

Developing a revenue strategy for public transport: inspiration from Asian networks

Jerome Pourbaix

Investment

Operations

Expenditure

Private investors

Earmarked charges

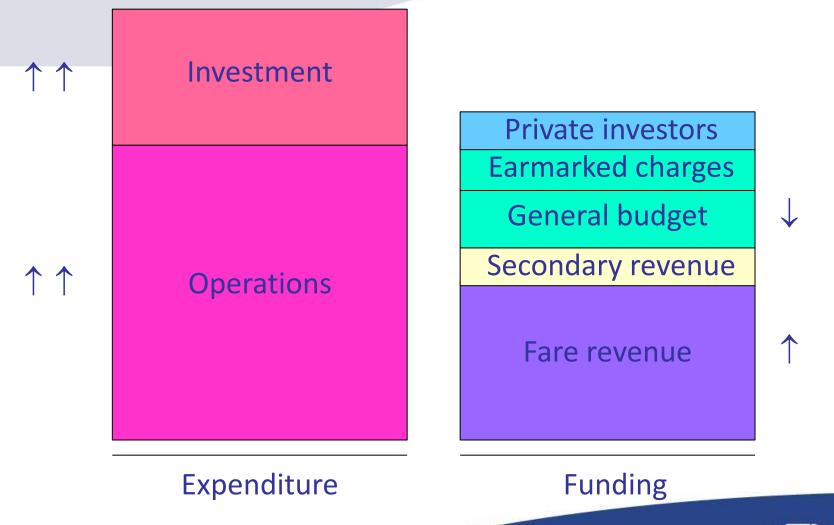
General budget

Secondary revenue

Fare revenue

Funding

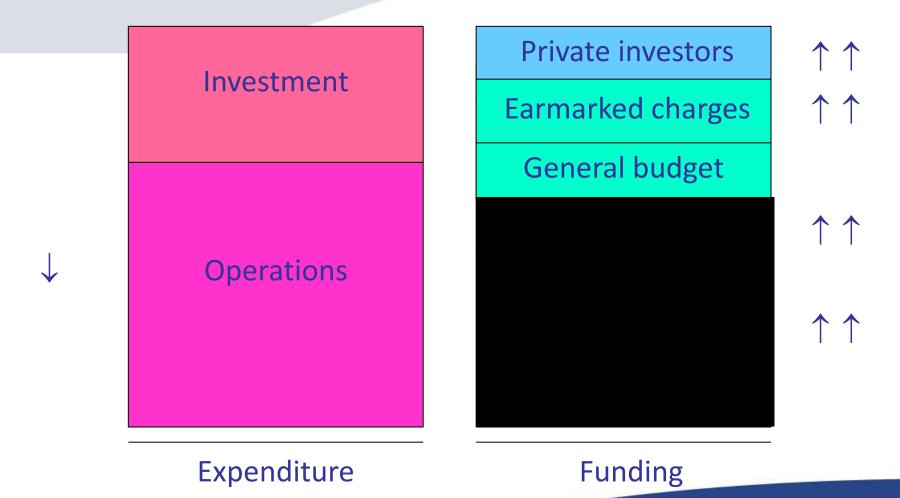






Private investors Investment \uparrow Earmarked charges General budget Secondary revenue \uparrow \uparrow **Operations** \uparrow \uparrow Fare revenue **Funding** Expenditure







Revenue strategy for public transport

Fare revenue

- 1. Fare regulation and adjustment
- 2. Revenue management
- 3. Diversification of services

Secondary revenue

4. Optimizing assets



1. Fare Regulation and Adjustment

- Principle: « Better quality and higher fares = more customers and more revenue »
- **Timing of fare reviews**: annual review, small increment, combine with other changes in service provision.
- **Use of a formula:** increases transparency and reduces uncertainty, but requires flexibility to take into account unforeseen circumstances



1. Fare Regulation and Adjustment

Hong Kong MTR fare adjustment formula

% change in composite consumer price index

% change in normal wage index (transport service)



2. Revenue Management

- Providing the right service to the right customer at the right time for the right price (price discrimination, market segmentation).
- Common in many economic sectors.
- Potential for cost reduction and revenue increase.
- Facilitated by automated fare collection technologies.



