

7 May 2026

To : All Authorized Persons
Registered Structural Engineers
Registered Geotechnical Engineers
Registered Inspectors
Registered General Building Contractors
Registered Specialist Contractors
Registered Minor Works Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proper Erection of Scaffolds in Proximity to or over Streets
for Ensuring Safety of Road Users**

There have been incidents of vehicles colliding with scaffolds erected over streets causing injuries to the public and road users as well as damage to vehicles and properties. This circular letter aims to remind you of the requirements of the Transport Department in the **Appendix** that a safe clearance of scaffolds from carriageway should be maintained to prevent vehicles from collision with scaffolds and to minimise safety hazards to road users, workers and the public at large.

Yours faithfully,



(CHAN Wai-tong, Victor)
Assistant Director/New Buildings 2
for Director of Buildings

c.c. Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
Commissioner for Transport (Attn: Senior Engineer/Standards)

Transport Department Clearance Requirements of Scaffolds from Carriageway

1. A safe clearance of scaffolds from carriageway should be maintained to prevent vehicles from collision with scaffolds and to minimise safety hazards to road users, workers and the public at large. For scaffolds in the proximity to a carriageway, to minimise brush impact and to ensure road safety, the minimum vertical clearance of the scaffolds over the carriageway should comply with the requirements of Table 3.5.1.1 in Chapter 3 of Volume 2 of the Transport Planning and Design Manual¹ (TPDM) issued by the Transport Department (TD). Otherwise, its horizontal clearance from the kerbside of the carriageway should comply with the minimum requirements stated in Table 3.5.2.1 in the same chapter of the TPDM.

2. When planning for the erection of scaffolds in proximity to or over a street, the clearance requirements stated in paragraph 1 above should be maintained. If these requirements cannot be met, the contractor is required to prepare a temporary traffic arrangement (TTA) in accordance with the latest edition of the Code of Practice for the Lighting, Signing and Guarding of Road Works² issued by the Highways Department. The TTA proposals should be submitted to the respective regional office of the TD, the Hong Kong Police Force and other relevant department(s), if any, for comment and agreement prior to the erection of scaffolds. Submission requirements for the TTA are set out in paragraphs 1.14 to 1.16 of the latest edition of the General Specification for Civil Engineering Works (Volume 1 of 2)³. The TD has also issued “Checklist and Considerations of TTA for Road Works⁴” to facilitate the preparation of TTA submissions. Respective public bus operators should be informed when scaffolds are erected on the bus routes. Their contact details are provided below:

Public Bus Operators	Tel No.	Fax. No.	E-mail
Citybus Ltd.			enquiry@citybus.com. hk
Hong Kong Island (Central & Western, Wan Chai and Mid-level)	2136 2410	2136 2296	
Hong Kong Island (Southern District and Pok Fu Lam)	2136 2211		
Hong Kong Island (Eastern District)	2136 2313		
Hong Kong Island (Causeway Bay, Mid-level East, Happy Valley and Tai Hang)	2136 2521		
Kowloon, Tseung Kwan O and Lantau Island	2136 3204	2605 5811	
The New Territories	2136 2215		
The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd.	2745 4466	2745 6000	kowloonbus@kmb.hk
New Lantao Bus Co. (1973) Ltd.	5148 5180	2984 8009	info@nlb.com.hk

3. For any enquiries on traffic and transport operation matters, you may contact the respective regional office of the TD at 2804 2600 for necessary arrangements in details.

¹ https://www.td.gov.hk/en/publications_and_press_releases/publications/tpdm/index.html

² https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/technical_references/technical_document/code_of_practice/index.html

³ <https://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/publications/standards-spec-handbooks-cost/stan-gs-2020/index.html>

⁴ https://www.td.gov.hk/en/publications_and_press_releases/publications/free_publications/index_categoryid_8.html?print=1