

H. K. Standard

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## **Bigger fines for illegal parking**

THE Transport Advisory Committee yesterday endorsed the idea of raising parking fines to maintain their deterrent effect in the face of inflation.

However TAC members vetoed a drastic 300 per cent rise suggested by transport officials and favoured a more moderate increase of up to \$100 for illegal parkers.

The existing fine for illegal parking is \$70. It was last revised in 1980.

The proposal is to be submitted to the Governor-in-Council following the TAC's approval yesterday.

The committee noted that the number of parking tickets issued last year amounted to 1.6 million - 27 per cent up on 1980.

Members agreed that it was advisable to restore the deterrent effect of the fixed penalty fine, which had been eroded by inflation.

### **TAXI SERVICE**

At yesterday's TAC meeting, members also approved a proposal to introduce a taxi service on Lantau.

Lantau islanders and visitors will be served by taxis if the proposal receives legislative approval.

Under the proposal, 20 licences will be offered for tenders initially. The taxis will charge the same fares as their New Territories counterparts, that is \$2.4 for the first two kilometres and 30 cents for each subsequent a quarter of a kilometre.

At present, anyone who does not have a car and who prefers some form of personalised transport on the island has to rely on 14-seat private hire cars.

Other papers discussed yesterday related to parking standards for residential developments and the revision of Peak tram fares.

The TAC also endorsed a government proposal to conduct a thorough study of the goods vehicle in the context of the economy and transport.