

**THE PROJECT FOR IMPROVING TRAFFIC CONGESTIONS
IN BANGKOK THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
MODEL AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) SYSTEM
IN THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND (BATCP)**

On 13th December 2018, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), Royal Thai Police (RTP) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed the Record of Discussions (R/D) in order to jointly implement the BATCP project. Subsequently, on 10th May 2019, Governor of Bangkok approved the designation of Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) members which include BMA, Royal Thai Police, Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning, Ministry of Transport, Thailand International Cooperation Agency and Bangkok Mass Transit Authority to proceed the implementation of this project.

The goal of this project is to reduce the traffic congestion through the introduction of an ATC system. The project will establish a traffic control center in BMA, install vehicle detectors along approaches to monitor traffic conditions and control traffic signals with best timing plan. Besides, signal operation assistance device will be developed to support traffic police to operate signals when necessary.



The 1st Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting (JCC) was held on 31st May 2019.

As one of the project activities, BMA, RTP and JICA Expert Team (JET) have recently developed the management plan for the U-turn slots along Phaholyothin Road after discussion at the 5th periodic project team meeting held on 25th September, 2019. According to the traffic survey conducted by JET, U-turn traffic on Phaholyothin Road conflicts with the main traffic flow, causing traffic congestion at some locations on the Phahplyothin Road. JET is recently thoroughly studying on the existing issues at U-turn slots and preparing the U-turn management plan in order to support the operation of ATC system in the future.



The 5th Periodic Meeting of the Project Team at Traffic Police Division on 25th September 2019

There are a total of 13 U-turn slots along Phaholyothin Road at the section between Victory Monument and Saphan Kwai intersection. U-turn slots is an effective way to manage turning movement of vehicles; however, as traffic volume increases, U-turn slots could become a bottleneck. Heavy traffic at some U-turn slots along Phaholyothin Road are obstructing the main flow of traffic. In addition, some U-turn slots are located exactly at the major access streets (Soi) allowing vehicles to make a turn into/from those Sois (e.g. Phaholyothin Soi 2 and 7). In order to improve the traffic situation, JICA Expert Team (JET) suggested that some U-turn slots should be closed for smooth flow of traffic. At the same time, JET also proposed the installation and operation of traffic signal at the U-turn locations with heavy turning traffic into/from Soi. They also proposed improvement and re-application of road marking at some U-turn locations.

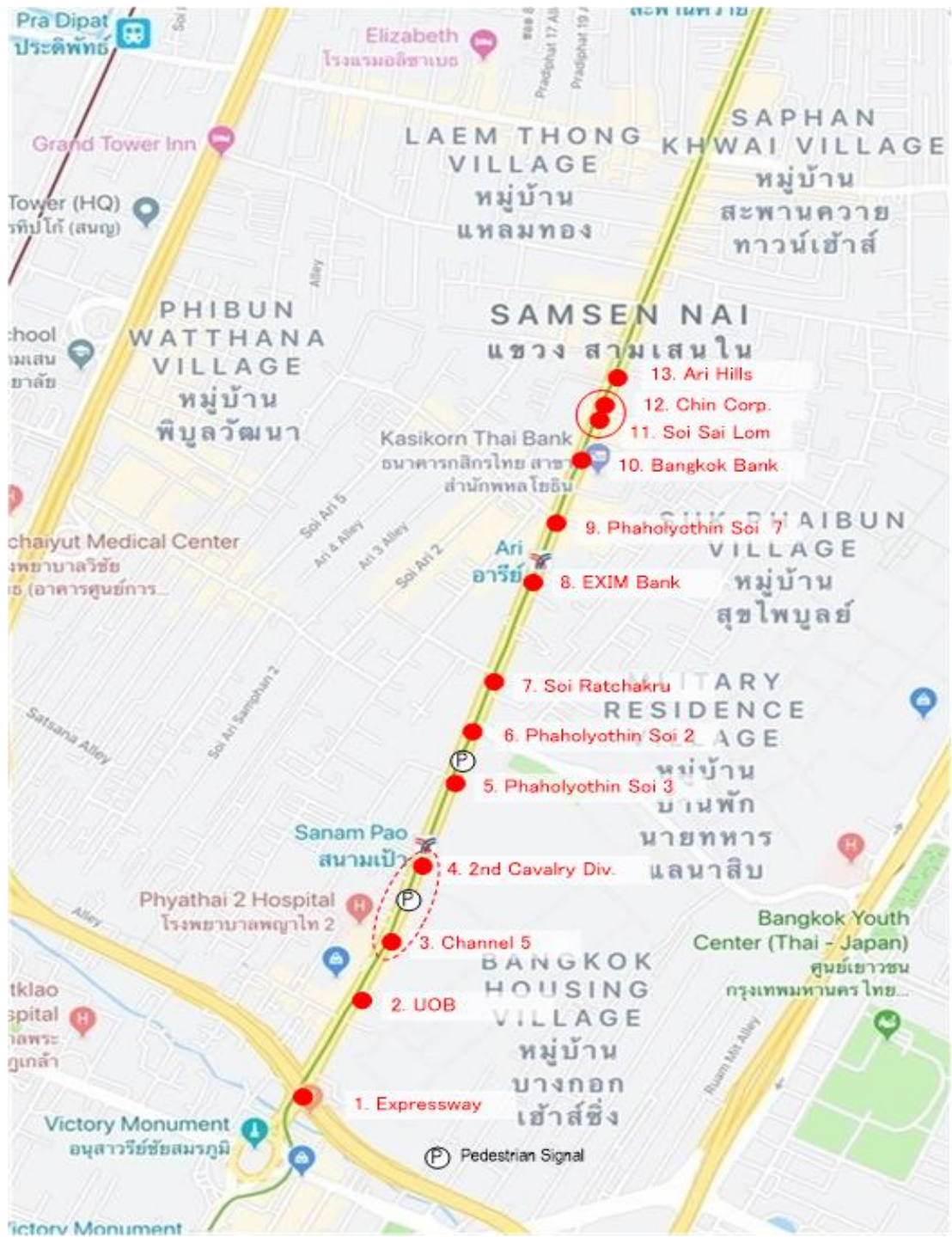


Diagram showing 13 U-turn slots on Phaholyoyhin Road in the Pilot Project Area.



Traffic Conflicts at U-Turn Slots along Phaholyothin Road