2. Revenue Management Distance and time of day pricing

- Fares in Singapore and Hong Kong are distance based.
- -Peak vs. off peak differentiation in Hong Kong.
- Suburban railway services are free before morning peak in Melbourne. Financial return positive in the long run. Tested in Singapore.



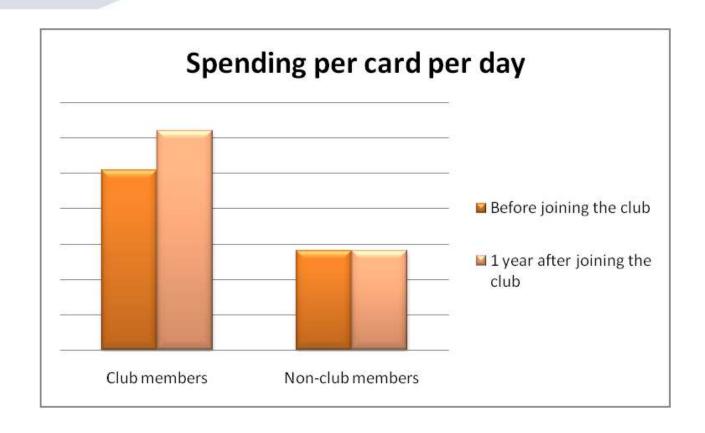
2. Revenue Management Loyalty programme (MTR Club)



- Registration using Octopus Card
- Over 1.1 million members
- Enhance loyalty & usage
- Members accumulate points by ride or shop for exclusive gifts redemption
- Additional bonus points for specific trips to shape certain travelling behavior



2. Revenue Management Loyalty programme (MTR Club)



- Club members spent 1.8 times more than non club members
- Club members exhibited ~5.5% increase in spending per day over the year

3. Diversification of services Premium bus service in Singapore

- Linking affluent residential areas to central business district
- High quality and comfort, dedicated lanes



3. Diversification of services Tourist products in Hong Kong



Tourists are willing to pay a higher price for a better and more convenient service



4. Optimizing assets

- Advertisement,
- Retail and property development
- Telecommunication systems
- Merchandizing (company brand)



Advertisement



Digital Ads in Hong Kong







Retail in stations

mtrshops

- Expansion & review
 - Renovation of stations
 - Repartition of shop areas
 - Re-layout of station facilities
- Sales & marketing campaigns
- Management service initiatives





Retail in stations









Property development and services (Tokyo)

Life-style business of JR EAST



Retail & Restaurants ("Ekinaka") 2,000stores \ 250 billion



Office 23 Buildings \ 37 billion



In-Station Shopping Center "Ekinaka SC" 25 zones \ 100 billion



Fitness Club 16 facilities \ 7 billion

* JRE Sports Co. total sales



Shopping center 148 SCs \ 1,000 billion



Advertising \ 100 billion

 EJ Marketing& Communications Inc. total sales



Hotel 45 hotels 6,600 rooms \ 44 billion



Regional Revitalization & More

Hong Kong's rail and property development model



Telecommunication services (Seoul, Hong Kong)

- "Landlord" partnering with mobile operators
- Forerunner in providing best railway telecom services
 - paging service → 2G mobile → 3G mobile & WiFi
- Telecom system integrator & bandwidth wholesaler (through a subsidiary)

Merchendizing (Hong Kong)

City Travel Stationery & Toy Collectibles Home & Kitchen Train Map Station Name Signage & **Pictogram** Station facilities

Final remarks

- No silver bullet in public transport funding
- Inspiration for revenue strategy from Asian networks
- Need to adapt to local situations and cultures

