



Smooth sailing in Shenzhen

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SHENZHEN — Public transport services in Shenzhen will be able to meet the demands of the Universiade, Lou Heru, secretary of the Shenzhen Traffic and Transport Committee, assured reporters at a press conference on Tuesday.

According to the committee, about 9.1 million people will use public transport during the Universiade, an increase of about 500,000. Lou outlined the services and measures taken by the municipal government to ensure satisfactory public transport during the event.

From Aug 4, for example, Universiade-designated traffic lanes became effective on 13 roads. Meanwhile, 3,493 additional buses will be put into operation and 15 new bus lines to competition venues have been launched. For the convenience of tourists from Hong Kong, shuttle buses between the

two cities will be in operation all day.

From Aug 1, the metro extended its service until midnight or later — depending on the competition schedule — and shortened passengers' waiting time to five and eight minutes, Hu Chunlei, the deputy director of Shenzhen's metro office, told China Daily.

Hu also apologized for two recent accidents.

"We provided training courses for drivers, and remade the route planning map. All the drivers have service qualifications and have undergone special training programs, and 3,500 volunteers will serve in 118 metro stations to help passengers," said Hu.

Buses and the metro are ready to ease traffic congestion in the city, he said.

"We estimate 3 million people will go to watch the Universiade. We have made plans for each venue. We promise that audiences at every competition venue can



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Shenzhen is promising clear roadways during the coming games, including special lanes.

depart within 45 minutes," said Lou.

The 41 competition venues and their surroundings do not have parking lots for private cars. The government is encouraging

citizens to take public transport. People can check out the routes to various venues via official websites, micro blogs, text messages and a hotline. The information will be updated every five minutes.

"We will not carry out the plan to force vehicles to operate on alternate days based on even or odd plate numbers as we do not want to affect citizens' normal life. We have introduced a scientific measurement system and a highly efficient traffic service. We tried to create a safe and orderly traffic environment for the Universiade," said Xu Wei, a deputy director in the Shenzhen Traffic Police Bureau.

In the past week, traffic conditions across Shenzhen have seen significant improvements, with far fewer reports of traffic jams and accidents.

"The Universiade is approaching and we have established a very good network and highly efficient system to guarantee a high-quality public transport system. We are confident that we will satisfy the citizens and guests from various countries. We are confident about implementing all the control measures. We are ready," said Lou.



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