

31 March 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Early closure at East-West Line stations in April and early May for track maintenance and renewal work**

1. Several MRT stations on the East-West Line (EWL) will close at 11pm on a few days in April and in early May 2017. The early closure of these stations will facilitate track maintenance and renewal work at railway junctions as part of ongoing efforts to renew the North-South and East-West Lines (NSEWL).

East-West Line stretch	Early Closure Dates
No train service from Lakeside to Joo Koon (both bounds) from 11pm	14 April 2017 and 21 April 2017
No train service from Tanah Merah to Changi Airport (both bounds) from 11pm	28 April 2017 and 5 May 2017

2. The early closure of MRT stations between Tanah Merah and Changi Airport, and between Lakeside and Joo Koon, will provide engineering staff additional time to carry out maintenance work to replace rails worn out by wear and tear.

3. More time is needed as the replacement of the rails at railway junctions, where crossing, switch and running rails are located, is a complex process. By closing stations about an hour earlier each over three days, engineers will double the time available to work on the tracks.

4. Commuters will be informed of alternative routes during the nights of early closure. Announcements will be made at train stations and in trains prior to the closure. SMRT station staff will also be on hand to guide commuters. Commuters who used to board trains at the affected stations after 11pm on the EWL are

Media Release



advised to plan their journey and consider alternative transport arrangements, such as bus services to get to their destinations. SMRT has also arranged for parallel bus services, and more information of these services will be made available within the next few weeks. Commuters can refer to SMRT's social media channels for more information. To help plan their journeys, commuters may refer to SMRT's Journey Planner at <http://journey.smr.com.sg>.

5. Please refer to **Annex A** for the dates and times of early closure at affected MRT stations along the EWL.

6. The renewal of railway junctions forms part of the ongoing multi-year, multi-project effort to improve the NSEWL, Singapore's oldest, longest and most heavily-utilised MRT line.

7. Mr Lee Ling Wee, Managing Director of SMRT Trains, said: "We are confident the renewal of railway junctions, where crossing, switch and running rails are located, will be expedited with additional time gained by closing selected MRT stations earlier. Past occasions that called for early closure or late opening of MRT stations resulted in the successful and timely renewal of ageing track infrastructure. We thank commuters for adjusting their travel schedules to facilitate maintenance and renewal work. Our engineering staff value every minute of track access to carry out their work."

8. We seek the patience and understanding of commuters for this phase of early closure. Another round of early closures can be expected in June this year along other stretches of the NSEWL.

-End-

Media Contact

SMRT Corporate Information and Communications

Tel: +65 9822 0902

Email: media@smrt.com.sg



About SMRT Corporation Ltd

SMRT Corporation Ltd (SMRT) is Singapore's premier multi-modal land transport provider. Our core businesses are in rail operations, maintenance and engineering as well as in bus, taxi and automotive services. Complementing these are our integrated businesses in media and marketing, as well as properties and retail management.

We are committed to Service and Business Excellence as we strive towards our vision of "Moving People, Enhancing Lives".

Media Release