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## Another step towards LRT

THE Kowloon Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC) will be engaging a technical consultant and a financial adviser to finalise details regarding the expertise and financing of the proposed light rail transit system (LRT) in Tuenmun.

The company announced last month that it would accept the government's invitation to build and operate the \$2 billion project to link Tuenmun with Yuenlong.

Its managing director, Mr Peter Quick, said the system was expected to become operational in 1988.

Sources close to the KCRC yesterday said before tenders could be called, the company would have to conduct studies on its feasibility and on how it is to be financed.

In order to meet the schedule for tenders to be called early next year, the KCRC will have to announce the commissioning of the engineering consultant and financial adviser by next week.

The fare on the LRT system is estimated to be 30 per cent higher than the fare charged by the Kowloon Motor Bus. However, in future it would be difficult to compare the fare with other modes of transport as they would be banned from the network and serve only as feeders.

According to government's plan for Tuenmun new town, the LRT system will be the major mode of public transport. The others, such as maxicabs and KMB buses, will serve as feeders only.