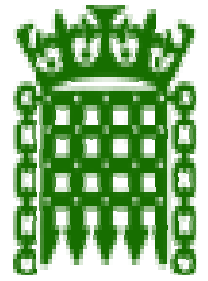


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All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

*"The past we inherit, the future we build
Trams – Catalysts for Jobs, Renewal & Regeneration"*



Week-long test of Taiwan's first ground light rail system



Kaohsiung, July 22 (CNA) Kaohsiung began a week-long test of the country's first light rail system on Tuesday with an eye toward holding a passenger trial run in the second half of August, the southern Taiwan city's Mass Rapid Transit Bureau said.

This meeting by invitation only, where MPs, Stakeholders etc., within the Light Rail industry and invited members of the Public will have a chance to discuss debate and raise questions concerning Light Rail & Trams.

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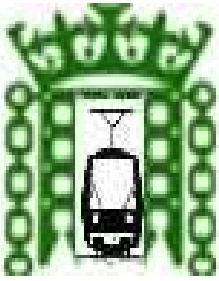
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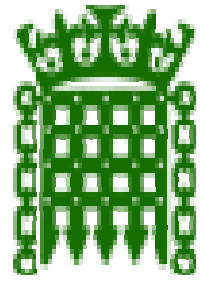


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The tests, being conducted to prepare for an initial review by the municipal government, will have trams run every half hour for seven days between the C1 and C4 stops.

Once the system passes its initial review, the city can apply for a final review and approval by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications before opening the light rail system to the public, according to the bureau.

The light rail line is set to run on a circular route around the city with a total of 37 stops. Construction has been divided into two phases.

The first 8.7-kilometer phase, which includes the four stops currently being tested, consists of 14 stops and is expected to be completed in June next year, the bureau said.

The light rail system, the first to enter service in Taiwan, has been designed and built by Spanish company Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles, S.A. and runs with no wires above the trams.

New Taipei is also building a light rail system, after breaking ground on the system in Tamsui Township in September 2014.

(By Wang Shwu-fen and Kay Liu) enditem/lis

It is gratifying to note that the All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group on their visit in 2013 in high level discussions with the Taiwanese Minister of Transport advocated that the line should be built at Grade (Ground Level) to enable retail and residential development along the route and not as in the Taipei system of an elevated line with subsequent station cluster development.

(JH Secretary)

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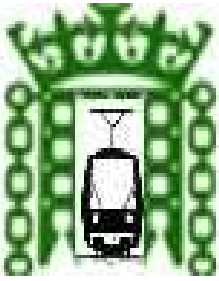
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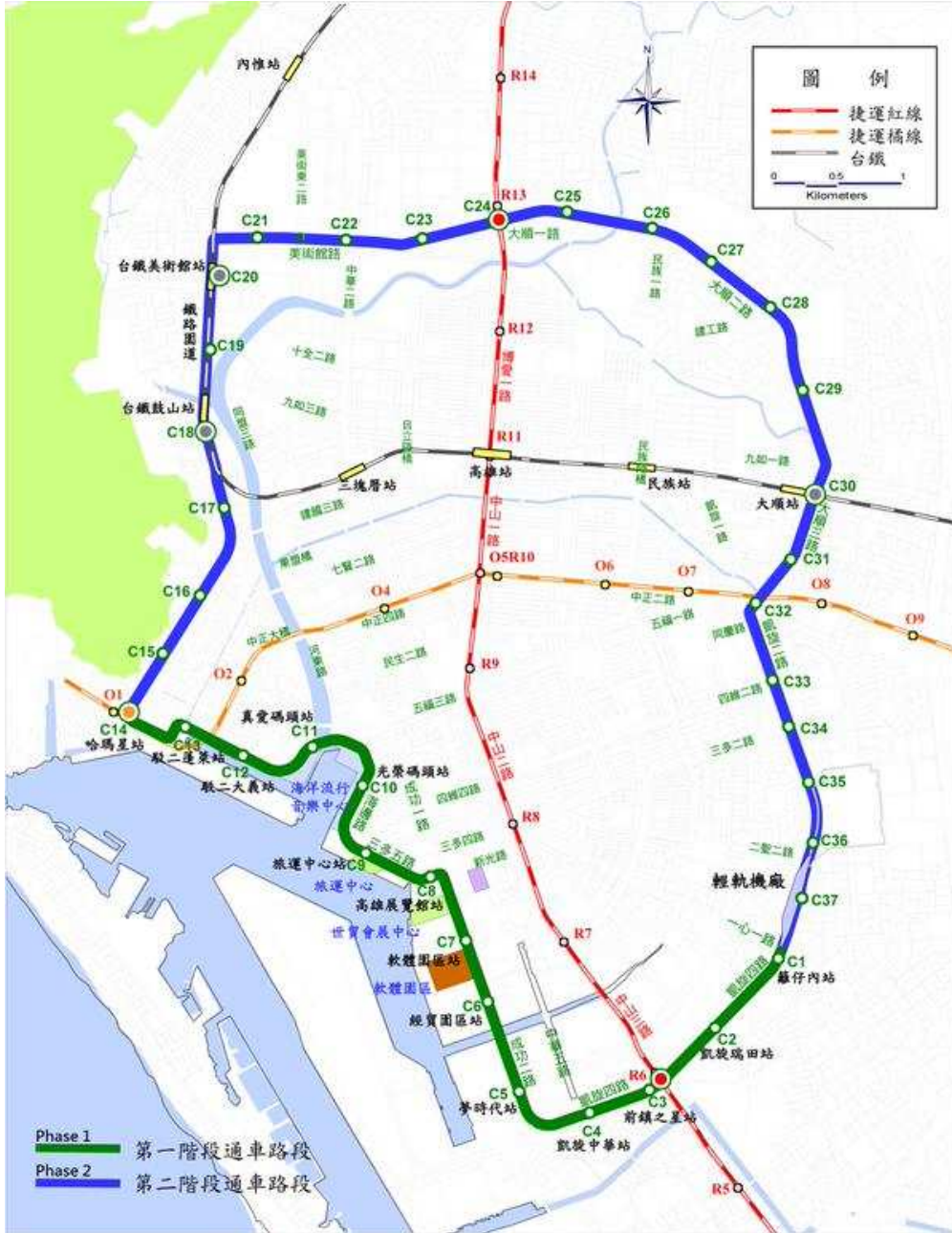
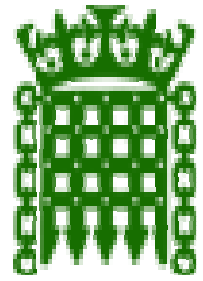


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From the Kaohsiung City Mass Rapid Transit Bureau's website

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