路的事 – 2008年道路交通法例安心駕駛街道圖)**
(Shown by PowerPoint)

- RSCC produced a Commercial Radio programme to promote the revised drink driving legislation between 16 January 2009 and 14 March 2009.

3. **TV API on Anti-Drink Driving (反酒後駕駛電視宣傳短片)**
(Shown by PowerPoint)

- The pre-version of the revised drink driving legislation TV API was broadcast between 10 January 2009 and 8 February 2009. Another version, mainly to remind the public that the revised drink driving legislation has been effective, has been broadcast on TVs from 9 February 2009 onwards.

4. **2008 Road Safety Launching Ceremony cum Road Safety Symbol and Song Promotion (萬人齊推廣『路上零意外』2008)**
(Shown by PowerPoint)

SSWSG event highlight

- “萬人齊推廣『路上零意外』2008” was successfully held on 7 December 2008 at Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground.
- About 5,000 members of the public attended the event.
- The TV Special Programme was broadcast on Police Magazine on 19 December 2008 and TVB Jade Channel at 2305 hrs on 23 December 2008.

(b) **RS Proficiency Badges for the Youth**

- As at 31 December 2008, Hong Kong Road Safety Patrol has organized:-
 - i) 91 training classes with a total of 2,247 students from 35 schools participated, and of which 1,703 students had completed the course.
 - ii) 8 facilitator courses with 157 facilitators completed the training.
- A WG meeting was held on 6 January 2009 to discuss the new way forward of the scheme and the following were endorsed by the WG:-
 - i) In order to benefit the scheme to more students, the proficiency badge scheme will invite participation by all RSP primary students (i.e. P1 – P6, previously only P3 – P5 students were allowed to join);
 - ii) In order to enhance the attractiveness and continuity of the scheme, all primary students will be awarded with a badge and priority to participate in various activities e.g. Safe Cycling Courses, ETCC Visits, Family Day Camp etc.

(c) **Road Safety Council Website**

- As at 31 December 2008, there were a total of **839,033** visitors, a daily average of **2,292** visitors. Comparing with 2007, the overall number of visitors and daily average of visitors were increased by 461,319 (+**122%**) and 1,257 (+**54%**) respectively.
- For the same period, 34 enquiries of various sorts made by members of the public to RSC through the website were handled by the Secretary.

(d) **Road Safety Council Partnership Programme**

1. **Partnership Programme with District Councils**

- RSCC initiated cooperation with Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) by authorising TWDC to produce 2 Mr. Egg costume.
- The Mr. Eggs appeared in the Tsuen Wan Road Safety Carnival on 4 January 2009 (Sunday) for road safety promotion and they were well received by members of the public during the Carnival.
- RSCC decided to further promote the three road safety messages, namely safe cycling, road safety of elderly pedestrians and revised drink driving legislation in 2009 with joint effort by various District councils.
- The first partnership publicity with District Council was conducted on 6 March 2009 to promote road safety for elderly pedestrians in Sham Shui Po District, where the casualty of elderly pedestrian was the highest in 2008.

2. **Partnership Programme by Wilson Parking (Hong Kong) Limited**

- RSC would cooperate with Wilson Parking Limited in promoting safe driving behaviour and the campaign would tentatively conducted in May 2009.